

Dyspraxia Awareness Week 12th - 18th October 2014

“There’s more to it than just motor skills”

Who? The Dyspraxia Foundation – the only charity in the UK dedicated to raising awareness of dyspraxia and championing the needs of those affected

What? Nationwide awareness campaign set to “target teens”

When? 12th -18th October 2014

Frequently falling over, difficulty walking up and down stairs, poor hand-eye co-ordination, short-term memory, lack of spatial awareness, difficulty getting dressed or applying make-up and illegible handwriting – these are just some of the familiar, physical symptoms for people affected by dyspraxia, whatever your age.

But – according to the Dyspraxia Foundation- it’s the emotional aspects that hit teenagers and young adults most hard. Especially when trying to navigate the already “tricky” aspects of growing up, such as the transition to secondary school, friendships, potential bullying, leaving home and generally learning to fend for yourself.

That’s why the Dyspraxia Foundation will be focusing on teenagers for its 2014 Awareness Week during October.

Following the launch of a new website and full-time Information Officer, 2014 will also see the introduction of a new Youth Information Officer, who will be available to offer advice for young people experiencing any difficulties associated with dyspraxia – particularly via social media networks.

How can you help?

We are calling out to all our teen–angels or parents of teens with dyspraxia to help the campaign by volunteering to tell your story. You can download a [CASE STUDY FORM](#) or email dyspraxia@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk for a copy to complete and return. Our press team at Trinity PR will ensure your story is dealt with sensitively and never sensationally.

Please complete our online Dyspraxia Teenage Survey - we are carrying out a survey to find out how teenagers with dyspraxia experience everyday life so that we can raise awareness of some of the 'hidden' challenges that teenagers face. If you are a teenager or a parent of a teenager with dyspraxia, could you please take a few minutes to complete the survey to help us raise awareness of the difficulties of growing up with dyspraxia.

To complete the survey please use the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/teenagesurvey>

Dyspraxia Awareness Week (12th – 18th October)

Funky Friday 17th October



This year sees the charity's first Funky Friday on 17th October. Why not get involved with this great initiative and raise funds and awareness of dyspraxia by simply wearing your most bright, bold or just plain funky item of clothing to work or school. Download your funky poster [here](#) and share with your friends, family and colleagues, school, college or workplace. Be different. Be Proud!

To receive a Funky Friday pack which includes 'I support Dyspraxia Foundation' stickers, Dyspraxia Foundation logo balloons, posters and 'Dyspraxia Explained' information leaflets call 01462 455016 or email info@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk

Awareness Week and Funky Friday (17th October) Events

Oxford Dyspraxia Foundation Support Group *We are celebrating Dyspraxia Awareness week by holding a formal meeting of the Oxford Dyspraxia Group on Wednesday 15th October 2014*

Venue: *Oxford Brookes University, Gipsy Lane , Headington, Oxford*

For: Parents, relatives or carers of children with dyspraxia, teenagers and adults with dyspraxia and interested professionals. Please pass the details on to anyone who you think would be interested. You do not need to be a member of the local or National Group to attend

Time: Tea/coffee and information will be available from 7.00 pm. Presentations and discussions will be from 7.15 - 9 pm and vacate the room by 9.30 pm

Parking: The barrier at the main entrance to Oxford Brookes is open to the public in the evenings with the barrier up from 7 pm both in the car park on Gipsy Lane, at the front of the Clerici Building/Library or over on the Headington Hill site.

Cost: £3 per person (pay on arrival). No need to book a place.

Surrey Dyspraxia Foundation Support Group

We have a specific learning difficulties specialist teacher in our group who will be having a Dyspraxia stall at her college during awareness week.

Middlesex Dyspraxia Foundation Support Group

We will be having our

(First) Evening Support Group Meeting on Thursday 16 October

Venue: *Christ Church, Redford Way, Uxbridge, UB8 1SZ*

Time: *7.30pm-9.00pm*

Joe Dixon's drama group '**Stagedoor Academy**' in Yorkshire is holding Funky Tuesday on Tuesday 14th October – thanks to Janie Saunders for arranging this!

