



Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

A great way to finish the school year is with the Foundation and start 2025 with a boost.

Fall Semester Review

The Fall Semester was great! We had several students finish books and some who had perfect attendance. It is wonderful to see our students being successful. The Fall Semester is always a difficult one for both the students and their families because of all the school and outside activities that conflict with their normal family schedule. It is often a choice of choosing between school, Saturday school, and outside activities. With all the extra activities going on, a couple of our students, Briana Martinez Mudder and Joseph Mason, had Perfect Attendance. With all the distractions, we also had 4 students complete books:

Book A Book B

Mark Ruffle Briana Martinez Mudder
Seth Ruffle
Kaden Walker

Our program really works and the students and their dedication show it. I got a Christmas Card from a former student's mom. She writes that her son who was in the program many years ago and whose family had to move out of state is now attending Mississippi State University and will receive his Masters Degree at the end of the current semester. Well Done, Phillip!

Semester Thoughts (Continued on page 3)

Thoughts from the Prez



Well, another semester has come and gone and my favorite pastime at the Foundation has come around, "kid watching". Our kids are so special and so much fun to watch and talk to. The children who have been in the foundation for several years are an absolute delight to talk with. Even the newer students are getting to be full of themselves. We are all so blessed to be a part of the Foundation so we can watch the children change and get

more sure of themselves. When they start "Saturday School" they are shy and a bit timid. Then Ms. Linda gets them and, like a flower bud, they begin to open up. Next come our two Math supervisors who continue to nurture the students. These young ladies, Hailey and Victoria work their magic, and the students unfold a bit more. Then Auditory and Creative Writing get in the

Prez (Continued on page 2)

Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

January 4, 2025

Volume 25, Issue 1

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Spring 2025

New Parents Meeting	Jan 9
Application Deadline	Jan 11
Tutor Workshop	Jan 11
Student's First Day	Jan 18
Annual Meeting	TBD
Spring Break	March 15
Student's Last Day	April 12

Summer 2025

New Parents Meeting	May 22
Application Deadline	May 24
Tutor Workshop	May 24
Student's First Day	May 31
July 4 Holiday	July 5
Student's Last Day	Aug 23

Fall 2025

New Parents Meeting	Sept 4
Application Deadline	Sept 6
Tutor Workshop	Sept 6
Student's First Day	Sept 13
Thanksgiving Holiday	Nov 29
Student's Last Day	Dec 6

2025 Paid Members

Congratulations... You remembered... These *smart* people remembered that dues are due the first of *each year* and they are current paid members! Is your name here or did you forget? No problem you can send a check for \$20.00 or *more* to either:

Karen Carson		The Dyslexia Foundation
7532 Hatch Circle	or	P.O. Box 240792
Arlington, TN 38002		Memphis, TN 38124

.... and pay your dues today. Dues makes it possible for us to send you Our Dyslexia Newsletter and other mailings during the year

Carson, Cain & Karen
Fitzhugh, Linda
Landrum, Paula

May, Brenda
Perry, George & Rachel
Vining, Ann

Wolfe, Bob & Ann

Let's work together to make our list of paid members grow and GROW! (If you have sent in your check and your name is not here, please let us know — Errors do happen

Prez (Continued from page 1)

process. Rachel and Melissa really have a knack for helping the students bloom even further. Then, to complete the process, Ms. Landrum has the students to help them bloom and mature as confident, self-assured students. We are so lucky to have such dedicated supervisors and tutors who understand and care about our students and go the extra mile to help our students learn reading rules, math, Phonics, and how developing stories can be fun. I am the lucky one and so are the parents who tutor. We get to watch each of the students gain more self-esteem and confidence in themselves each Saturday.

For 55 years, the Memphis Dyslexia Foundation's Supervisors, tutors and parents have been helping children mature, self-assured, confident adults. With dedication and caring, we have worked wonders on all kinds of children and with your help and support, we will continue helping children. So, tell a friend, continue tutoring, and pray for our wonderful Supervisors, Tutors, and Students.

