

# THE GLOBETROTTER TIMES

January 2018 | ENL Department | Volume II, Number 5

## From Ms. Palesty's Desk...

Happy New Year! Hope everyone is rested from the well-deserved holiday vacation and ready to make 2018 the best year yet!

*In lieu of starting a new year, it is a suitable time to set new goals. Evolving as a student, teacher, and parent is inevitable but we each internalize it differently. Whatever your goal is, write it down and nourish it over the next 12 months. Surround yourself with individuals and groups who allow you to become your best self.*

*At PS 88, our goal is to always strengthen how we serve you and we rely on your feedback. Please don't hesitate to let us know how we can adapt our goals in the year ahead. We trust it will be a successful one and I look forward to sharing it with you.*

## Special Events in December

- Saturday Program: January, 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>
- ENL Monthly Parent Engagement: Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day – school closed; Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>



As we all know sometimes it's hard to start writing when faced with a blank page. To help our students to improve their writing skills we can provide them with writing prompts. Writing prompts allow them to practice writing about a variety of topics. The prompt could be a single word, a short phrase, a complete paragraph or even a picture, with the idea to give them something to focus upon as they write. Writing to a prompt regularly helps to get the students into the habit of writing.

Here are some writing prompts ideas for January.

- Theme: New Year's Resolutions - Many people begin the new year with a list of resolutions. Write about three of your New Year's Resolutions and explain what steps you need to take to make them come true.
- Theme: Make Your Dreams Come True Day - What is a dream that you have for your future? Describe this dream and explain the steps you can take right away to help make this dream come true.
- Theme: Winnie the Pooh Day - Which character from Winnie the Pooh do you think is most like you? Explain your answer.
- Theme: Popcorn Day - What is your favorite movie? OR Who is your favorite film director? Why?
- Theme: National Hobby Month - What is your favorite hobby? What makes it your favorite?



## Websites of the Month

- <http://esl.yourdictionary.com>
- <http://www.memidex.com/>
- <http://www.hello-world.com>
- <http://www.esl4kids.net>

## Did you know.....?



Did you know that Africa is bigger than the USA, Canada and India together?

- There are **54 countries in Africa** - and **9 territories**
- **Largest Country:** Algeria
- **Largest City:** Lagos in Nigeria
- **Smallest Country:** Seychelles
- **Biggest Island:** Madagascar
- **Longest River:** Nile
- **Highest Mountain:** Mt Kilimanjaro in Tanzania.
- **Biggest Lake:** Lake Victoria
- **Driest Place:** The Sahara in northern Africa is the largest hot desert in the world.
- **Languages in South America:** It is estimated that about 2,000 different languages are spoken on the African continent!

## PARENTS CORNER:



### ENL RESOURCES TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

English can be a challenging language to learn. The following list of resources can help students to find interactive ways to learn vocabulary and the rules of the language, and parents to empower their children along the way.



[Breaking News English](#) Helps students to learn vocabulary and grammar through the context of learning about current news and global affairs.

[English Club's Vocabulary Quizzes](#) There are many of categorized quizzes.

[English Forums](#) This website allows to ask any grammar questions they may have while learning English.

[English Grammar Guide](#) This website provides helpful guides and examples for learning English grammar concepts like adverb, relative clauses and verb tenses.

[Self-Study Quizzes](#) Whether trying to master homonyms, grammar, or slang, this website has a range of quizzes to help.

[ESL Kids World](#) This resource hosts a range of printable worksheets and flashcards as well as online games and songs that parents can use to engage their kids in language learning.

[Hello World](#) Hello World has more than 800 games and activities in English, all of which are completely free.

[English Leap](#) It offers help by focusing on how letters combine to form different sounds.

