

# ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER, TOGETHER

Newsletter 3.12 – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2016



## 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 are now available.

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

Families can now book up to 4 tickets per child via ParentPay (£2 per ticket). 2 tickets are allocated per play, per child.

For families who have siblings performing the same play, please limit your ticket allocation to 4 tickets altogether, to keep things fair.



## PARENTS' EVENING – WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Don't forget to book a slot for Parents' Evening. On the day, please arrive 5 minutes prior to your appointment so that we can keep to time.

STEP Zone and Clubs are still happening on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

If your slot is before 15:30, you will be able to collect your child early.



## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY – TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

In support of **Habitat Pour l'Humanité** (one of the charities used to name one of our School Houses), we would like everyone to wear a Christmas Jumper on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

Children should bring £1 to school. All the money will be donated to **Habitat Pour l'Humanité**, the mission of which is to partner with people in communities all over the world to help them build or improve a place they can call home.



## DECEMBER COFFEE MORNINGS

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December: come and help put final touches to our Christmas Market preparations.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas French Coffee Morning. Come and enjoy some typical French treats and music.



## 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](#)).



## SWIMMING FOR ALL CHILDREN – HELPERS NEEDED (PARTICULARLY IN YEARS 3 AND 4)

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 20<sup>th</sup> February and week ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, please let us know by emailing Madame Kirkegaard at [akirkegaard@lafontaineacademy.org](mailto: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.



## ATTACHMENT – TRY THESE TO STRENGTHEN EMOTIONAL LINKS WITH YOUR CHILD

- ❖ **Play hide and seek**
- ❖ **Paint each other's faces** with paint, powder, make up, or just pretend.
- ❖ **Donut Dare.** Hold a donut on your finger through the hole and have your child see how many bites they can take before it falls off. If you want to make this a bit healthier you could change the donut to a pineapple ring.
- ❖ **Play a memory game** but with a more personal touch. First, have your child look you over very carefully. Then leave the room and return after you've changed something about yourself. See if s/he can figure out what is different. It could be something really obvious for younger kids, like taking off a sweater, but for older kids you could get more challenging, like buttoning one more button on the sweater.
- ❖ **Guess the Goodies!** Put several small treats in a bag or cup. Then have your child close his/her eyes. Finally, you pop a treat in your child's mouth and have him/her try to guess what it is.
- ❖ **Hold your child in your arms and dance.**
- ❖ **Play a tunnel activity** kind of like London Bridge. Both parents start by kneeling on the floor to form a tunnel. Then have your child crawl through the tunnel as fast as s/he can before it collapses. During the first few times let him/her get completely through, then have it gently collapse onto your child.
- ❖ **Give a pillow ride!** Have your child sit on a big floor pillow as you drag him/her around the room. Make sure to only move when given eye contact.
- ❖ **Play catch!** Roll a ball back and forth to teach reciprocity. Throwing or batting a balloon back and forth may be easier than throwing a ball for little ones.
- ❖ **Swim together.**
- ❖ **Create a pillow jumping maze.** Set up pillow islands in a pattern across the floor. Have your child start at one end while you are at the other. S/he can only start to cross the room when you say "go" (you could say "mo" or "lo" to make things more challenging and teach him/her to be more attentive). After given the green light, your child must jump across the islands and into your arms.



## READING CHANGES

From now on, reading books will be changed twice-weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, rather than on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It is hoped that by freeing Learning Support Assistants of this administrative task once-weekly, their impact on teaching and learning in the classroom will be maximised.

As their reading books are of shorter length, children in Reception and Year 1 will be able to take home two reading books on Thursdays. The other year groups will have only two reading books per week, giving them the opportunity to read and reread for increased fluency and understanding.

It is important that your child reads books more than once and has the opportunity to discuss events, characters and vocabulary in greater depth. Decoding words is not enough. Understanding and interpreting words is much more important.

We have attached Bloom's Taxonomy to guide and support you with higher level questioning on our website at [www.lafontaineacademy.org/workshops](http://www.lafontaineacademy.org/workshops). Key areas to focus on are the 'Analysing', 'Evaluating', and 'Creating' areas.

## GLOBAL GOALS – ORACY PROJECT FROM JANUARY 2017



To develop our children’s leadership skills, we want you to help them produce presentation reflecting on some of the United Nations’ Global Goals.

