

**Autumn term:**

It has been a very busy Autumn term at Lawley and there has been lots to celebrate. As we head into the Christmas holiday, it's important to remember that whilst it's an exciting time of the year, it can also be a hectic and stressful time of year too. If your family includes a young person with additional needs, it can be even more stressful. Last year, Learn to Live provided some ideas for things you might like to try to support your family's Christmas time. These are listed below.

- Keep the peace with a "no bang" cracker.
- Have a "festive free" space somewhere in the house.
- Try using a "break" card to indicate when someone needs a bit of space and a break from it all.
- Prep your extended family - talk to family members and friends ahead of time. Discuss your child's specific needs, and how they can support you during the season.
- Give your child a job! Sometimes parents have found that giving their children 'jobs' to do at Christmas, e.g., take coats, offer nibbles etc, gives them something structured to do to reduce their stress about having lots of people in the house.
- Use visuals to create a timetable of the festive period so children know what is happening, when and where.

My Primary aged boy finds all the food on the table overwhelming, so we let him have his Christmas Lunch in the kitchen by himself before everyone else. Then he is free to play whilst the rest of the family eat.

# Lawley Primary School

## **SEND**

## **Newsletter**

### SEND Marketplace

After two successful evenings last year, Mrs Robinson and I were once again available during the Autumn term parents' evening. We shall continue to provide this time next term so do pop along. Please remember, it is a drop-in session during parents' evening, so no appointment is necessary. We look forward to seeing you there.

During the second Autumn term parents' evening we also welcomed a range of services into school to offer more specific advice and support.

#### **Services included:**

School nurse team  
Speech and Language  
Telford Autism Hub  
Behavioural Support  
Our Community Support Officer  
Bournville Village Trust  
Learn Telford  
Healthy Families

Again, it was wonderful to see parents taking the opportunity to engage with these services and we shall look to organise something like this again in the future.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
We look forward to seeing you all in 2025.

### External services:

This year, we continue to work with Dr Daniel Cumber as our school's supporting Educational Psychologist and Ceri Hurst as our Learning Support Advisory Teacher (LSAT).

### Important Information:

#### **School Support Maps**

In February, your child's teacher will be sending home a fully reviewed support plan for Autumn 2 - Spring 1 targets, alongside a new support map for Spring 2 - Summer 1. These targets will be discussed during the Spring parents' evening. If you have any questions in the meantime however, please contact your child's class teacher.

#### **ELSEC (Early Language Support for Every Child)**

This year, our school is excited to be a part of the ELSEC programme which is supporting us to deliver intervention to children in Reception and Year 1 who present with speech, language and communication needs. We are 1 of 17 settings taking part in this pilot and it is hoped that this early support will reduce the need for many children to require a referral into the speech and language therapy service or support some children and their families to access targeted intervention whilst they wait many months to see a speech and language therapist. We are supported by a dedicated ELSEC practitioner who we know very well, Mrs Nicholls! She is helping to deliver interventions, train staff and coach them through their own delivery of the intervention. We are also working closely with a speech and language therapist and a specialist teacher who will be delivering additional training to our school staff and helping us to enhance our school environment. They will also be looking to engage with more parents so do look out for some dates in the new year.