



Europe's Children Our Concern asbl

Supporting children and young people with learning difficulties

Under the Patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Mathilde

“Together we can make a difference”

tel/fax +32 (0)2 537 48 36; e-mail ecoc@ecoc.be

website www.ecoc.be

ECOC Newsletter No. 75 – March 2009

If you have news that you would like us to pass on, or if you would like us to publicise an event or mention a resource that you have found useful, please send us the details: ecoc@ecoc.be.

For a quick read, just click on headings below to be taken straight to the relevant item.

[ECOC update](#)

[News from other organizations](#)

[Resources](#)

[Conferences and events](#)

ECOC – update

From our President, Richard “Chalks” Corriette

The Expatica Cafe: a new home for ECOC and a place to drop in for books...for a coffee...for a chat. We have been working with other organisations to provide a community base which will also be our home, and are pleased to announce that as from September 2009, you will be able to find us at:

The Expatica Cafe
Rue François Gay 152
Woluwe St Pierre
1150 Brussels

Currently under major renovation, the cafe will be a location where, seven days a week:

- The international and local community can meet to enjoy a coffee, a drink or a meal together. Business and personal networking is encouraged.
- People can go online for free
- Trainers and experts can deliver cost-effective workshops
- Non-profit organizations can host events, workshops and meetings

- Companies can host off-site workshops and meetings
- Entrepreneurs can develop and operate their business

We will let you know our September opening date as soon as that is established.

Dr Laurent Victoor, child and adolescent psychiatrist and specialist consultant for children, teenagers and adults with ADHD – and a popular speaker at our October 8 conference - will be running two workshops on May 7 and October 8 2009. See the Events section for full details.

ECOC's Annual General Meeting will be held in June at Autoworld in the Cinquantenaire Park. Date and time to be confirmed

News from other organizations

Dyslexia International, the Brussels-based not for profit organization, is developing free online learning for teachers. They are currently piloting a course, in French, at a Brussels teacher training establishment (Haute Ecole) Plans are also underway for the production of an English-language version. For more information about this, and about the 2010 World Dyslexia Forum, see www.dyslexia-international.org.

The European Dyslexia Association, who is organising the third All European Dyslexia Conference in April 2010, is calling for papers and workshop proposals on the subject of dyslexia and dyscalculia related to theory or practice. Deadline April 30. Length 250 words max. Languages: English, Dutch, German or French. For more information go to the website <http://www.khbo.be/eda-khbo-dyslexiaconference> and look at the "call for papers" section on the right-hand side.

The Anty Foundation, based in Hoeilaart, has just developed a huggable robot for children who are in hospital: a good example of their mission – to place technology at the service of children. For more about the foundation and its various activities go www.anty.org.

World Autism Awareness Day is on Thursday April 2. This will be the second such Day, which was designated by the United Nations in 2008.

Barrington Stoke, the UK publishers who specialize in story books for children with dyslexia, have been shortlisted as "Education Publisher of the Year 2009." For a full list of their titles, see www.barringtonstoke.com.

Dyslexia research - "détecter l'empreinte cérébrale de la dyslexie". ECOC member, Patricia Vandenplas, reports on an interesting article printed recently in Le Soir. It can be found on page 14 of the Sciences et Santé section, March 16 edition. www.lesoir.be.

Dr Mel Levine, The American paediatrician, author of "A Mind at a Time" and other books on learning disabilities, has signed a consent order agreeing that he will never again practice medicine in North Carolina or elsewhere. Dr Levine is currently facing a lawsuit accusing him of molesting young boys during physical examinations. For more information see the New York Times, Topics section, on http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/people//melvin_d_levine/index.html.

Resources

- books

By no means a definitive list, but a quick look at some new titles and other resources on offer.

Jessica Kingsley Publishers (www.jkp.com)

Appreciating Asperger Syndrome

Looking at the Upside – with 300 positive points

Author: Brenda Boyd, with foreword by Kenneth Hall.

Paperback, ISBN: 978-1-84310-625-8. 224pp, February 2009, £12.99/\$18.95

Getting your Kid on a Gluten-free Casein-Free Diet

Author: Susan Lord

Paperback, ISBN 978-1-84310-909-9. 192 pages, February 2009, £13.99/\$18.95

Managing Meltdowns

Using the S.C.A.R.E.D Calming Technique with children and adults with autism.

