



Welcome to our latest newsletter ...

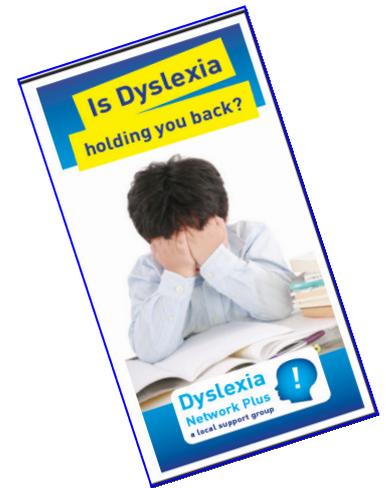
It's been another busy term for our volunteer committee members — the successful Neil MacKay workshop weekend, an updated leaflet and future workshops being organised too!

Hopefully you will also notice our new logo. We will be using the logo on future posters, letters, newsletters and it will also be appearing on our website.

We have recently updated our information leaflet too — if you are able to put a supply on display at a local Doctors' surgery, school, village hall, etc then please email Judith McKenzie on mckenzie343@btinternet.com

Many thanks and hope you enjoy this edition of our termly newsletter.

Judith



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

Neil MacKay's weekend of workshops a great success!

The first session saw the large sixth form room at Easingwold High School packed with young people and their parents. Most young people had been dragged there rather reluctantly. It was a Friday night after all! But they went home armed with lots of useful ways to make revision more interesting and more effective. Many said that it was well worth the effort.

More was to follow on the Saturday. Despite the thick fog, everyone arrived to hear Neil speak on tips to support



children at home and at school. One parent commented that the children need to hear Neil's enthusiasm and 'can do' attitude on a weekly basis. And another said how good it was to hear from someone who clearly understands the issues.

The event would not have been possible without the army of volunteers, headed by Laura Hanson and Kirsty Fulford.

Personally, as someone who arrived rather fraught on a Friday with a protesting teenager forced into the car, it was lovely to meet with such calm organisation and friendly welcoming faces on arrival. It was just the start of what provided to be a brilliant ... excellent ... exciting ... fun ... informative ... helpful ... child-friendly ... well-delivered weekend (to borrow some words from the feedback forms).

Jill Swinhoe

Dyslexia Network Plus is a local Not-for-Profit organisation, run by parents to support families with dyslexic type difficulties

Information Line: 0845 22 60 240

British Dyslexia
Association

NEWSLETTER — SUMMER TERM 2011/12



1 in 5 children have difficulties with reading and writing
BECOME A PARENT CHAMPION

Would you like to be a Parent Champion?

The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust is launching an exciting initiative to recruit a national team of Parent Champions.

- Are you passionate about helping parents and carers of children with dyslexia and other learning difficulties?
- Can you give an hour a month to help families in their local community?

They are not looking for experts — just people who care and know what families are going through and can offer support at a time when many parents feel isolated.

For further information on ways you can become involved please visit www.parentchampions.org.uk, contact lorrainethomas@springboard.org.uk or call 020 7921 4530

FREE helpsheet and legal support from a leading SENDIST lawyer

Available from www.specialeducationalneeds.co.uk
To view a recent newsletter on the site visit:
www.specialeducationalneeds.co.uk/LatestNews/May2012.html

The website has numerous free help sheets etc but also a free daily video course — 'Everything you wanted to know about the Law on Special Education Needs but were too afraid to ask!'

It is FREE to sign up and the course is split up into seven parts as follows:

1. The SEN Legal Framework
2. What is SEN?
3. What is SEP?
4. What is a Statutory Assessment?
5. What is a Statement of SEN?
6. What is a Special School?
7. What is a SEND Tribunal Appeal?

Source: SENCo Forum
(the above comes highly recommended from a trusted source on the Forum)

Governors' duties towards children with SEN

Independent Parental Special Education Advice (IPSEA) have produced a handy guide explaining a Governor's duties towards children with SEN

Governors' legal duties to children with special educational needs apply to the governing bodies of all maintained schools. It is the governing body as whole, not individual governors, which has legal duties.

This guide is available to download from the IPSEA website:
<http://www.ipsea.org.uk/Apps/Content/News/?id=420>

Source: NYPACT

Government E-Petition — Dyslexia Training to be mandatory in Initial Teacher Training

The British Dyslexia Association proposed that Initial Teacher Training course providers should be required to deliver mandatory and consistent dyslexia awareness sessions. The mandatory minimum should be the existing Department of Education 2005 module—available to view at <http://nso.archive.teachfind.com/node/175600>

All teachers should be trained to understand dyslexia, its impact on learning and what constitutes dyslexia friendly practice. Teachers should be aware of when to signpost learns for assessment and when to provide appropriate intervention.

To sign this petition visit: <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/20576>

Today's count = 12,411

For this item to be discussed in the House of Commons it needs 100,000 votes before 31 Oct 2012 — please encourage your family and friends to vote too!

North Yorkshire County Council's Dyslexia Handbook

One of our members, Jean John, has pointed out that the NYCC Dyslexia Handbook can be downloaded as a PDF from: <http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=12909&p=0> (you may need to type this into your browser to get the download as copy and paste doesn't seem to work with this link) It is full of interesting information and ideas and is well worth a look

Access All Areas—Mackenzie Thorpe

Access Mackenzie is the new education hub for everything you need to know about Mackenzie and his work.

