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Dr Charles Haynes presents at DAS Preschool Seminar March 2016



FACETS

Dyslexia Association of Singapore

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of

HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE

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Welcome

2016 looks to be a very busy year yet again for DAS! This year we turn 25 a milestone in our history, we hope that you can join us for the celebrations we have planned at the end of the year.

The DAS Preschool Seminar was a resounding success yet again and it becomes a feature in our yearly calendar. The DAS message for early identification and intervention rang clearly with our special guest speaker from USA, Dr Charles Haynes and our dedicated team from our Preschool Programme led by Wong Kah Lai. We thank NTUC Income Orangeaid who sponsored the seminar and who continues to sponsor our Preschool programme.

In June, we see the return of the UnITE SpLD Conference and this year we will be focusing on research in the SpLD field. We are delighted to have researchers flying in from all over the world and we will be hearing their research in short, engaging presentations.

I hope you enjoy this issue of FACETS and that you find it as informative and enjoyable as I have had in putting it together.

Deborah Hewes

FACETS

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UnITE SpLD 2016 CONFERENCE

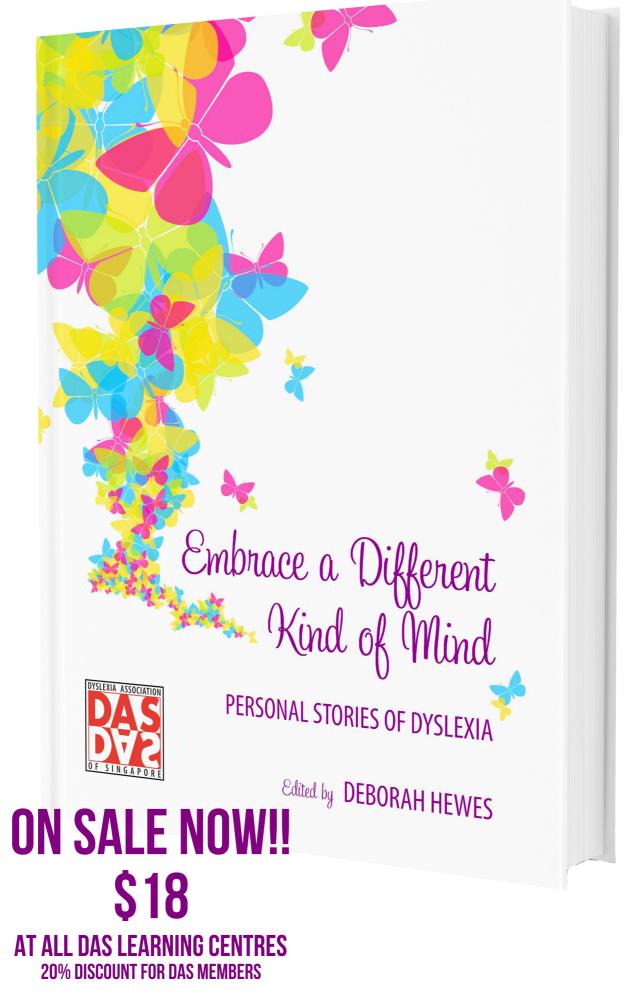
Lifelong Learning Institute 11 Eunos Road 8 Singapore 408601

Thursday, 23 June 2016 | 9:00am - 5:30pm

Uniting Ideas in Teaching Excellence—Research Worth Sharing

The UnITE SpLD Conference seeks to bring together parents, teachers and practitioners working with children with specific learning difficulties and special educational needs. This conference will be showcasing research that covers aspects of behavioural, literacy and social emotional support, intervention and assessment for children with special learning needs. Research will be presented it short, engaging and entertaining sessions accompanied by poster presentations and the chance to talk directly with researchers who are making a difference in the Asian region.













Games Fun! 8TH ASEAN PARA GAMES

By Gopal Givanandam DAS Centre Manager for Chinatown Point & Choa Chu Kang



It was a splendid and unique opportunity for DAS students and parents to witness the 8th ASEAN Para Games on Saturday, 5th December 2015.

This was the first time that Singapore hosted the ASEAN Para Games that was held in the newly constructed sports hub. DAS Parents and students attended table tennis matches held in the indoor sports hall and participated in the carnival held next to the Kallang Wave Mall. The carnival was not only exciting for our kids but it also broadened their knowledge on the event . We were given a special brief about the event. During the brief, students were entertained with stage games which gave them further insights to the event in a fun way. We were also treated to goodies and some got to win special prizes.

One of our students walked away with a Samsung mobile after she got a surprise hug by the 'Nila' the official ASEAN Para Games mascot.

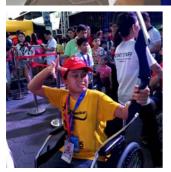
DAS would like to say a special thanks to the volunteers from Marina Bay Sands and Active Sg for the invitation to the games and guiding us throughout the event.





























Dne fingle, Dne MBS CHRISTMAS AT MARINA BAY SANDS

By Gopal Givanandam DAS Centre Manager for Chinatown Point & Choa Chu Kang

It was such an electrifying moment for DAS kids and parents who were treated to One Jingle, One MBS, Christmas carnival at the Marina Bay Sands last December.

The Christmas event held in the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention centre was filled with fun and colourful moments. The event hall was decorated with stalls for face painting, nail art, photo studio with Santa and art studios to create your own Christmas goodies.

Moreover, kids were entertained with stage

games, a bouncy castle and a choo choo train.

Other than entertainment, kids and parents were also treated to an array of food and beverages, where the candy floss was the kids favourite!

Lastly, the event had special prizes for lucky winners. We were very delighted for Glen from DAS Tampines who was the selected winner during the luck draw.

DAS parents who attended the event with their children were very thankful to both MBS and DAS for organising such a splendid event which also enhanced family bonding.



Dif & Gas Christmas Party

By Hema Krishnan Fundraising Officer

Sleigh bells were ringing in style as jolly old Santa dished out presents at the Oil & Gas (O & G) Christmas Party held on 13 December to which 10 DAS students along with their parents were invited.

The event saw children from the two adopted beneficiaries, the Dyslexia Association of Singapore and the Children's Charity Association, receive gifts as part of the O&G group's kind charity efforts at granting Christmas wish lists. Our DAS students were thrilled as they were gifted what they wished for, such as iPads and laptops.

A student, Nancy Tan, 12, shared, "It was truly a dream come true for me as I never thought I would be able to afford an iPad. Now, I can use mine to help me in my studies. Thank you for inviting me to this Christmas party!".

Deepaa Rahbinder, 7, was just as excited to receive her iPad and couldn't wait to play interactive games on it that help her to read and write better. "I'm so happy to be receiving my gift. This is the best Christmas ever!".

The O & G Christmas party had a clown decked out in funky colours that regaled the excited young crowd with his charming antics and drew laughter with his hilarious attempts at perfecting tricky acrobatic moves. This was followed by a scrumptious Christmas spread as the day ended with the singing of classic Christmas Carols.

The Fundraising Team would like to thank the organising committee of the O & G Children's Christmas Party for giving our students the wonderful opportunity to be a part of something special as well as to everyone else who helped out.



"I'm so happy to be receiving my gift. This is the best Christmas ever!" ~ Deepaa Rahbinder





Gearing up for the Lunar New Year at the SEA AQUARIUM!





"Have you seen a sea snake eat a small fish?" "Have you seen a dolphin do a somersault?" "Yes! I've also seen a jellyfish change colour! It is so cool!"

Saturday, 23rd January 2016, began with excited chatter as the students compared their past SEA Aquarium experiences on the bus. The students were on the way to a calligraphy workshop followed by a visit to the SEA Aquarium, sponsored by Resorts World Sentosa (RWS).

The calligraphy workshop was conducted by Master Yong, who taught 50 DAS students how to write 5 Chinese characters. The 5 Chinese characters were:



吉安乐春福

which symbolised Luck, Good Health, Happiness, Spring and Good Fortune respectively.

Master Yong was quite impressed with the multiracial mix of students and was equally surprised with the strokes that the students could emulate. These kids could indeed be master calligraphers in the future! Selected pieces were then pasted on a wall with a huge picture of a monkey. According to the Chinese zodiac calendar, 2016 is the Year of the Monkey.

Next, the students were given red packets (Hong Baos) so that they could make them into fishes and hang them on the Cherry Blossom plants. These fishes represented a Year of Abundance. The students were then given colourful windmills each as a reward for their hard work throughout the workshop.

Pandemonium broke out when the students were finally led into the dark SEA Aquarium. Although some of them had been there before, they still showed excitement as they could not wait to see their favourite fishes again. The students were given a fish chart each and were tasked to look



for 12 different fishes. Awed by hundreds of beautiful fishes swimming in gigantic tanks, the students were silent as a few of them whipped out their camera phones to take photos. The SEA Aquarium is home to more than 10,000 marine animals of over 800 species, spanning across 49 different habitats. After walking for some time, the



students and teachers decided to sit and eat breakfast provided by the sponsors. As the students sipped on their apple juices and nibbled on their muffins, they were treated with an awesome view of an enormous stingray gliding elegantly across the glass tank. It was quite therapeutic to "fish-watch" and have breakfast simultaneously. In addition, it was a good time for the teachers to take a break from chasing after some active students! Overall, It was a fun-filled day for both the students and the teachers.

As the bus approached REX, a student asked when DAS would organise an event such as this again. It was heartwarming to hear that the students had enjoyed themselves and were already looking forward to upcoming DASorganised events. Not only did the students gain knowledge about various fish species but more importantly, new friendships were forged. Till the very end of the outing, the students were still eagerly exchanging notes with one another about the SEA Aquarium.

"How come the cowfish don't look like a cow?"

"The rabbit fish don't look like a rabbit too..."





Fun and Features



END OF YEAR EXCURSION FOR DAS STUDENTS Singapore Science Centre Visit

This is what DAS students look forward to all year. They absolutely cannot wait for the end of Term 4, as they take turns to predict where they might be going for the end of year student outing.

Those who have been to the River Safari the previous year were excited to relive similar memories with their friends and teachers and those who have not been before were anticipating their first DAS outing excitedly.

Breaking out of the confined four walls of our DAS classroom, the students embarked on an adventure into the human body. Although at the moment Science is not advanced far enough to shrink us into tiny humans to explore an actual By Nithya Ravi Chandran Educational Therapist Seng Kang Learning Centre

human body, this particular experience was without a doubt, the next best option. This was a journey into the human anatomy like no other. Our students were able to wander through organs, muscles and systems while being handson with the interactive elements. They were able to learn through play and gathered so much information along the way. This was an enthralling experience for them as they were able to explore how their bodies worked and to discover how amazing the functions of their bodies were.

Together with the teachers, the students firstly stepped through a 6m tall face that enabled us to enter the body. It was already a fascinating start and the students loved it! They were able to



be small explorers using all of their senses inside the five main systems of the human body. They steadily went forth and explored the circulatory system, the digestive system, the immune system, the nervous system and the respiratory system.

We prepared ourselves to be swallowed and digested with anticipation and excitement. After we climbed the coarse tongue, we were rewarded with a small slide that would lead us to the throat. We then started our journey with the larynx where we found out how our vocal cords work. As we excitedly moved on, we came to the Lung Chamber. There were deep breathing sounds all around us as we navigated in between the two huge inflated lungs.

What awaited us next was a maze of veins that were intertwined and required us to use our navigational skills to find our way out. We pushed on to find ourselves in a room that pulsated light according to the beating of the giant heart. It was such an immersive experience to see, hear and feel the beating heart. There was also gym balls placed on the floor that was to play the role of red blood cells. Our DAS students enjoyed interacting with all the elements of this room. We then moved on to the immune system after already tackling the circulatory and respiratory systems. This was where the white bold cells protect the body against viruses and bacteria. It is an amazing combat zone where the body safeguards you from foreign bodies.

We were then confronted with a huge inflated brain that took up the whole room and we were confused as to where to go. We then realised that we had to walk around the inflated brain to enter it. It was such a unique concept and we were quite impressed with the layout. We were





able to see the brain with more wonder and were able to explore different areas of the mind which was a mirrored room with LED lights.

We were then transported to the digestive system and we started out in the stomach. We could hardly stand upright and had to constantly find our balance as the floors were squishy to resemble an actual stomach. As we moved on to the small intestine, we were suddenly sprayed with jets of mist which was supposed to simulate the secretion of bile and other digestive enzymes. It was truly an overall sensory experience that the students were able to learn from. The last leg, which was the large intestines were a bit squeezy to show that this was where all water was squeezed out from the waste. We trotted along albeit a little squashed for space and finally we emerged out the anus, passed out as the final waste product after the amazing journey through the body. We fell back out into the real world after being able to experience the human body from the inside .

The overall experience felt like an amusement park ride inside one's body. It was a great way for the students to have fun and learn so much from the interactive and immersive experience. They took so much away from it as compared to when they first stepped in.

Many students wanted to go through it again a second time as they had so much fun and also as they wanted to see the details they might have missed on their first journey through the exhibition.

In the end, on our way back to our centres, there was still excited chatter and many little voices recounting their experiences in the bus. They seem to have really enjoyed themselves and some even started guessing where the next DAS Student outing will be for the following year.