Joanne Mahoney's Hair Salon in Howden is holding Funky Friday with the hairdressers wearing something funky and clients being asked to donate.

Ashley Woodward of Manchester has organised a Funky Friday and awareness day for her colleagues at Talk Talk. She will be fundraising by selling Dyspraxia Foundation wristbands.

Maria Bates and friends at the **Pamper Me Hair and Beauty Salon** in Delapre, Northampton are dressing up for Funky Friday.

Dyspraxia Foundation Hitchin Team are getting funky and joining the Tilehouse Street Rotary Club on Friday for breakfast at 7.15am!

St Christopher's School in Letchworth are holding a cake sale, staff training and student awareness week.

Author Jane Binnion will be at Lancaster Waterstone's signing copies of her new book 'You're so Clumsy Charley' in the morning on Saturday 18th October.

Lancaster Autism and Specific Learning Difficulties Society (LASS) are proud to support the Dyspraxia Foundation, including hosting a Charity Ball, next year partly in aid of the Dyspraxia Foundation. They have changed their cover backgrounds to this awareness logo and will be sharing a Dyspraxia message of the day, every day this week. They will also organise a Funky Friday. :)

Janet Taylor, Local Co-ordinator with an adult group in Manchester is organising an event at the Trafford CIL Trafford CIL (Centre for Independent Living) Funky Thursday on 16th October as there is hardly anyone in on a Friday.

Kerry Pace - Dyslexia Tutor

Raising awareness in Dyspraxia Awareness Week 12-18 October 2014

Phoebe and I have recorded some more [#Dyspraxia](#) video blogs. We will be releasing 1 vlog a day for Dyspraxia Awareness week (12th - 18th October)

They'll be full of info and tips as to how we deal with #Dyspraxia in our lives. ...
Topics include: exam arrangements, getting out on time in the morning exercise.
Don't miss any and subscribe to our channel on Youtube today
www.youtube.com/diverselearners

Rosie Edmondson

Ask a Dyspraxic To celebrate Dyspraxia Awareness Week 2014 and to go alongside this years theme 'its more than just motor skills', I will be making five blogs under five different themes where people can email or post questions related to these and I can hopefully try my best to answer them on my blog
<http://thinkoutsideofthecardboardbox.blogspot.co.uk/?m=1>

The themes will be:

Monday	Self Esteem, confidence & Mental Health
Tuesday	Day to day life
Wednesday	Organisation & Memory
Thursday	Transition into adulthood
Friday	Ask the Blogger - where you can ask me any questions about my personal experiences.

Maybe you struggle yourself or have a friend, a relative or colleague and you feel alone. Let's help raise awareness of this hidden condition and make it visible. Email your questions to askdyspraxic@gmail.com

Chris Goulden and Golden media has put the Dyspraxia awareness video on his Facebook, Linked in and Twitter sites.

Gill Dixon and son Joe are to be filmed for BBC Look North with the DF pop up banner and posters in shot.

Susan Chapman, the staff and children at St Cuthbert's RC Primary School Hartlepool are dressing in bold, funky and wonderful outfits for Funky Friday.

Tom Lee works for GE Aviation in Cheltenham is promoting awareness of dyspraxia and holding a Funky Friday in the company offices.

Awareness Week Press & Media Coverage

Mother & Baby Magazine

<http://www.motherandbaby.co.uk/2014/09/dyspraxia-the-signs-to-look-out-for#.VDuXeF9waUk>

SEN Magazine

<https://www.senmagazine.co.uk/news/sennews/sennews/dyspraxia-awareness-week>

Supporter Eben Fletcher goes the distance to raise awareness of dyspraxia!

