

## Welcome

Read on for the latest news from Pyramid Educational Consultants UK and stay in touch at [www.pecs.com](http://www.pecs.com)

### Remote Support Consultancy Programme

Pyramid Educational Consultants have developed a **NEW** remote service for parents. We have been able to use interactive technology (SightSpeed/Skype) to observe parents implementing PECS with their child in order to advise and fine tune current implementation practices (via webcam). Our consultants can provide immediate feedback on what is observed.

We piloted this new service with Janet Atukunda who had been on the PECS Basic Training . Janet and her son Raphael took part in several remote consultations with Pyramid Consultant Zena Barton. Speaking of her experience Janet says “ I was extremely pleased to be asked to take part in the pilot project for remote consultations with Zena Barton, and have found the sessions extremely helpful. The first session was booked to start prior to Raphael getting home from school, this gave me the chance to explain to Zena what phase we were at and vocalise any problems we were having. Zena observed us and gave advice on how to move forward. The next session was even better than the first. With my confidence increased, Zena suggested more challenging activities for Raphael to partake in as he tends to get bored quite quickly and this can be issue when trying to implement PECS. Zena gave some great ideas on what to work on in the future and this included making the commenting activities more relevant to Raphael as he enjoys talking about his day. Since then his vocabulary has expanded and his words are getting clearer. I have found this method of consultation very useful, receiving feedback from Zena after each session has been invaluable. These sessions have helped us so much. Thank you.”

To find out how remote consultancy could help you and your child email [zbarton@pecs.com](mailto:zbarton@pecs.com), visit our Website [www.pecs.com](http://www.pecs.com) or call us on 01273 609555.

### NEW Webcast series available

Pyramid Educational Consultants are proud to announce the arrival of our new webcast series. Current titles include 'PECS & Skinner's Verbal Behaviour', 'I am the Master of My Emotions', 'A Clear Picture: The Use and Benefits of PECS' and 'Pyramid Approach for Parents & Professionals'.

In Pyramid's first webcast, PECS and Skinner's Verbal Behaviour, join Andy Bondy and Lori Frost as they explore how the work of B.F. Skinner can help everyone better understand how language can be viewed from a behavioural perspective. In Pyramid's second webcast, I am the Master of my Emotions, join Andy Bondy as he explores why many children, especially those with autism, have difficulty in acquiring language related to expressing emotions and identifying emotions in other people. In Pyramid's third webcast, A Clear Picture: The Use and Benefits of PECS, join Lori Frost as she introduces the Picture Exchange Communication System™ (PECS), and includes a synopsis of the six training phases, a discussion of myths and facts associated with PECS and an overview of the research related to PECS. In the fourth webcast, Pyramid Approach for Parents and Professionals, Dr. Andy Bondy reviews how to establish effective teaching environments for learners with autism and related communication difficulties.



Visit our website [www.pecs.com/webcasts](http://www.pecs.com/webcasts) to experience our new **FREE** webcasts.

### Andy Bondy presents The Language of Emotions - 3 locations for 2012

World renowned **Autism expert Andy Bondy** will be coming to the UK to present three Language of Emotions workshops. Many people, especially those with autism, have difficulty acquiring language related to expressing their emotions and identifying emotions in other people. In this workshop, we will review traditional approaches to teaching children with autism to communicate about their emotions as well as respond to such language from other people. Don't miss this rare and exciting chance to meet and hear from the co-developer of PECS and the Pyramid Approach on the Language of Emotions.

**12th March 2012 - Manchester** - Novotel Manchester Centre

**14th March 2012 - Newcastle** - Novotel Newcastle Airport

**16th March 2012 - Cardiff** - Future Inn Cardiff

Visit [www.pecs.com](http://www.pecs.com) for further information and to book your place on this workshop

### New 2011/12 workshop leaflet now available

Over 50 training workshops throughout the UK and Ireland including new locations: Lincoln & Gloucester. Plus after the success of our new workshop 'PECS Advanced Training' we are hosting a further two workshops in Newcastle & London, with other locations being added later in the year. Visit [www.pecs.com](http://www.pecs.com) or call us on 01273 609555 for details of your nearest workshop .



## Resources News

Pyramid Educational Consultants are thrilled to announce the availability of Pyramid apps for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch. Looking for an app that lets students know what they are working for, how much work they need to do, and how close they are to earning a reward? Then look no further because **Working4™** is now available. Now parents and professionals have the ease of accessing their reinforcement boards through their iPhones, iPads or iPod Touches, and no longer have to worry if they have enough tokens or have remembered their student's reinforcement boards.

Interested in an app that reminds you to reinforce good behaviour? Then **R+ Remind™** is exactly what you are looking for. A tone unique to each chosen interval sounds at a variable rate so that you can pause in what you're doing and reinforce a new behaviour, the lack of a targeted behaviour or even an existing behaviour. Perfect in busy classrooms to remind all staff to catch someone being good!

Are you looking for an app that offers a variety of reinforcing statements? Then Pyramid has the perfect app for you: **iPraiseU™**. If you struggle to think of praise statements beyond, "Good job!" or "Well done!" then open the app and tap or shake your device to generate 1 of 100 praise statements. All are general statements appropriate for any positive behaviour.

For more information please visit Apple's® iTunes App store and search for **iPraiseU**, **R+ Remind** or **Working4**. You can also email apps@pyramid.com



## PECS visits Hungary

Zena Barton, Pyramid Consultant, recently visited Hungary to carry out the PECS 2 Day Basic training at an autistic centre in Budapest. The staff team eagerly anticipated receiving their PECS training, Zena also had time to do some in-house support work with them on her visit. One child who was new to the centre managed to move through phases 1-4 in his session with Zena and the staff. By the end of the session he was able to construct a sentence and move across the room to his mother who was acting as the communicative partner. He was also able to use a lot of additional speech that they had not heard before.

There was also a little girl aged 5 who had not yet started using PECS. Her mother had concerns that as she had some speech, PECS might hinder this. She also didn't think PECS would work because she felt her daughter was "unable to concentrate for more than a second, wont allow anyone to touch her, and has tantrums if she doesn't get her own way". This particular little girl moved from phases 1-4 within the half hour consultancy session. She sat at the table unless travelling, for up to 20 minutes, and was completely focused on the task at hand. When using phase 4 she started to use speech to complete entire sentences. The mother told us how surprised and pleased she was with just how well her daughter had done.

Speaking of her experience Zena said "It was a successful trip to Hungary, and I look forward to working with them again soon". If you would like a Pyramid Consultant to come to your setting for a in-house support visit or in-house training contact Christy Wallis, Operations Manager, cwallis@pecs.com



### PECS UK is on Facebook

You can now keep up to date with Pyramid Educational Consultants the UK home of PECS and the Pyramid Approach on Facebook. Facebook search 'PECS UK' & 'Like' our page. You'll find discussion topics & updates on the latest services and resources from PECS UK.



### PECS UK are moving office

As of the 23rd August 2011 our **new address** will be:

Pyramid Educational Consultants UK LTD  
First Floor - Queens Park Villas  
30 West Drive  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN2 0QW  
Telephone, fax, email and website details remain the same.  
T: 01273 609555 F: 01273 609556  
W: www.pecs.com E: pyramiduk@pecs.com