STUDENT EXCURSION TO S.E.A. AQUARIUM at Resorts World Sentosa

By Miranda Chng Senior Educational Advisor Queenstown Learning Centre

DAS students from Queenstown and Rex Learning Centres were treated to an excursion to S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa thanks to the donation from a DAS supporter, Ms Lim. Ms Lim made a generous personal donation towards the cost of admission charges for our students and we thank Ms Lim for her kind contribution.

A total of 59 students and 12 staff gathered at QTN at 9am to enjoy a simple breakfast prior to the excursion. Thereafter, they were ferried by two coaches to the S.E.A. Aquarium. The students were very excited as many had not been to SEA Aquarium before. Although they were very eager to enter the Aquarium, they were very cooperative and obliged with a group photograph first. Once inside, the students and staff were ushered into the multi-media Typhoon Theatre. Everyone ~boarded' the Arabia-bound sailing ship, experienced the storm it encountered, and sank into the sea as the theatre floor descended. They were able to feel vibrations in addition to strong winds and water sprays. Being wet and cold added to the whole experience of being in a typhoon. Loud "oos and ahs" could be heard from around. It was very satisfying to see the students enjoying the experience. After the show, they ventured into the Aquarium where they learnt about the marine life. The Aquarium is home to more than 100,000 marine animals of over 800 species, across into 49 different habitats, each one as fascinating as the next. It was a visual experience they would not forget. Some queued up for the Discovery Touch Pool, to touch star fish, sea cucumber etc, adding to their multi-sensory experience. The highlight of the Aquarium was the Open Ocean as no other place brought them closer to a more diverse collection of marine life. Students could have fun with their imagination as a panoramic marine vista engulfs them. The magical realm is home to gentle giants of the sea including the leopard shark, goliath grouper, saw fish, and a squadron of magnificent manta rays. They watched poetry in motion as glittering schools of marine creatures created a continuous dance in perfect unison. Our educational therapists and staff were on hand to help answer students' queries and enriched their learning.

At the end of the tour, students headed back to QTN Learning Centre for lunch at the school canteen. Some could still be heard talking about the trip. Staff were very glad that the excursion went smoothly and students enjoyed themselves.

To thank our sponsor, Ms Lim, our students wrote thank you notes. They were grateful to Ms Lim for making the trip possible. Ms Lim, a personal friend







of myself, was so touched by the thank you notes from our students and staff and she commented, "It was money well spent."

Once again, DAS thank Ms Lim for her donation and look forward to future opportunities of enhancing and enriching our students' learning experiences.





Speech and Drama Arts STUDENTS YEAR END PERFORMANCE 2015

The aim of the DAS Speech and Drama Arts Programme is to help students with dyslexia, develop communication, language and social emotional skills through highly interactive and engaging Drama activities and stage performances.

On 27 November 2015, 35 children across three DAS Learning Centres aged between 7 and 13 performed in a 45 minutes staged play at the MDIS Auditorium. Dolled up in make-up and costumes, the Speech and Drama Arts (SDA) students of Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS) put up a 45 minutes spectacular showcase of Singapore's History. Paying attention to every intricate detail of the character traits of our fore fathers, the students gave their best in portraying the various roles given to them. It definitely wasn't an easy task for them in putting themselves in the shoes of these unsung heroes during that era. By Pushpaa Arumugam Assistant Director for Enrichment Programmes Specialised Educational Services

The performance consisted of 24 scenes depicting Singapore's story from how Singapore got her name and Sir Stamford Raffles establishing Singapore as a trading post and the struggles and challenges Singapore faced after the independence in 1965. The play ended with the creation of our National identity that developed rapidly and reached heights within 50 years of independence.



The show started off with our young SDA students from Bishan Learning Centre on a voyage, where they made the discovery of the majestic Lion. After which our upper primary students took the stage as traders establishing Singapore as a trading post. Our young Sir Stamford Raffles and William Farquhar did an amazing job in putting up a formal stance in both their posture and tone. As the light blacked out, students from Bedok and Jurong Point learning centres took center stage for part 2 of the performance named "Did we make it?". The play started out with a poem depicting the end of war in 1945. It then moved to the introduction of Mr Lee Kuan Yew and his progression to Singapore's first elected prime minister. The play also featured some historical events such as the composing of our National Anthem in 1958 and our Pledge in 1966.

The students had put in a whole lot of effort in depicting the behavioural traits of the various politicians. Initially, it was challenging for them to play the role of our founding fathers due to the lack of exposure. Therefore, learning the vocal and physical expression required much focus and practice. However, our students overcame the fear of reading or memorising the lines with the help of our drama instructors who are also our Educational Therapists

It is worth mentioning about our 2 youngest performers, Chew Wei Yu, 7, a student at Bishan Learning Centre and Goh Yu Jie, also 7-year old from Jurong Point Learning Centre. As compared to how they were when they joined the programme, they were more vocal and expressive. They take the teacher's comments and work on it to improve themselves.

The SDA students rehearsed every Saturday, during their 1.5 hours class time. We can proudly say that it took them 14 days and a total of 25 hours for them to perform this impressive dramatic piece.

For the first time, we created a platform for our students to perform in front of a large group of audience – estimated 120 as compared to the previous ones, where the students will perform for their own parents – maximum 30, within their own centre, in a small confined area.

As the team believe that creating opportunities for our students to perform in front of a large group of audience will build our students' self-confidence and foster selfesteem, we have planned to make this an annual event for the DAS Speech and Drama Arts Programme.

Look forward to our young and confident performers once again showcasing a stupendous performance November this year!









Fun and Features











































Creation through Your Eyes: THE BUDDING ART PRODIGY COURSE

by Nicole Chua Senior Educational Therapist REX Learning Centre

In January this year, DAS collaborated with final year art students from Lasalle College of the Arts to organise a 10-week workshop for our students.

This was indeed a rare opportunity for students to have a first-hand experience to what studying art is all about. They get to see that art is not just about drawing but the understanding of its history, science and human relationship with world that led to today's art scene.

From 16 January to 26 March 2016, we welcomed our two final year student-instructors to DAS Ang Mo Kio Learning Centre, Ms Belinda Sim and Ms Karin Ong. Our Ang Mo Kio Learning Centre which opened early this year was chosen for its brightly-lit spacious rooms and convenient location, just 10 mins walk from Yio Chu Kang MRT. Nested in the vicinity of Anderson Primary School Sports Hall, students get to enjoy safe and relaxing surroundings to explore their artistic minds.

At the beginning of the course students got to explore shading and texture where they create images by applying varied pressure using 2B pencils as well as exploring with shadowing to bring images to life.

Every lesson is a surprise! The following weeks, our talented instructors slowly bring in colours in different forms. Starting with the very basic understanding of primary and secondary colours and the effects they can have on each other to create unique colours.



Our students were bedazzled through the session. Which child doesn't like playing with colours when it comes to art? What's more, they get to explore with something they are familiar with and gain even deeper understanding of what they can do with colours at the end of the session. Our two student-instructors were also very knowledgeable and patient, especially to the special learning needs of our children. Personally, I truly feel that art is wonderful way to draw out the talent of our children. It engages their psycho-motor movements and expands their minds. The children even got acquainted quickly from the first day of class as art becomes their common grounds for sharing.

At the half way mark of the course, students continued to explore beyond drawing and will be beginning to delve with recycle items and the nature surrounding them to create their own art pieces. It is definitely a great way for our children to spend their Saturday mornings, don't you think? At Specialised Educational Services (SES), a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore, we provide programmes and enrichment workshops that cater to the different learning needs of our children and more.

Understanding Col



For the list of upcoming workshops, do visit our website at www.ses.org.sg/workshops or pick up a brochure at your nearest learning centres.





CAPITALAND COMMERCIAL TRUST BRINGS Gifts of Joy to Bedok Learning Centre

By Jacqueline Song Head of Fundraising

CapitaLand Commercial Trust partnered with Bedok Learning Centre to bring Gifts of Joy to more than 100 students last December 2015.

CapitalLand Commercial Trust started 'Gifts of Joy' in 2013 to promote acts of kindness and compassion for underprivileged children among its tenants and staff during Christmas. Students of Bedok Learning Centre had their wishes displayed and fulfilled at selected CapitalLand Commercial Trust office buildings, where CapitalLand Commercial Trust tenants and staff also volunteered to wrap and deliver the gifts. Mr Lee Siang, our CEO and other DAS management representatives received Ms Leong and a group of volunteers & staff at our Bedok Learning Centre.

Ms Leong quoted that beyond contributing gifts, they encourage their tenants and employees to give their time to wrap and deliver the gifts. Seeing the children's faces light up with smiles when we presented them with the gifts is truly priceless.



Pictured above, Lee Siang DAS CEO with Ms Leong from CapitalLand Commercial Trust



CapitalLand Commercial Trust Volunteer presenting a gift to DAS students

Thank you CapitalLand Commercial Trust for organising and presenting the gifts to the children from the low-income families. Children with dyslexia often have low self-esteem and to know that they are loved and supported is so important!



DAS Staff supporting this event, Deon Poh, Centre Manager for Bedok Learning Centre, Fanny Foo, Director of Learning Centres and Outreach and Jacqueline Song, Head of Fundraising

BE A PART OF THE DAS PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP



Benefits of DAS Parents' Support Group (PSG):

Be more engaged

As a PSG member, you are more likely to be an informed and involved parent. You will also be building rapport with educators and supporting DAS's initiatives.

Be part of a network

We understand that parenting a child with learning differences is challenging. The PSG provides a platform for you to share ideas, concerns and experiences with other parents.

Increase your knowledge

Gain valuable experiences and grasp new opportunities, to support your child more effectively.

Make a difference

Provide DAS with feedback to make positive recommendations for change in our organisation.

Be a role model

By becoming a PSG member, you will demonstrate the importance you place on education and enhance your bond with your child.

If you would like to join the PSG, please contact the Centre Managers.



www.facebook.com/groups/ dasparents



The Three Billy Goats Gruff

By Cailyn Kwan Educational Therapist

On 14 March 2016, the Chinese team brought 32 students (mainly from the Chinese program) to DBS Arts Theatre to watch the Chinese musical, "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" (三只山羊). The outing was made possible with The Singapore Repertory Theatre sponsoring part of the ticket price where parents were invited to share this experience with their children.

We decided to bring the students for this musical as it is a children's fairy tale and most students would have been familiar with the story. This would then give them a much-needed exposure to the Chinese language through the musical.

The students had mixed expectations of what they would get to see or experience in the next hour. When the musical started, boy, were the songs and tunes catchy! It left several of us wanting to dance and groove to the music. While the exaggerated actions by the actors and actresses appealed to the younger crowd, what they sang, said and rapped to the music reached out to the older students in the audience. The witty exchanges onstage captivated the older students who were able to understand the jokes and double connotations behind what was spoken.

What caught the young and old unexpected was a twist to the story. Instead of finding the greener pastures at the other side of the bridge, they found themselves looking at a painting of a green pasture by a troll! This new addition set the children laughing, exceeding theirs and our expectations. All were pleasantly surprised with how it all ended.

All 32 went home with smiles on their faces. Not only the younger students, the upper primary students also told the teachers excitedly how much they enjoyed be show. We are sure looking forward to bringing more students along for the next musical and as with all fairy tales, you never know what you may get!

BE RECOGNISED FOR YOUR EXPERTISE IN THE FIELD OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS





Join RETA now! Call 6336 2555 or email info@reta.sg Benefits of being a RETA member:

- Bi-annual RETA Chronicles, an exclusive members only magazine
- 25% discount on the resources sold by DAS
- 25% discount on courses and workshops conducted by DAS Academy
- 25% discount on full age Assessments for dyslexia
- Access to DAS Academy library & e-journals
- Invitation to workshops, talks and sharing sessions by guest speakers
- Invitation to speak at conferences, workshops and courses
- Research consultancy
- Opportunity to be listed on RETA website for private consultation (not applicable to DAS staff and AEDs)

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Register of Educational Therapists (Asia) 73 Bukit Timah Road #05-01 Rex House Singapore 229832



SES HOLIDAY WORKSHOP AT BEDOK LEARNING CENTRE Creative DIY Chocolate Bouquet With Poetry

By Karen Wong Senior Educational Therapist Bedok Learning Centre

A Creative DIY Chocolate Bouquet with Poetry Workshop was held on 1st December 2015 during the December school break at Bedok Learning Centre.

I conducted the workshop with the objective of instilling in students the creativity of using flowers and enabling them to express themselves through poetry. Additionally, students had the opportunity to enhance fine motor skills while mastering a life skill.

The second part of the workshop was an introduction to various forms of poetry scaffolding and basic techniques where they learned to create personalised poems for greeting cards. These enabled students to express themselves creatively as an accompaniment to their 'chocolicious' handmade chocolate bouquet!



The student participants created their very own chocolate bouquet with Ferrero Roche chocolates and flowers that were meant as handmade gifts for special occasions, such as Christmas, Mother's / Father's Day, Birthdays etc. Our participants had a great time and this is what they had to say ...

Cheryl Koh: "I enjoyed the whole workshop" Eunice Ng: "I liked making a flower" Melody Wong: "I like the flower making" Aiden Lee Walker: "I enjoyed everything" Syahindah: "I enjoyed the workshop as I like to decorate the flowers."

