

# ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER, TOGETHER

ISSUE 4.19 | 26/02/2018



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW SCHOOL

At last, we've moved into our new/permanent home. After quite a months of delays (some 2.5 years!), we've finally moved into what is now our permanent home: **La Fontaine HQ**.

A huge **THANK YOU** to our staff, first of all, for having to cope with such changes and so many unusual constraints (packing hundreds of boxes, moving so much furniture, organising new classrooms in less than 24 hours, etc.). I'm sure you'll all remember what moving homes is like (and how stressful it can be!), so you'll appreciate the efforts that went into moving 300 children to a new location!

A huge **THANK YOU** too to our families: your messages of support, your help with the painting of over a dozen rooms, your generous food donations over half-term, amongst many things, have been hugely appreciated!

There will be **teething problems** over the coming weeks, but we'll work through those, in the way we always deal with things: **positively**.

I am aware that our playground is small and this is something we've started discussing with various people. **More news as soon as possible**.

Finally, and as was briefly discussed at our Coffee Morning on Friday, we are now in a position to really think about what La Fontaine is about in terms of its wider impact. **What should Bickley, as a neighbourhood, look like now that we've moved to this area?**

As a school, we teach children to become **leaders who can shape the world around them**; we're now going to get parents involved!

I'm excited about what's coming next! Our community is stepping into a new chapter of its life!



## TIMETABLE CHANGES THIS WEEK

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>PE KITS NEEDED</b>	YEAR 1 – MADAME ZAKIR YEAR 2 – MADAME PARPIA	YEAR 3 – BOTH CLASSES	YEAR 1 – SWIMMING FOR BOTH CLASSES	YEAR 2 – MONSIEUR SPEZIALE YEAR 5	YEAR 1 – MADAME HARRIS YEAR 4



### WRAP-AROUND CARE – POLITE REMINDERS – BOOKING SYSTEM

We'd like to remind you that STEP Zone and Breakfast Club need to be booked in advance. Only emergencies can be arranged by email.

Go on ParentPay to book sessions.



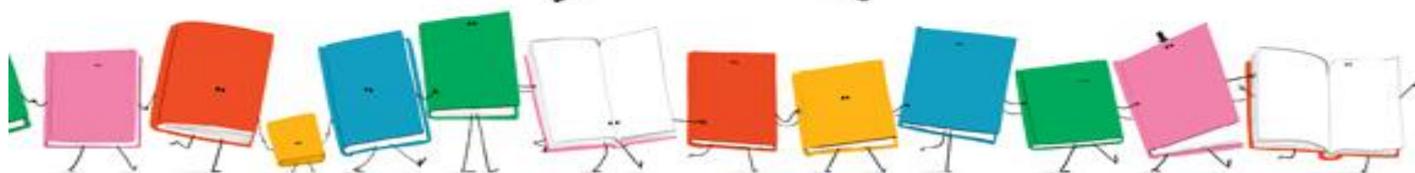
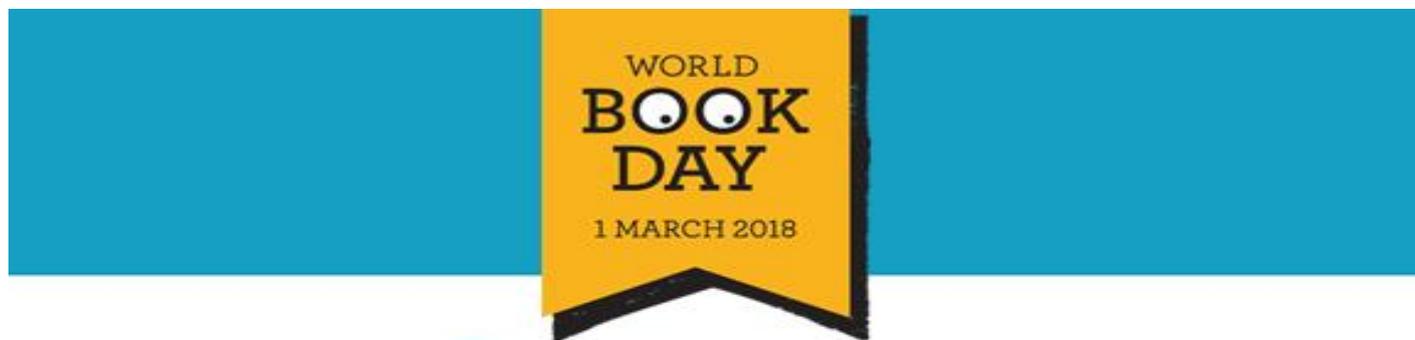
### KEY LEARNING FOR PARENTS/CARERS TO LEAD ON

