

BLUEBIRDS NEWSLETTER

13 MAY 2016

DEAR PARENTS & CARERS

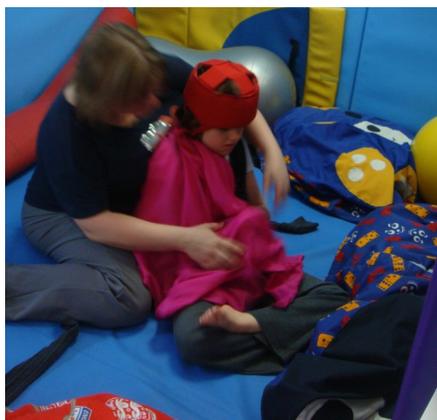
Oh whoops. . . . I have just noticed that I made a BIG mistake with the smoothie recipe I gave you last week! The correct recipe is: Blend a cup of spinach leaves with 3/4 a cup of coconut milk and then add a cup of frozen *pineapple*, *NOT spinach*, and blend!! Apologies if you tried to make it and thought 'yuck'!

We have had one of those weeks which have been incredibly busy and has simply flown by. We celebrated Jawad's birthday when he came in on Tuesday. Mum had made some cakes which were displayed in a 'ferris wheel' cup cake stand; songs were sung and candles shone. Birthdays are special times and we like to enjoy the occasion.

We have had some particularly good Larcpack sessions recently. 'Larcpack' (Larkrise Accessible Rhythm and touch to support Communication) is an activity resource we have developed which was inspired by a commercially available resource called ' Tac- Pac' which aims to help people with sensory or neurological impairment, developmental delay, profound and multiple learning difficulties, tactile defensiveness, and limited or pre-verbal communication. It provides a structured, emotionally safe framework for the 'receiving partner' to make contact with their own bodies, their environment and other people, and develop a relationship with these. The 'giving partner' ensures that each tactile experience is well organised and sensitively offered, and adjusted to suit the receiving partner's responses.

Larcpack takes those same principles but matches a range of pre recorded music in a variety of styles and tempos with fun and tactile objects for sharing during a structured intensive interaction with a communication partner. The Larcpack objects are specially chosen to offer a combination of shared sensory experiences and / or opportunities for active play routines , turn taking and fun. The structure enables children to experience and/ or begin to understand and predict a sequence, express their preferences and build strong relationships with their communication partner.

We have also been focusing on physiotherapy and individual tasks and I have seen some great work going on, especially around textures and tactile awareness. Here are a few photos from our week.



Have a great weekend. Enjoy the sunshine! Mandy, Karen, Tracey, Sharon, Emma, Laura & Lesley
P.S. Don't forget to send in news to share during Good Morning—either via the home/school diary or on a switch. Thank you.