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Dear Parents/Carers,

My name is Mrs Payne and I am one of the F2 teachers here at Holgate Primary. I am also an accredited Language Lead which means that I support children in school that have speech, language and communication needs. This covers many different issues such as speech sounds, understanding speech and also ordering words correctly to communicate.



To support children with any speech and language issues there are a number of tools we can use in school, and one of the main visual tools is to use physical actions and pictures to support understanding called 'Signs and Symbols'.

To promote this and to include everyone starting next week we are going to have a weekly 'Sign of the Week' that will be shared via the school newsletter. This will be a fantastic tool for you and your child and it would be great if you could share this with your child/ren and practise it together. The sign is called 'Makaton' and is a form of sign language that is easy for children to understand and use.

In our busy lives it's very easy to forget to make time to just talk! We are encouraging you to help support the further development of your child's speech and understanding by turning off the technology/tv and talking to them about a range of different things. This should be a lovely opportunity to listen and share thoughts within your family setting. To help you with this we will be also including a 'Time to Talk' section on our newsletter.

If you have any issues, concerns or questions about your child's speech, language or communication needs please feel free to speak to me or send me an email via my class email - F2PD@holgateprimary.org and I will do my best to help.

Happy signing!

Mrs. T Payne

Mrs. Payne
Language Lead and F2 Teacher

