

# News from Serennu

March 2020

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## Well Deserved Recognition

We are delighted, and very proud, to announce that Dr Sabine Maguire, MRCPCh, FRCPI, FRCPC, has been awarded an Honorary MBE, "For services to health and well being of children with disabilities in Wales." Dr Maguire was the driving force behind the creation of Serennu Children's Centre and the Sparkle charity and a key figure in the drive to create a unique state-of-the-art centre, for helping children with a range of complex disabilities.

Dr Maguire is chairperson of the Sparkle Appeal Charity – a charity passionate about the delivery of multi-disciplinary, integrated care of children aged 0-18 years of age who have a disability and/or developmental difficulty. Dr Maguire has spent over 20 years driving the development of Serennu Children's Centre as well as a model for integrated, holistic services to children and young people.

Dr Maguire has dedicated her life to improving outcomes for children and she is considered a world authority on child protection issues. In 2002 she became a Senior Lecturer in Child Health at Cardiff University. Her primary role was to set up and run a program of Systematic Reviews of Physical Child Abuse and Neglect program, this was the first such program worldwide, and involved the development of methodology for child maltreatment reviews. She has been involved in the production of numerous national guidelines/training in child protection in the UK, is a member of the editorial board of Child Abuse Review and mentors junior researchers nationally and internationally. Through her clinical and research work, Dr Maguire has improved the care given to children with complex needs and disabilities. Dr Maguire has also been at the forefront of international research in child abuse and has led the establishment of guidelines and formal training in child protection for paediatricians. Dr Maguire said *"I was completely stunned. It would never have occurred to me that I would be considered for such an honour. It has been my privilege to have the opportunities I have had. I have worked with fantastic teams, both in Sparkle and in Cardiff University and beyond."*

*Any achievements I may have had have been team efforts, certainly not mine alone."* Dr Maguire says she received the accolade *"primarily in recognition of my voluntary work with the Sparkle Appeal, a charity I have been involved in as Chairman and trustee for over 20 years. We have built an award winning centre in South Wales, serving children aged 0-18 years with disability or developmental delay, and their families... In addition to co-locating health (outpatients and therapies), social services and the voluntary sector in one building.... We have led policy changes within our region, including parents being on the executive board, a fully integrated assessment pathway, care co-ordinators for complex cases, psychological support for parents, dads and siblings of a child with a disability or developmental delay and I also sit on Welsh Government working groups aimed at improving care for children and young people with disabilities."*

Dr Maguire retired from Cardiff University in 2016, retaining an Honorary Contract as Senior Research Fellow, however her voluntary work with Sparkle continues.

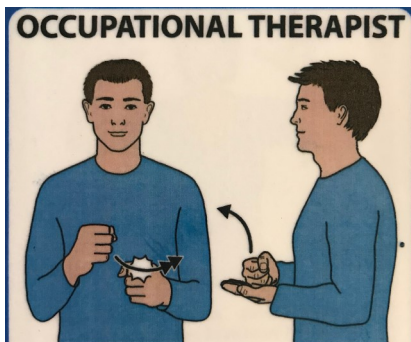
From all the staff and families accessing Serennu Children's Centre, we would like to say a massive congratulations on the receipt of this wonderful accolade, which is very well deserved. Dr Maguire is truly amazing and inspiring and through her dedication, admirable and tireless work she has helped to improve the lives of so many vulnerable children around the world.



If you would like to be kept up to date with activities, events, forums and support groups being held at Serennu and in the local area please email or call: [Family.liaison.ABB@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Family.liaison.ABB@wales.nhs.uk) / 01633748013 to be included on the mailing list.



## Sign of the Month



### 'Occupational Therapist'

Working fist (palm in, pointing forward) strikes twice across supporting fist (palm in pointing forward), then blade of working fist rests on supporting palm, formation moves up/forwards to sign 'to help'.

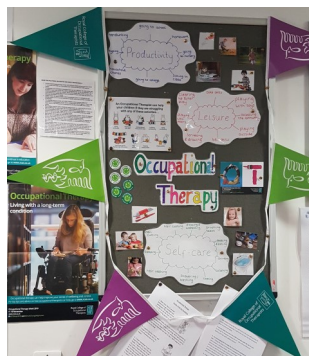
©Signalong

For more signs or resources, please see [www.signalong.org.uk](http://www.signalong.org.uk) or speak with your speech and language therapist.

## Great Work O.T. Team

The Serennu Occupational Therapists have been very busy creating an information wall to offer suggestions that may help people who struggle with everyday activities.

They have shared hints and tips alongside some good practice ideas. The next time you are at Serennu Centre, maybe drop by the information area to look at the posters to pick up some ideas. Thank you to Serennu Occupational Therapists for pulling this great initiative together.



## Future Dates at Serennu

### Thursday 5th March

Newport Autism Support Group  
10am-12pm  
For parents/carers/grandparents whose children have an Autistic Spectrum Disorder and live in Newport

### Monday 9th March

SNAP Cymru drop in session  
10am-12pm

### Monday 9th March

NYAS drop in session

### Thursday 12th March

ADHD Parent Support Group  
10am-12pm  
For parents/carers affected by ADHD

### Saturday 14th March

Serennu Dad's Group for parents/grandparents/male carers to get together for a chat and a coffee  
10am-12pm

### MediCinema Screenings

#### March

Tues 3rd -  
Sonic the Hedgehog (PG)

Sat 7th, Tues 10th-Doctor Dolittle (PG)

Sat 14th, Tues 17th-Onward (U)

Sat 21st, Tues 24th-My Spy (12A)

Sat 28th + Tues 31st Onward (U)

### Dad's Group

In the Centre on Saturday 14th March 10am-12pm, there is an opportunity for all male carers of children with a disability or developmental difficulty, to meet for a hot drink and a chat. We meet in the flat and if you are available, and would like to come along, you are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact the Helping Hands Team on 01633 748042

### Booking Transport to Serennu

Serennu has a dedicated transport service to assist families to attend medical and therapy appointments at the centre. If you find it difficult to attend appointments due to issues with transport, then please do not hesitate to contact the reception team at Serennu who can book this service for you. You can reach the team on 01633 748000 and they will be really happy to help. Please do not let this be a barrier to attending your child's very important medical appointment. We are here to support in any way we can.



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helping special children shine

**Serennu Children's Centre**

**Family Fun Day**  
**Sunday 5th April**  
**11am-3pm**

**Free activities for children of all ages**  
face painting, music, sports, animals,  
sensory play, quiet area, cafe & lots more!

Open to children and young people with a disability and/or developmental difficulty and their families and the local community



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan  
University Health Board