

# THE VOICE



**Let the fun begin!**

## Housekeeping

1. Last day to purchase CHSC Clothing: Friday, September 16th
2. Welcome Back BBQ: Friday September 16th, from 4pm-6pm
3. Pro-D Day, no School: Friday, September 23rd
4. Spirit Day: Thursday, September 29th
5. National Day For Truth and Reconciliation, no school: Friday, September 30th



# A Message From our Executive Director

Dear Family, Friends, and Staff,

Welcome back! Another school year is upon us and we are so excited for the year ahead.

The 2022/2023 year brings a lot of exciting changes, starting with our new Team Lead structure. Three of our largest programs are now represented by a Team Lead that will take on the responsibility of managing and supporting the programs and staff on their team, in addition to their regular role at CHSC.

These team leads include:

- Keeley Griffith – Team Lead for First Words Program
- Sarah Chodos – Team Lead for Centre Based (Early Learning) Program
- Jessica Costello – Team Lead for Itinerant Program

This is a new model for CHSC and we know that there will be some bumps along the way, but we will continue to adjust as needed. We greatly value your support and input as we embark on this new chapter.

It is also with great pleasure that we welcome three new staff members, Jennifer Tam, Linda Goodwin, and Robyn Copeland to the CHSC team!

- Jennifer is an Early Childhood Educator with many years of experience
- Linda is a Teacher of the Deaf and former Principal at Tucker Maxon School in Portland, Oregon, one of the many Option Schools in the USA, and
- Robyn is a Teacher of the Deaf from Missouri with several years of experience under her belt.

Next year marks our 60th anniversary. It is hard to believe that we have been going strong and providing quality programs and services for 60 years. To mark the occasion we are putting together a committee to help plan events throughout the year. If you are interested in lending a hand, please check out page 3 of the newsletter for more information.

While COVID-19 is still very much a presence in our lives, we must continue to be vigilant and follow safety protocols issued by the Provincial Health Officer, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and WorkSafeBC. However, we are optimistic that we can begin to hold more in-person activities starting with our Welcome Back Barbecue that will take place on September 16th. This annual event sponsored by the South Vancouver Lions Club is a great way to kick off the year and we can't wait to see you all there.



**Dawn McKenna**  
**Executive Director**



## 60th Anniversary Committee

Hello CHSC Community!

Next year marks the 60th anniversary of CHSC and we want to make it our best year ever!

We are putting together a committee of family, friends, staff, and alumni to help plan events and activities that will take place throughout the year!

You have ideas and we want to hear them! If interested please email our Marketing and Development Officer, Elysha Cohen, at [ecohen@childrenshearing.ca](mailto:ecohen@childrenshearing.ca).

Let's put our heads together and plan a great 60th Anniversary year!



## Meet the Team Leads

As many of you know, Loretta Richardson retired in July. Loretta was our Principal/Director of Education for the last 5 years and proved too hard to replace. We have taken the opportunity to promote from within, and are happy to announce the following individuals as our new Team Leads for three of our programs.



### **Sarah Chodos, Team Lead Centre Based Programs:**

Sarah is a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and has worked at Children's Hearing and Speech Centre for 11 years. Before joining CHSC, Sarah worked at a mainstream Independent school for 5 years, teaching Grade 2 for the majority of her time there. Since joining CHSC Sarah has worked as the Kindergarten/Primary teacher within the Centre, an Itinerant teacher, the Itinerant Telehealth teacher and in the Early Learning Program. Outside of work, she enjoys exploring and enjoying the beauty of Vancouver with her husband, two young children and 9 month old multipoo named Chewie. She is passionate about teaching children with hearing loss and truly loves being a part of CHSC. Sarah is looking forward to leading the Early Learning Program and working with the team this year.

[schodos@childrenshearing.ca](mailto:schodos@childrenshearing.ca)

### **Keeley Griffith, Team Lead First Words Program:**

Keeley is a Speech-Language Pathologist and she joined Children's Hearing in 2019. She has 14 years of experience as an SLP and prior to coming to CHSC she worked in a child development centre. Since joining CHSC Keeley has worked with children in our Centre Based Program, in our Private SLP Program and with the little ones and their families in the First Words Program. Outside of work you will find her camping in the woods, skiing the local mountains and going on family adventures with her two young children. Keeley is looking forward to leading the First Words team in the exciting year ahead.

[kgriffith@childrenshearing.ca](mailto:kgriffith@childrenshearing.ca)



### **Jessica Costello, Team Lead Itinerant Program:**

Jessica is a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, having graduated from the University of Toronto with a Masters in Child Study and Education and most recently from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education program at York University in 2021. Jessica joined CHSC upon graduation and worked with students in independent schools through our Itinerant Program. She has had experience in working with students with multiple different exceptionalities and strives to have an empathetic teaching approach. During her free time, Jessica enjoys running, traveling, and playing beach volleyball. She is excited and eager to be the new Itinerant Team Lead.

