

ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER, TOGETHER

Newsletter 3.10 – Monday 21st November, 2016



READING WORKSHOP: DECODING SKILLS VS. COMPREHENSION SKILLS

In response to a few queries from parents/carers (particularly in Year 1), we will be organising a workshop to discuss how reading is taught at La Fontaine.

When: **THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER, 08:45-09:30**

Reading is a complex process which requires two key skills: **decoding** (i.e. the ability to sound words out) and **comprehending** (i.e. the ability to understand, explain, and justify what words means in specific contexts; the ability to understand metaphors and authorial intent, etc.).

Whilst it is easier to decode words (and our Phonics results demonstrate the impact of our teaching in that area), we focus a lot on ensuring that children, at all stages of their primary education, **master key/essential comprehension skills**.

Our workshop will help parents/carers ask Higher Order Questions to support their children's comprehension skills.

NATIVITY PERFORMANCES



This year, we will have six performances: 2 performances for Reception, 2 performances for Years 1 & 2, and 2 performances for Years 3 & 4. Tickets will be available soon.

- ❖ Reception performances: Thursday 15th and Friday 16th December, 09:15-10:00
- ❖ Years 1 & 2 performances: Thursday 15th and Friday 16th December, 13:30-14:15
- ❖ Years 3 & 4 performances: Thursday 15th and Friday 16th December, 14:45-15:30

Families will soon be able to book up to 4 tickets per child via ParentPay (£2 per ticket).

For families who have siblings performing the same play, please limit your ticket allocation to 4 tickets, to keep things fair. If, however, you have siblings who perform in different plays, you can, of course, book up to 4 tickets for each performance.



CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION WEEK

This week, children will be focusing on creativity in many of their lessons.

Come and see some of their work in a special exhibition on Friday, from 14:30-15:15, in the hall.

Big 'Thanks' to Madame Harris for leading on this initiative.



SWIMMING FOR ALL CHILDREN – LOOKING FORWARD TO IT ALREADY!

Swimming lessons for all children will start in February. We are keen to organise ourselves in advance and would love parents/carers who could help take the children to the swimming pool with our staff to make themselves known (so we can organise DBS checks, etc.).

If you can help on a regular basis between week commencing 20th February and week ending 31st March, please let us know by emailing Madame Kirkegaard at akirkegaard@lafontaineacademy.org.



Swimming lessons can be paid for on ParentPay. If the cost (£18) is a barrier, please let us know. This will be dealt with in confidence.

AIMING FOR 97.5% FOR ATTENDANCE AND 100% FOR PUNCTUALITY

Every minute counts!		MARIE CURIE (RECEPTION)	YANNICK NOAH (RECEPTION)	SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR (YEAR 1)	MARIE JOSE PEREC (YEAR 1)	HAROUN TAZIEFF (YEAR 2)	GEORGE SAND (YEAR 2)	JACQUES- YVES COUSTEAU (YEAR 3)	LUCIE AUBRAC (YEAR 4)	TOTAL
ATTENDANCE	LAST WEEK	88.7%	93.6%	93.7%	95.4%	93.9%	94.3%	90.8%	98.9% 🏆	93.6%
	SINCE SEPTEMBER	97%	97.3%	95.8%	97.5% 🏆	95.7%	96.4%	95.6%	97.6% 🏆	96.7%
PUNCTUALITY	LAST WEEK	99.4%	97.9%	100% 🏆	99.3%	98.3%	98.7%	97.5%	99%	98.8%



ABSENCE REQUESTS

Please, can we remind you that absences during term time are rarely granted? This is in line with our Attendance Policy (see [here](#)).

We have an attendance target of 97.5%. Any child whose attendance is below 95% is reported to our Education Welfare Officer and is monitored very closely.



SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

As our School Councillors surveyed the whole school a couple of weeks ago and, following the success of a few 'dance' activities in the playground at playtime, it was decided that we should try to fundraise for a 'music system' for our playground.

On Wednesday, straight after school, our School Councillors and a few helpers will be selling cakes to this effect! Please, bring some change and be generous...



PLASTIC LIDS

We will soon create an art piece using flat plastic lids. Please, keep hold of the lids from milk bottles, water bottles, soft drinks, etc.. Please, carry on sending plastic lids to school. We need 100s more!



DARYLL NEITA FUNDRAISER – WORKSHOP ON THURSDAY 1ST DECEMBER

Following the feedback of some parents (and a bit of research), we would like to remind parents/carers that fundraising isn't an obligation (rather, it is voluntary).

Children should, however, still bring £1 to school on Thursday 1st December, as well as come to school dressed in their PE kits. The money raised will help the school cover the cost of the Assembly and workshop.

'Inspired Through Sport Awards' will not be given on the basis of the money raised but, rather, on the efforts shown during the sports activities carried out on Thursday 1st December.



ATTACHMENT WORKSHOP

Thanks to the many parents/carers/friends who attended our workshop last Friday.

Madame Holland (one of our Senior Leaders + SENDco) went through key issues linked to the notion of 'Attachment'. If you'd like to discuss further, do email us at holland@lafontaineacademy.org.

