



Empowering parents to help their little stars

Welcome to our Shine21 parent newsletter.

Our mission and goals are detailed on the Shine21 website however our overall aim is to empower you, the parents to help your littles ones shine. We aim to do this by providing you with resources and activities to enhance their development, run developmental sessions by qualified therapists and be there for you weather you need some guidance on completing DLA forms, Makaton training or just someone to talk to.

April Edition

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Hello

What a month it's been for us all at Shine21. We had June Rogers sharing her priceless potty training advice and Wendy Uttley giving us a host of hints and tips on feeding and drinking. Then we saw the launch of the Shine21 100 club, Makaton training and, to top it all off, our remaining development groups are now live and kicking!

100 Club

Thank you to everyone who has joined and advertised our 100 Club – all of the numbers have sold, which is fantastic! The inaugural draw has now taken place and the winner is - drum roll please –

Susan Moses.

Susan very kindly donated the money back to Shine21. With the money we have bought 2 tuff trays ready for sensory messy play at the Bright Stars sessions.

Draws will take place on the 21st of every month... so watch this space for next months winner.

Shine21 social

With Covid-19 restrictions now easing, it's high time we had a meet up - so we've planned a get together at Castle Howard on Sunday 16 May. Hopefully everyone has a Max Card, which means you can get one adult and up to three children in for free. Under the government guidance, as a support group we can meet in a group of 15 (not including children under five) so we may have to meet in two groups for lunch but once the children are off playing and exploring, numbers are unlikely to be an issue. We will meet at 11am on the grass area near the lake; we can then chat, eat and then explore. If you require a Max Card and live in York, you can request one free of charge from the Max Card website. The process for those in North Yorkshire is slightly different. Please contact Helen Kel who will happily help guide you through the process.

Bright Stars are go

Our remaining development groups are now up and running, which is brilliant. We are blown away at how well the children settled and engaged with each other. I think their smiles showed how much they loved meeting their new friends. Here's an overview of the groups so far:

[Team Twinkle](#)

This is our youngest age group for babies 0-12 months old. During our first session we learnt the Makaton for each of the children's names and also names of family members such as Mummy, Daddy, brother and sister. Using the Makaton we'd learnt, we then sang 'the wheels on the bus' using family members' names and some rather strange actions (including drinking beer!). The children loved playing with the foil blankets and watching or catching the bubbles from the bubble machine.

[Team Glow](#)

In our group for little ones aged 12-24 months, we learnt the Makaton for the children's names and used picture name cards which each child posted into a post box to confirm their attendance. We followed a family theme and sang nursery rhymes, had fun with the parachute and balloons, and finished with a lovely story called 'Where is Daddy' – read and signed by Emma.



[Team Orbit](#)

What a lively, fun group! The toddler-aged children adored interacting with each other and they focussed on vocabulary from the See and Learn programme. Much fun was had rolling balls to each other and some lovely friendships blossomed.

[Team Electra](#)

The sessions at Greenhedges nursery in Scarborough have resumed again after the Easter break. The children have been working really hard on extending their vocabulary and speech sounds. The nursery has been incorporating the activities from the sessions into the daily nursery routine, which is fantastic.

[Team Cosmic](#)

Two of the school age children had 1:1 sessions with Helen from Seaside Salt. They worked really hard on their speech sounds and also started looking at the colourful semantics, which is a programme to aid communication and sentence building. The two schools have now received training and resources on colourful semantics to be able to transfer these activities and therapies into the classroom.

We constantly review the sessions and would welcome any feedback. Seaside Salt are an external provider and we have no relationship with them, so if you think changes are needed please let us know so we can either make tweaks to the sessions or find a new supplier. Louise and Emma are both new to delivering sessions so again, any feedback is most welcome. We will not be offended; we simply want to ensure that you and your child are getting the best support.

Grants update

Good news: we've been awarded £500 from Grow and Learn Scarborough and a further £500 from Grow and Learn Ryedale. A huge thank you to Emma and Daynor for their work on this grant application. Emma and Daynor are currently working hard on further grant applications however more help is needed. If you would like to join them, it would be greatly appreciated. Emma will provide all the guidance and support needed to complete the applications, so no one will be left to fly solo.

Fundraising

There are a number of schemes we're now registered with in order to raise money:

Recycle4Charity - please ask your friends, family, neighbours and colleagues to save any unwanted/empty ink cartridges as we can recycle these for cash. You can bring them along to the development sessions or social events. We've already sent off a batch of 30, with another 10 ready to go, which is fantastic!

Easy Fundraising - this is a similar scheme to Amazon Smile except there are over 5,000 retailers which you can shop with and Shine21 will receive a donation. Click here for more information: [Fundraising | Charity Fundraising Online | Easyfundraising](#)

Amazon Smile - we've probably all used Amazon a lot more this past year! Shine21 is now registered with Amazon Smile and this means that when you make a purchase, Shine21 receive a donation at no extra cost to you.

Pre-loved donations - we've raised over £700 so far by selling pre-loved items. If you know anyone who's having a spring clean and would like to donate items in good condition, please pass them on to either Louise or Helen.

5k May - if you know anyone who's up for a challenge in May, please ask them if they'd consider doing a sponsored 5k. The 5k May is a Just Giving event and more information can be found at [Run for Heroes \(justgiving.com\)](#)

Handmade Voices - Makaton training

Well done to everyone who has completed their level 1 Makaton training. We hope you've found it useful and that you've enjoyed the sessions. A huge thank you to Emma for giving us this opportunity.

Shine21 will continue to fund level 1 places, so if you haven't yet attended, please check Emma's website [Makaton Training Courses | Handmade Voices | York](#) for new training dates. If you spot a date that's convenient for you, please contact Emma to check availability. The invoice will be sent to Shine21 for payment. Please help Emma promote her business by completing a review on her Facebook page, as well as spreading the word with friends, family and colleagues.



AGM

As a registered charity, we have a legal obligation to hold regular AGMs. We believe it's important that you are aware of Shine21's financial position, future plans and the work taking place behind the scenes. We will therefore hold the AGM during the Zoom session on 26 May. Everyone is welcome and if you can't attend, we will be sending out minutes from the meeting.

Can you help?

We're looking for someone to help with fundraising, policy writing and grant writing. If you, or someone you know, would be willing to volunteer for a few hours a week, please contact Louise.

Dates for your diary

- 5 May - EHCP Zoom with Alice
- 16 May - Shine21 social at Castle Howard
- 26 May - AGM via Zoom

I hope you all enjoy some of the warmer weather.