I hope you and your family had a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. Gratefully submitted,
Karen Carson, "The Prez"

Rick Riordan, author of the Percy Jackson series



"Dyslexic kids are creative, 'outside-the-box' thinkers. They have to be, because they don't see or solve problems the same way other kids do. In school, unfortunately, they are sometimes written off as lazy, unmotivated, rude or even stupid. They aren't. Making Percy dyslexic was my way of honoring the potential of all the kids I've known who have those conditions. It's not a bad thing to be different. Sometimes, it's the mark of being very, very talented." — RickRiordan.com



Stephen J. Cannell, Emmy-winning TV producer

"The real fear that I have for dyslexic people is not that they have to struggle with jumbled input or that they can't spell, but that they will quit on themselves before they get out of school. Parents have to create victories whenever they can, whether it's music, sports or art. You want your dyslexic child to be able to say: 'Yeah, reading's hard. But I have these other things that I can do.'" —

Newsweek

Graduates from Books



The following student completed a book during the 2024 Fall Semester:

Book A

Mark Ruffle
Seth Ruffle
Kaden Walker

Book B

Briana Martinez Mudder

When a student finishes a book they receive their choice of a trophy or a medallion at an award ceremony on the last day of school. These awards can be engraved for just a few dollars. We have an agreement with First Place Trophies to engrave these awards for a discounted price. Therefore should you wish to have the award your child chose engraved take it to 1st Place Awards, 377-9214 and be sure to tell them to give you the Dyslexia Foundation discount.

Semester Thoughts (Continued from page 1)

We are very proud of you. So when you feel that Saturday School is too much work getting your child there and having to tutor, keep in mind that there is a light at the end of the tunnel with a great payoff for your child. So just keep on keeping on and perhaps in a few years it will be your child receiving an advanced degree. I hope you and your family have a safe and prosperous New Year and continue to attend the Foundation, Karen.

Perfect Attendance



A big salute goes out to all those who did not miss any Saturdays during the entire Fall 2024 semester! Thanks for your dedication to the Foundation.

Students

Briana Martinez Mudder
Joseph Mason

Staff

Paula Landrum
Nora Sanders
Rachel Mudder
Hailey Wakefield
Karen Carson
Cain Carson

Quotes about Dyslexia

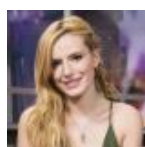


Whoopi Goldberg - "The advantage of dyslexia is that my brain puts information in my head in a different way"



Steven Spielberg, award-winning director
"It is more common than you can imagine. You are not alone. And while you will have this the rest of your life, you can dart between

the raindrops to get where you want to go and it will not hold you back." — *Friends of Quinn*



Bella Thorne, actress

"I have learned to live with it and make the best of it. I read all the time. When I was diagnosed with dyslexia, I was told to read everything from street signs to cereal boxes, and that my mom shouldn't read the menu for me. I should read it to her! It has helped a great deal. I am reading well, but it is something I work on every day." — *DoSomething.org*

20 Tips to Promote Positive Self-esteem

By Richard D. Lavoie, M.A., M.Ed.

A dynamic relationship exists between self-esteem and skill development. As a child improves in self-esteem, his academic competence increases. And as that competence increases, his self-esteem improves. The caring and concerned caregiver must come to realize that positive self-esteem is both a prerequisite and a consequence of academic success. Here are 20 tips to help foster a child's self-esteem:

- 1) Value each child as an individual with unique strengths, needs, interests and skills.
- 2) Focus on the child's strengths. Emphasize and celebrate his "islands of competence."
- 3) Reject the child's behavior, but never reject the child. Use affectionate terms and nicknames when scolding ("Your room is a mess, honey. Now turn off the TV and make your bed.").
- 4) Remember that sincere interest can be more effective and meaningful than praise. Demonstrate a genuine interest in their activities, hobbies, etc.
- 5) Establish realistic, achievable goals for your child. Anticipate success.
- 6) Avoid using sarcasm with kids - children with language problems often misinterpret it.
- 7) When discussing an issue or a problem, avoid bringing up past difficulties.
- 8) Never compare one child to another.
- 9) Help the child develop decision-making and problem-solving skills.
- 10) Understand that mistakes are an inevitable (and valuable!) part of any learning experience. Use these as an opportunity to teach and assist.
- 11) Divide large tasks into smaller, manageable ones. This will ensure success, mastery, and retention.
- 12) Maintain a file of his academic work. Use this to demonstrate his progress and development when he is feeling down.
- 13) Encourage him to maintain "collections" (e.g., baseball cards, stamps, rocks, etc.). This allows him to be the resident expert on a topic.
- 14) If she does not participate in team sports, promote individual sports (e.g., skiing, golf, swimming). This will provide opportunities for success, exercise, and peer interaction.
- 15) Communicate your confidence in the child and in her future.
- 16) Permit and encourage the child to follow the normal fads of his peer group (e.g., clothing, music). This will enhance his acceptance at school and in the community.
- 17) Emphasize the positive aspects of her behavior or performance, even if the task was not completely successful. Reward direction, not perfection.
- 18) Anticipate that the child will have plateaus, failures, backslides, setbacks, and regressions. Support and encourage him at these times. Kids need love most when they deserve it least!
- 19) Look for opportunities to offer him choices to allow him to practice decision-making skills.
- 20) Never, ever, communicate disappointment to your child. The disappointment of an adult may be too great a burden for a child to carry.

Remember:

Your child's self-esteem will be determined by the conditional acceptance that he receives from others -and the unconditional acceptance that he receives from you and

Your child's self-esteem will be determined by success and progress in four areas:

Social (acceptance, friendships)

Competence (in a skill area)

Physical (clothing, attractiveness)

Character (effort, generosity, etc.)

Emphasize, recognize and reinforce all four areas!

© Richard Lavoie, 2002

Ducks Quack, Eagles Soar

No one can make you serve customers well.... that's because great service is a choice. Harvey Mackay, tells a wonderful story about a cab driver that proved this point.

He was waiting in line for a ride at the airport. When a cab pulled up, the first thing Harvey noticed was that the taxi was polished to a bright shine. Smartly dressed in a white shirt, black tie, and freshly pressed black slacks, the cab driver jumped out and rounded the car to open the back passenger door for Harvey

He handed my friend a laminated card and said: 'I'm Wally, your driver. While I'm loading your bags in the trunk I'd like you to read my mission statement.'

Taken aback, Harvey read the card.. It said: Wally's Mission Statement: To get my customers to their destination in the quickest, safest and cheapest way possible in a friendly environment...

This blew Harvey away. Especially when he noticed that the inside of the cab matched the outside. Spotlessly clean!

As he slid behind the wheel, Wally said, 'Would you like a cup of coffee? I have a thermos of regular and one of decaf.' My friend said jokingly, 'No, I'd prefer a soft drink.' Wally smiled and said, 'No problem I have a cooler up front with regular and Diet Coke, water and orange juice.' Almost stuttering, Harvey said, 'I'll take a Diet Coke.'

Handing him his drink, Wally said, 'If you'd like something to read, I have The Wall Street Journal, Time, Sports Illustrated and USA Today.'

As they were pulling away, Wally handed my friend another laminated card, These are the stations I get and the music they play, if you'd like to listen to the radio.'

And as if that weren't enough, Wally told Harvey that he had the air conditioning on and asked if the temperature was comfortable for him. Then he advised Harvey of the best route to his destination for that time of day. He also let him know that he'd be happy to chat and tell him about some of the sights or, if Harvey preferred, to leave him with his own thoughts.

