

What did we do last half term?

I have really enjoyed my first half term as SENCo thank you for your support. I have completed all Year 8 EHCP reviews and these have been really informative. I hope you are happy with how your child is being supported here at Castlefield.



We have been busy with assessments:

We assess your child's spelling and reading ages at the beginning of each academic year so we can ensure we are teaching to the appropriate level and we can put interventions in place if necessary to help close any gaps in their learning.

We also complete CAT 4 assessments with all Year 7 and Year 10 students, these also ensure we are pitching our lessons at the right level for your child to learn and progress and also help us to predict outcomes at GCSE.

SEND staff have been busy with KS3 and 4 literacy and numeracy interventions:

"The interventions with Miss Ndey are good and i have learned a lot from them and I've improved with my vocabulary" Year 9

Student quote



Top tips at home with your child...

Dates for the diary:



Literacy tips:

1. Write the shopping list with your child
2. Keeps magazines at home

Parent/carer sessions:

These are a great opportunity for Parents and carers to communicate with staff and other parents/carers. They are informal and supportive. Feel free to bring along outside agencies working with your family for support.

KS3 (Year 7, 8 and 9):

Thank you to those that attended the first session in September.

3. Put time aside to read together

Sleep tips:

During EHCP reviews last half term we've had many discussions with parents/carers having problems with their child's sleep patterns, sometimes it helps to know you aren't alone and here are some tips to help:

Sleep problems are common in children with ASD and ADHD. Possible reasons for this:

Increased anxiety

Sensory differences (sensitivity to light)

Irregular secretion of the sleep hormone



How can you help?

Good night time routines, time to wind down before bed, not allowing day time naps, limit sugary diet.

The next session will be: Thursday 16th Nov at 2.15pm- This will be on 'How to support your child's mental health' and will be led by the school therapist.

KS3 and KS4 (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11):

These will be SEND drop in coffee mornings and will take place 10.30-11.30 on the following dates throughout the academic year:

18th Oct, 13th Dec, 14th Feb, 20th Mar, 22nd May and 17th Jul.

EHCP reviews:

Each year group will be invited into school for their annual review.

Half Term 1: Year 8

Half Term 2: Year 11

Half Term 3: Year 7

Half Term 4: Year 10

Half Term 5: Year 9

Useful contacts/events

Link for local food banks:

https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/10050/help_with_the_cost_of_living_crisis/7733/food_banks_and_community_grocers

Useful contacts:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/>

SEN family support group: <https://www.senfsg.com/>

<https://manchesterparentcarerforum.org.uk/>

Early Help: earlyhelpcentral@manchester.gov.uk

CAMHS: <https://mft.nhs.uk/rmch/services/camhs/>