Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy week at La Fontaine, with Year 1 and Year 6 children now back in school. We look forward to welcoming Reception back on Monday. We now have only three weeks until the end of term, and lots still to do!

As you will read later in the newsletter, we have done a huge amount of work during lockdown on our French curriculum.

Our new, bespoke curriculum will have clear progression, from Reception to Year 6, which will include elements of reading and writing as well as speaking and listening. We will also make provision for children who are already fluent French speakers, so they are able to extend their skills appropriately.

We are very proud of our French specialism at La Fontaine, and our main aim moving forward is to embed this meaningfully throughout the curriculum. Although we will no longer have our Francophone class names, there are many other ways we will be embedding the culture across LFA, including:

- Renaming Houses with the children’s input, focusing on team and sporting endeavours. We will be looking for Francophone people who have achieved in sport, including para-athletes.

- Organising a half-termly charity drive, to include donations to international and local charities. We will donate to some of the charities the original Houses were named after, in order to make these names meaningful to the children and to help them understand the work the charities carry out. Although previous House names were inspired by charities, the children did not really understand the work they did and were often not aware of the names of the Houses.

- Termly focus on different ‘inspirational people’ for each phase, to be discussed during assemblies and prominently displayed in classrooms and shared areas. So, rather than the learning being limited to their class name (which was previously not revisited after an initial introduction in September), the children will be introduced to a range of people across different disciplines (Art, Music, Sport, Literature, Science etc.)

Cont. overleaf
Following further feedback from parents re: class names, we have now decided to adjust again and link to our planned French phonics learning. Therefore, we will use the number of the year group and the letter of the class teacher’s surname (e.g. 1P – Mme Parry). We will expect the children and staff to pronounce the number and letter in French, thereby reinforcing and embedding this knowledge.

We are extremely proud of our unique French specialism at La Fontaine. I am a passionate believer in exposing children to language learning early, and in our school systems underpinning this meaningfully. Our Francophone heritage is important, and we will continue to celebrate it at every opportunity!

Have a wonderful weekend. If you are planning to visit beaches or parks over the weekend, have a great time - but please stay safe!

Mme Mitchell

Stars de la semaine: Stars of the week

Our pupils have been working incredibly hard both at school and at home and we are so proud! Teachers are celebrating home learning in their weekly videos; in school, the following children have consistently demonstrated our La Fontaine values and so are our stars of the week:

Year 1: Everyone—well done! Year 6: Pepita & Lola KW 1: Marie & Siri
KW 2: Amelia KW 3: Lily
New French Curriculum for La Fontaine!

Over the last few months, we have been working incredibly hard to develop an exciting new French curriculum for our school. Our aim is to ensure that all children – in all year groups – have exposure to the French language in a way that is both accessible and challenging whilst also enjoying the experience of learning a new language.

Following extensive research on existing teaching resources and schemes for French, we found that no schemes met our ambitious purposes, as most primary schools do not teach French to the level we aspire to. So... we created our own bespoke curriculum just for LFA!

We have used the best pedagogical research to guide our design principles and have ensured that the children will build on knowledge from each year as they go into the next. For our children that are new to the language, this means that they should be able to hold a conversation in French by the time they leave us in Year 6 as well as be able to read and write simple sentences. For our bilingual and more experienced children, they will be able to access the DELF Prim exams - a French language qualification from the French Ministry of Education - and further their ability to read and write in French.

In the French section of the curriculum page, you will be able to see some of the documents that have been created by our team to support the teaching and learning of French: Please have a look and enjoy exploring our new resources. Our curriculum will continue to refer to the Linguascope materials, which we introduced earlier this year, to support with learning both in lessons and at home as this has proven to be very popular with the children and is a great tool to enhance their learning.

We can’t wait to start teaching the new curriculum in September!
À l’école: At school

We were thrilled to welcome back our Year 1 children on Monday. They are already settled into their small ‘bubbles’ and have impressed us all with their hard work, conduct and joie de vivre!

As part of PSHE for Year 1, the children have been collecting positive thoughts and feelings in a jar. They have been discussing what they enjoyed about being at home and things they may have learnt for the first time. The children collected these ideas and put them into their bubble feeling jar. It was a good time for them to positively reflect on their time at home. Some of their ideas:

“I learnt how to ride a bike with stabilisers.”

“Whatever I do I smile.”

“My brother helps me stay positive.”
À la maison: At home

Lesson 6
Chapter 4

What are your thoughts?