Friendship Poem by Cheryl Koh

Oh what a joy it is to have a friend like you For not giving up in me the way you do For cheering me up when I am feeling down And listening to my sad stories When I am wearing a frown Thanks for your listening ear and helping me grow Your friendship means a lot this I'd like you to know

Friendship Poem by Melody Wong

Oh what a joy it is to have a friend like you For giving me love the way you do For helping to bring me joy when I am feeling down And giving me care when I am wearing a frown Thanks for giving me care and helping me grow Your friendship means a lot this I'd like you to know

Friendship Poem by Syahindah

Oh what a joy it is to have a friend like you For giving love the way you do For cheering me up when I am feeling down And making me feel happy when I am wearing a frown Thanks for helping me there and helping me grow Your friendship means a lot this I'd like you to know

Friendship Poem by Aiden

Oh what a joy it is to have a friend like you For helping me the way you do For cheering me up when I am feeling down And thanks for putting a smile on my face when I am wearing a frown Thanks for helping me and helping me grow Your friendship means a lot this I'd like you to know



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Parents, you can now connect with other parents to share your experience and knowledge of raising a child with dyslexia.

Join us on Facebook now.

DAS Parents Network

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Dyslexia Association of Singapore

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DAS International Services

www.facebook.com/dasinternational

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You Tube Watch our videos

on the DAS YouTube Channel

WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/DYSSG





Applause



Heartiest Congratulations to Cheong Yu Yang FROM BEDOK LEARNING CENTRE!

By Karen Wong Senior Educational Therapist Bedok Learning Centre

On behalf of Bedok Learning Centre and DAS staff, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Yu Yang on excelling in his Cambridge N Levels 2015 examinations.

A former student and graduate of DAS Bedok Learning Centre, I have fond memories of teaching Yu Yang during his secondary years. He emerged as one of the top N level students. Yu Yang has been a conscientious student with a patient and positive attitude towards learning. Recently, he was among his cohort to be called upon by his school teachers to conduct a speech on stage representing Bedok Town Secondary School. Currently, Yu Yang is enrolled in his first year at ITE and pursuing a NITEC in Opticianry.

Our very best wishes to Yu Yang as he continues to pursue his aspirations and be an exemplary role model to his peers.

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-	want to achieve million wish all dyslexic students the potential to "achieve million wish all dyslexic students the potential to "achieve million perform even better for N level or other major exams ! "





Glenn Ng - Model Student Awards SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC AWARDS

By Cheryl Cheong Publicity and Publications Officer

At first glance, Glenn Ng Guo You is a confident young man on the verge of graduating from polytechnic. 22 years of age, he has already achieved a modicum of success rarely seen in young people of the same age. Glenn is graduating from the Diploma in Information Technology from Singapore Polytechnic with a GPA of 3.91, will be awarded a Model Student Award for his holistic achievements and has founded his own company. Unknown to many of his peers, Glenn has a specific learning difference known as Dyslexia.

Glenn remembers struggling in his primary school years. With a bad grasp of language and its concepts, he could never do well in spelling. He remembers his mother constantly having problems teaching him spelling. "It was either English or Chinese; I can do one but not both," said Glenn.

His troubles in academic work continued until a



day when his mother told her friend about her frustration in teaching him. To her surprise, the friend said "Maybe he's dyslexic." Glenn's mother immediately went to find out about the Dyslexia Association of Singapore and made an appointment for Glenn to undergo an assessment.

"It was at the Ang Mo Kio centre where I was tested, I'm not sure if its still there because it was really long ago." Long ago is right; Glenn had his assessment when he was in Primary 2 and it was then that he was formally diagnosed with dyslexia.

He took classes at DAS in his primary school years but stopped after Primary 4 as his father's business met with financial troubles. With the streaming examinations at the end of Primary 4, he was recommended by his teacher to go into the EM3 stream where he could learn the foundational subjects at a slower but steadier pace.

After his PSLE, Glenn got into the Normal

(Technical) stream at Greendale Secondary School where he discovered a passion and talent for science and computer application subjects.

Dyslexia was a blessing for Glenn of sorts. His "typical Asian parents" gave him breathing room and allowed his to study at his own speed. It also helped that Glenn has a younger brother who could fulfil his parents' expectations of passing with flying colours.

At the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) where he studied after his 'N' Levels, Glenn studied Info -Comm Technology and worked on network infrastructure where he really started to bloom. He met lecturers such as Mr Teo Chea Wan who saw the value and potential in him and pushed him to enter competitions. Taking part in competitions gave Glenn much-needed exposure where he got opportunities to meet peers and network with industry partners.

Glenn scored well enough to be offered a place in Singapore Polytechnic after his graduation



from ITE. He pursued a Diploma in Information Technology.

The transition from ITE to polytechnic was difficult as the teaching styles and environment was very different. Glenn went through a very low period as his assignments piled up and the pressure increased dramatically. With support from fellow friends and a school counsellor, he meditated and learnt how to manage his schoolwork and stress level.

Glenn also credits his SP lecturer for his transformation. Mr Tan Hu-Shien told him to consider his future and that "once you have a goal, you can work toward it."

His circle of friends reflects and complements his strengths and weaknesses. He mixes with likeminded, positive people who bounce off each other's positivity. Glenn also remembers his own troubles when coping with schoolwork; he gathers friends and classmates for study sessions where they tutor each other and do peer-teaching when someone needed help. He also mentored his juniors at both ITE and SP who were taking part in competitions as he has previous experience.

The talented student also received the IDA Enhanced Learning in Information Technology (ELITe) scholarship when studying in SP. He was also a Microsoft Student Partner, where he organised the student community at Microsoft and was an ambassador for Microsoft products.

When asked about his strengths, Glenn took a pause and went "...interesting". He took more

time to think through that question before answering that he had independence and was a problem-solver. "Whenever I had hurdles when I was young, I made my own decisions," he said. This quality shines through when he discussed his future career options.

"I liked IT when I was young; but never really seemed interested in it as a career," mused Glenn. However, he took a leap of faith and started his own company, Vulxe Solutions. It is an IT consultancy, which he runs with a fellow SP classmate; they design whole solutions for companies. He serves as the account manager; the self-professed people person likes to meet clients to understand deeper about their issues.

Glenn is graduating this year from SP with an extremely high GPA. He has been awarded the Institutional (Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal) and Course Medal (IDA Gold Medal) in this year's SP Graduation 206. Additionally, he is a recipient of the SP Model Student Award at its annual Excellence Awards Ceremony. This award recognised students for academic excellence, CCA achievements, outstanding leadership as well as exemplary conduct.

Glenn's message to young dyslexics is to just try your best. He believes that the rewards reaped can only be enjoyed well after the effort is put in. "Don't be calculative, just go the extra mile. Do your best and you'll never regret it."



Glenn with his parents at the SP Excellence Awards 2016



UNDERSTANDING DYSLEXIA

THE CLINICAL BRAIN LAB @ NTU PSYCHOLOGY

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CHILDREN WITH DYSLEXIA TO PARTICPATE IN THIS BRAIN RESEARCH

ABOUT OUR STUDY:

- The prevalence of Dyslexia is higher than any other learning disability
- Verbal working memory and the cerebellum (the little brain underneath our big brain) have been found to be affected in dyslexia
- ~ The study helps to understand how these brain networks contributes to difficulties seen in Dyslexia
- The study will also help us make 1 the MRI experience more comfortable for children
- 1 The findings of our study will provide information to develop better ways to treat Dyslexia



For more information please contact: 9057 0998 clinicalbrainlab@gmail.com

This research study is conducted by collaboration labs at the Nanyang Technological University (The Clinical Brain Lab @ NTU Psychology). National University Health Systems (NUHS), and the National Institute of Education (NIE). This study is funded by the Lee Foundation and Ministry of Education (AcRF Tier 1 grant). The study protocol is approved by the NTU and NUS Institutional **Review Board**

CHILDREN	WHO:	
AGED 7 TO 10		
WITH &	WHAT:	
WITHOUT	WIIAL	
DYSLEXIA		
NEEDED	WHERE	

Children with and without Dyslexia with the following criteria: 1. 7 to 10 years old 2. Right-handed 3. Attending mainstream schools

Phase 1: At NTU & DAS

- 1. Paper-&-pencil and computerised task
- 2. Questionnaire about attitudes towards MRI scanning (Both tasks take approx. 30 mins each)

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) & Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS)

4. No History of neurological/psychiatric illness or chronic medical condition

Phase 2: At CIRC, NUS & CLS

- 1. Paper-&-pencil and computerised task
- 2. Questionnaire about attitudes towards MRI scanning

(Both tasks take approx. 1 hour each)

Clinical Imaging Research Centre (CIRC), NUS & Centre for Life Sciences (CLS)





NHERE:











Pavan Singh Gill - Model Student Awards

SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC AWARDS

A difficult start in life does not necessarily translate to failure. In fact, one boy who started out struggling in his studies has emerged a winner in his young life.

When he was in primary school, Pavan Singh Gill struggled with his studies and found it hard to keep up with his peers. His tutor recommended him to get assessed by DAS and he was diagnosed to be By Kristy Wong Senior Officer Publicity and Publications

dyslexic. Soon after, Pavan was enrolled as a student at DAS. From then onwards, his studies improved as he learnt methods in how to read and spell better.

When Pavan was in Primary 3, he broke his arm and had to stay at home for a period of time to recover. During this period, his mom bought him lego and this kept him happily occupied. As a



result, he discovered his own creativity in building blocks and became interested in robotics.

Pavan's mother is a great inspiration to him. When he was young, she encouraged him frequently and told him inspiring stories of famous dyslexics, such as Albert Einstein. This made Pavan felt better about being dyslexic himself, and enabled him to have a positive outlook in life. Pavan's mother also taught him to create task lists to help him manage time better.

Besides his mom, another person who inspired Pavan the most is his father, who is a marine engineer. In his childhood years, Pavan's father introduced him to educational videos, which helped him to learn tremendously. By watching the videos, Pavan learnt the skills of focusing and incorporating the tips from the video into his daily learning.

Despite being so talented, Pavan does not think he is more special than anyone else. His humble attitude in life has enabled him to be open to learn from others. From a young age, Pavan understood that he was "different" from his friends because he could not seem to read or spell as well as them. However, he was extremely clever with remembering facts and visualising his thoughts – strengths that empowered him to excel in his polytechnic studies.

After his 'O' Levels, Pavan applied for and got into Electrical and Electronic Engineering in Singapore Polytechnic. He was very pleased as robotics and 3D visualisation are his interests. Pavan did very well in poly. He is one of the winners of the Singapore Polytechnic (SP) Model Student Award. He is also the President of SP Student Entrepreneurs Club and he has led his committee members to carry out a series of events named "Skills@SP" and "Live@SP" for poly students to learn new skills and at the same time, pursue their interest and passion in start-ups and entrepreneurship.

He has this to say to younger dyslexics: "Don't let your failures in primary or secondary school life put you down. Just do your best and pull through those years. When you are in higher education (tertiary), you will get freedom to learn in your own style and use your strengths even more."



Pavan with his parents at the SP Excellence Awards 2016

"I want to have freedom to choose what I like to do," said Pavan, whose passion includes environmental issues and climate change. These, coupled with his talents in robotics and engineering, is good news to our future generation. Perhaps years later, the world will see new, wonderful inventions to fight global warming and improve the earth we live in!

SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

At the Excellence awards held at the Singapore Polytechnic, Mr Tan Choon Shian, CEO of SP spoke of Pavan in his welcome speech.

"Today, we will confer 22 students with the Model Student Awards. This award is given to students who have excelled academically, contributed significantly in CCA's and have embodied the Singapore Polytechnic CORE values.

One of them is Pavan Singh Gill, President of SP Student Entrepreneurs Club or SPSEC in short.

Pavan's focus has been in nurturing the entrepreneurship culture in SP and he has led his committee members to carry out a series of events named "Skills@SP" and "Life@SP" for poly students to learn new skills and at the same time, pursue their interest and passion in start-ups and entrepreneurship. To hone his leadership skills, Pavan joined the pioneering team for the LEAP Advanced Programme, and has since committed himself to serve as a student facilitator for future LEAP Camps.

Despite being in his final year, Pavan took on the additional responsibility as a class representative for this academic year. He is always willing to share his knowledge and takes time to help his peers who have difficulty with school work as well as to provide advice to his juniors on curriculum matters.

Students like Pavan are outstanding examples of how the SP environment has groomed them into young leaders that are socially responsible and ready to contribute to the community."

Embrace Dyslexia Commitment

Embrace Dyslexia intends to raise awareness of dyslexia in the Singaporean community with an aim to have as many people understand both the strengths and challenges that individuals with dyslexia face everyday.



Raise awareness for Embrace Dyslexia by: - Sharing information about dyslexia in your workplace

- Inviting DAS to conduct Awareness Talks
- Including information about dyslexia in the staff handbook



Explore opportunities to work with DAS - Workplace Giving or Volunteering Initiatives - Mentoring DAS Alumni for internships or work experience



Champion dyslexic individuals - Recognising their strengths and understand their weaknesses

- Providing appropriate support and encouragement



Donate to DAS Programmes - Support low-income families by giving to the Bursary Fund



Advocate for Embrace Dyslexia

Embrace Dyslexia with us. Sign your commitment today.

www.das.org.sg/embrace-dyslexia



DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE The Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS) is a vibrant organisation serving the specialised educational needs of over 2,900 students with learning differences. DAS has over 240 professional staff offering a wide array of services and operates 13 learning centres across Singapore.

