

Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce that we will be offering speech-language and motor skill development screenings at our school the week of **September 5th - 8th, 2023**. This screening can serve as a routine part of checking your child's development. The **purpose of the screening is to identify children who may need complete diagnostic testing** in the below areas. The screening encompasses a broad range of skills that are necessary for your child's academic success.

The following are skills to be screened by an ASHA Certified and Florida Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist:

- **Language skills** - we will look at a wide variety of concepts, vocabulary, grammatical and processing skills; both expressively and receptively. * Important for the ability to understand class instructions and conversations. Important for the ability to use oral and written language appropriately and to report information and express ideas accurately.
- **Articulation/Phonology skills** - we will look at the process by which sounds syllables and words are formed. *Important for being understood, social success, spelling and phonological skills.
- **Fluency skills** - (stuttering) we will look at the flow and ease of speech production. *Important for overall expressive abilities. Difficulties may cause individuals to avoid situations, communication, and may decrease confidence and self esteem.
- **Social Language skills** - we will look at the overall use of communication and the behaviors needed for effective interaction with others. *Important for expressing thoughts in an organized manner including following rules of conversation as well as appropriately interacting with peers and adults.

The following are skills to be screened by a Florida Licensed Occupational Therapist:

- **Fine/Gross Motor** - age appropriate grasp, prewriting, handwriting, and cutting skills. Balance and coordination for functional tasks. *Important for play skills, activities of daily living, safety, and social interactions.
- **Visual Perception** - making sense of and interpreting information, matching, memory, object identification. *Important for hand coordination, puzzle assembly, mazes, legibility of handwriting.
- **Self-Care** - Age appropriate activities of daily living. *Important for hygiene in bathing and toileting; sequencing and coordination in dressing; self-feeding with utensils and drinking from a cup.
- **Sensory Processing** - Levels of avoiding/seeking sensory input orally, tactilely, auditorily, and visually. *Important for using senses and integrating information for safety, independence, and socialization in everyday situations.

Once the screening is complete, **you will be notified in writing of the results**. Recommendations will be made to you if a specific area(s) appears to be delayed.

Please complete the enclosed form giving your permission if you wish to take advantage of these important screenings. Please attach payment to the permission slip and **return to school ASAP (No later than Friday, September 1st)**. Also note the **Parent/Teacher Comment** section at the bottom of the form. All parents and teachers are asked to comment accordingly as this section provides the therapist with helpful information. If you have any questions about the screening feel free to call:
SWFL Speech Therapy, Inc. at (239) 400-1705.

Sincerely,

SWFL Speech Therapy

www.swflspeechtherapy.com

239-400-1705