You can find our presentation at www.lafontaineacademy.org/workshops.

SCHOOL'S SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Wednesday 23rd to Wednesday 30th November from 3 to 4.15pm

This book fair is run by the school with the support of parents and carers. Thank you for the ones who already volunteers. We still need some few of you please. If you are willing to assist, please contact Amell ml.amatino@gmail.com.

MUM'S NIGHT OUT

Friday 25th November from 7.30 to 11pm

Please book your places now for the Mum's night out next Friday 25th November and come and meet other school mums. We will have exclusive use of La Fontaine mum Sarah Dixon's **brand new café, Ginger & Bean**, on Market Square, Bromley (opposite Primark). Ginger & Bean will provide a delicious and substantial buffet of cheese, charcuterie, breads, fruit and a dessert, and the PTA will be running a bar. It is free to attend and if you want to eat, the cost will be £10 per head for the buffet. We hope as many mums and carers as possible can make it along. We need to know the numbers so please book your places via Eventbrite here (free to book): <http://bit.ly/2eFoj65>.

DAD'S NIGHT OUT

Friday 2nd December at 8pm

This sociable get-together is a great way for dads and carers to meet other. No need to book – just turn up at the **Barrel and Horn Pub**, 204-206 High Street, Bromley BR1 1PW. Please email Alex Mitchell - alex@epsompace.co.uk with any queries.



PLEASE HELP TO DECORATE THE SCHOOL

Monday 5th December 7pm onwards

Don't tell the children! Please donate any unwanted Christmas donations and come to the school to help decorate the school. Mulled wine and mince pies will be provided courtesy of the PTA! Please email contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk if you want to donate any decoration and if you can help decorate the school.

CHRISTMAS TREES

The PTA have secured a great discount from a local farm to provide us with top quality Nordic Non-Drop Christmas Trees. This is a wonderful opportunity for the PTA to raise some funds as we will be able to retain a percentage of the sales, while giving you a 15% discount off the normal price – PLUS they really are the best Christmas trees available!

The trees will be delivered to the school on Thursday 1st December so that you can collect your tree on Thursday 1st or Friday 2nd December as some of you may want to have put your tree up that weekend, or else at any time from midday-6pm at the Christmas Night Market on Saturday 10th December.

Please email your order specifying quantity of trees and tree size to: Fiona@businessjunction.co.uk, who is co-ordinating the tree order, and make payment as per options listed at <http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/christmas/#tree>.

Tree size	Retail price	La Fontaine price 15%(ish) discount
4-5 ft	£30.00	£25.00
5-6 ft	£40.00	£34.00
6-7 ft	£45.00	£38.00
7-8 ft	£55.00	£45.00

LA FONTAINE FOOTBALL KITS, FOOTBALL GOALS, NETBALL BIBS AND NETBALL POSTS

The PTA are appealing for sponsorship to buy 10 La Fontaine football kits which will cost £200 and two football goals which will cost £250. The school also needs 4 sets of netball bibs costing £200 and 2 netball posts costing £388. Two families have already kindly given £350 to purchase some gymnastic equipment. If anyone is able to help please email contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk and we will get straight back to you!

FRIDAY'S HOT DRINKS ON SALE AT PICK-UP

Please bring some small change

Hot drinks, popcorn and Christmas raffle tickets will now be on sale **every Friday after school from 3.30 until 4.30pm**. This will help to fund decorations and to buy the food for the Christmas Night Market on Saturday 10th December.



CHRISTMAS NIGHT MARKET

Volunteers Needed!

Saturday 10th December from 3 to 6pm

Volunteers are needed to help man our amazing Christmas Stalls including Food and Games!

Put your name down on the volunteer roster on the noticeboard by the gates in the school playground, or email contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk if you can help. You can see the full range of stalls here:

<http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/christmas/#market>.

If a personal or financial issue is holding you back from attending an event or participating in any way, please contact in strict confidence the PTA Chair Amell Amatino ml.amatino@gmail.com and every effort will be made to help you.

DO YOU HAVE - GAZEBOS / GENERATORS / PATIO HEATERS / FLOOD LIGHTS?

If you have any of the above equipment that you could lend us for Saturday 10th December, we would be very grateful! Please contact hshenlim@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS – SECRET PRESENTS

This week we're taking donations of small gifts for mums, dads and carers. They can be unwanted (but unused and unopened) presents that you have received! PLEASE DO NOT WRAP!! These presents will be part of the **Secret Present stall** run by some elves imported from the North Pole.

There is a full list of all the various donations that the PTA will be kindly requesting in the weeks leading up to the Christmas Night Fair here: <http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/christmas/#donations>



easyfundraising
.org.uk

RAISE MONEY WHEN CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Please remember to use EasyFundraising while online shopping. This cost you nothing whereas money is raised for La Fontaine Academy!

There are **over 2,700+ online retailers** taking part in EasyFundraising, [click here to start now](#).

There are other ways you can raise money for La Fontaine beyond PTA fundraising events. Full details and links to join the various schemes are available on our website: www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/donate.