T 6444 5700 | www.das.org.sg



Xinyi Lim & Rianyi Lim SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC DESIGN SCHOOL

The Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS) is approached by numerous students every year seeking help with their projects. DAS supports these students wherever possible, and over the many years we have seen some wonderful work done by these students to help DAS and raise awareness about dyslexia. The same can be said for two Singapore Polytechnic Design School Students, Xinyi and Qianyi.

Xinyi and Qianyi, approached DAS last year to see if we would help them with their design project on Dyslexia. Their initial foray into understanding the By Deborah Hewes Head, Publicity and Publications

project subject, dyslexia, revealed that most had no idea of what dyslexia was.

After a personal briefing with the two girls, and introducing them to the book on Personal Stories of Dyslexia they were excited to see their plans and that of the DAS come together.

DAS was very pleased that they could see the promotion of the Embrace Dyslexia theme synchronise with their project plan ideas. As a result both girls were able to design a project, which is described on the next page, that had some very unique and promising ideas, of

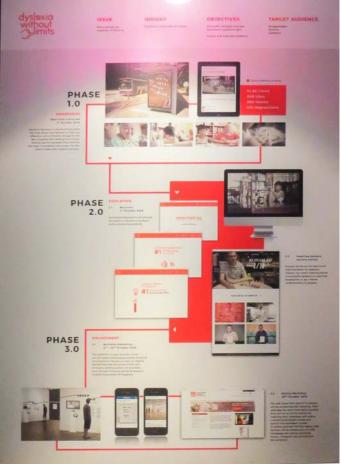


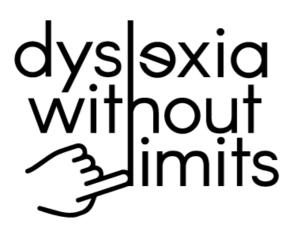
which they were happy to allow DAS to use now that their project has come to an end.

One of the most engaging project ideas was to create a series of videos to raise awareness about dyslexia. Even now as their project has come to a close they have approached DAS to see if they can continue to contribute in this area.

The "UNLIMITED" exhibition was held at the Singapore Polytechnic in March 2016, showcasing the work of the Design School students. It was here that I managed to meet up again with contributors to the book, "Embrace a Different Kind of Mind. Personal Stories of Dyslexia" who had also given their time to support the girls in their project.

DAS is very pleased to have worked with these two talented students from Singapore Polytechnic Design School and we wish them all the very best for a bright and successful future.







For our final year project, we were required to choose any brand to do an advertising campaign for. We felt that there was a need to address social issues in Singapore, hence we chose the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

After conducting street interviews and online surveys, we found out that many people are unaware of Dyslexia. Many people whom we interviewed about Dyslexia and what is was answered, "Mentally Challenged", "Disease" "Disability", bringing us to our insight that Dyslexia is often seen as a flaw.

There is an apparent lack of awareness, publicity and knowledge on Dyslexia. We were determined to change people's perspectives on Dyslexia and put Dyslexia in a positive light. So we thought, how do we raise awareness about Dyslexia to show that it is a learning difference, not a limitation?

CAMPAIGN IDEA - DYSLEXIA WITHOUT LIMITS

Dyslexia Without Limits is a campaign that aims to reshuffle people's mind-sets through local success stories. We believe in spreading positivity through the power of story-telling.

PHASE 1 — AWARENESS

PRINT AD: "WHEN WORDS MAKE NO SENSE"

We kick-started this campaign in October -National Dyslexia Month with a print ad that will be seen at bus stop and MRT stations. With Ms Deborah's help, we managed to collect dyslexics' handwriting to craft out our headline – "when words make no sense". This print ad talks about the story of a dyslexic and a symptoms he faced letter-reversal.

SHORT FILM: "SECRET TO SUCCESS"

Following up with the print ad, we created a short film called "Secret To Success", which has been posted up on facebook. It has garnered 15.9k views, 378 shares and 223 likes as of date. It was touching to see people leaving positive encouragements for dyslexics and even sharing their own stories.

The secret to success video can be found on the Dyslexia Without Limits Facebook page located:

www.facebook.com/dyslexiawithoutlimits



PHASE 2 - EDUCATION MICROSITE

We also created a microsite where we debunk myths and educate the public on Dyslexia through animated infographics. Success stories are the best proof towards negative perceptions of Dyslexia. Through the personal stories of people with dyslexia we see how they have overcome frustrating barriers to accomplish their dreams, viewers are able to get a deeper understanding of Dyslexia. We believe that the stories would greatly motivate other dyslexics to persevere on and not give up.

PHASE 3 - ENGAGEMENT NO LIMITS EXHIBITION

To further the engagement of this campaign, inspiring quotes written by successful local dyslexics will be showcased at "No Limits Exhibition".

All original artworks can be purchased with proceeds going to the Dyslexia Association of Singapore. Not only will this exhibition motivate and empower Dyslexics, but it will also generate more awareness for Dyslexia.

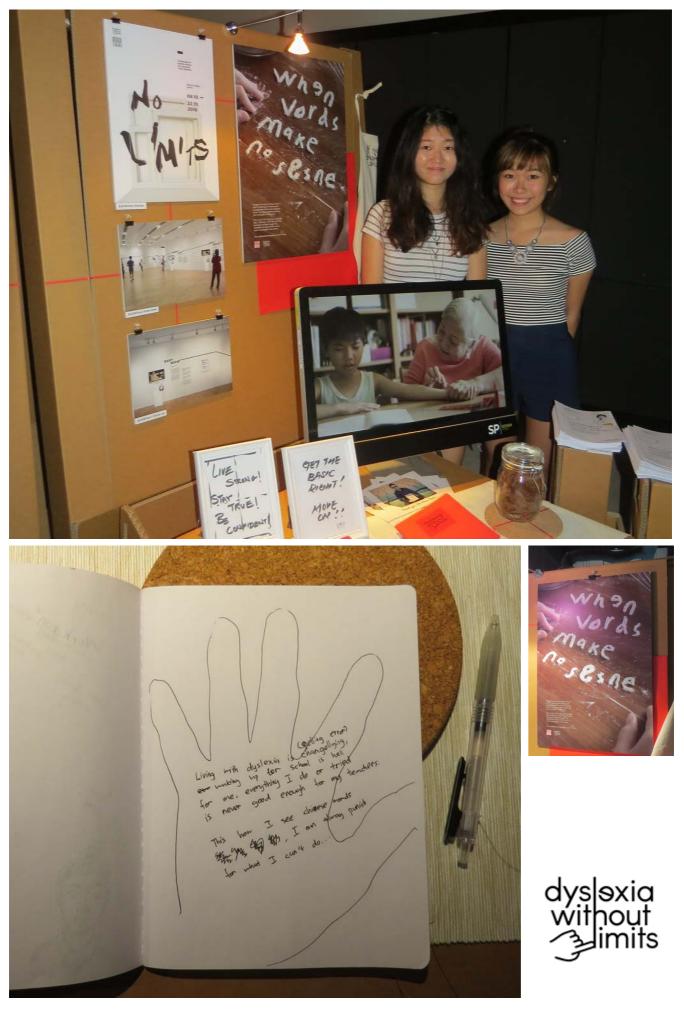
BAKING WORKSHOP

People can register for our next event – a baking workshop – conducted by a dyslexic pastry chef. Each attendee will receive a personalised recipe and apron with a unique hand sewn quote on it. Through this campaign, we hope to reshuffle mindsets, and ultimately change how people perceive Dyslexia.

We are very grateful to Ms Deborah Hewes, Head of Publicity and Publications at the Dyslexia Association of Singapore for providing us with great insights to dyslexia and linking us up with other dyslexics who were published in the book 'Embrace a Different Kind of Mind: Personal Stories of Dyslexia". Also, special thanks to Mr Gary Seow, Mr Patrick Siah, Mr Alvin Tham and Mr Heman Tan for granting us their time to interview them. It has been a truly rewarding and meaningful experience to have worked on this project.

Cheers, Xinyi & Qianyi Visual Communicators SP Design School







PRESCHOOL PROGRAMME



Specialised Educational Services

The aim of the SES Preschool Programme is to help preschoolers who are potentially at risk of dyslexia, or have developmental delay in early literacy, develop skills and strategies to become confident achievers when they enter primary school.

RECOMMENDED FOR

Preschoolers in Kindergarten One and Two who are at risk of dyslexia or having difficulties with reading, spelling and/or writing.

OUR APPROACH

Our programme helps preschoolers acquire a good foundation in alphabet knowledge and phonograms, leading up to learning sight words essential for reading. These abilities gear them towards reading and spelling readiness.

In class, your child will be taught rules, facts and generalisations about the English language, enabling them to read and spell more effectively. They will also be taught strategies to cope with letter reversals. The programme follows a prescribed scope and sequence for systematic, sequential and cumulative teaching. Components covered in a typical lesson:

- Alphabet Knowledge
- Phonograms
- Learned Word Knowledge (e.g. said)
- Reading
- Spelling

Preschoolers will be advised to go for a Full Aged Psychological Assessment when they turn six. Children diagnosed with dyslexia have the option to continue with the MOEaided DAS Literacy Programme.



Find out more at **www.ses.org.sg** or **6444 5700** Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.







PRESCHOOL SEMINAR

SUPPORT THE LEARNING NEEDS OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

Presented by

ntuc Income orangeaid Organised by



Specialised Educational Services

Another Successful Seminar

DAS PRESCHOOL SEMINAR 2016

DAS Preschool Programme's annual Preschool Seminar 2016 was a resounding success! Held at Lifelong Learning Institute on Saturday, 19 March, the event reached out to over 200 participants, consisting mainly of parents and early childhood educators.

The seminar fulfilled its two broad aims. One, advocacy for greater awareness and the importance of early literacy intervention for K1 By Wong Kah Lai Preschool Programme Manager Specialised Educational Services

and K2 children who may be at risk of early literacy learning difficulties. Two, creating a common platform for supporting stakeholders working with young children through practical knowledge sharing.

The event kick started with emcee Ms Deborah Hewes welcoming Dr. Daruwalla, DAS President, Mr Theodore Teo, Senior Manager and Head of Corporate Social Responsibility at NTUC Income. Dr Charles Haynes, our special Guest Speaker and, Ms Nirmala Vijayarengan from PCF Ghim Moh Link



Theodore Teo, Senior Manager and Head of Corporate Services at NTUC Income

Nor Ashraf Bin Samsudin, Director of Specialised Educational Services, and Theodore Teo gave short passionate speeches on the importance of early literacy intervention and the leveling of "playing field" in the journey of academic learning for vulnerable young children from disadvantaged families.

Special guest speaker, Dr. Charles Haynes, Professor for the Department of Communication Sciences Disorders in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at Massachusetts General



Nor Ashraf Bin Samsudin, Director of Specialised Educational Services a division of DAS.

Hospital Institute of Health Professions, is an expert in the field of dyslexia and associated learning differences, Dr Haynes shared about the importance of early intervention of reading disabilities and multilingualism.

Dr Haynes helped audiences better understand reading disabilities through Gough and Tunmer's (1986) model of The Simple View of Reading. As he shared theoretical knowledge, he also highlighted diagnostic implications with recommendations for interventions.

Four concurrent workshops followed Dr. Haynes' talk, on topics of executive function, learning phonemic awareness through multi-sensory methods, letter reversals and speech and language development saw most participants engaged in hands-on exploration of practical learning strategies with workshop presenters.

These workshops were not only well received, one

participant was heard lamenting that the 65 minute workshop was a bit too short and wanted more. Another added that she was torn between choices and having to choose only one! Heartwarming encouragement, indeed! The DAS Preschool Programme shall strive harder next year.

Last but not least, Ms Nirmala Vijayarengan, Principal of PCF Ulu Pandan @ Ghim Moh Link, shared with the audience the success story of her kindergarten's pilot collaboration with DAS Preschool Programme. Together with Ms Wong Kah Lai, Manager of DAS Preschool Programme, they provided sustainable, ongoing early literacy intervention for kindergarteners within her school premise with the continued support of NTUC Income OrangeAid bursaries. Nirmala and Kah Lai recollected their first cohort of K2 students receiving early literacy intervention aided by bursary. These students were all residing within near distance of the kindergarten, in nearby rental flats. Nirmala's heartwarming story of how two siblings, both bursary students, whose academic learning and well-being changed for the better because of early intervention, was a touching call for all early childhood educators and stakeholders to reach out help more children with learning difficulties.

The half day seminar ended on a positive note after a short and lively Q&A with the panel chaired by Ashraf, consisting of Dr. Haynes, Wong Kah Lai, Nirmala and Sharon Reutens,





DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE

DAS PRESCHOOL PROGRAMME

DAS Preschool Programme aims to help preschoolers who have a developmental delay in early literacy and may potentially be at risk of having dyslexia, develop the skills and strategies to become confident learners and achievers when they start primary school.