**Tying shoe laces:** this is something which, typically, all children should be able to do from age 4-5. We have noticed lots of children in Years 1-3 who still cannot tie their own laces...

**Reading the time:** please, get your child a watch which looks like the one pictured left. We have noticed many children wearing watches which are more of a distraction than a help to learning (some watches can take photos, etc.). Teachers will ask children to keep distracting watches home.

Do encourage your child to wear a watch; one which shows 'to' and 'past' as the one pictured left.

**Times tables:** see below. These take time to learn and aren't simple to teach in class. Ensure you teach them to your children.



We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Children are asked to come to school dressed as their favourite storybook character. Please, encourage book characters and not those on television shows as we are trying to celebrate the importance of books.

On this day, and to further enhance our library corners, we kindly ask children to donate a book of their choice to their class (in good condition).

We hope that you will support this fun day and get creative with making an outfit from clothing you already have. Pinterest has some excellent ideas!



Expectations for times tables for each year group:	
Year 1	Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use all doubles to 10 and corresponding halves.
Year 2	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
Year 3	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables.
Year 4	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12x12.
Year 5	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12x12.
Year 6	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12x12.

Dear parents/carers,

You may have heard announcements about the Multiplication Tables Check coming in for Year 4 children. Here's what you need to know:

1. We love maths. It's an awesome subject to learn and to teach.
2. Maths is a big subject and we appreciate there's more to it than times tables and there's more to times tables than learning them off by heart. However, a lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about the multiplicative relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of the tables. For that reason, learning the tables is fundamental – they are a key facilitator to the maths that sits on top. We've always believed that.
3. We're not worried about the checks and this wasn't a surprise. In fact, we're in favour of the checks because it's always good to sharpen practice across the education sector and this is a useful lever to get schools to do that. We're already in a good place with learning the tables and the expectations are in line with the National Curriculum so it's business as usual for us.
4. The results of the test are not published publicly, they're not going to end up on a league table and they're not to worry about. There's no pass or fail, there's just a score out of 25 marks (or 20). They're not to be used to compare children, they're for *us* to reflect on so that we make the most of our provision. We're actually looking forward to seeing how well we do.
5. The checks consist of 25 questions (possibly only 20, depending on government trials later this year). The questions will only be multiplication and they will go up to 12x12. There's nothing novel about the questions and they don't require problem solving so there's nothing to trip them up.
6. The checks are all about remembering the multiplication facts. That doesn't mean we'll forget all about the concepts, patterns, structures and relationships in multiplication. We're going to be learning those too, partly because they go hand in hand with excellent recall.
7. There are concerns shared in the public domain that this is "yet another test". The government has been careful to call it a "check" and that's important. It signals their intention to keep it low-stakes and we should remember that the data could prove useful to us.
8. Given that the questions are relatively simple, age appropriate and the length of the check, which is carried out on a computer, is under 5 minutes, we don't think the checks are onerous.
9. Tests in themselves don't cause anxiety. It's the perceived cost of not doing well. For that reason, we will actively downplay the checks with the pupils. The only thing that will stress the children is if we repeatedly refer to the checks in class or at home, even casually in front of them when they're not supposed to be listening.
10. As far as they're concerned, when it comes to the day itself, they're going to have the computers or tablets out so it will just seem like the teachers have chosen to do something slightly different today.
11. You may notice us taking even more initiative when it comes to learning the tables with more options for home learning. If you are practising with your child, remember you're practising for the benefit of their wider maths education, not for them to get a high score on the tests. So please enjoy the opportunity to work with your child and remember to hold back on comments about the checks.
12. Please be supportive of our approach in parent-parent communication channels. It's important that we get behind the checks for the benefit of all our children.