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/sheerness/news/eben-sets-new-goals-in-25016/>

The Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust has blogged about Dyspraxia Awareness Week - <http://www.heartofenglandblog.co.uk/dyspraxia-awareness-week/>

Gill Dixon, Vice Chairman of the Dyspraxia Foundation calls for greater understanding of dyspraxia in the [Goole Times](#)

Jonathan Levy, Trustee of the Dyspraxia Foundation with particular responsibility for teenagers and young adults talks about the difficulties teens with dyspraxia experience

<http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk/articles/19420/1/New-school-term-can-create-fear/Page1.html>

Emma Lewell-Buck MP on her official page

<http://www.emma-lewell-buck.net/emma-hosts-event-in-parliament-to-highlight-dyspraxia-awareness-week/>

Dyspraxia Awareness Week 12th - 18th October 2014

HELPING TEENS TO TACKLE THE 'MINEFIELD' OF SCHOOL AND SOCIAL SITUATIONS

Urgent call from national charity for greater understanding of issues faced by young people living with dyspraxia

The results of a new survey launched today [Mon 13 October 2014] reveal that the beginning of a new school term can create huge levels of anxiety, fear or even dread for the hundreds of teenagers diagnosed with the developmental co-ordination disorder, dyspraxia.

The nationwide poll¹, commissioned by the Dyspraxia Foundation, highlighted that the emotional impact of the condition is far greater in this specific age group (13-19 years) than the more obvious problems with co-ordination or motor skills, often associated with younger children when the condition is first recognised. **84% said they had felt left out of a friendship group due to their "differences"**, with **more than a third (35%) saying this was a constant problem.**

70% said they had been victims of bullying – a worrying pattern that was echoed by the parents and carers who took part in the survey, **with 15% saying they felt their child was "always bullied."**

It is widely recognised that teenagers with dyspraxia are at greater risk of social isolation because their co-ordination difficulties may make it hard to participate in "socially-valued" activities such as playing an instrument or team sports. **Indeed more than three quarters (77%) of those questioned said they avoided participating in sport**, with **33% admitting they "always avoided such physical activity"**.

Worryingly, the survey suggests that **95% of parents and carers believe that their teenage child has experienced feeling of anxiety** – due to issues such as being late for lessons, forgetting appointments, losing books or equipment and poor presentation of their written work. This shocking fact is supported by the response that **40% of teenagers with dyspraxia who took part in the survey said they felt anxious "all of the time."**

In practical terms, life in a secondary school environment - particularly for those who had recently made the transition from a more protected and 'cosier' setting of primary school – presented a series of problems that many children of a similar age might take for granted.

53% said they had been late for school in the last half term – with **10% reporting that they were "always late"**. And **90% said they had lost something important, such as keys, wallet or phone.**

More than two thirds (67%) said they felt they had put themselves in danger when crossing the road – something that occurs due to a poor perception of distance, depth and speed, making it harder to judge when it is safe

cross. **One fifth (19%) said they had got lost or taken a long route to school by mistake on at least 7 occasions in the last half term.**

Sally Payne, Paediatric Occupational Therapist and Trustee of the Dyspraxia Foundation comments; *“What this survey has really reinforced to us as a charity is that it’s the emotional aspects that hit teenagers and young adults most hard - especially when trying to navigate the already “tricky” aspects of growing up, such as the transition to secondary school or college, friendships, potential bullying, leaving home and generally learning to fend for yourselves.*

“This can be a ‘minefield’ for most teenagers but those who are already struggling with co-ordination, memory or organisation skills, the impact on self-esteem and confidence can be huge. Simple tasks, such as arriving at school on time and making sure you’ve packed your school bag properly means that many students are stressed before they’ve even started their lessons. This level of daily anxiety can only serve to affect a teenager’s academic performance, participation in social activities and emotional well-being – not just during adolescence but also into adulthood.”

That’s why the Dyspraxia Foundation – the only national charity in the UK dedicated to raising awareness of the condition – will be focusing on teenagers for its 2014 Awareness Week during October. The charity (which thanks to a three-year £166,265 grant from the Big Lottery Fund has re-launched its helpline and employed an information officer) is also introducing a new Teenage Information Officer, who will be available to offer advice for young people experiencing any difficulties associated with dyspraxia and share info via the charity’s social media networks.

