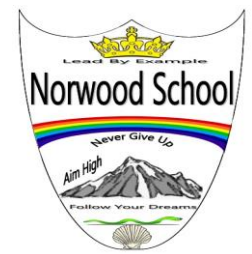


Norwood Primary School

SEND NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 - 2021

SENCo — Mrs J Cockerill



Welcome back to a new school year. It was lovely to speak to lots of parents/carers at the recent SEN meetings to discuss children's progress and hear how well they have settled into the new school year. It is often a difficult time for children with additional needs and I really appreciate your support in working together to get it right for each child.

The focus of this newsletter is Dyslexia in recognition of Dyslexia Awareness last week. At Norwood, we identify potential dyslexia early on and provide children with strategies and resources that can support reading and writing. Some strategies make an instant difference such as a coloured overlay and/or exercise books. Other strategies take more time to learn such as mind maps or memory strategies.

One of the areas that we are mindful of, is a child's self-esteem as many children find their difficulties with reading and writing frustrating. It is important that children recognise their strengths and have an opportunity to celebrate these. We have included some famous people and their amazing achievements to help those with a diagnosis of dyslexia or those showing signs of dyslexia to identify that they can achieve anything.

On a different note, I have recently invested in a new online recording package for all of the SEN paperwork called 'Edukey-Provision Map'. This keeps all documents securely and enables me to share the learning plans with parents/carers and staff. Parents/Carers will soon receive a code to be able to view their child's learning plan. Progress towards targets will be reviewed at the next SEN meeting in the Spring Term.

I hope you all have a restful half term.

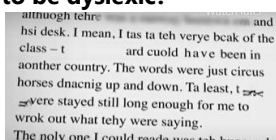
Jane Cockerill

What is Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty commonly associated with reading and writing.

Dyslexia primarily affects information processing, which means that children who have dyslexia may have a tougher time remembering information that they have heard or seen.

What is it like to be dyslexic?



Children can be assessed from the age of 8 years old. Please note that many of these signs are common in young children- KS1). If these difficulties persist into Year 3 and beyond, please contact your child's class teacher, or Mrs. Cockerill, SENCo to discuss further.

Difficulties

- *Poor concentration skills
- *Poor fine/gross motor skills
- *Speech delay or disorder

Memory

- *Remembering instructions
- *Shapes of letters and order to write them
- *Sequencing, alphabet, days of the week
- *Hearing and reproducing rhyme
- *Clapping syllables

Reading

- *Reading or spelling words with more than one syllable
- *Spelling may be unusual – with every word spelt as it sounds
- *Words or whole lines may be omitted or repeated

Writing

- *Difference between what the child can write and their spoken language
- *Writing may be slow, untidy and sometimes indecipherable
- *There may be problems with reversal and orientation of letters and words

How to help

- >Listen to and use rhyme e.g. poems, make rhyme books, make rhyming sentences (the fat cat sat on the mat).
- >Play lots of games where the child has to isolate the first sound in a word e.g. I spy.
- >Picture links with alphabet sounds e.g. alphabet mats.
- >Letter sounds and word building using multi-sensory techniques e.g. sight, sound, speech and touch.



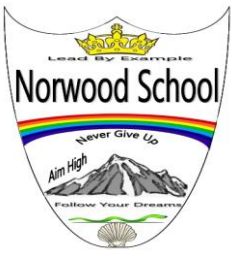
Early reading learning letters and sounds

<https://www.nessy.com/uk/apps/hairy-letters/>

ee ur ow wh y au

Ruth Miskin Training Videos to support parents/carers with helping their children to learn the sounds

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo7fbLqY2oA_cFCIq9G

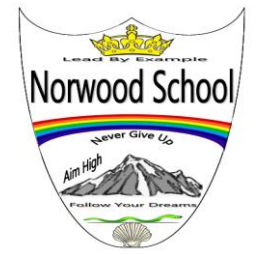


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Famous people talking about their Dyslexia

Holly Willoughby (TV Presenter, Author) "At school reading out loud I would get all the words wrong." Holly uses coloured scripts to prepare for her show.



Tom Cruise (Actor) "I'd try to concentrate on what I was reading, then I'd get to the end of the page and have very little memory of anything I'd read."

Steven Spielberg (Film Director) Diagnosed at the age of 60. "The last puzzle piece to a great mystery. I just know that I'm still slow at reading but I've learned to adjust."



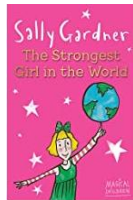
Richard Branson (Business Magnate) "I seemed to think in a different way from my classmates. Don't judge me on my spelling. Words just look jumbled."

Mark Ruffalo (Actor) shared that he was dyslexic after being asked why he had difficulty reading and how he had to finding ways to manage it.



Orlando Bloom (Actor) "I struggled with reading and spelling. I learned everything forward and backwards inside and out so that I was prepared."

Sally Gardner (Author and Illustrator) Winning the Costa Children's Book Award, the Carnegie Medal and the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize. Listen to her story <https://www.sallygardner.net/sally-on-youtube>



Jamie Oliver (Chef) "To be honest I still struggle with it a bit even today. I've had to learn little skills to get away with it. My dyslexia gave me strengths to see the world in a different way."

Tom Holland (Actor) became aware of his dyslexia at the age of 7. "I liked dance and gymnastics. I really pushed myself". Tom went on to become a dancer, gymnast leading him to some amazing acting roles.







Dav Pilkey (Author and Illustrator) of the Captain Underpants series. "My dyslexia is my super power and helped me choose my words very carefully. I focused on drawing and making up stories."

Lewis Hamilton (Racing Driver) "I didn't realise I was dyslexic until I was 17 and I really struggled at school. Education is most important. I think we can all be great at something. When you find it, grab it and enjoy it."



Dyslexic Super Powers



-  Seeing the bigger picture
-  Finding the odd one out
-  Improved pattern recognition
-  Good spatial knowledge
-  Picture thinkers
-  Sharper peripheral vision
-  Business entrepreneurs
-  Highly creative
-  Problem solving

Useful website



British Dyslexia are working to achieve a dyslexia-friendly society <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/>



Nessy has a different approach to teaching dyslexic children. Spelling games and phonics play we help rebuild lost confidence. <https://www.nessy.com/uk/>

SEND Appointments with Mrs Cockerill

These meetings are for parent/carers to discuss any SEND concerns about their child with Mrs Cockerill SENCo. Appointments will be for 20 minutes. Your request should state, your child's name, year and reason for request. To book please email senadmin@norwoodschool.co.uk. Next scheduled meetings are on:

Monday 8th November 9:00 – 12:00

Tuesday 7th December 9:00 – 12:00

Autumn Term Half term

Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October

Happy Halloween