As a school, we use Times Tables Rock Stars to get children to practise their tables. Please, play with them: it's great fun!

More details at [www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep](http://www.lafontaineacademy.org/home-prep).

Kind regards,

Monsieur Andrew Hewitt

Dr Sebastien Chapleau

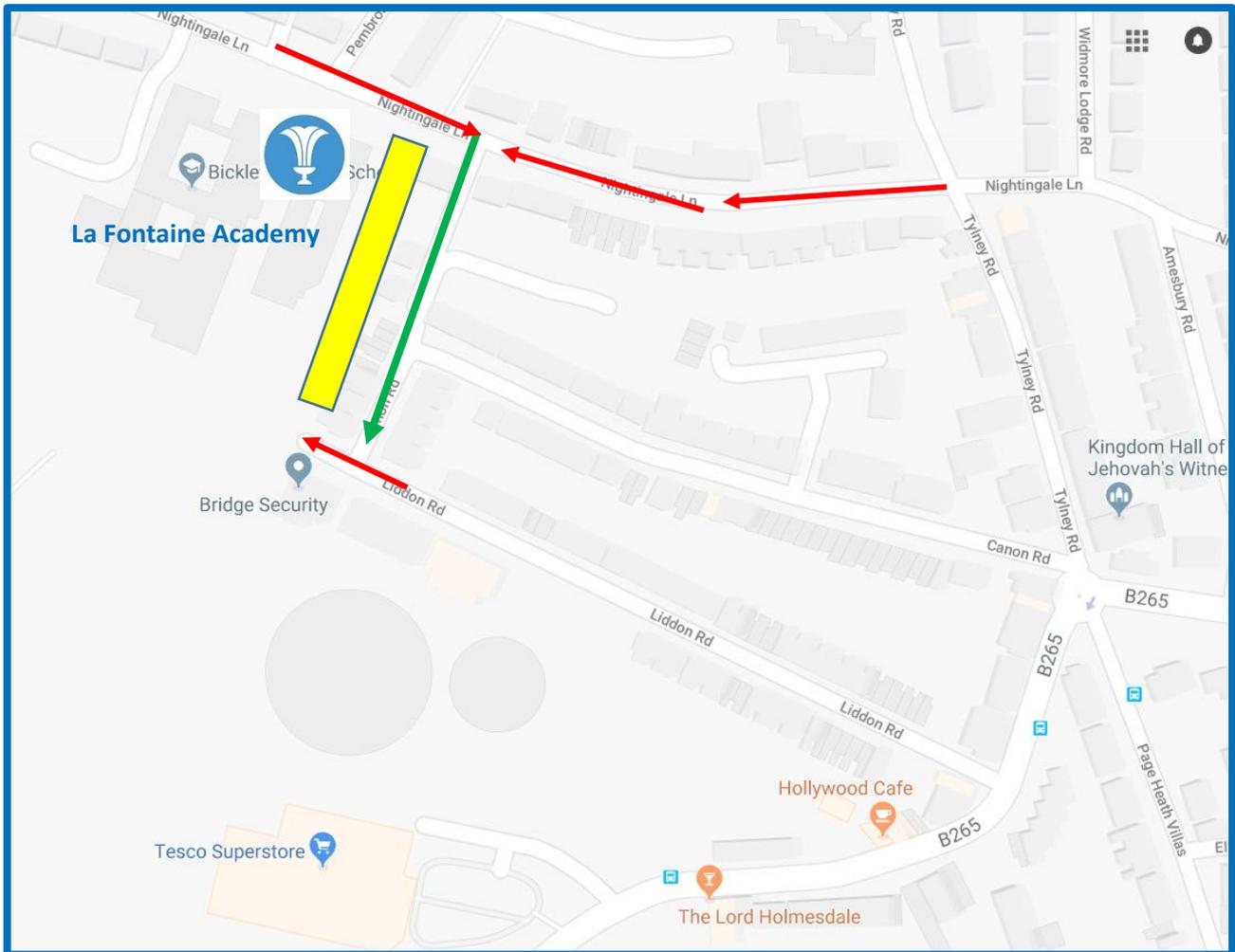


## KEY REMINDERS

**WHEN NOTICING PEOPLE NOT FOLLOWING THE FOLLOWING RULES, PLEASE SUPPORT US AND TELL THEM!**

### 1. Driveway

Please, remember that the driveway that goes along our building shouldn't be used by pedestrians as per the diagram below:



The area shaded in yellow should not be used as you come to school or as you leave after pick-up and drop off. Rather, you should use the pathway (green arrow) a few meters down/up Nightingale Lane.

### 2. Parking

Remember that you can park in the car park at the back of the school but not along our school building. The area shaded in yellow on the diagram above (the driveway) is not an area for families to park. This is reserved staff parking.

### 3. Late arrivals

The doors into our building (coming in from the playground) will be securely locked as soon as all classes are in. This will be, typically, and if all goes to plan, at 08:28.

Anyone arriving late will need to go in via our main entrance on Nightingale Lane. Note that this is the only time parents/carers are allowed to walk up the driveway (there is an area for people to walk up).

**VERY IMPORTANTLY:** note that children cannot just be left in the playground when they're late, as was the case with two children this morning: they won't be able to get in via the staircase into our building.

### 4. Playground – standing back

Please, be mindful when standing in the playground. As you'll have seen, it is, for the time being, rather small. Please, stand back as much as possible to enable our classes to line up smoothly.





