

Newsletter 6 – Friday 17th October, 2014

Excellence and Responsibility: these are two of our key values. During Harvest, our children and families have gone out of their way to collect food, toiletries, and clothes for those who are less fortunate. Thank you very much for your generosity. Companions from Emmaus UK will be coming to La Fontaine very soon to collect our donations.



ICT Coffee Morning! Home Prep – Online Learning

Today, we launched our online learning platform. For children to be able to access some of the educational websites we have partnered with, you need to make sure you complete our ICT consent form. Those parents who haven't yet completed their child's form will be informed by their teacher. Completing the form will also enable children to use iPads at school. See www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep for more details.



This morning, Tammy, our STEP ICT Technician, came to present to us many apps/programmes that children and parents can use at home. All children have access to a great variety of apps which we, as a school, have subscribed for.

Make sure you check your child's bag so that you can see what their usernames and passwords are.

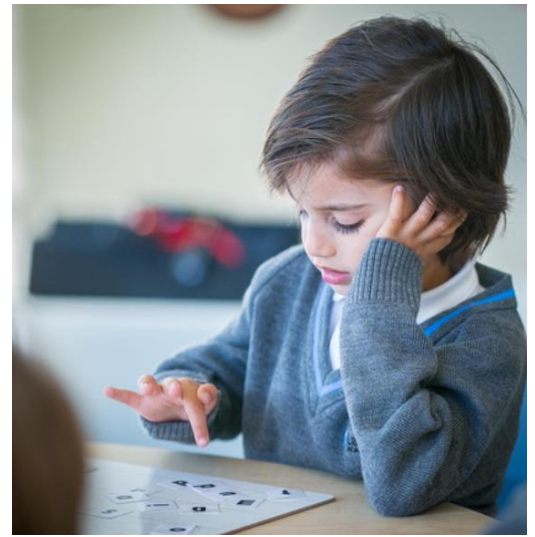
If you have any questions, feel free to ask Tammy when she is in on Tuesdays.

This kind of support is only possible thanks to being part of the STEP Academy Trust. All schools across the Trust provide each other support and we look forward to sharing some of our expertise in terms of language teaching with friends at Wolsey Junior, Gonville, Applegarth, David Livingstone, and Heathfield Academies!



At The STEP Academy Trust, we are committed to improving the life chances of all children. Where we have the capacity to make a difference, we are morally bound to do so.

Members of the Trust strive together for excellence in partnership, so that our children, staff and Academy communities benefit from excellent teaching, learning and leadership.



Helping those in need during Harvest

Congratulations to Year 2 – Classe George Sand for leading a great public Assembly on Wednesday (our very first Assembly at La Fontaine!). The children helped us reflect on the importance of charity towards those who are less fortunate than us.

Despite all the nerves – being the first children to perform publicly to parents and friends – all children did amazingly well!



La Fontaine Academy: a vibrant community for all...

Garden Make-Over

This week, a few parents have started redesigning our garden area! To begin with, they have been installing a Wendy House. If you want to lend them a hand, make sure you speak to them in the playground.

As you know, one of our many strengths as a school is our home-school partnership. So feel free to come to us with ideas on how we can take this partnership even further!



Halloween Disco

We look forward to entertaining children next Friday (24th October - 15:45-18:00) at our Halloween Disco. Don't forget to sign up if you're interested: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/la-fontaine-halloween-disco-tickets-13603240659> - password: fontaine). Tickets are £3.50.

Reminder: only 'friendly' costumes will be allowed. No bloody masks, swords, etc. Thanks.



Uniforms

Please, do make sure that all uniform items are clearly labelled. Quite a few jumpers, cardigans, blazers, ties, etc. are still not labelled which makes things very difficult for children and teachers as they get changed for PE/clubs, etc.

For health and safety reasons, please be reminded that children cannot join in PE activities (including sports clubs after school) if they have not got their full PE kit (including school t-shirts and plimsolls). Quite a few children have already outgrown their plimsolls, for instance, and need to get new ones.



