



TAKING STOCK: A MARATHON, NOT A SPRINT

By Deborah Hewes
Dyslexia Warrior, “Mum Advocate”
for those who learn differently

As the school year draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the journey my children have taken on their learning journey. Like many parents, I'm familiar with the routine of end-of-year assessments, parent-teacher meetings, and review of Individualised Education Plans (IEPs). Yet for those of us who have children with learning differences, these moments carry a special weight—a mix of pride, growth, and a renewed sense of purpose.

The Emotional Journey of Taking Stock

Reading school reports with my children began as a family ritual, one that has now continued with my granddaughter and her progress. **Together, we celebrate growth, tease out the small wins, and turn each year-end review into a meaningful moment.**

This tradition has become a legacy—a way to share pride, reflect on progress, and set intentions for the year ahead. For my son, this experience was especially impactful; he enjoyed not only hearing about his achievements but also feeling the power of our shared pride and the plans we made together for his future.

Small Wins, Big Milestones

Reflecting on the year's achievements brings a swell of emotions—joy at their accomplishments and a renewed determination to face challenges head-on. This process isn't just about ticking boxes; **it's about embracing every small win as a step in their learning journey.** With each report, we chart not just academic growth but resilience, creativity, and an understanding of their unique strengths.



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It's a Marathon, Not a Sprint

While we all wish for big breakthroughs, the journey is long, with its share of ups and downs. Yet, with the right support, encouragement, and love, our children move closer to their fullest potential each year.

As a parent of children with learning differences, I've come to embrace that this path is truly a marathon, not a sprint. We're in it for the long game, celebrating each small step forward along the way.

A Legacy of Support

Now a teacher himself, my son carries forward this legacy of empathy and personalised support, recognising the impact of celebrating both achievements and opportunities for growth.

It's a reminder that "taking stock" isn't just for students; it's a family journey, one filled with pride, learning, and shared milestones.



Have you Taken Stock?

At DAS International, we understand the unique challenges and triumphs that come with learning differently. Our Specialist Teachers are dedicated to making a meaningful difference in the lives of students, helping them unlock their potential and thrive academically and emotionally. By tailoring support to meet each child's needs, we ensure that every step forward, no matter how small, contributes to their learning journey.

As you take stock of your child's progress this year, ask yourself: Do you need support for your child next year?



If the answer is yes, let DAS International partner with you to empower your child and set them up for success. Together, we can make the journey ahead a truly rewarding one.

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