



29 May 2019

Stage 1 Occupational Therapy and Speech

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, over the past 4 years our school has employed an Occupational Therapist (OT) and Speech Pathologist to work with our teachers in their classes to support student speech development, fine motor and gross motor skills. Most schools do not offer these services but we have chosen to do this at no cost to you.

As part of the OT program being offered at our school, the occupational therapist will be providing screening tests of children who are possibly demonstrating some weaknesses in their:

- Fine motor skills (use of their hands and fingers)
- Gross motor skills (use of their body in big movements such as sport)
- Handwriting
- General co-ordination ability

As part of the Speech program being offered at our school the Speech Pathologist will be providing screening tests of children who are possibly demonstrating some weaknesses in their:

- Listening skills (comprehension/receptive language)
- Ability to express ideas (expressive language)
- Awareness of sounds in speaking and reading
- Speech clarity (articulation)

A screening test is a brief guide to a child's abilities and provides a guide to the child's skills compared with the expected results for a child of their age or grade. A screening test also indicates whether a full assessment is warranted.

Another part of the program being offered to our school is the potential participation for your child in withdrawal therapy groups, these have not been determined yet, however they will be decided based on the screening results.

Please note this is not a reason to discontinue private therapy if your child is receiving it. We recommend these private sessions continue as our program is simply an addition to help them specifically in the classroom.

If you have any questions or you do not want your child to participate in these sessions, please contact the school and speak to Mrs Maruncic.

Bert Lo Campo
Principal

Cindy Maruncic
Deputy Principal