Authors: Deborah Lipsky and Will Richards

Paperback, ISBN: 978-1-84310-908-2 80pp, 2009, £9.99/\$14.95

Alphabet Kids – From ADD to Zellweger Syndrome

A guide to developmental, neurobiological and psychological disorders for parents and professionals

Author: Robbie Woliver

Hardback, ISBN 978-1-84310-880-1. 480pp, 2008, £22.50/\$29.95

Routledge Teachers (www.routledgeteachers.com)

Dyspraxia in the Early Years

Identifying and supporting children with movement difficulties

Author: Christine MacIntyre

Paperback, ISBN: 978-0-47684-3, 128pp, 2008, \$37.95

Olympia Publishers (<http://olympiapublishers.com>)

Back to the Sky

a journey to self control – physical, mental and spiritual.

Author: Emma Elliot

ISBN: 978-1-90551365-9 £7.99

Resources

- websites

NASEN (www.nasen.org.uk)

A good resource for people working with children with special educational needs. Check out the “What’s new” section for regularly updated information on a variety of issues – for example “meeting the challenges of Dyslexia and Dyspraxia”, updated on February 25 2009

ADHD (www.help4adhd.org)

See this website for their latest information sheets – “Teens with AD/HD” and “Parents of Teens with AD/HD”.

ADDIS (www.addiss-shop.com)

ADDIS is a UK-based organisation that provides information, training and support for parents, sufferers and professionals in the fields of ADHD and related learning and behavioural difficulties. They have recently launched this new website devoted to books and other resources.

ASK - All Special Kids (www.allspecialkids.org)

Check out the Kids Corner section of this website for a great list of resources.

The George Lucas Educational Foundation (www.edutopia.org)

Designed for American teachers employed in the public sector, this website nevertheless shares many common strategies and principles with teaching worldwide. It includes a magazine and an e-newsletter.

Waterstones, the booksellers

(www.waterstones.com/wat/images/special/mag/waterstones_dyslexia_action_guide.pdf)

Go to this link to download Waterstones' guide to producing dyslexia-friendly books for children.

Conferences and events

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

March 30 – April 1 2009

The 9th International ADDISS Conference

“The Spirit of ADHD: Resilience, Hope, Opportunity, Success”

Royal National Hotel

London, England.

Full details: www.addiss.co.uk

April 27 2009

An evening of 1-2-3 Magic – a behaviour management system for children – organised by ADHD/AS/Dyslexia Family Resources Brussels.

For full details contact adhdregister@gmail.com.

May 7 and October 8 2009

Two 2-hour evening workshops led by Dr Laurent Vicoor, at ECOC's request. The sessions will cover:

- i) the symptoms, the neurological origin of the disorder, its epidemiology and impact. Associated disorders and the method of diagnosis
- ii) the treatment, medication available and alternatives to medication.

The two sessions will be in French, with English translation provided. Venue and precise timing to be confirmed, www.ecoc.be

May 21 – 24 2009

Second International Congress on ADHD – from childhood to adult disease
Hofburg Congress Centre
Vienna, Austria
Full details: www.adhd-congress.org/home.html

October 9 – 10 2009

The 21st Annual CHADD International Conference
Cleveland Convention Center
Cleveland, Ohio, USA
Full details: www.chad.org

Autism**May 17 2009, Manchester, and May 25 2009, London**

Run for the National Autistic Society by joining a team for the BUPA Greater Manchester Run and/or the BUPA London 10,000.
Full details: www.autism.org.uk

Dyslexia**May 25 2009**

The 11th General Assembly of the European Dyslexia Association
Full details: www.dyslexia.eu.com

May 25 2009

Run for Dyslexia Action by joining a team for the BUPA London 10,000.
Full details: www.dyslexiaacton.org.uk

November 11 – 14 2009

IDA 60th Annual Conference
Orlando, Florida, USA
Full details: <http://interdys.org>

Special and Gifted Education**April 1 – 4 2009**

The CEC 2009 Convention and Expo
Seattle
Washington, USA
The latest issues in special and gifted education. Full details: www.cec.sped.org

Should you have any comments on the contents of this newsletter please do let us know. – ecoc@ecoc.be

ECOC bank account : 310-123-8787-86

IBAN: BE78-310-1238787-86 BIC: BBRUBEBB