## CAR PARK GATES – BISHOPS AVENUE GATES

Soon, padlocks will be installed on those gates, so that we can use the field at the back of our school safely during the day.

**The car park gates will be locked from 09:15 to 14:45 daily.**

Regarding the car park gates, be informed that, as soon as padlocks are installed, drivers won't be able to leave their cars in the car park during the day.



## Parents' Evening Booking System

### HEADS UP – PARENTS' EVENING – REMEMBER TO BOOK A SLOT

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Reception (Marie Curie), Year 1 (Simone de Beauvoir and Marie-José Pérec), Year 3 (Jacques Derrida and Jacques-Yves Cousteau) and Year 2 (Haroun Tazieff); Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March: Reception (Yannick Noah), Year 2 (George Sand), Year 4 (Lucie Aubrac), Year 5 (Simone Veil)

### AIMING FOR 97.5% FOR ATTENDANCE AND 100% FOR PUNCTUALITY

You need to be aware that we have a duty to report unauthorised absences to Bromley Council and that fines can be issued to families who don't adhere to our school policy in terms of attendance (see here for our policy: [www.lafontaineacademy.org/policies](http://www.lafontaineacademy.org/policies)). We thank you for your cooperation.

	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)	JACQUES DERRIDA (YEAR 3)	LUCIE AUBRAC (YEAR 4)	SIMONE VEIL (YEAR 5)	TOTAL
LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE (%)	98.4 🏆	97.8 🏆	98.3 🏆	98.7 🏆	96.6	92.5	95	92.9	99 🏆	96.2	96.7
ATTENDANCE SINCE SEPTEMBER (%)	96.8	96.4	96.4	97	96.8	96.1	96.9	96.6	97.2	93.1	96.3



### LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

We are committed to ensuring that all our pupils make the most of their educational opportunities at La Fontaine and recognise that this can only be achieved through regular school attendance.



