

Our Ref: 119 16

Dear Parents/Carer

As you are aware, next week is Dyslexia Awareness Week 2016. Dyslexia affects one in ten people in the UK. Within our school community, we strive to recognise that dyslexia can affect individuals differently and seek to explore strategies of support for our students and staff. Dyslexia is the most common learning difference and throughout the week, we aim to deliver the message that having these difficulties does not hold you back in whatever you aim to do in life. We want to dispel any myths around dyslexia as well as other specific learning differences. We want to support our students, staff and parents to seek the right support and remove the barriers to learning. During the week, we will host a variety of events, activities, assemblies and workshops in order to raise awareness around specific learning differences and look forward to working with some very special guests!

Your son has been selected to take part in a workshop. This will mean that your son may miss some timetabled lessons during the week. It will be his responsibility to catch up on any class and/or homework that he may have missed. Students should take pride in the role which they will play within the workshop and understand that it is a great privilege to be working with such wonderful companies and individuals. If you have any questions or do not wish your son to take part in the selected workshop, please contact Mrs K Pritchard at school.

- Dyslexia Action

This is a drama based workshop being run by a representative from Dyslexia Action. Dyslexia Action is a national dyslexia charity with 40 years' experience in providing support to people with literacy and numeracy difficulties, dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties.

Students will gain an awareness of what it is like to have certain difficulties and how it would feel, as well as how they could support others. This will be held during Lesson 5 on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

- Faith Bebbington

Faith Bebbington has been a professional artist since 1994, with a studio base in Liverpool. She has a BA Hons Degree in Fine Art: Sculpture from Winchester School of Art 1986, as well as a Postgraduate Teaching Certificate in Art from Liverpool John Moores University 1992. Faith is also a member of the National Black Arts Alliance and is also a patron of Liverpool Dyslexic Association.

Students will produce a sculpture to represent dyslexia and the difficulties some may have and the frustration that may build up as a result. This workshop will be run on two full days to allow as many students to access it as possible. Your son has been selected to take part on:

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Everything produced from both workshops will be showcased during our Dyslexia Market Place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 between 3:30pm to 5:30pm. All parents should have received notification of this event already and it would be fantastic to see as many parents as possible supporting the event, whether your child has a diagnosis of dyslexia, generally struggles day to day or you simply wish to find out how to support your child's learning at home.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs K Pritchard**

**SENDCo**