



## Autism Acceptance Week 2nd-8th April 2024



### Autism Acceptance Week: MPS Sensory Room

Hi everyone,

This year for Autism Acceptance Week (2nd- 8th April) Sebastian and his brother David, who are both diagnosed with Autism, are embarking on an important journey. They will be walking, scooting and cycling 5 laps every day for 7 days around The Mall, Armagh to raise funds for Markethill Primary School. This cause holds a deeply personal significance to me, as it is Sebastian's last year in Markethill Primary School.

Markethill Primary School is currently collaborating with the EA and Creative Activity to establish a bespoke sensory room within the school. The sensory room will have fixtures, interactive tools and resources, that will offer sensory input, making it a tranquil and regulating space. This includes bubble tubes, infinity mirrors, projectors and interactive panels. They are looking at using soft ambient lighting, calming textures and comfortable seating to enhance this safe space.

The board are assisting with structural work but it is up to the school to purchase the resources and fixtures which could cost around £3000.

A sensory space within an educational setting plays a pivotal role in accommodating students' sensory preferences and needs. By offering individualised sensory input, it empowers students to self-regulate, thereby fostering an environment conducive to learning and social interaction. A sensory space addresses the primary senses; sight, hearing, smell, touch, vestibular and proprioceptive.

A sensory space in the school environment promotes a positive school culture and climate in supporting student's health and wellbeing. Sensory spaces can benefit all students,

especially those with special needs, who have been exposed to trauma and chronic stress. Sensory rooms can provide a safe environment where the student can be supported to calm and regulate, therefore optimising learning and participation in the school environment.

For the past seven years, I have seen the incredible dedication and care provided by all of the staff at Markethill Primary School. They go above and beyond to ensure that children, like my son, receive the support they need to thrive academically, socially and emotionally, even with the limited resources they have available to them. Markethill Primary School is truly a wonderful school to be a part of.

Join us on this important journey during Autism Acceptance Week to ensure that every child at Markethill Primary School has the opportunity to reach for the stars. Together, we can make a profound impact and empower all students to achieve their full potential.

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Warm regards,  
Sebastian, David & Elena.

To donate, please click on the link – thank you.

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/autism-awareness-weekmps-sensory-room?utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+fundraiser-sidebar&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link\\_all&utm\\_source=customer](https://www.gofundme.com/f/autism-awareness-weekmps-sensory-room?utm_campaign=p_cp+fundraiser-sidebar&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer)



**World Autism**   
**Acceptance Week**  
2nd-8th April 2024