

**Welcome to our latest newsletter ...**

It's been another busy term for our volunteer committee members with a number of very well attended events being held — we have some great workshops planned for this term too— more about those on the back page ...

As well as preparing the newsletter & AGM papers I've spent the summer break trying to keep my son positive about his start at secondary school — not an easy task! The transition meetings and visits we had during Year 6 were all very encouraging and supportive — this has been a real help to both of us and I would recommend it if you're able to arrange something similar. We're now in week two and so far he's really enjoyed himself — he's completely worn out every night and is finding keeping up-to-date with the homework timetable quite a challenge but so far so good!

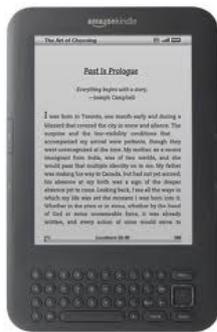
I'm really looking forward to hearing some good tips at the workshop and I'm certain he'll love the art sessions

Hope you enjoy this edition of our termly newsletter - Judith, Secretary, DNPlus

**Coloured overlay covers for Kindles**

*Source: Computer Active*

"Dyslexic people...could benefit from a new cover designed for Amazon's Kindle ebook reader. The developer of the Readright cover, John Hampton, said coloured overlays and tinted glasses have been proven to work on hard copy books.



Although it is not known why using colour helps many people read better, research has found that for people with some forms of dyslexia and other visual impairments the improvement is big. A paper by Professor Arnold Wilkens on visual stress revealed that tinted glasses or overlays were effective.

The Readright's screen changes the background colour, for example to black text on a yellow background. Because each person has a

different colour preference, the overlays are available in three colours. The Readright cover is currently on sale at Amazon costing £12.99." Go to this link:

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=kindle+readright+cover](http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=kindle+readright+cover)

DNPlus notes:

The new Kindle (£89) does not have speech to text facility for folks to listen to books at the same time as reading. All other versions do have this facility. Read the Amazon reviews on the touch screen versions before buying. Some report that it is easy to accidentally touch the screen when reading leading to frustrations.

Remember: DNPlus offers screening for coloured overlays. £15 for non-members and £10 for members. The screening takes about 45 minutes.

## Dyslexia Websites and Online articles to check out

### General information on dyslexia issues

[www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk](http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk)

### Spelling

<http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/Spelling-Handbook-6039545/>  
#.Ts4TFRBg6A.email

This handbook includes background information for teachers about common spelling patterns, useful strategies, including mnemonics, and spelling and phonic games.

### Education: article on Dyslexia in the Classroom by Sharon Goldie

[www.dyslexic.com/SENCO/content.asp?id=4700&url=dyslexia-in-the-classroom&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=iansyst+Newsletter+May+2012&utm\\_content=iansyst+Newsletter+May+2012+CID\\_23725be19377a2b6f003c0b88e7248a8&utm\\_source=Email+marketing+software&utm\\_term=Dyslexia+in+the+Classroom](http://www.dyslexic.com/SENCO/content.asp?id=4700&url=dyslexia-in-the-classroom&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=iansyst+Newsletter+May+2012&utm_content=iansyst+Newsletter+May+2012+CID_23725be19377a2b6f003c0b88e7248a8&utm_source=Email+marketing+software&utm_term=Dyslexia+in+the+Classroom)

**Blogs:** a highly recommended blog by a dyslexic teacher managing her PGCE year.  
[www.guardian.co.uk/teacher-network/2012/aug/29/pgce-teacher-training-dyslexia](http://www.guardian.co.uk/teacher-network/2012/aug/29/pgce-teacher-training-dyslexia)

**Webinars:** The new programme for the Autumn term will be posted at the link below. A number of archived webinars are also available to listen to again. Well worth a look.

<http://training.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/webinars/upcoming>

**NYCC are scheduled to do a review of provision of SpLD in the Autumn Term — watch out for further news**

## Schools required to provide aids and services to disabled pupils from 1 September 2012

*Source: IPSEA website*

“Since 2001, disability discrimination law has required schools to make reasonable adjustments to avoid placing pupils at substantial disadvantage but exempted them from the duty to provide auxiliary aids. The Equality Act 2010 removed this exemption.

The words ‘auxiliary aid’ means aids and services. An aid is a piece of equipment which helps the disabled person, such as a special chair, adapted text, or special computer equipment or software. A service is something people provide, such as personal assistance or (possibly) therapy.

On 1 September 2012, this requirement comes into force in relation to local authorities and schools, applying to all schools including independent schools in England, Wales and Scotland.”