Sally continues; *“However, whilst this comprehensive survey has flagged up some very real issues which must be addressed by schools, families and support services, it’s also vital that we are not too disheartened by some of the negative findings. At the Dyspraxia Foundation, we are increasingly hearing from teenagers and young adults who are achieving wonderful things, going onto university and embarking on fantastic careers, often in the arts.*

“We truly believe that nothing should hold a young person back from fulfilling their potential so, if there is a lack of understanding and support within our education and system, we have a real commitment to redress this balance.”

In response to the survey, Children and Families Minister Edward Timpson comments: "No child should suffer from anxiety or bullying – and our reforms will help ensure children with dyspraxia get the support they need.

“Schools should now be clear about the measures they should take to prevent children and young people with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) being bullied.

“The changes brought in by our SEND reforms put the individual needs of each child at the centre of a more simple and joined up system that focuses on helping them to achieve their best.”

Dyspraxia affects around 5% of the population (2%, severely) and males are up to three times more likely to be affected than females. Dyspraxia sometimes runs in families – and there are believed to be one to two children affected in every class of 30 children.

India Carmody, is a teenager who is affected by dyspraxia and is currently preparing for her GCSE exams. She says; *"School can be tough for all teenagers – but with the help of my family, friends and teachers, I have been able to work out some simple coping techniques which do make things easier and help me to keep on top of things.*

“As people become more aware of dyspraxia I hope that teachers and other teenagers will understand that that people like me are not being deliberately difficult, stupid or clumsy – we’re just a bit different and we need to tackle the tasks that others take for granted in a slightly different way.”

ENDS

For more media / survey information, to set up an interview with a case study or an expert, please call Jo Hudson or Francesca Levi on 020 7112 4905 / 0770 948 7959 jo.hudson@trinitypr.co.uk

Emma Lewell-Buck MP (South Shields) is an ambassador for the Dyspraxia Foundation. She was diagnosed with the condition herself, aged 27 and, as a keen advocate of not letting dyspraxia ‘get in the way of a young person’s dreams, is available to speak to the media on behalf of the charity and the 2014 campaign

For more information about the ongoing work of the Dyspraxia Foundation and how to become involved or access help, information and advice, please visit www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk / @DYSPRAXIAFDTN

Note to editors:

¹The survey ran from 50 days from July 29 –September 14 2014 and was promoted via the Dyspraxia Foundation website, Facebook and social media. There were 525 respondents: 369 were the parent/ carer of a teenager with dyspraxia; 153 were young people aged 13-19 years (3 did not respond)

- Once often referred to as ‘clumsy child’ syndrome, dyspraxia, a form of developmental coordination disorder (DCD), is a common disorder affecting fine and/or gross motor coordination, in both children and adults.

- While DCD is often regarded as an umbrella term to cover motor coordination difficulties, dyspraxia refers to those people who have additional problems planning, organising and carrying out movements in the right order in everyday situations. Dyspraxia can also affect articulation and speech, perception and thought.

The Foundation is pleased to launch a new [Teenage fact sheet](#) in response to the Teen survey results

Robert Farrow swims the English Channel to raise awareness of dyspraxia and funds for the Dyspraxia Foundation!

Congratulations to Robert Farrow who swam the English Channel today (02.09.14) to raise awareness of dyspraxia and funds for the Dyspraxia Foundation! Robert completed his marathon swim in just 12 hours and 57mins – what an achievement !!!

It's not too late to donate to Roberts page on Justgiving <https://www.justgiving.com/RFarrowSoloChannelSwim/>

Wednesday 15 October 2014

THE DYSPRAXIA FOUNDATION NEEDS YOU!

And, with new membership benefits announced during this Awareness Week, why not sign up today!

As part of the ongoing activity and debate taking place during Dyspraxia Awareness Week 2014, the Dyspraxia Foundation is pleased to unveil a new “members only” section to its website – allowing exclusive access to news and information, newsletters and factsheets.