With the support from NTUC Income OrangeAid, bursaries are available for K1 & K2 students on the DAS Preschool Programme.

> Income orangeaid

ABOUT NTUC INCOME ORANGEAID

OrangeAid is NTUC Income's community development and involvement arm. OrangeAid works with community partners through social investment in programmes that contribute to securing the future of children and youth from disadvantaged circumstances.

www.income.com.sg/orangeaid

WWW.DAS.ORG.SG







Pictured above (L to R) Nor Ashraf Bin Samsudin, Nirmala Vijayarengan, Principal of PCF Ulu Pandan @ Ghim Moh Link, Wong Kah Lai, Lee Siang, DAS CEO Dr Charles Haynes, Theodore Teo, Senior Manager & Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, NTUC Income, Rathika Shanugham NTUC Income, Hema Krishnan, DAS Fundraising Officer and Dr Jimmy Daruwalla, DAS President.



























March: The Month of Advocacy

PROMOTING PRESCHOOL AWARENESS FOR EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION

By Wong Kah Lai Preschool Programme Manager Specialised Educational Services

March has been a really busy month for the DAS Preschool Programme. The importance of early literacy intervention can never be emphasised enough.

As such, in conjunction with the Preschool Seminar that took place on 19 March 2016, Saturday, the

programme team was also actively engaged in promoting awareness and advocating early intervention for young children at risk of early literacy learning difficulties.

The team gave multiple free awareness talks to over 30 parents and 40 teachers at local kindergartens and childcare centres. They conducted a free public screening of early literacy learning difficulties for K1 and K2 children at Tampines Learning Centre. Over 80 children were screened and about half the number enrolled for early literacy intervention.

Both Mr. Ashraf Nor Samsudin, Director of Specialised Educational Services, a division of Dyslexia Association of Singapore, and Ms Wong Kah Lai, Programme Manager of Preschool Programme, went on radio—advocating for greater awareness to early literacy learning difficulties and the importance of early literacy intervention.

It is our collective hope that with greater awareness of help that is readily available to children, parents and teachers; no kindergarten one (K1) and/or kindergarten two (K2) children will be deprived of the opportunity to fulfil their learning potential because of difficulties in effectively learning to read, write and spell.

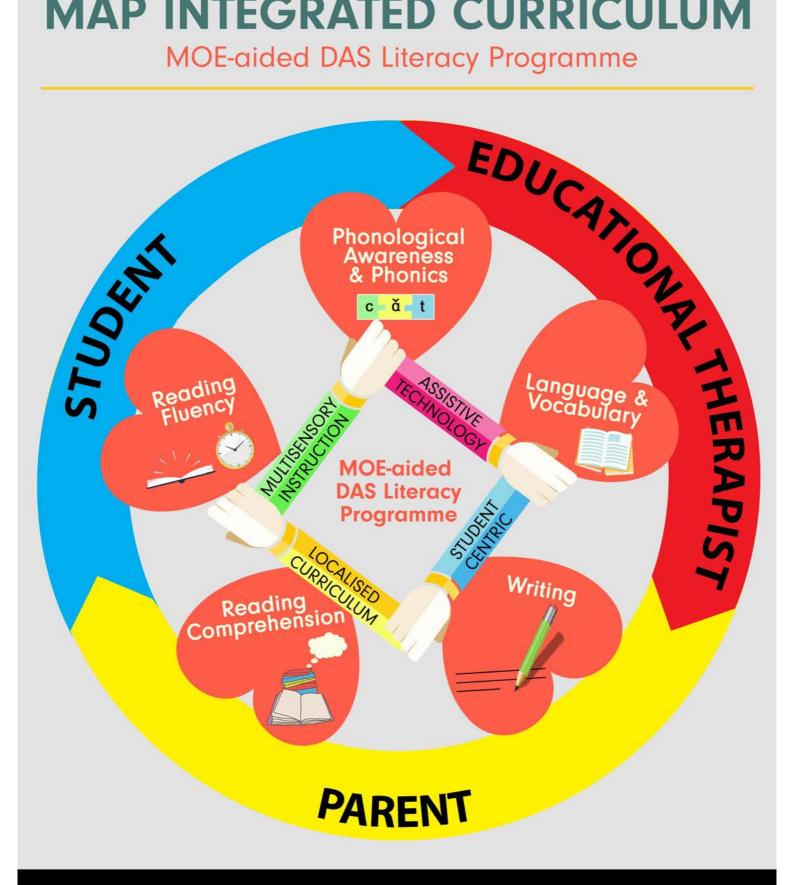




A quick selfie to mark the end of a busy but intrinsically satisfying day doing free public screening of early literacy learning difficulties for K1 and K2 children at DAS Tampines Learning Centre.

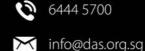
MAP INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

MOE-aided DAS Literacy Programme





DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION **OF SINGAPORE**



6444 5700



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HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE







The Right Help at the Right Time SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION NEEDS (SLCN)

by Choo Ling Fong Speech & Language Therapist Specialised Educational Services

Over the years, there has been growing awareness about dyslexia in children, with more parents and educators realising the importance of providing early intervention. However, speech, language and communication difficulties in children appear to be less recognised.

DAS Speech and Language therapists, Ling Fong and Sharon, were part of the DAS team presenting at the Preschool Seminar on 19 March 2016. The focus of their workshop was on speech and language development from birth to the preschool years, what makes successful communication, and how parents and teachers can use suitable oral language techniques to stimulate language development in the little ones.

Do you know:

Developmental milestones provide a general guide to when young children acquire different skills, be it motor, speech and language skills, or cognitive skills.

If a child is significantly delayed in meeting his or her milestones, this is a red flag that warrants further attention by a paediatrician, who can advise the parents on the next course of action.

Teachers are key partners who help parents in this journey by observing the child in the school setting and providing feedback to parents.

Some red flags for communication difficulties in preschool children include:

- Poor eye contact
- The child does not remember anything you say to him/her
- The child does not seem to understand what you say to him/her
- The child has fewer words than other children the same age and shorter sentences
- You cannot understand what the child is saying
- The child is frustrated by his/her inability to communicate

Afasic (n.d.) Warning signs in young children. Retrieved from www.afasic.org.uk/recognising-a-problem/indicators-in-youngchildren/





There are plenty of free resources online, for parents and teachers. Read more about speech, language and communication difficulties, and how to support these children:

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)

www.asha.org/public/speech/development/

The Communication Trust www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/

Talking Point www.talkingpoint.org.uk/

KKH Speech Language Therapy

www.kkh.com.sg/Services/AlliedHealthSpecialties/ OurSpecialties/Rehabilitation/Pages/ SpeechLanguageTherapy.aspx

A child can be referred for a speech and language assessment at hospitals (e.g., KK Women's and Children's Hospital, National University Hospital, Singapore General Hospital), voluntary welfare organisations (e.g, SPD, THK Children's Therapy Centre) and at private centres.

DAS offers preschool speech and language assessment as well as intervention for students in Kindergarten 1 and 2. Our speech and language therapists are based at our Jurong Point, Woodlands, Bishan and Tampines Learning Centres.

For enquiries, please email slt.info@das.org.sg



On 2 March 2016, a group of 12 MOE teachers and 1 NIE lecturer attended a briefing on the Chinese Programme delivered under Specialised Education Service (SES), a division of DAS.

11 of them are presently or in-training Head-of-Department for the Chinese Language and are currently on the Leadership and Management Track at NIE. This briefing session was organised at the request of one of the teachers who was interested to find out how we help our students with dyslexia learn Chinese.

The briefing mainly covered the difficulties students with dyslexia face when learning Chinese, our teaching principles, our curriculum, access arrangements and offering parents support.

Chinese Team Shares Curriculum MOE TEACHERS VISIT DAS

By Kong Yun Rui Chinese Programme Manager Specialised Educational Services

The teachers also had a quick run-through of the teaching resources and teaching manuals we had. Of particular interest to them, were the semantic card deck and sentence structures card deck.

As with most learners with dyslexia, they are fast learners but also quick forgetters. Hence, the need for constant revision and reviewing so that they can recall, remember and apply them to their learning. And the semantic and sentence structures card decks serve that very purpose. The semantic card deck includes commonly used semantic radicals (part of a Chinese character that carries the meaning to a word), a keyword, the pictorial representation of the semantic radical and a list that contains all the characters with the radical covered in the syllabus. The sentence card deck is created using common sentence structures and expressions in Chinese. Both resources are created with reference to the MOE Primary School Chinese syllabus so that it is both relatable and applicable to our students.

The teachers found the resources developed at SES useful for their students and would like to adopt some of them into practice in school also. Throughout the session, there were meaningful exchanges between the teachers with inputs from the NIE lecturers. The teachers shared that they look forward to having more of such talks in their schools and would want to find out how learners with specific learning difficulties can be supported in other areas as well. The session ended with the MOE teachers feeling enriched and the SES Chinese teachers encouraged. We sure do look forward to collaborations together in time to come!

PRESCHOOL LITERACY PROFILING TEST FOR K1 - K2 STUDENTS IN 2016 Does your child have difficulty with READING, SPELLING OR WRITING?



teh or the? saw or was?

Is your child having problems with letter formation or sequencing, or learning of sight words? Does he/she have poor handwriting or have trouble following multi-step directions or routines?

Come for our FREE Literacy Profiling Test*!

The screening will be conducted by our preschool early literacy intervention team. Our professionals will address your concerns about your child's literacy development and share with you help that is available.





SCREENING DETAILS:

Wednesday, 16 March 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Tampines Completing Centre Blk 163 Tampines Street 12, #01-257 Singapore 521163

Wednesday, 1 June 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Rex House Learning Centre 73 Bukit Timah Road #05-01, Rex House Singapore 229832

Wednesday, 23 November 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Chua Chu Kang Learning Centre Blk 17 Teck Whye Lane, #01-167 Singapore 680017

*This screening test is not meant to serve as a diagnosis for dyslexia but it will give you a picture on the learning needs of your child.



DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE **TO REGISTER: 6444 5700**

(Office hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5:30pm) Limited slots available! Registration is required.



How did you feel when your name was announced as the Educational Therapist of the year for 2015?

I was taken aback and surprised.

What gives you great joy in teaching students with dyslexia?

Being able to apply what I have learnt in the classroom and seeing improvements in my students' ability to read and write. Of course, there were other transformations that gave me much satisfaction too. I had quiet students who became more vocal and articulate when their selfconfidence improved; and a student with poor attendance changed to one who was always early and even turned up for class when he was not feeling well. It also warmed my heart to know that I had a student who did not want to graduate because he enjoyed attending DAS lessons.

What advice will you give your fellow Educational Therapists ?

There is a saying – no one is perfect. But that does not mean we cannot try to be a better person every day. I remember a law from my Girl Guide days – to exercise self-control in what I think, say and do. Being human, I do not always succeed. But, "no harm trying". I also think and reflect on this often, "Every day, I am a better person in every way."

In the classroom, we attempt to teach our students some virtues by incorporating them into our

Miranda Chng DAS EDUCATIONAL THERAPIST OF THE YEAR 2015

classroom rules. I was taught by my mentors to keep the rules few, short and simple. Throughout the years, I kept changing the rules. But, in recent years, I just stuck to three and they are, PURPOSE, RESPECT, and DISCIPLINE. Students are reminded of their purpose of coming to DAS, the need to respect people and things around them and the need to have self-discipline during work and play.

Be patient – Do wait for our students to express themselves as some have slow processing capabilities. Do not rush to teach them too many concepts in a short period of time. It is important to strengthen their foundation before moving on.

Are there any challenges that you face as an Educational Therapist? How do you overcome these challenges?

Although there are many challenges that I face, I would like to name just one – LIMITED TIME. There are just too many things that I would like to do or need to do. Sometimes, things are not within my control, and rather than getting all worked up, I try to manage my expectations or make some sacrifices. In order to manage challenges I tell myself that I must keep myself healthy. With health, more things can be done. I hated it when I am unwell and unproductive. So, setting aside time for exercise and keeping fit (not forgetting proper nutrition) are arsenals to face these challenges.

5) Do you think this recognition award is important?

Certainly. It is a step forward to acknowledge the role of Educational Therapists in DAS.



How did you feel when your name was announced as the Educational Therapist of the year for 2015?

I was very surprised as I did not expect it at all!

What gives you great joy in teaching students with dyslexia?

Teaching students with dyslexia gives me a great sense of satisfaction. One of my greatest joys of being an Educational Therapist is to be able to make a positive impression on my students' lives. To be able to make a significant difference in both their emotional well-being and academic skills truly proves that this programme works well for our students.

What advice will you give your fellow Educational Therapists ?

I personally believe that a happy teacher makes a happy student. I would advise my colleagues to be gentle yet firm when communicating with our students. Positive energy would go a long way and our students are able to sense our vibes. Be warm and allow the students to feel safe, comfortable and free to express themselves and to be themselves, knowing that they would not be judged or penalised. The key to a successful student is a wonderful relationship between the student and his teacher.

