

## **SEN Update December 2020**

As the end of another half term approaches the children in school have continued to show just how exceptional they are! They really have worked very hard this term and I am sure they are all ready for the Christmas break.

This week, teachers have reviewed support plans and created new plans and monitoring documents for the children. I will be sending these home during the first week back so please do have a look and get in touch with myself if you have any questions or contributions to make to the reviews or plans. You can do so by contacting the school on 01388 762400 or sending an email to [sen@crookprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:sen@crookprimaryschool.org.uk).

Within school, our speech and language therapist, Emma Harrison has been helping to set up early intervention groups for Reception children and next term will continue this work within Nursery. She is delivering blocks of therapy to children as well as providing targets to staff to support speech and language needs within the classroom. These target sheets have been sent home to the parents of children who Emma has worked with this term already.

We have also been fortunate enough to have Kate Smith, an experienced Occupational Therapist work with us this half term. Kate has focused on developing handwriting skills and next term will expand her work within school.

I am very pleased to announce that, beginning in January, we will be part of a Mental Health Support Team (MHST). The MHST offer early help to children and young people who are struggling with mild to moderate mental health difficulties such as anxiety and/or low mood. For more information please see the leaflet that explains the role of the Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) within the team and the support they can offer. As well as working directly with children and young people the team offer advice and guidance to staff members, parents and other professionals.

If you feel your child would benefit from support from the MHST or you would like additional information about the team please contact myself or your child's class teacher to discuss further.

Beginning in January, we will also be launching our Monday Motivation challenges. These challenges will be based around one of the four areas of Special Educational Needs: Cognition and Learning; Social, Emotional, Mental Health; Communication and Language and Physical and Sensory Needs. Over the term, every Monday, I will be providing challenges or strategies for both staff and you at home to try with the children. I hope that this will help everyone to develop a better understanding of the areas of need and how we can support our children together as a team.

As ever, if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further please do get in touch.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Mrs Cleminson

SENDCO