



Newsletter September 2024

A Message From Catherine

Hi REACH parents! Hope you are all doing well and were able to relax and recharge with family and friends during your summer holiday.

Luke and I had a wonderful summer holiday. One of the highlights was that we had a visitor from The Netherlands! Ceren, our former Office Manager at REACH, was visiting friends in New York and we were able to spend some time with her by walking over the Brooklyn Bridge and going to Brooklyn Bridge Park. It was great to see her and show her around the city.



Welcome back to REACH everyone! And welcome to REACH to our new families. We are excited for the upcoming term and are looking forward helping your children reach their full potential. Your children are in great hands at REACH. Their team understands and believes in your child's potential and they are passionate about giving them the tools necessary to help them thrive in all of their environments.

I know this firsthand as they helped my son who will be a junior in an inclusive high school this coming year in New York. I truly believe that he would not be where he is today without the REACH Team laying the foundation for his success by tirelessly working with him on the skills necessary for him to thrive in a school environment. This took many years but it is most definitely achievable.

Thus, I would like to give you some words of encouragement for the start of this new term. Never let anyone tell you that your child can't, will never or won't. Try not to be discouraged, always be an advocate and **NEVER GIVE UP!**

Feel free to reach out to me anytime (catherine@stichtingreach.com) if you are feeling discouraged and would like to speak to parent who knows how you feel.



A Message From Irene Clinical Director/ BCBA

Dear REACH Parents,

I hope you had a nice summer break. We needed a break to recharge our energies and come back feeling refreshed. We missed the children, and seeing their smiling faces on their first day back was wonderful.

This year, we welcomed new children, and it's exciting to see REACH grow! For the new kids and their families, it's a time of adjustment: a new rhythm, new faces, and new expectations! As the REACH team, we know that new starts can be scary. That's why we work with families to come up with a plan to gradually ease into the new routine.

We have welcomed new team members. Bianca relocated from Italy to join our organization. She is an experienced RBT, and we are thrilled to have her as part of our team. Francesca and Ceren, after completing their internships and serving as the office manager, have chosen to remain with the REACH team as junior therapists. This is a fantastic opportunity, as they are already familiar with our organization, and our children are also familiar with them. We are proud that they have chosen to begin their careers in the ABA field with us. I would also like to express my (and REACH's) gratitude for the phenomenal and passionate work that Ceren did as office manager. Thank you, Ceren!

Some children have transitioned to other schools, and even though we miss them, we are proud of them and their journey. Every child who is part of REACH leaves a mark on our hearts and on the REACH journey. We wish them success with their new friends and teachers, and we hope they will keep us updated with their progress and send us pictures.

In June, Kristen joined our team, an amazing speech therapist and BCBA from the US. She will consult with our supervisors to support them in developing programs from a speech therapist's point of view.

As always, please know that I'm available to meet with you if you have anything to discuss. Feel free to reach me through Teams, or via email at irene@stichtingreach.com.

All the best for this new year,
Irene,
REACH Clinical Director

Updates from Ceren

Ceren, Junior Therapist



Dear Parents,

Welcome (back) to REACH! I hope you had a wonderful and restful summer. I'm incredibly thankful for the opportunity to have worked as the office manager alongside such an amazing team and the wonderful families we serve at REACH. A special highlight for me this summer was finally meeting Catherine and Luke in person after spending over a year working with her behind the screen—it was truly an honor! Now, I'm excited to begin a new chapter at Reach as a junior therapist! I

look forward to continuing to support the REACH community in this new role, and I'm thrilled to keep growing and learning with all of you.

We're excited to welcome Jane, our new office manager, who started in August. She's already become an essential part of our team, and we're excited for you all to get to know her. Read more about her on the next page!

If you are interested in keeping updated about REACH activities and get to know our team more, follow us on Instagram and Facebook: @sitchtingreach



MEET THE OUR NEW OFFICE MANAGER: JANE

“I’m thrilled to join the REACH team as the new Office Manager! With a passion for streamlining operations and fostering collaborative environments, I bring years of experience managing diverse teams and projects. Previously, I led operations at a dynamic startup, where I orchestrated day-to-day functions and drove significant growth. My journey has been fueled by a commitment to creating inclusive spaces, promoting leadership, and supporting meaningful causes. I’m excited to contribute to REACH’s mission of making a positive impact on neurodivergent children and their families. Outside of work, you’ll find me diving into a good book or exploring new vegetarian recipes.”



MEET THE TEAM: BIANCA

“Hello! I'm Bianca, one of the newer faces here at REACH. I've recently made the exciting move from Italy to the Netherlands to join the REACH team as a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT).

I feel incredibly fortunate to have crossed paths with REACH, as it is the perfect place to further develop my skills in this field. Looking ahead, I'm planning to enroll in a Clinical Psychology master's program and when I'm not at work I love going to the gym, and spend time in nature. It's been an incredible start and I can't wait to continue this path!”



FALL ARTS AND CRAFTS IDEA FROM BIANCA: GHOST LEAVES: A FUN AUTUMN ART PROJECT

Transform fallen leaves into charming ghost decorations with this simple craft idea!

Materials Needed:

- Fallen leaves
- White or silver paint
- Black marker
- Optional: Googly eyes or small buttons

Instructions:

1. **Collect Leaves:** Take a walk in your local park and gather fallen leaves with your children.
2. **Paint the Leaves:** At home, paint both sides of the leaves with white or silver paint. Let them dry completely.
3. **Create Faces:** Use a black marker to draw simple ghost faces on the leaves. For added fun, you can glue on googly eyes or small buttons.

Variations:

- Try using glitter for sparkly ghosts
- Experiment with different colors of paint
- Create a seasonal garland by stringing the ghost leaves together with thread

This project offers a great way to spend quality time outdoors and get creative with natural materials. It's adaptable for various ages and skill levels, making it perfect for family craft time.