Tarsheeni Tania Rajoo DAS EDUCATIONAL THERAPIST OF THE YEAR 2015

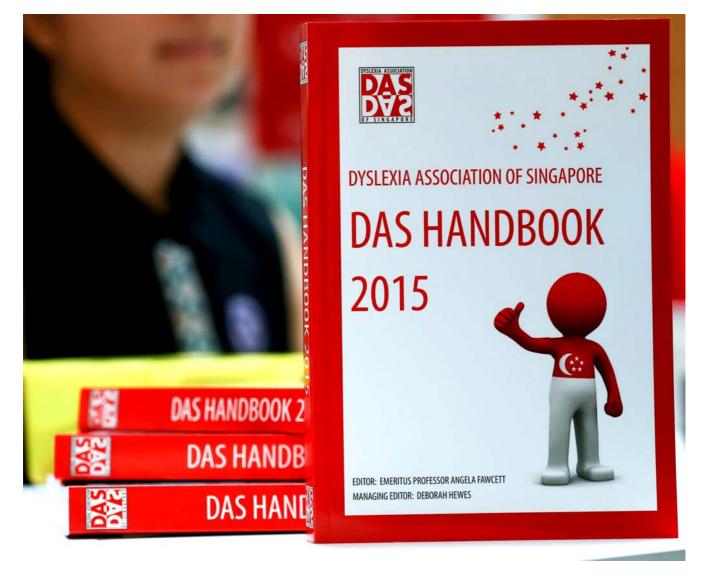
Are there any challenges that you face as an Educational Therapist? How do you overcome these challenges?

Yes, certainly there are challenges that I face as an Educational Therapist. One of them being the challenge of raising my students' self-esteem. In order to do this, I must first build a positive rapport with the child, get to know who they are, their background, their challenges, their home and school setting, so that I can understand them better. Once I understand this, I will know what the underlying issue is that is causing the low morale in them.

Gaining their trust and celebrating their milestones play a huge part in boosting their self-esteem.

Do you think this recognition award is important?

I certainly believe that this award is important and gives our Educational Therapists a sense of accomplishment and recognition.



Hot off the Press! DAS HANDBOOK 2015

By Deborah Hewes Head of Publicity and Publications

The next issue of DAS Handbook 2015 is now available at DAS Learning Centres and will be on sale at the UnITE SpLD 2016 Conference.

The DAS Handbook is a collection of articles, essays, research, case studies and practical information for people with dyslexia and for the professionals who work with them to help them embrace dyslexia.



UnITE SpLD 2016 CONFERENCE

Lifelong Learning Institute 11 Eunos Road 8 Singapore 408601

Thursday, 23 June 2016 | 9:00am - 5:30pm

Uniting Ideas in Teaching Excellence—Research Worth Sharing

The UnITE SpLD Conference seeks to bring together parents, teachers and practitioners working with children with specific learning difficulties and special educational needs. This conference will be showcasing research that covers aspects of behavioural, literacy and social emotional support, intervention and assessment for children with special learning needs. Research will be presented it short, engaging and entertaining sessions accompanied by poster presentations and the chance to talk directly with researchers who are making a difference in the Asian region.





CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

	MORNING BREAKOUT RESEARCH SHARING SESSIONS			AFTERNOON BREAKOUT RESEARCH SHARING SESSIONS		
INTRODUCTION	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SESSION 4	SESSION 5	SESSION 6
& RESEARCH SHARING SESSION	Early Identification and Intervention / Self Esteem	Reading Comprehension	Non-English Research	Reading, Spelling & Writing Difficulties / Learning Strategies	Dyslexia and Related Difficulties	Intervention
ANGELA FAWCETT Emeritus Professor	ALBERT LEE Senior Educational	JOHN EVERATT Professor of Education	PROF. AKIRA UNO College of Human Sciences	DR ONG PUAY HOON Associate Professor	KWOK FU YU Doctoral Student at	ELEONORA PALMIERI Director of Psychological
DAS Research Consultant, UK	Therapist, Dyslexia Association of Singapore	University of Canterbury, New Zealand	University of Tsukuba, Japan	Dyslexia Association of Sarawak, Malaysia	Nanyang Technological University	and Pedagogical Victor Centre Macerata, Italy
GEETHA SHANTHA RAM Director of MOE-aided DAS Literacy Programme & Staff Professional	WONG KAH LAI Preschool Programme Manager Dyslexia Association of	DR LIM BOON HOCK Special Education Consultant, Malaysia	NANDINI CHATTERJEE SINGH Professor, National Brain Research Centre Manesar,	DR SHARANJEET KAUR Professor Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	PRISCILLIA SHEN Director Undergraduate Programmes & Assistant Head	EDMEN LEONG English Exams Skills Programme Manager Dyslexia Association of
Development	Singapore		Research Centre Manesar, India		DAS Academy	Singapore
LOIS LIM	PUSHPAA ARUMUGAM	PATRICIA MUI HOON NG	DR KRISTIANTINI DEWI	NUR ALIA SALIM	HANI ZOHRA MUHAMAD	NICOLE CHUA
Assistant Director, Admissions, MAP Dyslexia Association of Singapore	Assistant Director, SES Enrichment Programme Dyslexia Association of Singapore	Part-time Consultant at National Institute of Education, Singapore	SOEGONDO Pediatrician, Chairwoman of Dyslexia Association of Indonesia	Senior Educational Therapist Dyslexia Association of Singapore	Educational Advisor Dyslexia Association of Singapore	Senior Educational Therapist Dyslexia Association of Singapore
JUNE SIEW Head of DAS Academy Director of Postgraduate Programmes	WEN-SI YANG PhD Research Student at National Institute of Education	DR TAN WAH PHEOW Lecturer, Diploma in Psychology Studies, Temasek Polytechnic	PROF. AKIRA UNO College of Human Sciences University of Tsukuba, Japan	CHRISTINA CHIA Specialist Teacher Singapore	HO SHUET LIAN Senior Speech and Language Therapist Dyslexia Association of	REBECCA YEO Senior Educational Therapist Dyslexia Association of

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



UNITE SPLD 2016 RESEARCH WORTH SHARING CONFERENCE PROGRAMME		UnITE SpLD 2016 — CONFERENCE RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS			
		Introduction	Delayed Neural Commitment and Strengths in Dyslexia. <i>By Angela Fawcett</i>	Blessed by Dyslexia: The Educator's Role in Developing the Potential. <i>By June Siew</i>	
8:30am 9:00am	Registration Arrival of Guest of Honour	& Research Sharing Session	Moving forward with Dyslexia Support in Singapore. By Geetha Shanth Ram	Reading and Spelling gains following one year of Orton-Gillingham intervention in Singaporean students with dyslexia. <i>By Lois Lim</i>	
9:00am 9:10am	Welcome Address Speech by Guest of Honour	Session 1 Early	Self Evaluations of Children with Specific Learning Difficulties.	Dyslexia and Drama in Education. By Pushpaa Arumugam & Muzdalifah Hamzah	
	Angela Fawcett Delayed neural commitment and strengths in dyslexia June Siew	Identification and Intervention / Self Esteem	By Albert Lee Helping kindergarten children at risk of dyslexia achieve school readiness in Singapore: Is the length of intervention related to outcomes? By Wong Kah Lai	Do Nursery Rhymes Benefit Children with Learning Disabilities? What Studies Show. <i>By Yang Wen-S</i> i	
	Blessed by Dyslexia: The Educator's Role in Developing the Potential	Session 2	Underlying skills related to reading comprehension weaknesses among English language learners. <i>By John Everatt & Amir Sadeghi</i>	Reading Comprehension for Children with Hyperlexia - A Scaffolding Method. <i>By Patricia Mui Hoon Ng</i>	
9:20am to 11:00am	Lois Lim Reading and spelling gains following one year of Orton- Gillingham intervention	Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension Problems in Children with Dyslexia and Hyperlexia: Are They the Same? By Boon Hock Lim and Noel Kok Hwee Chia	Effects of Font Properties on Reading Performance of Individuals with Dyslexia. <i>By Dr Tan Wah Pheow</i>	
in Singaporean students with dyslexia	Session 3	Investigation of Cognitive Factors Affecting the English and Filipino Reading and Spelling Literacy of Third-grade Filipino Children.	Screening and intervention for dyslexia in Indonesia—Developing the Lexipal Program. By <i>Kristiantini Dewi Soegondo</i>		
11:00am	Moving forward with Dyslexia Support in Singapore Morning Tea Break	Non-English Research	By Akiro Uno and Lhannie Estrera DALI: Dyslexia Assessment for Languages of India. By Nandini Chatterjee Singh	Adaptation of Double-Deficit Hypothesis on reading and spelling difficulty in Japanese speaking children -Study on 3rd grade children.	
11:30am To	Concurrent Sessions 1, 2 & 3: • Event Halls 1 & 2 • Lecture Theatre	Session 4 Reading, Spelling & Writing	Use of the ubiquitous bottle caps to enhance phonological processing among struggling and poor readers. Dr Ong Puay Hoon	By Akiro Uno and Fumie Shibuya Teachers' Perceptions on the Effectiveness of a Process Genre Approach on the Writing Skills of Students with Dyslexia. By Nur Alia Bte Salim	
1:00pm 1:00pm	Research Sharing Sessions - 12 Topics Lunch and Networking	Difficulties / Learning Strategies	Reading performance using ChromaGen lens II in dyslexic children with low and high visual stress levels. By Sharanjeet Kaur & Mizhanim Mohamad Shahimin	The potential of working memory training on students with dyslexia. By Christina Chia	
2:00pm Concurrent Sessions 4, 5 & 6:	Session5	Understanding the Dyslexic Brain of children in Singapore. <i>By Kwok Fuyu</i>	Dyslexia with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: A case study. By Hani Zohra Muhamad		
to 3:30pm	Lecture Theatre Research Sharing Sessions - 12 Topics Dyslexia and Related Difficulties		Dyslexia and Chinese Language in Singapore. By Priscillia Shen	Speech and Language Therapy helps Dyslexic Children achieve. <i>By Ho Shuet Lian</i>	
3:30pm	Afternoon Tea Break		Improving the fluidity of whole word reading with a dynamic co-ordinated movement approach. By Eleonora Palmieri	The Impact of Morphological Intervention on Spelling and Self Esteem in Adolescents with Dyslexia. <i>By Nicole Chua</i>	
4:00pm 5:00pm	Panel Discussion - Q & A Dyslexia in the 21st Century Close of Conference	Session 6 Intervention	Improving English exam skills for dyslexics in primary education in Singapore. By Edmen Leong	Evaluating the progress of dyslexic children on a small-group maths intervention programme. By Rebecca Yeo	

Asia Pacific Journal of Developmental Differences	Volume 1 • Number 1 • Pages 1—114 • January 2014	www.das.org.sg
Asia Pacific Journal of Developmental Differences	Volume 1 • Number 2 • Pages 115-252 • July 2014	www.das.org.sg
Asia Pacific Journal of Developmental Differences	Volume 2 • Number 1 • Pages 1—111 • January 2015	www.das.org.sg
Asia Pacific Journal of Developmental Differences	Volume 2 • Number 2 • Pages 112-276 • July 2015	www.das.org.sg
Asia Pacific Journal of Developmental Differences	Volume 3 • Number 1 • Pages 1—169 • January 2016	www.das.org.sg

UnITE SpLD 2016 Research Worth Sharing

Conference Tickets

	Early Bird Tickets Closes on 20 May 2016	Standard Tickets After Early Bird Closes on 20 May 2016
Single Tickets	\$98	\$109
Group Tickets (Minimum 5 pax)	\$87	\$98

Special Rates for DAS Members

DAS Parents & Students, DAS Student Alumni, RETA Members, Higher Learning Students (Student Identification Required)

DAS Members - \$50

Register now on www.das.org.sg

For more information, call us at 6444 5700

(Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:30pm)







DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE

MAP ADMISSIONS

Where the learner's profile is drawn up and placement into programme is recommended.

- Assessments
- Profiling of students
- Recommendations for intervention



MAP QUALITY ASSURANCE

MOE-aided DAS Literacy Programme

Where the learner's progress is monitored and abilites furthered through support.

- Progress monitoring
- Placement support Quality standards in teaching

MAP INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

Where the learner participates in collaborative learning through the integrated curriculum.

- Group-based individualised intervention
- Use of Technology
- Phonics, vocabulary, reading fluency / comprehension and writing



"We brought our daughter to DAS for a psychological assessment for dyslexia in late 2014. We were referred to Ms Tan Lyn Lee Jae. Ms Tan was not only highly intuitive in her assessment, she was very approachable and affable and went out of her way to address all of our concerns and gueries. We are very grateful to Ms Tan for the support she has offered to us as parents who were learning something relatively new about our daughter's learning profile. All in all, we found the level of service offered by DAS beyond satisfactory." - Parent of a primary school student



DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION **OF SINGAPORE** HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE



6444 5700 info@das.org.sg







facebook.com/dysSG

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS Does your child for FREE! have difficulty with READING, SPELLING OR WRITING?



Is your child **frustrated** about school and studying or has **difficulty** understanding text passages?

Come for our FREE Computerised Screening

We understand your concerns and would like to invite you to meet our multi-disciplinary team of professionals. We will explain the results of your child's computerised screening test thoroughly and advise you on the suitable support available.



