

THE VOICE



"Spring is in the air: From hungry caterpillars to beautiful cherry blossoms"

Housekeeping

1. Pro-D Day: Thursday May 20th (school closed)
2. Music BINGO Night: Thursday May 13th @ 6pm- [Click Here](#) for INFO
3. School Closed: Friday May 21st & Monday May 24th (Victoria Day)
4. Spirit Day: Thursday April 29th



A Message From Our Executive Director

Dear families, friends, and staff,

Happy Speech & Hearing Month! May is such an important time to spread awareness about listening and spoken language programming for children with hearing loss! Reflecting on our past 58 years, we are so proud of how far we have come. As you know, there are a number of events and activities taking place this month, such as the [Music BINGO night](#), and our [raffle](#). We would love for you all to support these events, and share them with friends and family!

This month's theme is all about occupations and our community helpers. Children will be discussing ideas such as different jobs in the community, different tools of the trade, and the many different uniforms worn by professionals. Our classes will have Zoom guest visits from different professionals, including: a librarian, doctor, and engineer.

This past April our school received butterfly kits for each classroom to learn about butterfly growth and development. Each class has been nurturing their little caterpillars and this month, once they undergo their metamorphosis, we intend to release them out into nature. It will be a beautiful sight and pictures will be posted on social media to share with you all. This is so fitting for this time of month; our symbol is the butterfly and it is Speech & Hearing Month.

Now more than ever we need to share with the greater community how vital our programs and services are to children who are deaf and hard of hearing. We ask you, when an opportunity arises, to share your story with your network so that people know that there is an alternative listening and spoken language education model that will allow their child the freedom and independence to reach their highest aspirations.

Warmest Regards,



Dawn McKenna
Executive Director



The Importance of Reading Outloud!

By: Stacey Welsh

Our First Words program recently held a parent education session on reading and literacy. Reading aloud was one of the main topics they focused on and how reading aloud gives the child the experience of getting "inside" a book. Reading aloud for 15 minutes per day has a significant effect on the brain, promoting brain development. At CHSC we recognize the importance of reading stories aloud. We incorporate story time regularly throughout the day within the individual classes and through one of our favourite activities, Our weekly Mystery Reader.

A TedEx Talk by Rebecca Bellingham, an Instructor in the Literacy Specialist Program at Columbia University Teachers College, explains how important reading aloud to children really is. Reading aloud has a way of transporting the child into the story. This is especially true for young readers learning how to read, who might get lost in the vocabulary and structure of the sentences. Although independent reading is extremely important, there is value in allowing children to sit back and hear the words and expressions captured by the reader.

So next time when you are looking for something to do with your child, perhaps on a rainy day, consider reading a story aloud together. You can watch her entire TedEx talk [here](#).



Teaching Idioms to Children Who Are Deaf & Hard of Hearing

By: Jeannie Jang

At the centre, we focus on teaching language and pragmatics to children. While hearing children typically acquire language through incidental learning, children who are Deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) require explicit teaching of language and vocabulary, including idioms. Teaching figurative language is often overlooked and it is a difficult concept for DHH learners to understand or learn.

[Here is a resource document](#) that includes lessons on teaching some of the frequently used idioms for children of all ages. Although some of the resources are more suited to a classroom environment they do provide a good list of references for games, materials, worksheets, and books that can be used at home. To kick off Speech and Hearing Month, why not start with the "All Ears" activity on page 4.

One example of a fun activity you can do at home is to create a list of idioms and have your child draw a picture of them. You can then discuss the meaning of the idioms together, their etymology, and how to use them in everyday speech. For further resources on idiomatic activities you can do at home visit: [The Minds In Bloom](#).