**What is #LaFontaineHQ about?  
Who and what is #LaFontaineVillage for?  
Let's discuss!**





## PARENTS & TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

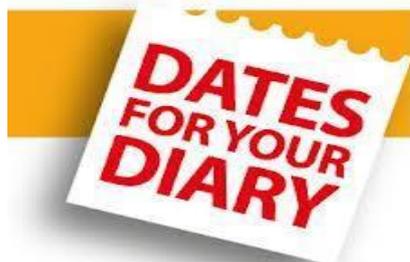
[www.ptalafontaine.org.uk](http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk)



### WELCOME TO NEW SITE, PARENTS' WINE & CHEESE EVENING

As a 'welcome' to our new site we are hosting a wine and cheese evening on Friday 9th March, 19:00-22:00. This will be an opportunity to see the inside of the new school and the classrooms, and of course drink wine and eat cheese!

Tickets are available via Classlist using the PayPal link and are £5 per person, to include the cheese buffet. There will be a bar at the event run by the PTA. Ozlem Jones and Jean Claude Bardot are the coordinators for this event, please contact them if you have any queries.



### SPRING TERM EVENTS

- **EASTER EGG HUNT AND TEA PARTY** – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March from 15:30 onwards. @ La Fontaine Academy, Nightingale Lane

### SUMMER TERM EVENTS

- **ANNUAL COUNTRY RAMBLE** - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- **QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT** - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June @ La Fontaine Academy, Nightingale Lane
- **ANNUAL CAMPING WEEKEND AT CUDHAM** - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June
- **SPORTS DAY** - Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June @ La Fontaine Academy, Nightingale Lane
- **BASTILLE DAY SUMMER FETE** - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July @ La Fontaine Academy, Nightingale Lane.



### FONTAINE LINKEDIN GROUP

Please join the "**La Fontaine Academy professional connections**" group on LinkedIn. We would like to increase professional connections between parents and carers, and with the school. This will help us to make use of any talents or skills in our community for the benefit of the school, and to increase connections between working parents.

### DONATIONS

One very important way we can all support the school is by making a financial contribution, of any size. We have a number of opportunities available, many with little effort or time required. For more information – please visit [www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/donate](http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/donate).



Using the MyDonate platform, this scheme allows you to make a monthly donation to the PTA via direct debit for an amount of your choice. Be sure to register via the instructions on our website. It takes less than a minute to sign up.



Sign up to Easyfundraising and every time you shop online, the online retailer will give you a cash reward that you can turn into a donation for the PTA.



If you work for an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money you raise could be matched by your employer. Please check with your employer if you are interested.



If you would like to do a one-off donation, please do not hesitate to email us at [contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk](mailto:contact@ptalafontaine.org.uk).

### HELPING PARENTS AND CARERS BUSINESSES

We encourage La Fontaine Academy's parents and carers to send us information about their businesses, to support and grow the La Fontaine community. More info is available at [www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/offers](http://www.ptalafontaine.org.uk/offers).



#### GROUP EUNISURE LTD - A FAMILY ORIENTATED BUSINESS

OLA AJAYI (Priscila's dad) would like to promote his business. Calling all LFA parents and carers who are looking for affordable insurance services such as Life & Critical illness cover, Income Protection, Accident & Sickness cover, Mortgage Protection, Home Insurance, Private Pension, Will writing, Funeral Plans etc.

Eunisure Ltd is a nationwide brokerage & intermediary, and a respected name throughout the insurance community. It is regulated and authorised by the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) registered number 485047 and your plan is protected by the FSCS (Financial Services Compensation Scheme).

If you would like more information, please contact Ola Ajayi (Branch Manager/Local adviser) on [07788237540](tel:07788237540).