The members area – which went live today (Wednesday 15 October) is easy to access and has been designed to encourage greater interaction between members and the team of experts at the Foundation. It is hoped that as ‘signed up’ supporters start to engage with the service, they will alert the team to the types of information and video content they would like to see and that would be useful to their own personal experience with the condition.

In turn, it is hoped that the launch of this new feature of the Dyspraxia Foundation’s website will encourage greater uptake of the charity’s annual membership package which not only has huge benefits for the individual, family or health professional but will also significantly help to sustain the telephone “Information Line” service which is currently only funded for 3 years.

Dyspraxia Foundation Trustee for the Website, Paul Wassell, says; *“We are delighted to be in position to announce the launch of our new Members Only Section of www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk, during Dyspraxia Awareness Week!*

“This new resource will feature some short films from members of the Foundation’s team of experts. The first two available show Michele Lee providing a physiotherapist’s view of Dyspraxia and Gill Dixon – another of our Trustees, talking as a mother of a person with dyspraxia, as well as giving a nurse’s view. Further films are to follow, some featuring professionals and other members of the Foundation who either live with dyspraxia, have a child diagnosed with dyspraxia or possibly both. Examples of this are an interview with Kieran Wassell who carried the Olympic Torch for the Foundation and Emma Lewell-Buck MP, the first MP to openly talk about her own experiences of dyspraxia. Watch this space...”

He adds; “Once signed up, the members-only section will provide access to a range of factsheets, all new or updated to reflect changes in guidance, and guidelines. These will not be available to non-members either for at least six months or for some not at all – so the benefits of joining up are clear!”

As part of the on-going membership package, Gill Dixon’s new book will be available free to members as well as copies of newsletters and past copies of the Dyspraxia Foundation Professional Journal.

There will also be other, exclusive material such a new full length Training DVD – ‘Introducing Matthew – a child with dyspraxia’. In addition there will be discounts in the shop available exclusively to members.

For those that don't know, the Dyspraxia Foundation – the only national charity in the UK dedicated to raising awareness of the condition - has recently re-launched its helpline and employed an information officer, thanks to a three-year £166,265 grant from the Big Lottery Fund.

It is also introducing a new Teenage Information Officer, who will be available to offer advice for young people experiencing any difficulties associated with dyspraxia whilst also sharing important info via the charity’s social media networks.

However, such progressive work does require ongoing funding and the Dyspraxia Foundation will only be able to continue providing its vital support services if there is an increase in membership over the next 12 months.

General Manager of the Dyspraxia Foundation, Eleanor Howes, concludes; *“We love being able to provide so much support to those who need it and to those who come to us looking for help and advice – and much of it is free and widely available. But, we simply won't be able to continue doing this if we don't have confirmed funding, so we would urge any of our supporters – particularly any of our 14,000 Facebook friends or 8,000 Twitter followers – to take the plunge and sign up as fully fledged member. You really will receive so much from us – as well as becoming a proper member of our “family!”*

Full membership of the Dyspraxia Foundation starts at just £25 for the year. This will also entitle you to 10% off all purchases in the Dyspraxia Foundation’s online shop, conferences and events. More details can be found at <http://www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/members/>

Thursday 16th October

DYSPRAXIA FOUNDATION ENCOURAGES SUPPORTERS TO REACH FOR THE STARS!

National charity unveils results of its “Nominate a Star” 2014 competition during annual awareness week



The Dyspraxia Foundation – the only national charity in the UK dedicated to raising awareness of the condition - is delighted to announce the results of its ‘**Nominate a Star**’ competition - an initiative which invited people to tell the team about a teacher, therapist, healthcare professional or friend who had inspired them.

Nominations were also welcomed about someone, of any age, who has been diagnosed and lives with dyspraxia.