That’s because we strongly believe, amongst many things, that:

- The world we live in should be much better than it currently is
- We – *all of us* – have a responsibility to make the world a better place
- ‘Doing something’ is much better than ‘moaning’
- Children at La Fontaine should be supported to become leaders (and not just passive onlookers) who can be change makers

<b>WHY?</b>	<b>The world needs to change!</b>	There are many things we disagree with around us. We need to build a better world for our children. If not us, who? If not now, when?
<b>WHO?</b>	<b>All of us!</b>	All of us. We want all parents/carers to support their children identify things they don’t think are right. These things are likely to fall under one of the Global Goals categories listed above.
<b>WHAT?</b>	<b>Voice your opinion and share it!</b>	All children (and their parents/carers) need to produce presentations, videos, posters, speeches, etc. These can be done in teams (children together or parents/carers with their children). These will be presented in class and assembly by children.
<b>WHEN?</b>	<b>All the time!</b>	Every week. We aim to have all children produce projects very regularly.

Projects should be shared with teachers so they can be presented in class and assembly over the next few months.

Projects can also be emailed to Dr Sebastien Chapleau at [oracy@lafontaineacademy.org](mailto:oracy@lafontaineacademy.org) so they can be shared more widely.

Formats that can be emailed: PowerPoint presentations, Videos, and Pictures

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.org.uk

**RAISE MONEY WHEN CHRISTMAS SHOPPING**

Please 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](http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/donate)

**PLEASE HELP TO DECORATE THE SCHOOL**

Monday 5th December 7pm onwards

**Don't tell the children!**

Yes, it is this Monday – don't forget. 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 liaise with Jade Menet [jadey\\_browneyes@hotmail.com](mailto:jadey_browneyes@hotmail.com)



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

The school needs 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.

We are delighted to confirm we have had a £200 sponsorship for the football and two families have already kindly given £350 to purchase some gymnastic equipment. Would be great to get the netball kits which also cost £200 sponsored too... If anyone is able to help please email [contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk](mailto:contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk) and we will get straight back to you!

**SILENT AUCTION**

**Win Accommodation in Spain or Egypt!**



Last week, you took home information about the Silent Auction to win some sensational holiday accommodation in Spain or Egypt! 100% of the funds from this auction goes to La Fontaine Academy. So place your bid, and you could help the school and win this amazing prize at the same time!

**Please note** that there was a typo in the first paragraph of the flyer. The accommodation is for 2 adults and 1 child, with one villa option that can accommodate 2 adults and 2 children. Visit [www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/silent](http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/silent) to place your bid and for more info.

## RAFFLE TICKETS

Thank you for the many, many of you who have returned raffle tickets!! If you feel you could sell more to your work colleagues, friends or family, please do pick up more from the Office, or request more by sending an email to Leanne Cummings [cummingsleanne@outlook.com](mailto:cummingsleanne@outlook.com) and we will put more in your child's bookbag. Selling raffle tickets is a great way to help the school!

## CHRISTMAS NIGHT MARKET THIS SATURDAY 3 TO 6PM!

A Huge thank you to all who have volunteered their time to help at the Market this weekend! There are still one or two spots available, please email [hshenlim@gmail.com](mailto:hshenlim@gmail.com) if you can spare some time during the fair to help out.

### Some things we need to tell you

- Please dress yourself and your children warmly winter boots, thick coats, gloves, mittens, scarf, beanie, everything!



- Please bring cash to pay for food, drinks, games for the kids etc.
- Head to the Games Token booth to buy games tokens so your children can play at the games stalls
- **Did you know?** Our market stalls are run by parents, family and friends of children at La Fontaine! So please visit them and show your support for our growing community. Some of their wares include handcrafted jewellery, artisan bread, Christmas cakes, Christmas decorations, Christmas wreaths, plus more! A perfect time to pick up some Christmas gifts!
- All children will be singing during the Christmas Programme. Make sure you arrive 30 minutes before your child is due to sing. An announcement will be made on the PA system to gather children for their performance.

### Singing schedule

- French Club children 3:30pm
- Reception classes 3:45pm
- Year 1 & 2 classes 4:00pm
- Year 3 & 4 classes 5:00pm

- Lastly, grab dinner and dessert at the Night Market, it will be delicious and you won't have to wash up!

## LAST WEEK OF DONATIONS

### 2nd hand books

This week, please bring in second-hand books that are in EXCELLENT condition. If you could drop from Tuesday onwards at the Office, that would be a great help.

### Cakes!

Calling all bakers! Your donations of cakes, cupcakes, savoury bakes etc. would be so much appreciated! Please bring on Market Day. Simply bring along to the cake stall before 3pm preferred. Merci beaucoup!!!

## POPCORN

The new popcorn machine has been popping up a storm on Popcorn Fridays! The Popcorn Crew are using a healthier alternative to traditional oils (coconut oil) which gives it that amazing taste! It is also makes it much easier to clean and maintain the popcorn machine. As a result however, the price of the popcorn has had to be adjusted to accommodate this decision. More sizes are now available, though: £1 cones, or £1.50 family bags. Please note, Popcorn Friday will not run on Friday 9th (eve of Christmas Market), but will resume on Friday 15th December.