For more information go to: <http://www.ipsea.org.uk/news/hot-topics/schools-required-to-provide-aids-and-services-to-disabled-pupils-from-1-september-2012.aspx>

## Can you help?

Are you able to take a supply of our information leaflets to display in a public area - eg Doctors' surgery, playgroup, village hall, school, etc

Please email Judith Mckenzie on [mckenzie343@btinternet.com](mailto:mckenzie343@btinternet.com) or collect some whilst attending the AGM meeting on Wednesday 3 October at Thirsk Children's Centre at 7pm



## Update on SEN Green Paper and NYCC

The Government has just released the Draft legislation on Reform of provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs

[www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm84/8438/8438.pdf](http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm84/8438/8438.pdf)

NYCC will be doing a presentation on the local implications at the NYPACT AGM on the 21<sup>st</sup> September at Thirsk Race Course. Email [sara.dalton@nyyforum.org.uk](mailto:sara.dalton@nyyforum.org.uk) asap to book your place.

Also note that NYCC have scheduled to do a review of provision for SpLD this Autumn Term. The new NYCC lead person for Specific Learning Difficulties is Lois Addy. Lois is an Occupational Therapist who is particularly well known in the Dyspraxia field. Lois authored the LDA book "How to Understand and Support Children with Dyspraxia" She is also behind the Speed Up handwriting programme.

### USED INKJET CARTRIDGES

Please help us to raise additional funds by returning your used inkjet cartridges and mobile phones to The Recycling Factory - for further information please see their website:

[www.therecyclingfactory.com](http://www.therecyclingfactory.com)

Or contact Judith McKenzie for a supply of envelopes



### Dyslexia Network Plus – Website:

Do keep looking on the website and if you hear of any interesting events related to dyslexia, do let Judith know, and it can be **added** to the events page.

email: [judidyslex@btinternet.com](mailto:judidyslex@btinternet.com)

## ipad apples for the teacher

Here is an article most children would happily point their parents to: An Apple for the teacher: are iPads the future in class?

[http://www.guardian.co.uk/teacher-network/2012/aug/13/schools-secondary-schools?CMP=NLCJOBEML8714&j=15721&e=glatianta@gmail.com&l=273\\_HTML&u=866999&mid=1059027&jb=71&CMP=](http://www.guardian.co.uk/teacher-network/2012/aug/13/schools-secondary-schools?CMP=NLCJOBEML8714&j=15721&e=glatianta@gmail.com&l=273_HTML&u=866999&mid=1059027&jb=71&CMP=)

My children have long been advocating the educational value of having a laptop or an ipad – but in reality they just play games!

However, just in case you have children of a different mold, here are some free and low cost apps which have been recommended on dyslexia forums. The comments come from forum contributors:

### Dyslexia Quest

- 6 skills to practice (phonological awareness, memory, sequencing etc).
- use sparingly – not a lot of variation in the exercises
- has links to further information about dyslexia

### Glow Draw

- drawing programme
- good for the MSL learning

**Pie Corbett's 'Story Ideas'** (slightly limited but could be useful in some contexts)

### Book Creator –

- can dictate your book by using the microphone on the pop-up keyboard.
- Very simple and intuitive to use. Highly recommended

### Futaba

- four students can play at once
- free
- develops word recognition

If you have an ipad, let us know what you think.



# Dyslexia Network Plus Events

## AGM and Talk: Working Memory

What is it? Why is it important? How is it assessed? Can it be improved?

*led by Jill Swinhoe*

Wednesday 3rd October: 7-9pm  
Thirsk Children's Centre, YO7 1SL

## Workshop: Using Mind-mapping software

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October: 10am - 12 noon

John Ross Suite, Gilling West

*by Judith Stansfield*

*This is a practical session for parent plus child or teacher/ teaching assistant as an introduction to using Write Online mind-mapping software. Please bring some ideas for a story or a project with you.*

## Supporting Your Dyslexic Child at Secondary School

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov: 10.30 am - 12 noon and 1-2.30 pm

Insite, 159 High Street Northallerton DL7 8JZ

*Two stand alone sessions for parents looking at Writing, Spelling and Study Skills. Book one or both. Please contribute to a bring and share lunch if staying for both sessions.*

## Art Workshops for 11+

(times/venue as above)

*These are practical and fun art workshops run by artists and youth workers from the Youth Support Service and are for the secondary aged children of parents who are attending the above sessions.*

## Talk: Dyslexia Awareness for Parents

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November : 6.30-8pm

Stokesley Children's Centre, Stokesley Community Primary School

5 Springfield, TS9 5EW

*by Jill Swinhoe*

*An overview of the issues*

## Christmas Social Talk: Visual Stress

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December : 7-9pm

Easingwold - venue to be confirmed

*by Liz Wood*

*An overview of the issues surrounding visual stress, including the use of coloured filters. This will be followed by time to chat to each other and members of the committee about dyslexia issues or Christmas shopping! Please bring a contribution to drinks and nibbles.*

**DNPlus events above are FREE but DONATIONS to costs at the event are welcome.**

**PLEASE BOOK. Numbers for many events are restricted.**

**Talks are aimed at adults, workshops at parent and child. If in doubt please check.**

For more information and venue location

Email: [dnplus@aol.com](mailto:dnplus@aol.com) Tel: 0845 22 60 240

