

October is National Dyslexia Awareness Month. This is an annual event aimed at further understanding and raising awareness amongst staff and pupils about dyslexia; what it means, what it is and what can be done to support people who have dyslexia.

Over the next number of weeks our staff will be taking part in Dyslexia Awareness Training and continuing our professional development to ensure all of our classrooms and our school is a dyslexic friendly environment. We will be looking at self-esteem, teaching styles, spelling, writing and reading.

<u>We thought we would share 10 Dyslexia Awareness Month facts with you to think about!</u>

1. 50% of people with dyslexia are left-handed, whereas only 11% of the entire UK population are left-handed.
2. The most common cause of dyslexia is genetics and the way the brain neurologically develops. This means that dyslexia often runs in families.
3. Dyslexics have a strong ability to see concepts with a "big picture" perspective.
4. Scientists have found that the Dyslexic brain is typically larger than non-dyslexic brains!
5. Studies have also shown Dyslexic people to excel in areas such as creative thinking, and are more likely to be creative individuals.

6. It's hard to get an exact number of how many people are dyslexic in the U.K., but organisations such as the British Dyslexia Association estimate that between 7 million and 16 million people have this SpLD.
7. Dyslexia is not related to low intelligence.
8. It's a common myth that Dyslexic people read words or letters backwards. This is in fact not the case, and writing letters backwards is quite common amongst all young children when learning to read and write.
9. Britain's favourite foodie, Jamie Oliver, is dyslexic. Rather than seeing this as a negative, Jamie is proud of his dyslexia. He believes this enables him to see the world from a different perspective. Dyslexia has not held him back, and you don't have to look far to see the evidence. As of 2021, he has a net worth of an estimated £230 million.
10. Other famous figures that identify as dyslexic include Jennifer Aniston, Keira Knightly and Noel Gallagher. Historical figures and famous artists such as Leonardo da Vinci and Pablo Picasso were also Dyslexic.

At Cumran Primary School, we understand just how important it is for dyslexia to be identified swiftly. Children with dyslexia can experience stress, anxiety, and low self-esteem due to the extra difficulty learning. The sooner the condition is recognised, the quicker support can be provided and lessons tailored, allowing us to help pupils develop at their own speed and in comfort.

Some useful websites to give you more detail on dyslexia

www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

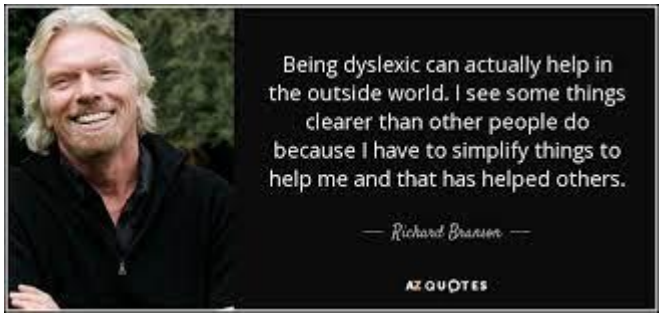
www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk

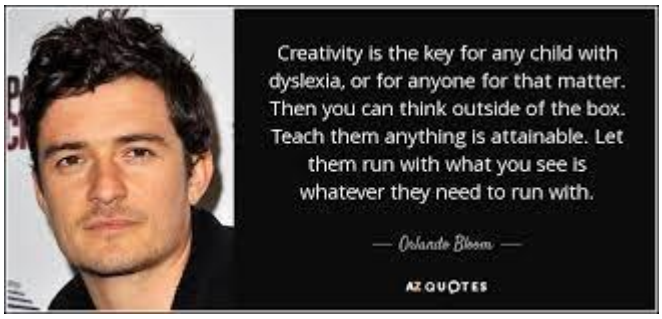
www.arkellcentre.org.uk

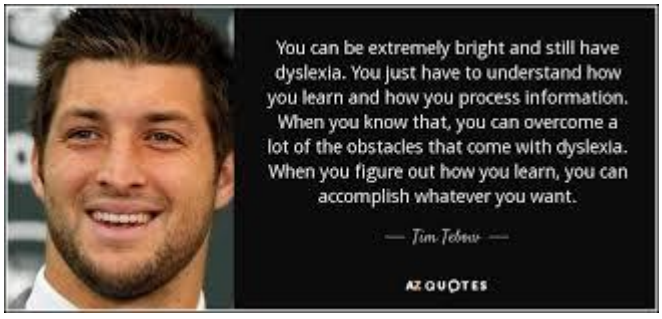
www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

www.nessy.com/uk/parents/dyslexia-information/

Check out these inspirational quotes from some famous faces!


Being dyslexic can actually help in the outside world. I see some things clearer than other people do because I have to simplify things to help me and that has helped others.
— Richard Branson —
AZ QUOTES


Creativity is the key for any child with dyslexia, or for anyone for that matter. Then you can think outside of the box. Teach them anything is attainable. Let them run with what you see is whatever they need to run with.
— Orlando Bloom —
AZ QUOTES


You can be extremely bright and still have dyslexia. You just have to understand how you learn and how you process information. When you know that, you can overcome a lot of the obstacles that come with dyslexia. When you figure out how you learn, you can accomplish whatever you want.
— Tim Tebow —
AZ QUOTES


"My dyslexic thinking means I don't just think outside the box...I think outside the planet!."
Maggie Aderin-Pocock
Space Scientist