[jcostello@childrenshearing.ca](mailto:jcostello@childrenshearing.ca)



CHECK OUT CHSC'S

*2022-2023  
Clothing  
Collection!*



Fabulous Styles For the Whole Family!

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE  
ONLINE FROM  
AUG 8-SEPT 16, 2022

CLICK



Free shipping to our centre!  
Get your items in time for Spirit  
Day on September 29th!



## Thank You Canada Summer Jobs Team

This summer we had three fabulous Canada Summer Jobs students working at the centre.

Canada Summer Jobs is an amazing program that encourages employers to hire youth between the ages of 15-30 by providing wage subsidies to the employer. The aim of the program is to provide mentorship and career building skills, to help youth gain the valuable skills and experience they need to successfully transition into the labour market.

We want to extend a big thank you to Julianne, Jade, and Ruqaiya for all your help! Both Jade and Ruqaiya worked in our Summer Early Learning Program and Julianne was a great help to our Administrative Team!

## We're adopting our block!

Once a month during Morning Music, CHSC staff and kids will walk through the beautiful Kaslo neighborhood and take part in a neighborhood cleanup! We will get to combine our passion for singing songs and taking care of our community!



## Hollywood Helps Fight the Stigma of Hearing Loss Excerpt from The Hearing Journal

by Alexander Chern and Michael W. Denham

Hearing loss and deafness play a central role in Apple TV+'s new family miniseries *El Deafo*, a TV adaptation of Cece Bell's award-winning graphic novel originally published in 2014. In this charming and insightful three-episode series, Bell narrates her experiences as a four-year-old deaf girl in the 1970s and '80s, when hearing loss and deafness were less readily accepted than they are today. The animated series explores Bell's understanding of her deafness by imagining herself as a superhero called "El Deafo" to help her overcome various social challenges, such as bullying by her peers [Read full article here](#).

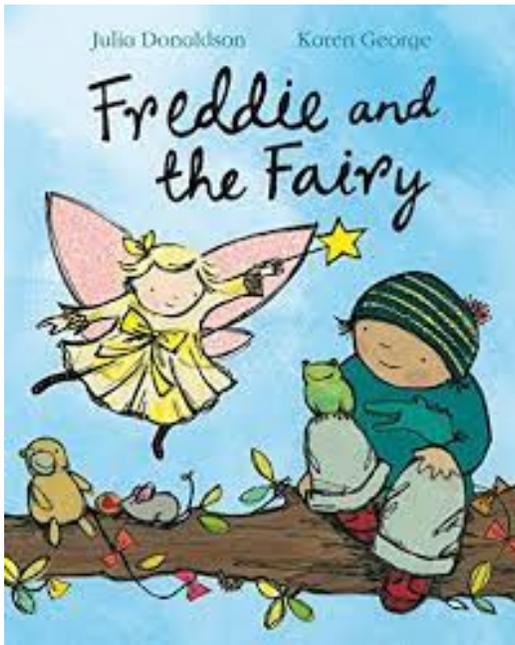


[Watch Trailer](#)



## Book of the Month: Freddie and the Fairy

by: Julia Donaldson, Illustrations by: Karen George



Freddie found a fairy, tangled in a tree. Freddie is desperate for a pet, so when he rescues Bessie-Belle and she offers to grant his wishes, he knows just what to ask for. The only problem is that Bessie-Belle can't hear very well, and Freddie tends to mumble. Whatever can they do? Luckily the Fairy Queen is on hand to explain

The fairy Queen teaches Freddie the “3 Golden Rules”:

1. You mustn't mumble.
2. Don't turn away – the fairy needs to see your lips to read the words you say.
3. Don't cover up your mouth, she can't see through your hand.

### Connection to Language and Listening

This is a great book to spark a conversation with your child about self-advocacy. It gives 3 concrete strategies to be aware of while communicating with those with hearing loss. You can take the opportunity after reading the book to also mention to your child that he/she can ask others to repeat what they have said if they aren't sure.

The book uses a rhyming pattern throughout which helps pre-readers become familiar with rhyming words. While you read the book, if appropriate for their language level, ask your child to predict what the next rhyming word is that Bessie Belle mishears.





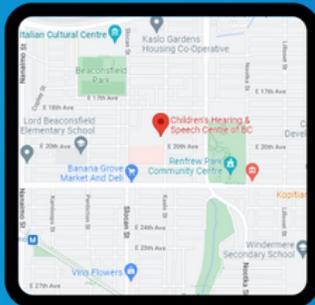
# WELCOME BACK BBQ!!

Join us on:

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH  
4PM — 6PM**

In our parking lot located  
at:

**3575 KASLO STREET,  
VANCOUVER**



Sponsored by  
Vancouver South  
Lions Club



**RSVP to:**  
**[info@childrenshearing.ca](mailto:info@childrenshearing.ca)**  
**by Friday September 9th**

Come on out, It's been 2 years since our last BBQ.  
We look forward to seeing you all!

