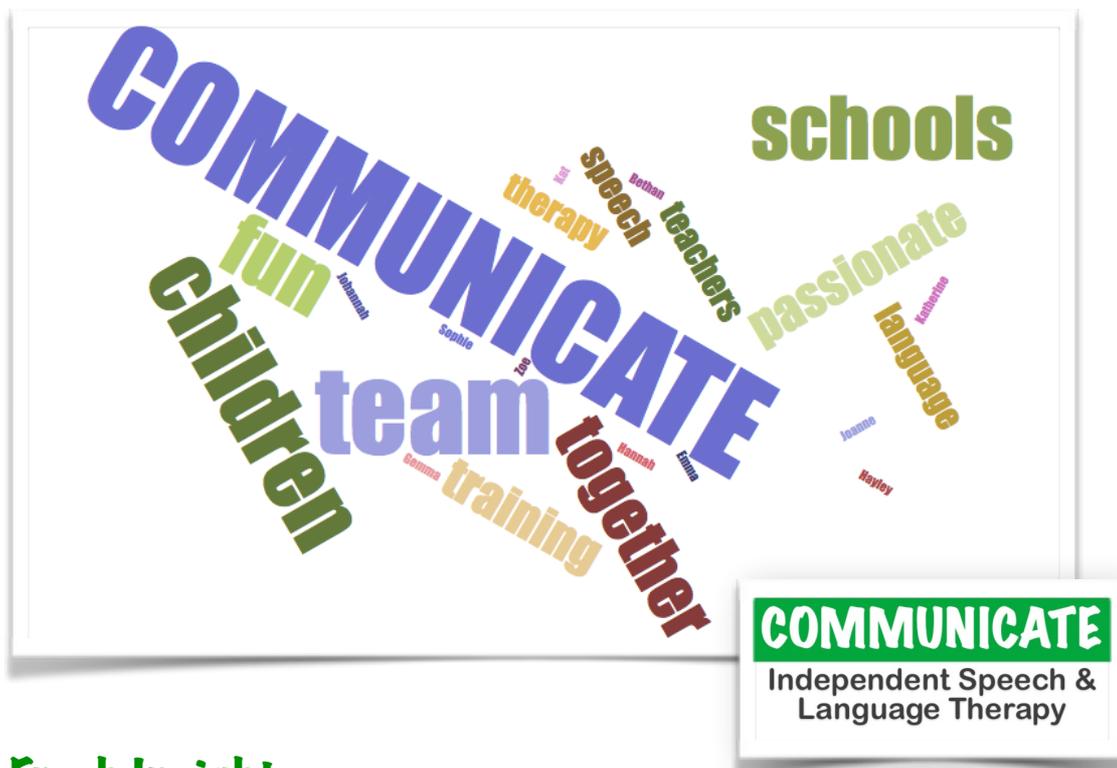


THE UPDATE

THE TERMLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT OUR WORK TOGETHER



Fresh Insight

“I have really enjoyed working within your company and with the schools. I couldn’t have asked for a better placement. I am definitely looking for private opportunities now since I’ve been able to see everything your therapists get to do i.e. actual therapy!”

I cannot personally thank the schools enough who enabled us to provide our first 8-week block student speech and language therapy placement to a UEA final-year student. It required all involved to trust that the service would continue as normal as possible with some extra benefits too. The words above are from the student - thank you for inspiring the next generation of therapists!

With my other ‘hat’ on as lecturer on the course at UEA, I would also like to say a ‘thank you’ from the team there - lectures can only teach so much, it really is placement where they learn what they’re made of!

Emma Ferris
(Editor of ‘The Update’ & Clinical Director, COMMUNICATE).

TRAINING

The majority of our training happens within the Autumn and Spring Term, but there are still some inspiring sessions left...

Using ‘Lego Therapy’ Techniques to Support Language Development

20th April 2016
1.15-4.30pm

Brief introduction to Lego Therapy followed by practical hands-on activities to develop skills in adapting its tasks to focus on key areas of communication.

Vocabulary and Word Finding

11th May 2016
3.45-5.45pm

How curriculum and 1:1 activities can be enhanced to improve retention and understanding of new vocabulary.

Contact Hannah at:
communicate.hannah@gmail.com for further information or to book a place.

'Read On. Get On.'

Save the Children, as part of the 'Read On. Get On.' literacy coalition published their poll results of over 500 teachers in the UK.

Read On. Get On. is a coalition of charities, teachers, parents and businesses, created to ensure that by 2025, every child is a confident reader by age 11.

The recent (Nov 2015) results published by Save the Children demonstrate the link between poor language skills and later literacy difficulties.

This relationship has been explored in research for many years with strong results. A Finnish study (Torppa et al, 2010), showed early language development to be a key influential factor in later reading proficiency, including once familial dyslexia risk was accounted for.

A poll of teachers to this level, however, is something which is not often. Save the Children found that 75% of the primary school teachers asked, have children enter reception class struggling to speak in full sentences (81%) or follow basic instructions (65%). Many teachers also identified the long-term detrimental factors of



starting formal education with a lack of communication skills.

The report comments that schools will struggle to support the 1 in 4 children who arrive without the basic communication skills needed to succeed. Personally I feel that it is dependent on the resources and interventions available to each school. I do agree, however, with the message that pre-school education could hold the key.

Ref:

ReadOnGetOn: www.readongeton.co.uk

Save the Children article: <http://tinyurl.com/jr3sxt>

Torppa et al (2010). Language development, literacy skills, and predictive connections to reading in Finnish children with and without familial risk for dyslexia. *JoLD* 43(4) 308-321

'COMMUNICATE EXCELLENCE' AWARD WINNER

EMILY LAST - Ranelagh Primary School

Emily is our winner for the Spring 2015/16 award. She has worked with pupils with SLCN in the school alongside our therapists, Hayley, and then Zoe for a number of years. This is why Zoe nominated her:

"Since 2013, Emily has been part of supporting the children with SLCN with COMMUNICATE. She has been involved with identifying appropriate children, running groups, working with individuals, supporting me as a therapist, and making me feel welcome. She is always keen to learn more and has attended some of COMMUNICATE's training. It is lovely working with someone who is so enthusiastic about Speech and Language Therapy, which results in improved outcomes from the children!"

She will be personally gifted with £40 worth of our training sessions, we have adopted the word '**enthusiastic**' from the ICAN charity in her name, and a fun game for therapy is also on it's way.