SCREENING DETAILS:

Thursday, 17 March 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Tampine Completing Centre Blk 163 Tampines Street 12, #01-257 Singapore 521163

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Thursday, 2 June 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Rex House Learning Centre 73 Bukit Timah Road #05-01, Rex House Singapore 229832

Friday, 9 September 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Jurong Point Learning Centre 1 Jurong West Central 2 #05-01, Jurong Point Singapore 648886

Tuesday, 22 November 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Chua Chu Kang Learning Centre Blk 17 Teck Whye Lane, #01-167 Singapore 680017



DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE

TO REGISTER: 6444 5700

(Office hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5:30pm) Limited slots available! Registration is required.







S upport for my child







Let's Master MMA RYW

Learn how to reduce a large chunk of text into primary text - the gist, the key ideas and the main points.

In this workshop, students will learn how to:

- Strike away redundant and not-on-the-subject explanations and examples. .
- Extract the important elements from a piece of text.
- Seek key words and phrases that manage to capture the gist.
- Save the main ideas and crucial details that support the summary question.
- Do the summary in as few words as possible.

Limited to 12 students only, sign up now!

Workshop Details

Date: Mon & Tues, 30 & 31 May 2016 Time: 2:30pm - 5pm For: Secondary 3 & 4 students \$80 Fee:

Tampines Learning Centre Venue: Blk 163 Tampines Street 12 #01-257 Singapore 521163

Cancellation Policy:

• 50% refund if 14 or more days notice is given prior to start of workshop
• 0% refund if less than 14 days notice is given prior to start of workshop
Should the workshop be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, participants will be duly notified and a full refund will be issued. To withdraw from the class, please email us at holidayworkshop@das.org.sg



To register for the workshop, please visit www.ses.org.sg or call 6643 9600.

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the **Dyslexia Association of Singapore.**



Specialised

10AM - 12:30PM / P1 - P4 / \$145.00 DAS ANG MO KIO Anderson Primary School, 19 Ang Mo Kio Ave 9 Indoor Sports Hall, #01-25 S569785 SPEAKUP SPEAKUP DRAMA FOR ORAL DRAMA FOR ORAL

MON - WED, 30, 31 MAY & 1 JUN

Drama activities are known to have direct impact on oral communication skills. This workshop is designed for students who have difficulties expressing themselves verbally. They will learn communication techniques with an emphasis on body language, voice and speech, vocal dynamics, expression and word/sentence crafting and presenting to an audience. Students will participate in activities such as Role Play, Impromptu Speaking, Persuasive Speaking and dramatisation of a given stimuli, which will encourage them to speak confidently.

At the end of the workshop, students will:

- Develop effective communication skills
- Build self-esteem and confidence
- Increase proficiency in the English language
 Learn to work in a team
- Explore creativity and imagination
- learn to work in a team
- And above all have FUN!

To register: **www.ses.org.sg** For more information, please call **6643 9600** or email **holidayworkshops@das.org.sg**.



Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

/RITE COMPC

Recommended for PSLE Students!

Lack of ideas? Writing Lack Structure? Need help interpreting Composition Questions?

- Gain skills in breaking down model stories and recreating stories through hands-on and game-like activities
- Learn how to attempt Composition Questions from the new PSLE syllabus
- Construct gramatically correct sentences and write power sentences! .

Limited to 6 students only, register now to avoid disappointment!

Workshop Details

Date: Tues - Thurs, 31 May - 2 June 2016 Time: lpm - 3pm Primary 5 to 6 students For: Fee: \$148

Bishan Learning Centre Venue: 9 Bishan Place #06-03 Bishan Junction 8 Singapore 579839

Cancellation Policy:

- 50% refund if 14 or more days notice is given prior to start of workshop
- O% refund if less than 14 days notice is given prior to start of workshop
 Should the workshop be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, participants will be duly notified and a full refund will be issued. To withdraw from the class, please email us at holidayworkshop@das.org.sg

Specialised Educational Services LOCKING POTENTIA

To register for the workshop, please visit www.ses.org.sg or call 6643 9600.

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.



INTERACTIVE READING COMPREHENSION FOR PRESCHOOLERS

TUE, 31 MAY / 10AM - 12:30PM K1 - K2 / \$30.00

DAS BISHAN 9 Bishan Place, #06-03 Bishan Junction 8 S579837 DAS JURONG POINT 1 Jurong West Central 2 #05-01, Jurong Point S648886

Is your little learner already reading? Let us teach your child the tricks of the trade in remembering and understanding what he or she is reading in this workshop. We have everything from classifying challenges to story sequencing exercises, listening to audio books, movement activities and a "Record My Reading" series that is both fun and engaging for your child.

To register: **www.ses.org.sg** For more information, please call **6643 9600** or email **holidayworkshops@das.org.sg**.

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.



Specialised Educational Services

MATHS: SOLVING PROBLEMS CONFIDENTLY

WED, 1 JUN / 10AM - 12:30PM P5 - P6 (STANDARD) \$45.00 DAS BISHAN

9 Bishan Place, #06-03 Bishan Junction 8 S579837

Your child will learn how to apply structured corresponding problem solving strategies to break down complex high frequency concepts. They will also have access to appropriate materials to help them understand and gain confidence in handling difficult maths problems.

> To register: **www.ses.org.sg** For more information, please call **6643 9600** or email **holidayworkshops@das.org.sg**.





HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE

Specialised Educational Services

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

PREPARE FOR COURSE SELECTION AND JOB INTERVIEW WITH CONFIDENCE

Get one step ahead in making that lasting impression!

Designed for secondary and post-secondary school students in mind, our Speech and Language Therapists are here to equip students with a step-by-step approach in scaling through tertiary course interviews or even part-time job interviews.

Wed & Thu, 1 & 2 Jun

Time	2pm - 5pm
Level	15 - 18 years old
Venue	DAS Bishan Learning Centre 9 Bishan Place, #06-03 Bishan Junction 8 S579837
Fee	\$118.00

Date

To register: www.ses.org.sg For more information, please call 6643 9600 or email holidayworkshops@das.org.sg.



Specialised Educational Services

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

Is it possible to train your brain? Does your kid forget things easily? Does your kid take some time to respond or to process information?

Join us for a fun filled workshop where we explore many activities that target selective cognitive skills. The workshop help students explore how they can use visual perception & manipulation, visualisation, working memory, problem-solving skills, processing speed & attention to achieve greater brain power.

We guarantee a fun-filled time with many hands-on activities. Join us and be amazed at what the Brain can do! Limited spots of only 10 students per session, register now!

For Primary 2 - 3 students

Wed, 22 June 2016 Date: Time: llam - lpm Chua Chu Kang Learning Centre Venue: Blk 17 Teck Whye Lane #01-157 Singapore 680017 Fee: \$36

For Primary 4 - 6 students

Mon, 20 June 2016 Date: Time: llam - lpm Bedok Learning Centre Venue: Fengshan Primary School 307 Bedok North Road Singapore 469680 Fee: \$36

Cancellation Policy:

50% refund if 14 or more days notice is given prior to start of workshop

O% refund if less than 14 days notice is given prior to start of workshop
 Should the workshop be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, participants will be duly notified and a full refund will be issued. To withdraw from the class, please email us at holidayworkshop@das.org.sg

Specialised Educational Services LOCKING POTE

To register for the workshop, please visit www.ses.org.sg or call 6643 9600.

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.



ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE MADE EASY



to transform sentences from active to passive voice and vice-versa for the synthesis and transformation component in PSLE English Paper 2.

WED, 22 JUN / 10AM - 12:30PM P5 - P6 (FOUNDATION) \$30.00

DAS TAMPINES

Blk 163 Tampines St 12, #01-257 S521163

To register: **www.ses.org.sg** For more information, please call **6643 9600** or email **holidayworkshops@das.org.sg**.



DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE Specialised Educational Services

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

Learn how you can support children with Specific Learning Differences

The DAS Academy is a Private Education Institution (PEI) registered with the Council for Private Education (CPE), and has achieved a 4-year validity period, under the council's Enhanced Registration Framework.

Led by a multi-disciplinary team that has extensive experience in providing direct support to people with specific learning differences (SpLD), the lecturers are able to use their skills and expertise in the design and delivery of the programmes offered by the DAS Academy. These programmes provide an academic pathway in the field of SpLD from foundation to postgraduate levels.

Having established a good professional standing in the field of SpLD, Das Academy works in collaboration with the government, educational and professional bodies to empower individuals who wish to make a difference in the lives of people with SpLD. What We Offer:
✓ Certificate Courses
✓ Workshops*
✓ Specialist Diploma
✓ Masters

*Caregivers Training Grant (CTG) is available for some workshops. Caregivers can tap on to a \$200 annual subsidy to attend the courses, with a copayment of \$10 required. Please call 6336 2555 to find out more.

Call 6336 2555 or visit www.dasacademy.edu.sg



DAS Academy

ENABLING EXCELLENCE

CPE Registration No.: 201003689Z | Validity: 30 December 2013 - 29 December 2017 DAS Academy Ltd: 73 Bukit Timah Road, #05-01 Rex House, Singapore 229832 **T** 6336 2555 | **F** 6643 9643 | **www.dasacademy.edu.sg**

Upcoming Certificate Courses & Workshops www.dasacademy.edu.sg



MAY 2016

Study Smart: Effective Study Skills for Your Child 28 May - 9.30am to 12.30pm

Understanding Screening Tools for Reading Fluency and Comprehension (YARC) 5 May - 2.00pm to 5.00pm

> **Certificate in Understanding Speech and Language Impairment** Commencing on 28 May - 9.30am to 4.30pm

Certificate in Supporting SpLD Learners in FEHE Commencing on 30 May - 9.30am to 5.30pm



JULY 2016

Mind Your Grammar 2 July - 9.30am to 12.30pm

Understanding Phonics Instructions 23 July - 9.30am to 5.00pm

> **Coping with Spelling** 30 July - 9.30am to 5.00pm

Advanced Certificate in Dyslexia and Literacy Teaching Commencing on 12 July - 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Certificate in Dyslexia and Chinese Language Support Commencing on 12 July - 9.30am to 12.30pm

AUGUST 2016

Developing Writing Skills 13 Aug - 9.30am to 12.30pm



SIGN UP NOW 6336 2555

www.dasacademy.edu.sg

CERTIFICATE IN DYSLEXIA AND LITERACY TEACHING



the English Language.

persons with language processing problems associated with dyslexia.

and experiential learning professional development.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY ABOUT THE COURSE

"Some of the English rules that I have never come across were introduced, and this has helped me to support my learner when needed." - Educator, 2015 April

"It helps parents of dyslexic kids to teach them in a more systematic way." - DAS Parent, 2014 August

"Gives me a very clear understanding to improving the language usage." - Educator, 2014 August

"It is useful for someone who needs to support her child as it answers the 'why' that surfaced during the learning process." - DAS Parent, 2015 April



DAS Academy ENABLING EXCELLENCE CPE Registration No.: 201003689Z | Validity: 30 December 2013 - 29 December 2017 DAS Academy Ltd: 73 Bukit Timah Road, #05-01 Rex House, Singapore 229832 T 6336 2555 | F 66439643 | www.dasacademy.edu.sg



Understanding Why People Learn Differently

A comprehensive six-module course, that provides instruction on basic and advanced practical teaching concepts and strategies, in addition to insights on understanding numeracy difficulties, speech and language impairments, and elements of educational psychology.

Every learner is unique, what can you do to tailor to their needs?

Indiana India Indiana India Indiana Indiana India Indi

SPECIALIST DIPLOMA IN SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFERENCES



A unique collaboration between the University of South Wales and the DAS Academy, the Master of Arts in Special Educational Needs (MA SEN) provides an intellectually rigorous platform for practitioners to engage in critical reflection and enhance their research skills.

Delivered at the DAS Academy, the programme has its foundation in the University's well established SEN framework and is enhanced with local perspectives to ensure relevance to the Singaporean context, bringing together quality SEN practices from the East and the West.

The programme enables practitioners working with people with special educational needs, or those in education-related fields to develop professionally and distinguish themselves in the growing field of special educational needs.

OUR VISION

Nurturing individuals with learning differences to achieve success and impact society positively.

OUR MISSION

Unlocking the potential of individuals with learning differences.

The Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore which aims to uncover the true strengths of individuals with learning differences and empower them with the necessary skills and strategies to succeed.

We are a dedicated team of professionals who are committed to delivering a quality service focusing on the needs of the individual and striving to bring out their very best.



Specialised Educational Services

Find out more: www.ses.org.sg 6444 5700



Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

PROGRAMMES	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.	Preschool Chinese Essential Maths English Exam Skills Specialist Tutoring Speech and Drama Arts Bridging
— THERAPY	1.	Speech and Language
ASSESSMENTS	1. 2. 3.	Multi-Professional Team Psycho-educational Speech and Language Therapy
WORKSHOP & OTHER SERVICES	1. 2.	Holiday Workshops Professional Support Service

Screen your child for dyslexia

FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS Does your child (\$60 Screening Fee have difficulty with

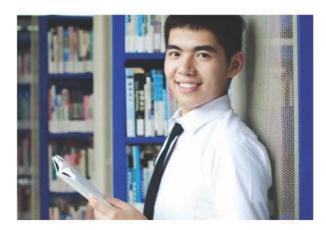
READING, SPELLING ... WRITING?