People shouldn’t just take over a piece of land that doesn’t belong to them. It doesn’t matter if you are black or white because we are all equally good in our own way. Whites shouldn’t have done that at all and I think personally that blacks have suffered even now.

What are your thoughts?
That it was quite mean, because whatever skin colour you have you should be treated equally because it’s just something in your DNA not something you’ve done wrong. It is very good they got rid of Apartheid in South Africa, but the society is still not equal. Hopefully every single black person will be treated equally with other people as there is nothing wrong with being black. In some parts of the world eg the USA people are still discriminated against for the colour of their skin.

Aisling and James, Y4, share their thoughts about chapter 4 of Journey to Jo’burg.

Dylan in Year 1 did an extra task at home last week, cooking a delicious meal at home! Well done, Dylan—it is great to see you using a variety of skills to make a healthy meal.
As you know, at La Fontaine we are always talking about reading! We work incredibly hard on the foundation for this at school: phonetic knowledge, decoding, blending, fluency, comprehension... **Reading for pleasure is incredibly important and pivotal in many ways to children’s development** (see [here](#) for a useful summary of the research and [here](#) for some great ideas and activities to engage with at home). It has been clear to us for some time that our pupils have benefitted from extensive exposure to books at home and modelling of ‘being a reader’ - thank you for your support with this and we hope your children have found some new loves over the past few months.

If you’re anything like us, some extra time ‘locked in’ at home might have made you notice the potential surplus items in your house!

If you have any **unwanted, but good quality, children’s books** at home, we would love some donations to help build up and vary our class libraries. Please either hold on to the books and bring them in September, or you could drop them into the office and we will put them in quarantine for the allotted time.

More about reading for pleasure and wellbeing in Mme Pass’s assembly on Friday 3rd July: See following page for details.

[**Merci beaucoup!**](#)
Entrevue: Interview

On the 25th of June, the key worker children and Mme Catt’s bubble had a Zoom call with the Mayor of Bromley.

We spoke about several subjects, including:

- What her day is like as Mayor: Mayor Gray has a very strict protocol that she has to follow at all times, and goes to lots of meals and events that are planned for her.
- We asked her how she copes with stress as Mayor but, fortunately, she doesn’t have much because she has a team of 3 to help her with organising her events.
- During lockdown, although she’s not been able to visit everyone she would have liked to, Mayor Gray has been able to thank the people that haven’t been recognised as heroes like the bin men and the funeral parlours as extra stress has been put on them because of the current situation.
- The Black Lives Matter Protests: She couldn’t give us an answer, because she’s not allowed to have a political opinion.

Even though she couldn’t come to our school, as she’d like to have done, it was still fun having a virtual conversation, asking questions.

We loved speaking to the Mayor and to getting to know what her job is like. We hope after lockdown we can get to meet her in person.

By Safia and Paul (Head Girl and Head Boy)
Un rappel: A reminder

Our new website is now up and running! Please take a minute to have a look; school updates will appear here as well as on Twitter (@LfaBromley) and in the newsletter. The home learning link is gliding across the top of the home page: You can’t miss it!

lafontaineacademy.org/

On se retrouve: Let’s meet!

Reminder: For the rest of this term, the senior leadership team will be giving weekly assemblies via Zoom; children AND parents are all welcome! These will be on Fridays at the following times:

- Reception: 9.30 - 9.45
  - ID: 923 4671 0438
  - Password: 3YZVNB

- Key Stage 1: 10.00 - 10.15
  - ID: 974 3782 5756
  - Password: 3YZVNB

- Key Stage 2: 10.30 - 10.45
  - ID: 951 1418 4415
  - Password: 3YZVNB
Menu de la semaine prochaine: *Next week’s menu*

Our menu for next week’s key worker provision and Year 6

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mediterranean Pasta Bake</td>
<td>Chicken Curry</td>
<td>Beef Bolognaise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrots</td>
<td>Chick Pea Curry</td>
<td>Vegetable Bolognaise</td>
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<td>Pilaf Rice</td>
<td>Spaghetti</td>
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<td>Mixed Vegetables</td>
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<td>Fruit</td>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chilli Con Carne</td>
<td>Margherita Pizza</td>
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<td>Mixed Bean Chilli</td>
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<td>Rice</td>
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Our purposeful, knowledge-rich curriculum delivers academic excellence and prepares our children to be the transformational leaders of the future.