

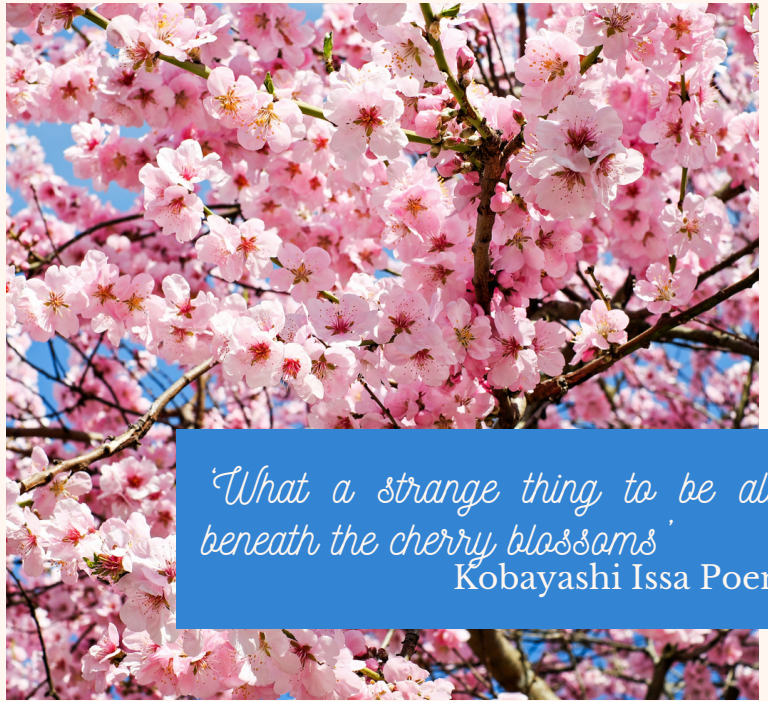


# APRIL NEWSLETTER

## Welcome

Welcome to our April Newsletter and the start of the Spring season! As an Early Years Service we are extremely proud of the work that our Schools and Settings do to support our children with SEND. Our children and families are blessed to have passionate advocates for all our children, including our children and families who need it most. On April 2nd it is World Autism Awareness Day – we know that you all show passion and commitment to helping to create a world in which autistic individuals are fully supported, championed and celebrated. If further information or support is required regarding Autism, please speak to one of our Early Years SEND team.

Jen Teasdale  
Early Years Service Manager



*'What a strange thing to be alive  
beneath the cherry blossoms'*  
Kobayashi Issa Poems

## Transition to School

In Sefton we are supporting a shift from the idea of children being 'School Ready' to instead being 'Ready to Learn at School'.



### In house training...

One of our new Early Years Inclusion Consultants, Gill Francis, has been working with Christ Church to deliver training around Inclusive Practice, Inspiring Interactions and Adapting planning in the EYFS for children with SEND. The school have really embraced the training with members from the EY team saying 'this has given very useful, effective and practical advice for the classroom', 'it is very helpful to be given strategies that you can use in real life situations', 'some strategies will be very useful for child in Year 1'.

If schools are interested in this training, please contact your Early Years Inclusion Consultant and this can be arranged.

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Louise Caine*

You were shortlisted for a  
Sefton PCF SEND award 2024

for  
**INSPIRATIONAL INCLUSION WORKER**

"She is so passionate about supporting children and requested to work with Jamie after he had reached the age of 3 to ensure his transition to a new nursery went smoothly. She has gone above and beyond for us on a regular basis and is an absolute credit to the portage service, advocacy for us and guiding us and Jamie's nursery to ensure he has had all the support he needed. She thoroughly deserves to be recognised for all her hard work and dedication."



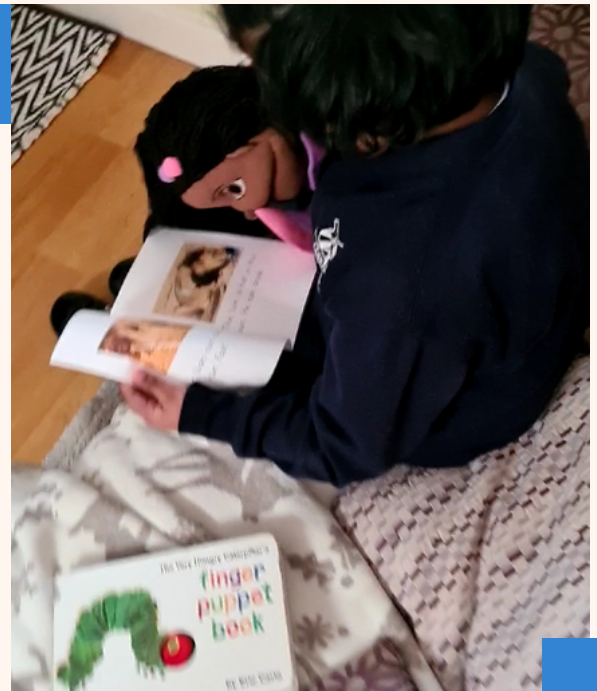
# WHAT'S HAPPENING...

## Lifelong Learners Project

The Lifelong Learners Project considers the 'child of today' with a unique and revolutionary approach to how educational practice may need to change in order to meet the evolving needs of children and their families. The impact of this pilot project has been incredible and we are thrilled to be able to deliver this again in the Autumn Term. The project includes:

- Six training sessions
- A package of resources, including books and full sized puppets
- Audit tool
- Two professional partner visits to your school or setting
- Parent workshops ready to deliver
- Incredible CPD and collaborative working opportunities

**'A real treat to hear professionals honesty with regards to their challenges. This project seems to be exactly what is needed in Sefton right now. Giving everyone the time and ability to dig deeper into practice, the role of the adult and the environment?'**



## Early Bird Programme

The National Autistic Society Early Bird programme is for parents and carers with children under five years of age who have received an autism diagnosis or who are on the pathway. The 10 week face-to-face programme helps parents and carers understand autism and empower them to meet the needs of their child/ren. This includes:

- supporting interaction
- understanding sensory difficulties
- developing play
- interpreting behaviour.

Please contact our leaders of the Early Bird programme in Sefton for more information:

tina.gallett@sefton.gov.uk  
lauren.wilding@sefton.gov.uk



I will forever be forever grateful for the opportunity to go on Early Bird when Daniel was young, because he's doing amazing now.

Parent



## THE MOVEMENT ENVIRONMENT RATING SCALE (MOVERS)

Supporting Physical Development and Movement Play in Early Childhood



A David Fulton Book CAROL ARCHER AND IRAM SIRAJ

## Movers Project in Partnership with Stronger Practice Hubs

A new Movers project is being delivered in the Summer Term for PVI settings by the Stronger Practice Hubs. This project comprises of two half day training sessions to support the implementation of the Movers environment rating scale. This scale measures the quality of environment and pedagogy in which young children are encouraged to move and be physically active.

Please email [heather.pearce@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:heather.pearce@sefton.gov.uk) if you would like to join this opportunity.