

ELSEC

# Newsletter



Autumn term 2025



## Spotlight on..

### Emotional regulation

The mental health and well-being agenda is at the forefront of everything we do and supporting children from a young age to both recognise their own emotions and communicate these to others, is a crucial part of any school curriculum. Many of our settings are using some wonderful resources to support children from the moment they join, with positive results.



## ELSEC updates

This term has been a really busy one for our ELSEC team and all 27 of the settings involved in this second wave of the project.

Key figures:.

2,500 children have been screened using the Talk Boost tool across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

31% of children working at an age appropriate level for language and communication.

85 staff trained to deliver Talk Boost.

41 people attended the training for Talk Away Parent sessions.

72 people received Concept Cat training.

550 Children in a Talk Boost group.

By the end of the term almost all settings will have had whole school training on the teaching of vocabulary and a large proportion of the settings have had a communication friendly audit completed for each of their Nursery, Reception and Year 1 classrooms.

## What's next?

In the Spring term, the current Talk Boost groups will continue and children will be rescreened at the end of these.

Training for BEST and narrative interventions will be rolled out to continue to develop the SLCN toolkit in settings and upskill staff.

All settings will be offered training in 'Questions in everyday interactions'.

A series of 3 Talk Away parent sessions will be held in pre-school settings for all families.

This half term schools and nurseries have all begun their Talk Boost groups, with much consideration given to finding a quiet and clutter free space. Here are some of the wonderful Talk Boost areas in our ELSEC settings:

### Shortwood Primary School

Shortwood Primary School have a dedicated area for Talk Boost that is well-organised and distraction free.



### Old Park Primary School

Early Talk Boost set up at Old Park with Tizzy and the Talk Boost resources ready to go!



### John Randall Primary School

John Randall Primary school have their key posters on moveable boards in this cosy space. There are bags for the children to take home with the Jake and Tizzy book each week.



### Church Street Nursery

At Church Street Nursery the focus for the week is clearly shared with everyone and there are dedicated spaces which allow the resources to be prepared and laid out ready for each session.




**Week 1**

**Focus of the week:**  
Attention and listening skills, learning about good sitting, good looking and good listening

**Song of the week:**  
Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

**Story of the week:**  
Hello!




## Some more of our wonderful Talk Boost areas.....

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School



Redhill Primary School



Meole Brace Primary School



## Information sessions for parents

Many of our settings have worked with the ELSEC team to invite parent carers in to find out a bit more about Talk Boost. Parent carers are an invaluable part of a child's language development and it is important that they understand what we do and how they can continue to help at home.



## Talk Away training

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November, staff from all settings were invited to come and learn more about Talk Away, the fantastic parent workshops that will run with all pre-school children in the Spring term. Everyone had the chance to engage in the activities that are included in the workshops and gain a better understanding of how to enable parent carers in supporting their child's language development.