Example: "When Pigs Fly"



Example: "Raining Cats & Dogs"



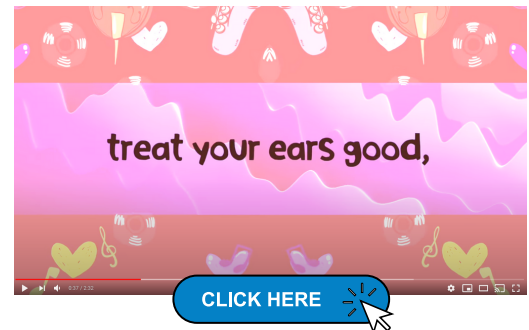
Hear This!

By: Bowen Tang

With Speech and Hearing Month upon us, it is a time to spread awareness and understanding about hearing health and the deaf and spoken language community. Two great ways to share this information is through song and story.

Technology has such a vital role in our lives. With more hand held devices in play, the use of headphones has increased and despite the many wonders these devices bring us, we need to use them responsibly and teach our children how to use them responsibly when it comes to protecting their hearing.

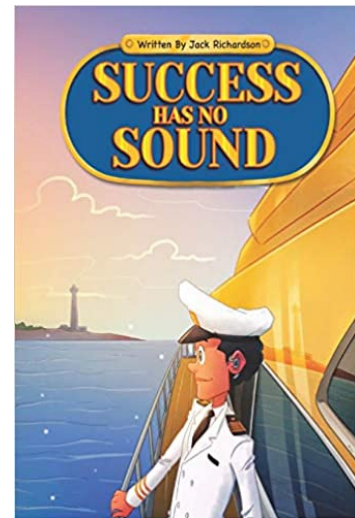
Here is a fun and educational song to teach children about hearing safety that you can sing together to help build healthy hearing habits!



Another great way to spread awareness is through story. One book I will be reading to my class is "Success Has No Sound" by Jack Edward Richardson Jr.

It is a story of a "young boy who realizes his challenge in life is a special gift". He follows his dream of becoming a yacht captain and learns how to sail. He is mocked and ridiculed by friends who don't think his goal is achievable because of his deafness, but he perseveres and achieves his dream! This story is based on the author's experience.

Books like these are important to share as they demonstrate that hearing loss does not impede your dreams and future aspirations.



May Theme:

"Community Helpers!"

The three **BIG** ideas:

We are all part of a
community

1



There are many jobs
in our community

2



Some professions have
special uniforms,
vehicles, and tools to
help them with their job!

3



May Hearing Month Event!

MUSIC TO OUR EARS

MUSIC- BINGO PARTY

IN SUPPORT OF CHILDREN'S HEARING &
SPEECH CENTRE

MAY 13TH 6PM-8PM

ON ZOOM

[CLICK HERE](#) TO PURCHASE YOUR
TICKET(S)!

AWESOME PRIZES TO BE WON!
DON'T NEED A BABYSITTER!



May Hearing Month Event!



CHSC HEARING HEROES 2021 RAFFLE DRAW!

Get your tickets today for the chance to win an **AMAZING** Okanagan prize pack!

Raffle Tickets Are:

Single Ticket for \$10

3-Ticket Pack for \$25

5-Ticket Pack for \$40

Must be 19+ to play: Know your limit, play within it!

Chances are 1 in 2,550 (total tickets for sale) to win a prize.

Actual odds depend on number of tickets sold.

BC Gaming License # 128403



July 12th
to the 30th
2021

CHSC

Summer Adventure Camp

(For Ages 6-9)

This 3-week, themed base
summer camp runs Monday-
Friday from 9 am- 3pm

Weekly themes include: On the
Seven Seas, The Great
Outdoors, The Amazing
Carnival. Weekly activities will
be centred on these themes!




Registration **NOW** Opened!
ONLY 12 Spots Available!

must register for all 3 weeks,
all campers are in one cohort

Cost \$250 per week

for all registration and summer
camp inquiries please email:

info@childrenshearing.ca

 Children's Hearing & Speech
Centre of BC
3575 Kaslo Street
Vancouver BC

Develop Friendships & Build Confidence !