The awards were judged by the charity’s Community Fundraising Trustee, Karen Rainbow. Karen, from Bournemouth and whose 6 year old son, Oscar, has dyspraxia comments: *“We received many incredibly heart-warming entries about extraordinary people that have had a positive impact on those around them and they should feel very proud of their achievements. It was extremely difficult choosing the winners - we even had nominations for Florence Welch, from the hugely successful band, Florence and the Machine, who herself lives with dyspraxia - and the accomplishments of all of the nominees should be celebrated!”*

The results were as follows:

OVERALL SUPERSTAR – POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED TO SANDI LACK OF KIRKFIELD

“She has for years raised money for charities, focusing on dyspraxia tirelessly over the past few years to light a beacon of awareness in an unlit tunnel of confusion and misunderstanding, giving support to not only people living with dyspraxia but also the parents who too often are given a label and left.”

“She did more for dyspraxia awareness in a few years than most of us will manage in a life time.”

When Sandi’s granddaughter was diagnosed with dyspraxia she set up the "Dyspraxia - A friendly ear, here to listen" support group on Facebook and it now has

almost 4,000 members. Sandi sadly passed away in August this year but she left the lasting legacy that her group will continue to help countless more people come to terms with the impact of dyspraxia.

Sandi came up with the idea of having a holiday with the group, so that families affected by dyspraxia could come together for a few days. This will happen in May next year.

She also wrote to many TV companies trying to get them to raise awareness of dyspraxia. She visited her MP and he put in writing that he would raise certain issues in parliament. She also contacted many more MPs, including the Prime Minister.

Child Star – Thomas Munden aged 10 from Hornchurch, Essex

“He is always smiling and rarely lets anything/anyone get him down. He tries his best at everything he does.”

Thomas is 10 years old and has been diagnosed with verbal dyspraxia, motor dyspraxia and hypermobility. However, he has not let this hold him back and is a very determined little boy who always gives his all. His school’s Paralympic team won a gold medal in Boccia, he took part in a swimming gala for the London Borough of Havering at the Youth Games and came home with one gold, three silvers and one bronze and he has also won medals in gymnastics for which he trains seven hours a week.

Adult Star – Lee Dickson 21 from Lancaster

“He has always strived to better himself and help others even though he himself was struggling inside”.

Lee is 21 years old and is currently in his third year at Lancaster University. Lee was finally diagnosed with dyspraxia and dyslexia last year but has been struggling to overcome both throughout his academic life. However, he has always tried his best and remained determined to succeed with a great deal of enthusiasm and drive to become a history teacher. He has just set up his own society at university called ‘Lancaster Autism and Specific Learning Difficulties’ after deciding that there was a shortage of social interaction for such students.

Professional Star – Elena Hill from Broadstairs Kent

“Mrs Hill has done wonders for my son’s self-esteem”.

Elena is a year two teacher at St Mildred's Primary Infant School in Broadstairs. One of her pupils’ parents wrote *“when Mrs Hill started teaching my son, she told me that it was almost impossible to tell what he was capable of because he was so disengaged. She worked so hard to get to know him, to understand what was important to him and to praise him for his efforts. For example, despite his dreadful (and almost illegible) handwriting, he won the class story writing contest twice over the course of the year. His self-confidence has improved enormously over the course of the year which culminated in him having a speaking role (with 10 non-*

consecutive lines) in the end of year production with no prompting needed. This is a huge achievement for him - he has previously had a member of staff to sit next to him in every single production".

Fundraising Star – James Pratt 22 from Manchester

“He has battled through life to defy the doctors”.

James was diagnosed with dyspraxia at a young age and was told that he would never be able to play sport or drive. However, through sheer determination he has defied these claims and has not only become an athlete joining Stockport Harriers, competing in many local events but has also passed his driving test.

James has raised £1000 for the Dyspraxia Foundation this year by running in the BUPA Manchester 10k, completing the course in a very impressive 45.48 minutes!