Is your child **frustrated** about school and studying or has **difficulty** understanding text passages?

Take our Dyslexia Screening Test!

Our **DAS Specialist Psychologists** will test your child for reading, spelling and phonological skills using standardised achievement tests. They will also speak with you about the results and a brief report will be provided. The test and discussion should take about 30 minutes.



teh or the? saw or was?

SCREENING DETAILS:

Wednesday, 16 March 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Tampines COMPLETED Centre Bik 163 Tampines Street 12, #01-257 Singapore 521163

Wednesday, 1 June 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Rex House Learning Centre 73 Bukit Timah Road #05-01, Rex House Singapore 229832

Thursday, 8 September 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Jurong Point Learning Centre 1 Jurong West Central 2 #05-01, Jurong Point Singapore 648886

Wednesday, 23 November 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm Chua Chu Kang Learning Centre Blk 17 Teck Whye Lane, #01-167 Singapore 680017



TO REGISTER: 6444 5700

(Office hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5:30pm) *Screening fee can be used to offset the full cost of assessment.

SPEECH AND DRAMA ARTS PROGRAMME

Specialised Educational Services

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

The aim of the SES Speech and Drama Arts Programme is to develop literacy, communication and presentation skills and boost the self-esteem of learners with dyslexia. Drama can be a powerful tool to help students with learning differences.

OUR APPROACH

Using drama activities, students have the opportunity to enhance their persuasiveness and confidence in communication and is designed to help:

- Freedom of expression
- Use of imagination and creativity
- Communication skills
- Role-playing and stage performances
- Learn to understand, interpret and process script
- Exercise their working memory and processing speed

The students will also learn the fundamentals of stage directions, character dialogues, music and light cues. Class sizes are kept to a maximum of 10 students and are conducted once a week in a 1.5 hour session.





Find out more: www.ses.org.sg 6444 5700

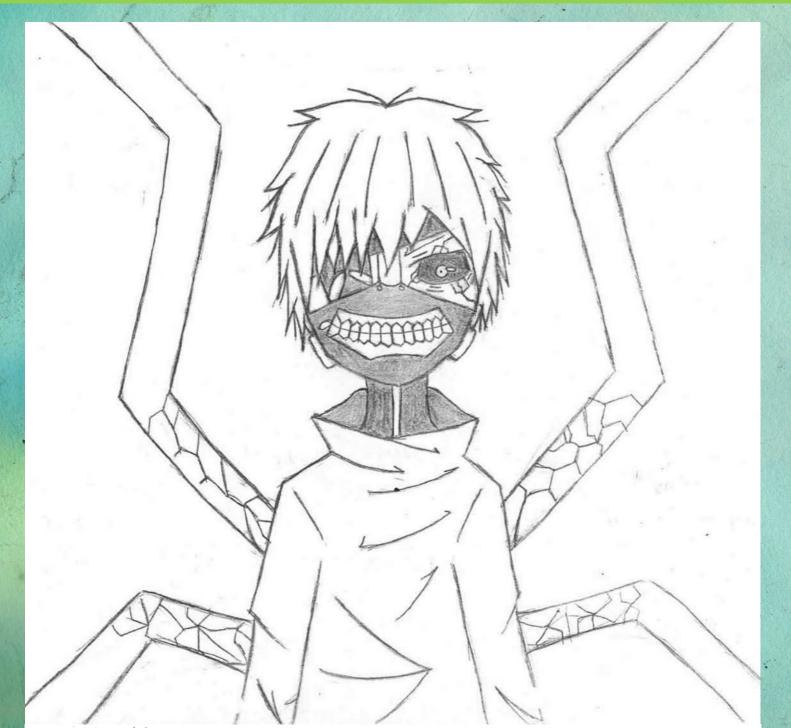


RECOMMENDED FOR

Students with low self-esteem or low self-confidence, students who have difficulties expressing themselves as well as students who enjoy drama.

ENTRY CRITERIA All primary school students are welcome to enrol.

Specialised Educational Services (SES) is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.



this character is base on se popular anime called to kyo ghoul and his name is kaneki ken a Halt human Half ghows. His was just a normal human when he got tricked by a ghoul. She tried to eat him but fail but

he was badly injured and had to transfer the Organs from the ghout to him and thous when he became a Half human, Haif ghout. A ghout can only eat humans and only drink coffee because when ghouts eat human food they will taske ashos in their mourn. Not knowing when to do he doined a place called an teleu because a girl force him to doin a cut the story short he was kisnap and torthere but in the end he fights the person who kisnap him and won, in the end he left anteiku and doin a better place to become Stronger to protect his friends in anteiky.

Ryan Ang, Submitted by Ms. Joanne Tan Shi Huey, Jurong Point Learning Centre



Student Gallery

/riters

Feature: Narrative writing using 'Show Not Tell' technique to describe a student being reprimanded by her teacher for not completing her homework.

Angel a bright, pretty red head fixed her sparkly blue gaze on Miss Law. Miss Law stalked into class, one hand carrying her plain black laptop bag and the other clutching her always present clipboard. Her long, straight chestnut brown hair was tied up into a tight bun at the back of her head. Her tanned skin glowed in the morning sun. As she set her bag down and sunk into the comfortable teacher's chair, her facial expression ad body language immediately showed the class that she was upset.

"Better to rip the bandage off early," Angel thought to herself.

After a few minutes of working up courage, she walked daintily towards the teacher's desk, acting all prim and proper as usual as she tucked her hands neatly into the pockets of her pinafore. When she reached Miss Law's desk, she put on her best apologetic face.

"I... I'm sorry. Yesterday I had a lot of tuition homework to do and... "Angel just threw out the first lame excuse that came to her mind.

"Excuses, excuses! How many times are you going to give me that same excuse?" Miss Low interrupted at the top of her voice.

"Argh!" "Boom!" A hardcover book slammed onto Angel's head, destroying her perfect hairstyle.

"Oww!" Angel screeched at the top of her lungs.

Angel, trembling in fear, trying to look as invisible as possible, backed away from the teacher's table. Her tears soaked her clothes, drowning herself in a world of fear and terror. Miss Law's face turned red with anger, her knuckles turned white from balling her hands up in a fist. Just by looking at her, you could already tell that she was doing everything in her power to keep from punching Angel in her pretty doll face.

Goh Melinda/ Primary 6 Parkway Parade Learning Centre (Submitted by Ms. Tuty Elfira Parkway Parade Learning Centre)



Describe People

Age

The robber seemed like he was in his mid-thirties.

Appearance

With an ugly permanent scar on his left cheek and unshaved beard, the fat and short robber was a fierce-looking man. He had flabby folds of fat underneath his arms. His fake frizzy black hair helped to ward off any suspicion about him.

Dressing

The robber wore a T-shirt with black and white stripes and dull grey pants with matching black shoes.

Character

He was a black-hearted robber who was a wolf in sheep's clothing. He looked suspicious and was walking around the room on tiptoe.

Ideas contributed by: Emma Goh (P5) Kendrek Low (P5) Ian Koh (P6) Bryan Law (P6)

Submitted by Shenmee Senior Educational Therapist (Bedok Learning Centre)





Many children are still struggling with dyslexia and attending classes at DAS. Many of these children come from low-income families and receive financial aid from DAS. Although our main remediation programme is co-funded by the Ministry of Education (MOE), we still need to raise more than \$600,000.00 this year to run services and programmes that are not funded by MOE.

We hope that you will support us in raising awareness about dyslexia and funds for DAS programmes. The donations raised will be used to subsidise the fees of programmes or services for low-income families. Eligible students currently receive bursaries between 30% and 100%, depending on the family's household income.

Dyslexia Association of Singapore: 1 Jurong West Central 2 #05-01 Jurong Point Singapore 648886 T 6444 5700 | F 6444 7900 | Hotline 6444 5700 | www.das.org.sg



DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

HELPING DYSLEXIC PEOPLE ACHIEVE

Give the Gift of Education Your Donation Will Change a Child's Life

Of the DAS' student population, almost 40% receive part or full waiver of their fees in view of their family's financial circumstances. In our continuous effort to provide the necessary support to dyslexic Singaporeans, the DAS regularly incurs annual operating deficits in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, even with assistance from the Ministry of Education's funding on a per capita basis. It is through public donations that we have been able to reduce this deficit.

Thank you for considering a monthly donation plan by GIRO

How to complete your GIRO Application

You only need to complete PART 1 of the GIRO form.

Billing Organisation: Please insert the current date or the date Date: this GIRO is to take effect. DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE **Donor Details: Donor Bank Details:** Financial Please print in clear letters your full name and The name of your Financial Institution where Name: the GIRO debit will be activated from. underline your surname. Institution: We require your NRIC so that we can send you a The Branch of the Financial Institution where NRIC: tax receipt for your kind donation. All donations Branch: your account is held. Eq. Orchard Branch. to DAS attract a 2.5 times tax receipt. The account holders name where the GIRO The address where we can contact you about Account Address: this GIRO and send your tax receipt. will be deducted. Name: Your phone number where we can contact you Account The Bank account number where the GIRO Contact No: for enquires about this GIRO. Number: will be deducted. Your email address where we can contact you The amount that you would like to donate Donation Email: for enquires about this GIRO. Amount: each month to DAS. Terms and Conditions of the GIRO

1. I/We hereby instruct you to process the Billing Organisation's instructions to debit my/our account.

 You are entitled to reject the Billing Organisation's debit instruction if my/our account does not have sufficient funds and charge me/us a fee for this. You may also at your discretion allow the debit even if this results in an overdraft on the account and impose charge accordingly.

3. This authorisation will remain in force until terminated by your written notice sent to my/our address last known to you or upon receipt of my/our written revocation through the Billing Organisation.

Signature(s):The signature (s) or thumbprint (s) as per your Financial Institutions records held for the account.Please note:For Thumbprints, please go to the branch with your identification.

Please return the completed GIRO application form to the above address or to any of our DAS Learning Centres. You will be notified by post when this GIRO arrangement is activated. We thank you for your kind support and generosity.



1 Jurong West Central 2 #05-01 Jurong Point Singapore 628886 T: +65 6444 5700 F: +65 6444 7900 Email: info@das.org.sg

Donation	Form –	GIRO	Ap	plication
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PART 1: For the Applicant's Completion: (See notes	s about comp	oleting this form overleaf)
Billing Organisation: DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE	Date:	
Donor Details:	Donor Bar	nk Details:
Name:	Financial Institution:	
NRIC:	Branch:	
Address:	Account Name:	
Contact No:	Account Number:	
Email:	Donation Amount:	
 I/We hereby instruct you to process the Billing Organisation's instruction. You are entitled to reject the Billing Organisation's debit instruction if You may also at your discretion allow the debit even if this results in a This authorisation will remain in force until terminated by your written written revocation through the Billing Organisation. 	my/our account in overdraft on t	does not have sufficient funds and charge me/us a fee for this the account and impose charge accordingly.
Signature(s):		
Part 2: For the Billing Organisation's Completion		

	Bo	Bank		Branch			Branch			Billing Organisation's Account No.						Bi	lling) Org	janis	atio	n's C	Cust	ome	er Re	fere	ence	No.		
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Part 3: For Financial Institution's Completion

To: Dyslexia Association of Singapore, 1 Jurong West Central 2, #05-01 Jurong Point, Singapore 648886

This Application is hereby REJECTED (please tick) for the following reasons (s):

Signature/Thumbprint* differed from Financial Institution's records	Signature/ Thumbprint* is incomplete or unclear	Wrong Account Number
Account operated by Signature/ Thumbprint*	Amendments not countersigned by applicant	Other:
* Delete where applicable		
Name of Approving Officer	Authorised Signature and Stamp o	of Financial Institution Date



Nessy Fingers is a powerful way to improve spelling by developing your memory for movement.

Age: 8+ years

\$45.00 for single user license



Nessy Learning Programme

enables all abilities to read, write and spell with confidence.

Age: 5 – 15 years

\$225.00 for single user license



Word Shark 4 combines the excitement of computer games with the serious task of learning to read and spell.

Age: 5 – 15 years

\$128.00 for single user license



Number Shark 4 teaches and reinforces numeracy using 45 carefully designed games, with over 500 topics to choose from.

Age: 5 – 16 years

\$108.00 for single user license



MindGenius 4 is ideal for students of all ages in planning essays, projects and reports as well as organising study notes and revising for exams.

Age: Above 12 years

\$135.00 for single user license



Global AutoCorrect is a discreet software tool that assists people with literacy difficulties by automatically correcting your spelling as you type.

Age: All Ages

\$119.00 for single user license



ClaroRead is a text-to-speech software integrated closely with Microsoft Word that supports individuals struggling with reading and writing.

Age: Above 5 years

\$326.00 for single user license

Grab one today!

www.dasacademy.edu.sg/teaching -tools/assistive-technologyresources.html

All DAS Parents will receive a 5% discount (All prices are subject to change)

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UNITE DESCENSION OF THE OFFICE OFFICE

RESEARCH WORTH SHARING

Unite Spld 2016 Conference Thursday, 23 June 2016 9:00AM TO 5:00PM

> REGISTER NOW WWW.DAS.ORG.SG

