

ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER, TOGETHER

Newsletter 2.34 – Monday 18th July, 2016



As we mark the end of our second year, I would like to thank all our children, teachers, support staff, and families. Our school community is becoming increasingly stronger and stronger and our mission, focused on enabling everyone to shape society for the better, is becoming clearer and clearer.

This year has been marked by lots of amazing moments, which all of us have helped to shape. Sadly, this year has also been marked by lots of sad moments across the world. Our work as a school community is vital as we enable our children to become leaders who can play an active role in society. Not only does our future depend on our children's compassionate leadership, it also rests on our teachers and parents' present compassionate leadership. Not only do we, as adults, need to educate our children to be successful academically, we also have a duty to give them the tools to work with us to build a world based on values which put kindness and joy at the heart of all we do.

I wish you all a peaceful summer. May it bring everyone rest and joy.

I look forward to seeing you all in September, ready for another powerful year at La Fontaine!

Amicalement.

Dr Sebastien Chapleau, Headteacher



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

A massive **THANK YOU** to Danielle, Kate and Tatyana, and for helping us capture so many memories throughout the year. We will be producing a gallery of photographs over the summer. We are very lucky to have such talented photographers amongst our parents!

If you would like your child to not appear in the gallery, please let us know by emailing office@lafontaineacademy.org. We need to hear from you by Sunday 31st July at the latest.

Every minute counts!		MARIE CURIE	YANNICK NOAH	ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY	SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR	GEORGE SAND	JACQUES-YVES COUSTEAU	TOTAL
ATTENDANCE	SINCE SEPTEMBER	94.6%	95.8%	96.2%	95.3%	95.9%	96%	95.6%
PUNCTUALITY	SINCE SEPTEMBER	0.78%	0.73%	0.82%	1.11%	1.28%	0.98%	0.9%



DATES FOR 2016-2016

Term dates and key dates for the 2016-2017 academic year are available at www.lafontaineacademy.org/dates-2016-2017 and www.lafontaineacademy.org/events.

We will be coming back to school on **Wednesday 7th September**. Gates will open at 08:00.

WRAP-AROUND CARE – LOGISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER

- Le Petit Déjeuner des Champions will start on Thursday 8th September
- STEP Zone will begin on Thursday 8th September
- Clubs will begin on Monday 12th September

Over the next few weeks, we will be looking into the possibility to extend STEP Zone provision. Our decision will be based on whether it is financially possible to employ extra STEP Zone play-workers to facilitate more places. Your responses to our STEP Zone survey are currently being analysed by our School Business Manager.

UNIFORMS

Children are expected to school in their Autumn uniforms (see here for details: www.lafontaineacademy.org/uniform). La Fontaine book bags, PE bags and rucksacks form a key part of our Uniform and all children are expected to have them available.



WATER BOTTLES – IMPORTANT CHANGE FROM SEPTEMBER

Note that **Water Bottles**, from September, **do not** need to be La Fontaine water bottles. Bottles will need to be taken home daily, so we strongly encourage you to buy your child a water bottle holder.

Note that children should not place their water bottle in their book bag, as books will get damaged.

As ever, it is your responsibility to label your child's bottle. Any bottle left at school, unnamed, will need to be disposed of.

POSTCARDS

During the summer, please encourage your child to send us a few postcards so we can produce a display in September. It doesn't have to be postcards from holiday destinations: it can be a card from Bromley!

Our address is: Dr Sebastien Chapleau, La Fontaine Academy, Princes Plain, Bromley BR2 8LD



As many of you have pointed out, the rapid success of our school is due to the support we have received from a variety of people across STEP Academy Trust. Next year, we will explore further links with our brothers and sisters across STEP. As a growing Trust of schools, we are fortunate in that we can share expertise in various ways and support each other accordingly.

HOMEWORK FOR THE SUMMER

www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep

The summer break is a time for children to have a rest. However, to ensure they come back to school fully prepared, it is key that they do some homework once in a while. Not doing so would mean that they will find the first few weeks in September more difficult than necessary.

Research clearly shows that most children's attainment levels fall during the summer. By working with them (in a very relaxed manner!), you can ensure that they start the next academic year confidently!

Please, consider the following:

	RECEPTION	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Daily	Mathletics 20 minutes or so	Mathletics 25 minutes or so	Mathletics 30 minutes or so	Mathletics 30 minutes or so
Daily	Reading 20 minutes or so	Reading 25 minutes or so	Reading 30 minutes or so	Reading 30 minutes or so
Every other day	Write a diary entry for a Summer Scrapbook 10 minutes or so	Write a diary entry for a Summer Scrapbook 20 minutes or so	Write a diary entry for a Summer Scrapbook 30 minutes or so	Write a diary entry for a Summer Scrapbook 30 minutes or so
Every week	Spellings High Frequency Words Spelling Bee List 1 from www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep	Spellings High Frequency Words Spelling Bee List 1 from www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep	Spellings High Frequency Words Spelling Bee Lists 1 and 2 from www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep	Spellings High Frequency Words Spelling Bee Lists 1, 2 and 3 from www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep
Every week	A project (art design, 3-d construction, etc.) which they need to present to you. This will enable them to develop their oracy skills.	A project (art design, 3-d construction, etc.) which they need to present to you. This will enable them to develop their oracy skills.	A project (art design, 3-d construction, etc.) which they need to present to you. This will enable them to develop their oracy skills.	A project (art design, 3-d construction, etc.) which they need to present to you. This will enable them to develop their oracy skills.

We would welcome pictures, videos, pieces of writing sent to us over the summer!

Please send things through to summerprojects@lafontaineacademy.org.

WHAT WILL YOU DO THIS SUMMER TO DEVELOP YOUR CHILD’S CHARACTER?



Grit

Grit: Building perseverance and passion for long-term goals



Zest

Swimming is not something you master quickly, and it really takes you out of your comfort zone. Children learn to not give up because of initial apprehensions or setbacks.



Self-Control

Zest: Developing an approach to a life filled with excitement



Optimism

One of our mantras at school is ‘Try something new’ and zest is one of the necessary preconditions for our children to try new experiences.



Gratitude

Optimism and curiosity: Knowing that with effort the future holds positive possibilities



Social Intelligence



Curiosity

Along with grit and zest, the idea that it’s important to want to try new things without fear has been reinforced by taking our children swimming.

Self-control: Regulating thoughts, feelings and behaviours when they conflict with valued goals

It was a challenge, but the children learned to get over the excitement of being in a swimming pool with all their friends to prioritise listening to a swimming coach who is asking them to pay attention to her instructions.

Social intelligence: An awareness of people’s feelings, and navigating social situations

Taking the bus every week with lots of people onboard, getting changed without help and putting your swimming kit in your bag without mixing up your friends’ socks with your own, these things can take years to develop for young children. Our children are now confident with all of these aspects, and similar issues in class and at home are now much easier.

Gratitude: Appreciating benefits we receive from others, and reciprocating

Where our school is located, there are quite a few independent (fee-paying) schools that have their own pools. Our children and their parents realise we’ve had to work hard to make things happen. We’re very fortunate that we have been able to use our PE and Sport Premium grant to make swimming lessons accessible to all our children, free of charge. And we will show gratitude by writing to Sports England and relevant officials to thank them.

**Make a list of key activities you could organise over the next 6 weeks to support character building with your child(ren).
What activity? Which character trait(s)? Why? When? Where? Who will be involved?**
