

# OSSME NEWS

## Outreach Specialist Support Newsletter

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### Belated thanks!

Belated thanks to Mike who ran the 2019 Santa Dash in aid of OSSME Autism Initiatives in December. Our last newsletter was so packed with news and information that we couldn't squeeze this in, but we didn't want to let the opportunity go to let him know how grateful we all are for his efforts. Well done Mike, and everyone else who joined in for this great cause this winter.

## We are hiring!

Our Outreach Support Service for Mainstream Education (OSSME) provides specialist personalised ASC support for children and young people (0 to 25 years) in the home, community and educational settings. OSSME also offer training packages to families and professionals in education settings and other multi-disciplinary practices. As an Autism Inclusion Practitioner you will be required to work directly with a caseload of children and young people with ASC, visiting educational and home settings to provide support, advice and training to teachers, families and the child/young person. You will be involved in meaningful target setting that will enable young people to achieve positive outcomes as a result of your support. The ability to work independently and as a part of a team is essential, as is the ability to advise and support individuals with ASC within the home and educational settings. A qualification in social care or education and knowledge of the National Curriculum is desirable. Good Knowledge of autism is important in this role, though we will also provide you with a comprehensive induction and continuous training programme to build an existing knowledge to support your CPD.

As a requirement of the role is travelling across the region it is essential that you have your own vehicle and hold a full, clean driving license. This position is subject to an enhanced Disclosure from Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS). The cost of which will be met by Autism Initiatives. If you would like an informal discussion about this post and information about how to apply, please contact OSSME manager Sharon Williams on [Sharon.Williams@autisminitiatives.org](mailto:Sharon.Williams@autisminitiatives.org)

Salary: £17,390 per annum  
Contract Type: Permanent  
Hours: 35 hours per week\*

## Spring Time on the Farm!

It has been a busy time of year at Rice Lane City Farm this week! One of our students whose Open Awards course takes him to the farm as part of OSSME's 'My Focus' programme has witnessed not one but two lambs being born!



Names are now needed for the new additions and they need to be non-human names that begin with the letter A. Favourite suggestions for our student are currently 'Acorn', 'Arrow', 'Apple' or, more fittingly, 'Aspie'. According to the student, it was a 'very interesting and eye-watering thing to witness!'



## THE A TEAM INCLUSION FOOTBALL

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH RIVER JUNIORS & AIM



**MONDAY'S @ 5PM TO 6PM**  
**@ JEFFREY HUMBLE L9 6AG**  
**AGE 5-15 £3.50 PER CHILD**

Contact - Lyndsey & Stephen Pryce  
Tel- 07488961525

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## Outreach Specialist Support

**Sign your school up to Walk for Autism and show how much your school cares about autism.**

With a commitment of only £1 per child your school will receive a free Walk for Autism school pack that contains:

- An Autism Awareness Powerpoint assembly
- A letter to parents explaining the Walk for Autism School campaign
- Walk for Autism social media templates and press pack
- 5 Walk for Autism sashes and pedometers
- 5 autism awareness fact colouring sheets, one a day for the Walk for Autism week
- An award sticker for each child who achieves the 10,000 steps for autism
- A glue and stick paper desk trophy for each child to make
- A thank you Powerpoint presentation assembly

It's easy to take part: Each child pays £1 to take part

Each child walks 2,000 steps every day in the school week during Walk for Autism week so 10,000 steps in total

Walking days Thursday 26 March, Friday 27 March, Monday 30 March, Tuesday 31 March, Wednesday 1 April 2020

Don't worry if you can't do these days, you can walk at a time that suits you

Why should your school or class should get involved?

Autism is a lifelong condition. An estimated 1 in every 100 people are autistic. It is likely that one or more of your students are dealing with the everyday challenges that an autism diagnosis brings to them or a member of their family.

By taking part in Walk for Autism you will educate your students and their families and create an environment where autistic students are better supported by their classmates.

Register your school now!

Email: [hello@walkforautism.co.uk](mailto:hello@walkforautism.co.uk) and one of our walking buddies will be in touch.