Get your school to register ...

Contact them for visits to the gallery, information packs and all the latest news

Email: access@mackenziethorpe.net



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

Or contact Judith McKenzie for a supply of envelopes



Email: dnplus@aol.com Tel: 0845 22 60 240
Website: www.dyslexianetworkplus.org.uk

NEWSLETTER — SUMMER TERM 2011/12

Visual Timetables

Is getting your children ready to leave the house in the mornings a struggle? One of the most valuable organisation topics we cover is the 'We're leaving in 10 minutes syndrome'.

This recognises how often you tell a child (and they don't have to be dyslexic for this to apply!) that "we're leaving in 10 minutes" and 10 minutes later, nothing has happened.

The problem is that even if the child has heard your words, they are not then linking that message to a sequence of related events.

One effective solution is to compile (with the child) a list of things they need to do in, say, the 20 minutes before you leave the house. It is important that the child is involved and has ownership of this list which can be compiled using pictures and/or words (children often find the adding of their own picture amusing—which also helps to engage them in the strategy). It also means that they can add such things as 'text Jen' or 'feed hamster' - which you may not consider important to do then, but they do!

The list can be in their bedroom or on the fridge door and then instead of just saying "we're leaving in 10 minutes" you can help the child's organisational ability by saying instead "we're leaving in 20 minutes—have you checked your list?"

Parents report how much this strategy reduces the conflict and exasperation that so often blights their early-morning departure. It is also giving the child a strategy they can own, adapt and update according to their own needs.

Compiling a list might be something that is started in school through a discussion of what people need to do or want to do before leaving home, and completed for homework—this helps those parents who need support to put a new strategy into practice. Sometimes children extend this activity to compile a list for other family members too—mutual support is a wonderful thing!

When using visual timetables it can be helpful to colour-code days effectively. For example, if the school PE bag is yellow and it is needed on Tuesdays then colour Tuesday yellow. If they go swimming after school on Thursdays, colour Thursday blue.

Colourful timetables are helpful for many but by demonstrating how they are linked to meaning shows them how the colour is being utilised as an organisational strategy (and is personal to them). The aim is to not just help organisation, but support organisational needs in a manner that can be adapted and applied, by the individual, throughout life.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

Talk: Dyslexia Awareness for Parents

Thursday 31st May : 7-9pm
Northallerton

Workshop: Using Stile

Wednesday 27th June: 7-8.30pm
Thirsk

Talk: Catch 'em Young

Monday 9th July: 7-8.30pm
Bedale

Middlesborough ITC Information Days -

Wednesday 23rd May : Severe & Complex Needs -
Communication & Learning Through Technology
Thursday 24th May : Inclusive Classrooms

Dyslexia Matters

Saturday 16th June: 9.15am-4.30pm
Life Conference Centre, Newcastle,

Please see over for further information



Email: dnplus@aol.com Tel: 0845 22 60 240
Website: www.dyslexianetworkplus.org.uk

EVENTS

Dyslexia Network Plus Events

Talk: Dyslexia Awareness for Parents

Thursday 31st May : 7-9pm

Insite, 159 -160 High Street , Northallerton , DL7 8JZ

by Jill Swinhoe

An overview of the issues

Workshop: Using Stile

Wednesday 27th June: 7-8.30pm

Thirsk Children's Centre, YO7 1SL

by Jenny Parker

This is a practical session for parent plus child or teacher/ teaching assistant

Talk: Catch 'em Young

Monday 9th July: 7-8.30pm

Bedale Children's Centre, DL8 1AA

by Judith Stansfield

A look at strategies for identifying and supporting potentially dyslexic children in the Early Years

***Dnplus events above are FREE. Priority is given to Members.
PLEASE BOOK as numbers are restricted***

For more information and venue location

Email: dnplus@aol.com Tel: 0845 22 60 240

Website: www.dyslexianetworkplus.org.uk

EVENTS

Other Events In and Around the Region

Middlesborough ITC Information Days - Free

by Inclusive Technology

Wed 23rd May Severe & Complex Needs - Communication & Learning Through Technology

Thurs 24th May Inclusive Classrooms - Supporting Struggling Readers and Writers

The second day will include an exploration of how ICT can support those struggling with reading and writing, including those with specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia using:

- Light tech aids like electronic dictionaries and reading pens.
- Planning and mind mapping software including the latest versions of Inspiration, Kidspiration and Draft:Builder.
- Text to speech, word banks and word prediction including the latest versions of Co:Writer, WordBanks, ClaroRead, Read and Write and Kurzweil 3000.
- Portable book readers like Kindle, iPad and Slate.
- Reading electronic books on the computer.
- How to obtain electronic books for free.
- Creating accessible electronic versions and copyright issues.

You can attend one or both types of Information Day at no cost.

Lunch is also provided - but booking is essential.

www.inclusive.co.uk/events/information-days

email: inclusive@inclusive.co.uk or call 01457 819790 for further information

Dyslexia Matters

Saturday 16th June: 9.15am-4.30pm

Life Conference Centre, Newcastle, NE1 4EP

Cost: £95 parents/professionals

£25 concessions (students, unwaged, low income - by application)

To book contact Liz Ferguson

www.dyslexianortheast.org tel : 0786 826 3696

Dyslexia
Network Plus
a local support group



Email: dnplus@aol.com Tel: 0845 22 60 240

Website: www.dyslexianetworkplus.org.uk