

# ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER, TOGETHER

Newsletter 2.9 – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2015



## MASTERY – TODAY SHOULD BE BETTER THAN IT WAS YESTERDAY

Thanks to the many parents/carers who attended our Mastery Workshop last Friday.

Mastery is a key part of what we do at La Fontaine and we encourage you to support your child(ren) by using some of the key phrases which teachers use in class. Some of these phrases are key in terms of changing our mindset!

Soon, you will receive a piece of work independently produced by your child (independently, **as in without direct support**). We'll be asking you to use that piece of work as a benchmark to ensure that the work they produce at home also reflects the amount of effort they make at school.

A key phrase to use, in terms of expectations, is: **WHAT YOU DO TODAY SHOULD BE BETTER THAN IT WAS YESTERDAY!**

Go to [www.lafontaineacademy.org/workshops](http://www.lafontaineacademy.org/workshops) to access last Friday's presentation as well as a couple of videos that show how mastery and feedback can be used effectively.



## YOUNG WRITER – WARNING

It is great to see that many children have received certificates telling them that their written work had been selected by 'Young Writers' to be published in an anthology of children's writings.

However, it has come to our attention that the practices of Young Writers aren't entirely genuine. According to an article published in the Guardian (see [here](#)), Young Writers is, 'perhaps more about making money out of proud but gullible parents, than a genuine literary achievement by their children?'

Obviously, it is great to see children's work published professionally in an anthology. However, parents should be cautious when deciding to purchase the book.



## ADVANCE NOTICE – INSET DAY ON WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

Please, remember that Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December will be an INSET Day for our teachers. This means that the school will be closed. Teachers will be receiving some training on that day.



## CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS!





Congratulations to our La Fontaine Runners! Despite the wind, rain, and cold, they all managed to complete the 1.7-kilometer race at Crystal Palace last Saturday morning!

Our champions did us really proud, particularly as it was our first ever sports competition! They all showed amazing grit!!

A big **Thank You** to Coach Adam for getting us to this point and to our PTA for sponsoring our running tops!

I'm sure last Saturday was the first of many more races to come.

## ATTENDANCE – OUR TARGET IS 97.5%

Every minute counts!		MARIE CURIE	YANNICK NOAH	ANTOINE DE SAINT- EXUPÉRY	SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR	GEORGE SAND	JACQUES-YVES COUSTEAU	TOTAL
ATTENDANCE	LAST WEEK	93.1%	93.8%	98.3% 	97.9% 	97%	98.4% 	96.2%
	SINCE SEPTEMBER	95.5%	96.8%	97.7%	96.9%	96.8%	97.5%	96.8%
PUNCTUALITY	LATE CHILDREN LAST WEEK	5	1	0 	1	3	2	12



**Children in Need**

### CHILDREN IN NEED – SUPPORTING THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN US

Congratulations to our School Council and to Madame Leroy for organising a very successful event last Friday. Our Children in Need Assembly enabled all children to reflect on the importance of supporting those who are less fortunate than us.

Thank you to all parents/carers for helping children bake such wonderful cakes!

Thanks to everyone's efforts and generosity, a wonderful £350 was raised!



### CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS – HEADS UP

Last week, you also received text messages to ask you if you could help us decorate the school on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December**, from 19:00-20:30. We would like to decorate the hall, the corridors, and the school entrance (without telling the children, of course!) to surprise the children. Thanks to those parents/carers who have already offered to help!

On **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December**, 11:00-15:00, our PTA will hold its annual Christmas Fayre. You will soon receive updates from our PTA, inviting you to donate bottles, sweet jars, etc.

Advance notice: On **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**, we will invite all children to come to school wearing colourful Christmas jumpers and hats! On that day, a special Christmas lunch will be organised, as well as a Pantomime. Note that children can design their own Christmas Jumpers if they wish (e.g. using baubles and tinsel!).



### FRENCH COFFEE MORNING THIS FRIDAY

Come along this Friday (27<sup>th</sup> November), straight after drop off, for our French Coffee Morning.

At this month's coffee morning you'll get some ideas about how to revise some of the French your children have been learning in the classroom. Plus, we have a Christmas craft activity that you can replicate with your children at home!

Don't forget to use our Ludothèque to return or borrow any French books/DVDs/games, so you can get some more.

We invite you to bring some food to share. £1 voluntary donations welcome!

A vendredi, Eli, Caroline, Fatou & Hshen



### ART CLUB – CAN YOU HELP?

Our Art Club leader is pregnant and will not be able to run sessions after Christmas. If you can help (or know someone who could), please let us know! Email [office@lafontaineacademy.org](mailto:office@lafontaineacademy.org) to let us know.