'Tell me, Wally,' my amazed friend asked the driver, 'have you always served customers like this?' Wally smiled into the rear-view mirror. 'No, not always... In fact, it's only been in the last two years. My first five years driving, I spent most of my time complaining like all the rest of the cabbies do. Then I heard the personal growth guru, Wayne Dyer, on the radio one day.

He had just written a book called You'll See It When You Believe It. Dyer said that if you get up in the morning expecting to have a bad day, you'll rarely disappoint yourself. He said, 'Stop complaining! Differentiate yourself from your competition. Don't be a duck. Be an eagle. Ducks quack and complain. Eagles soar above the crowd.'

'That hit me right between the eyes,' said Wally. 'Dyer was really talking about me. I was always quacking and complaining, so I decided to change my attitude and become an eagle. I looked around at the other cabs and their drivers. The cabs were dirty, the drivers were unfriendly, and the customers were unhappy. So, I decided to make some changes. I put in a few at a time. When my customers responded well, I did more.

'I take it that has paid off for you,' Harvey said.

'It sure has,' Wally replied. 'My first year as an eagle, I doubled my income from the previous year. This year I'll probably quadruple it. You were lucky to get me today. I don't sit at cabstands anymore. My customers call me for appointments on my cell phone or leave a message on my answering machine. If I can't pick them up myself, I get a reliable cabbie friend to do it and I take a piece of the action.'

Wally was phenomenal. He was running a limo service out of a Yellow Cab. I've probably told that story to more than fifty cab drivers over the years, and only two took the idea and ran with it. Whenever I go to their cities, I give them a call. The rest of the drivers quacked like ducks and told me all the reasons they couldn't do any of what I was suggesting.

Wally the Cab Driver made a different choice. He decided to stop quacking like ducks and start soaring like eagles.

How about us? Smile, and the whole world smiles with you... The ball is in our hands! A man reaps what he sows. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up... let us do good to all people.

Ducks Quack, Eagles Soar.

Have a nice day, unless you already have other plans. SORROW looks back, WORRY looks around, and FAITH looks UP... "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain." And while in the storm, give it to God and let him handle it.

d b
q p

The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

Dear Parents and Tutors:

We are again planning a 12 week Spring Program. It will be conducted on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The program will run from Saturday, January 18 to Saturday, April 12, 2025 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 6865 Poplar Pike, Memphis, TN 38119

Workshops, which are mandatory for all personnel, will be held Saturday January 11, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. BRING A LUNCH!!!!

The Dyslexia Foundation's own language curriculum is used for instruction. Students MUST take part in the full curriculum for the entire 12 week period.

The following policies must be understood by all who apply to the program - - as tutors or students:

1. Students who are having difficulty in school with reading, spelling, math, or have been diagnosed as Dyslexic are accepted. Please contact a Director if you have questions about being accepted.
2. All tutors must be sixteen years of age or older.
3. All participants must be current members of The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis. Dues are \$20.00.
4. A certain dress code will be observed by everyone.
5. WORKSHOPS ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL TUTORS.
6. All personnel must fulfill all obligations as set forth in the application contract.

Please apply for the subject you prefer to tutor, math or language. New parent-tutors apply only for reading. The following areas require tutors:

1. Reading (All tutors tutor Language)
2. Math

Workshops and daily staff meetings will provide instruction in the use of the materials. Supervision will be given over all areas of instruction.

The tuition is \$300.00 per student plus a \$75.00 registration fee and \$20.00 for dues. The entire amount is due with the application before January 11, 2025. It cannot be refunded. Remember parents who tutor must fill out an application. The above figures require an enrollment of 40 students in order for the Foundation to offer the Spring Program at this tuition cost.

All applications must be returned before January 11, 2025. If you are unable to meet this deadline please call and notify the Director of your intentions. Neither students nor tutor applications will be accepted after that date unless verbal approval has been made. An exception will be made for new families who were tested during the fall 2024 semester.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the director before the application deadline.