Karen adds; *“Judging this competition really was one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to do! The standard – and the stories we heard – was just amazing and in my eyes, everyone who was nominated was a total star. At the Dyspraxia Foundation, we are so privileged to work with and support school children, teenagers, young adults and professionals who are achieving wonderful things and we truly believe that nobody should ever be held back from fulfilling their potential, whatever difficulties they may face.*

“We received many incredibly heart-warming entries about extraordinary people that have had a positive impact on those around them and they should feel very proud of their achievements. The accomplishments of all of the nominees should be celebrated so we would like to congratulate Bekki Mooney, Brenda Wildish, Colette Serrechia, Deborah Smith, Elaine Giliomee, Honesty Eden, Imogen Rowe, Matt Devonshire, Rachel Duffy, Richard Speechley, Robert Farrow, Suzanna Giera and Tillie Hewlett.”

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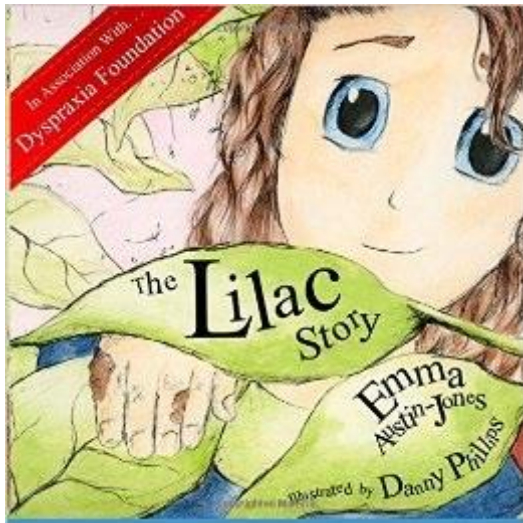
- ENDS -

For more information, to set up an interview with your local winner, please call Jo Hudson or Francesca Levi on 020 7112 4905 / 0770 948 7959 jo.hudson@trinitypr.co.uk / Francesca@trinitypr.co.uk

For further information about the ongoing work of the Dyspraxia Foundation and how to become involved or access help, information and advice, please visit www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk / @DYSPRAXIAFDTN

Friday, 17th October

New book launched on Funky Friday as part of Dyspraxia Awareness Week!



The Lilac Story by Emma Austin-Jones

Forward by Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP Member of Parliament for Bromsgrove and Secretary of State, Culture, Media and Sport

‘Welcome to this majestic world of colour and magic. Emma Austin Jones’ imaginative tale of a fairy land is brought alive by Danny Philips’ beautiful illustrations.

This book will help raise funds for the Dyspraxia Foundation to increase the understanding of Dyspraxia and assist the 10,000 or so people who contact them about this difficult condition each year.

I know this is a cause of great importance to Emma and she has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of dyspraxia. I am sure this story will be enjoyed by many children for generations to come.’

About the Author: Emma Austin-Jones

Emma is the founder of the annual Emma Austin-Jones award for illustration.

Emma launched the EAJ-award for final year art students at HOW College, to help raise awareness about the incredible creative talent we have in the Midlands (UK) and in the spirit of equality, she fairly shares book royalties with the art students who illustrate her stories.

Royalties are also shared with Dyspraxia Foundation UK to assist with raising awareness.

For more information about the award, books, and related items visit:

<http://www.emmaaustinjones.com>

Emma Austin-Jones is a member of the Writers Guild of Great Britain
<http://www.writersguild.org>

Copies (£6.91) can be purchased at Amazon

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Lilac-Story-Princess-Quartz-Valley/dp/1503131904>

The Dyspraxia Foundation congratulate Emma on the launch of this delightful and magical book and extend their sincere appreciation for her sterling support and contribution to raising awareness of dyspraxia.

New video commissioned to mark the success of Dyspraxia Awareness Week 12th – 18th October 2014!

We are delighted to be able to share a link to our new video

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51vNs_gAT1c&list=UU2bX3bQoMA37WFojIbwOZnQ

Our thanks to Trustee, Gill Dixon for providing the voice over, [Golden Media](#) for producing an excellent film to add to our YouTube channel and to all those who appeared in the colourful photographs throughout the week long campaign.