Governor Election:

Three parents have put themselves forward for election. Make sure you cast your vote by Monday (there's a ballot box in the Academy Office).

Mrs Eleanore Paxman (mother of Jocosa, in Year 1)

I have three children, Noelle (19), Coco (6) in year one, and Benjamin (3). I have lived in Bromley for 16 years and, half-Swiss, I have long been excited about the possibility of a bilingual school in our area.

My background includes teaching English as a foreign language, technical translation, theatre production and musical event management. I am currently a fulltime mother and actively involved in voluntary projects and our local church (Hope Church, St Luke's, Bromley Common).

I believe passionately in the prioritisation of whole-school wellbeing – pupils and staff – as an essential route to high educational achievement.

Mrs Maria-Antonietta Sorrentino (mother of Yalom, in Year 1)

I'd like to become a parent governor because I'd like to provide more support to the staff as they work hard to give our children a good educational start and to get more involved in the school in the next five years as my boy, Yalom Adabiokouis is in Year 1. I am a strong supporter of the school ethos and principles such as industry, every child can achieve their best and creating a nurturing and supportive environment. I have considerable experience in working with children in a school context as a school counsellor and teaching languages. I have also been involved in delivering school programs in a museum environment.

I'd like to think I could use my work experience to give something to my child's school. My strengths are being a good communicator, seeing the bigger picture, taking risks and as a person I am warm and passionate about kid's school. I can bring to the school my experience, skills and talents.

Vikram Singh (father of Aanya, in Year 1)

La Fontaine has found a brilliant way to provide primary education delivering both high quality teaching with an extra strand of ingenuity.

I have a strong belief that a good education can improve a child's life chances through giving them the opportunities to discover their full potential regardless of ability, financial status or social circumstances.

The school has had a fantastic start and as parents we now need to support the school to ensure its longevity and sustainability. If I am elected, I will support the school in consolidating its strengths but also challenge the school as and when required to raise difficult questions on behalf of parents.

I have worked in the financial services industry for a number of years which has given me skills and experience covering governance, insurances, legal, year end/audit work, data protection and social media.



Advance Notice

Next Friday (24th October), we will break up for Half-Term for a week. A well-deserved break for everyone. Monday 3rd November will be an INSET Day (training day for teachers). Children will return to school on Tuesday 4th November.

Notices from our Academy Office



Could all parents please check their child's PE Kit and school uniform? PE Kits need to be returned to class teacher on Monday. Any items that have been taken home by mistake also need to be returned.



Children who normally attend after school clubs on Friday 24th October, but who wish to attend the Halloween Disco, need to let us know so we can notify Club Leaders.

You will be aware that the clubs list for next half term has gone out. Unfortunately, there are not as many clubs on for next half term as there were until now. We aim to provide a greater variety of clubs from January and value your opinion so please fill in the form in your child's bag with your suggestions and return to the school office Drop Box (in the Academy Reception).



Parent View

Please, tell us what you think. To give us some feedback, please go on the Ofsted Parent View portal at www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk.

You need to create an account (it takes 1 minute!).

Your views are very important as prospective parents will be looking at the Parent View website as they want to find out about our school.

Feedback about our school after our first external monitoring visit

This week, Ofsted-trained School Improvement Partner Shelley Davies came to visit us to monitor our work. She was very impressed and some of her comments include:



- Prompt start to learning in all classes due to the high expectations of staff in relation to pupil behaviour at the end of break time.
- Calm learning environments were seen during the learning walk, these are as a result of the high expectations that all adults have about pupil behaviour.
- Positive ethos developing in which pupils work well together, share ideas and listen to each other.
- Pupils' behaviour outside lessons is extremely positive, excellent attitudes shown when walking into lessons from playtime.
- Clear timetable showing monitoring cycle, this includes observations in lessons, planning scrutiny and work scrutiny to enable senior leaders to triangulate evidence in order to evaluate the school against the Ofsted evaluation schedule.

Shelley also had a chance to experience our Family Dining and loved seeing the children serving each other so kindly.

Congratulations to all our children and teachers for establishing such strong foundations so quickly!