Sincerely,

Karen Carson, Director
901 671-7399

SEND APPLICATIONS TO:

Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis
7532 Hatch Circle
Bartlett, TN 38002

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

In partial consideration of the willingness of Lord of Life Lutheran Church to allow its facility to be used by The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis, of which my child is a participant, the undersigned parents or guardians of the child(ren) listed below, acknowledge that Lord of Life Lutheran Church shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury or injuries to me, my child(ren), or property, from any cause or action whatsoever while in or upon the property of Lord of Life Lutheran Church during any and all functions of The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis held on said premises.

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Lord of Life Lutheran Church from all liabilities, charges, expenses (including counsel fees) and cost on account of or by reason of any such injuries, liabilities, claims, suits or losses however occurring or damages growing out of same.

Children: _____

Signed this day of _____, 20____

Parent or Guardian _____

RELEASE

I, individually, (and/or as parent, and/or guardian of the named minor) for and in consideration of the acceptance of my application to enter and my receiving permission from The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis, hereinafter called "Foundation", to participate in the succeeding Dyslexia Summer and/or Saturday School, do hereby release, remise, waive, surrender and forever discharge The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis together with all of their officers, agents, officials, directors, supervisors, tutors and employees, collectively hereinafter called "Foundation", from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, or causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any injury, illness, loss or damage, including death, relating to participation in the succeeding Dyslexia Summer and/or Saturday School.

I further agree that in the event of any injury or emergency requiring medical attention that if I am assisted by the Foundation in receiving treatment and willingly accept such treatment that I will in no way hold the Foundation responsible for the consequences of my treatment of any problem resulting there from, whether administered by the Foundation or a third party called by the Foundation. Should I become unconscious or unable to give my consent for medical treatment and it becomes necessary for the Foundation to render assistance or have a third party administer medical treatment, I agree not to hold the Foundation responsible for the consequences of my injuries or any claims, losses or damages arising there from. I further agree that I will be responsible for any medical bills incurred in my treatment, and will not hold the Foundation responsible therefore.

Student(s) and/or Tutor(s) name(s): _____

Signature of parent(s) if under 18: _____ Date: _____

Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

Student Application

Semester: _____ - _____

Name _____ Birth Date ___ / ___ / ___ Age _____ Grade _____

School _____ Dominant Hand _____ Sex: _____ Glasses Yes / No

Name _____ Birth Date ___ / ___ / ___ Age _____ Grade _____

School _____ Dominant Hand _____ Sex: _____ Glasses Yes / No

Parents Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E Mail Address _____

My child has permission to be given (if needed): Tylenol Yes/No

Please list any allergies or other medical information that might be needed:

Has your child been tested and recommended for admission into this program? _Yes / No

If so, Where? _____ Year? _____

Enclose the Registration Fee for each child with the application to hold your child's place in our program. The tuition is due at the beginning of the fall semester or alternate arrangements can be made by contacting the Director.

If Parent, Friend or Sibling (16 or Older) **Can** Tutor:

Registration fee \$75.00, Tuition \$300.00 Yearly Dues: \$20.00 for a total of \$395.00

NOTE: If tutor is absent and the student attends, there will be a \$40.00 additional charge for each Saturday the tutor is absent and the student attends.

If Parent, Friend or Sibling **Can Not** Tutor

Registration fee \$75.00, Tuition \$300.00, Yearly Dues \$20.00 Paid Tutor \$480.00 (\$40.00 a Saturday) for a total of \$875.00

Fees are not refundable

If you have any questions call
Karen Carson at 901 671-7399

Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis
7532 Hatch Circle
Arlington, TN 38002

Signature of Parent and/or Guardian _____ Date _____

Return Applications by Specified Deadline

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy as to students: The program admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students in the program. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, or other programs.

Emergency Contact Information: Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone Number: _____

