

Learning Links

SPEECH PATHOLOGY



Welcome Back

Welcome to another term! We hope you all had a safe and fun-filled break over Easter!

Our Term 2 newsletter will keep you up to date with all of the amazing things that have been happening at Learning Links Speech Pathology. We also have some information about NDIS, Social skills and some great apps to check out.

Happy Reading

2

MEET OUR TEAM

Learn more about Peta Newell our newest staff member.

3

SPOTLIGHT SECTION

Want to learn more about Social Skills? Check out our spotlight on Eye Contact.

4

NDIS

Useful links and information for parents and practitioners about NDIS.



STAFF

We are thrilled to welcome our new Speech Pathologist **Peta Newell** to our team

APPOINTMENTS - MELTON

Our Melton clinic is located at Incredible You Allied Health at 186 Coburns Road, Melton. We have appointments available on Tuesdays to Fridays.

APPOINTMENTS - NIDDRIE

Our Niddrie clinic is located at Eastbrooke Medical Centre at 493-495 Keilor Road, Niddrie. We have appointments available on weekdays.

GROUP SESSIONS

Bookings are now open for group sessions at both the Melton and Niddrie offices.

Meet our Team

Peta Newell

Peta completed a Bachelor of Speech Pathology at La Trobe University, Melbourne in 2009.

A Certified Practicing Speech Pathologist, Peta has worked a variety of roles in private practice, as a clinical educator at the University of Melbourne and as a Research Clinician with the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Peta is also a

Lidcombe Program Workshop Trainer with the Australian Stuttering Research Centre.

Peta has extensive knowledge and ability assisting individuals with a wide variety of speech, language, literacy and social difficulties. Peta is able to provide therapy both face to face and over Telehealth (Skype).

"I strive to make learning both fun and motivating and enjoy building a strong rapport with my clients and their caregivers"

Peta has a particular interest in the assessment and therapy for individuals with fluency (stuttering) disorders and is Lidcombe Program, School-Age and Camperdown Program trained. She has also completed Hanen Training: It Takes Two to Talk and a variety of professional development workshops in the areas of paediatric speech sound disorders and feeding.



WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO

During the School Holidays we use this time to make sure we are up to date with the most evidence based practice to help us provide you with the best therapy. Learning Links Speech Pathology and Incredible You Allied Health hold an in service day where we get the chance to learn new techniques, share ideas and catch up with the Occupational Therapists that are working with our clients which helps us provide a multidisciplinary approach!

During the School Holidays, Kate also attended Hanen: More than Words training. This is a program that helps parents be 'mini speech pathologists' and use opportunities throughout their day to build a child's language and communication skills. Peta and Jo will also be attending Hanen training in June 2018. Call Tara to book your place with any of our therapists.



Eye Contact

Eye contact is one of those social skills that get's talked about a lot!

Have you ever really thought of why we make eye contact? What is the purpose? Lots of people tell me, it's to show we are not being 'rude'.

Eye contact is so much more than that. The majority of our communication is non verbal, meaning we don't use words, we use body language, tone and facial expressions to convey our message. So I explain the idea of eye contact is to help

us interpret people's facial expressions/ body language

For example, my husband can usually tell before I even open my mouth if he is in trouble or not! That's usually because of my facial expressions and body language when I walk through the door, has anyone else experienced something similar at home?

"People that have difficulties making or sustaining eye contact miss a lot of social information!"



If you miss all of this social information, then you are bound to have difficulties interpreting someone's thoughts or feelings. This can result in something going wrong in a social interaction.

APPS WE RECOMMEND

Superduper Inc

This is a great place to find a variety of apps for preschool- upper primary school. They have some really cool 'fun decks' which have pictures that help teach grammar.

I love using the 'let's name things' fun deck to practice developing categorising skills and naming objects that go in groups.



Parent Corner

NDIS for Parents

NDIS has rolled out in Hume and Moreland in March and is due to roll out in Brimbank, Melton and Moonee Valley in October.

As part of this rollout there will be a number of information sessions run by the NDIS to help make the transition to the NDIS easier.

These sessions are designed to explain NDIS concepts such as NDIS plans and goals to families and assist them to prepare for their planning meetings. Some topics covered are:

- What will happen in the first NDIS planning session?
- What is an NDIS goal?
- Who helps make my NDIS plan?
- Who makes decisions about what is funded under my NDIS? and
- How can I manage NDIS funding?

More sessions like this can be found on the NDIS website. Please note that you may need to book in to these events.

Check out the Events page on the NDIS website (<https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/events/vic.html>) to find information sessions in your local area

NDIS for Practitioners

As the NDIS rolls out across Melbourne there is a need for approved practitioners to deliver the funded services.

In such a complex environment there can easily be a lot of confusion about what providers are required to do.

Information on National Provider Forums can be found at <https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/national-forums-2018.html>

Each year the NDIS provides information and updates about the role of providers via National NDIS Provider Forums.

These forums have already been held for 2018 but don't worry if you have missed them. Webinars and presentations from the events will soon be available. Check the website address above to find this information.