### Autism in the Classroom training: City & North Consortia Teachers & TAs.

On Valentines' day, OSSME were out and about sharing the love with their Autism in the Classroom Training for teachers and TAs in the City & North Consortia hosted at St. Faith's Primary School. Feedback was excellent and both groups said they felt that training should be rolled out to everyone who works in education. From the biology of autism in the womb, early and ongoing brain development to strategies that can be used by adults to support students, a great day was had by all.



**HM Revenue & Customs**

OSSME are delighted to announce they will be the provider of Autism Awareness training for the whole of HMRC after being chosen from a large group of applicants. The initial training for the three main hubs in Glasgow, the Midlands and the south will be delivered by manager Sharon Williams. From then on OSSME Practitioners will be travelling across the UK to roll out the training to individual offices to enable each branch to be able to begin their workplace buddy schemes to ensure they are as inclusive as they can be. We look forward to starting this exciting journey with HMRC. If you know of a company that would be interested in something similar, or have their own needs, please recommend OSSME and pass on the email address for Sharon Williams that is at the end of this newsletter.

### Mecycle (Parent support group) dates:

16th March, 20th April, 11th May, 22nd June

59 Station Rd. Southport PR8 3HH.

Tel: 01704 579353

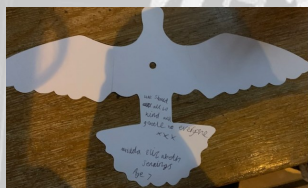




# OSSME NEWS

## Peace Love & Kindness

This year, Liverpool Cathedral will be hosting a new and exciting art project with internationally-renowned sculptor and artist Peter Walker. 'Peace Doves' is a mass participation art project culminating in the creation of a beautiful large-scale art installation that will hang from 8 to 31 May 2020 inside the Cathedral. During the recent half term, there were dove-themed family friendly craft activity sessions being run by the Cathedral Education Team where children with their parents or carers could write messages of hope and peace on the paper doves provided. Here are some of the fabulous messages that some of our children wrote. "We should all be kind and gentle to everyone!" (TJ age 7), "Make the world a more peaceful place by being kind and thinking of others!" (FJ age 10) In the wake of the Caroline Flack tragedy recently, this message is even more important to remember. From Valentine's Day (14 February) up until 19 April, the Cathedral will be inviting people to visit and write their messages of peace and hope on paper doves. They will then join the thousands of doves together to create the large-scale installation above the Well ready for its official opening on the 75th anniversary of VE day on 8 May 2020.



## Why Not Make Safer Internet Day Every Day?

At OSSME, we speak to many young people, parents and educators annually, and we recognise that technology and the internet offer fantastic opportunities for young people, equipping them with the tools to learn, communicate and play. However, alongside these benefits there are many risks that young people with special educational needs may be more vulnerable to, including conduct towards others, cyberbullying, contact by strangers, trustworthiness of information and people online and exposure to inappropriate content.



Many schools do an excellent job of ensuring all children are kept up to date and aware of what they can do to keep themselves safe on the internet. Although the day is a great opportunity to inspire children and young people to use technology in a safe and positive way, it should not just be something that is dealt with on one special day that is set aside. Therefore to aid those working with young people with SEN, we have highlighted some free resources that can help deliver safer internet activities, with a particular focus on exploring the power of image and video online to those with vulnerabilities/special needs.

**Click on the images below to be taken to the websites where you can download free packs for schools. Particularly beneficial is the STAR toolkit, which has a pack for each letter of its acronym: Safe sharing, Trust, Action and Respect.**



*\*These companies are not affiliated with OSSME but have been recommended by our teachers as they are particularly useful for ensuring a fully inclusive education. Ensuring the most vulnerable of students can still enjoy the benefits of social media and other online activities is paramount. Please contact OSSME if you require any further information or guidance.*

**Free Parent Training at Hudson  
Wellbeing Centre L31 5LE  
(0151 531 0117)**

**Please contact Hudson to book on.**



**19th March 2020**

**23rd April 2020**

**21st May 2020**

**18th June 2020**

**Email: Kelly.herron-  
hudson@schools.sefton.gov.uk**

For further information on OSSME services or training packages, please contact [Sharon.williams@autisminiatiatives.org](mailto:Sharon.williams@autisminiatiatives.org)