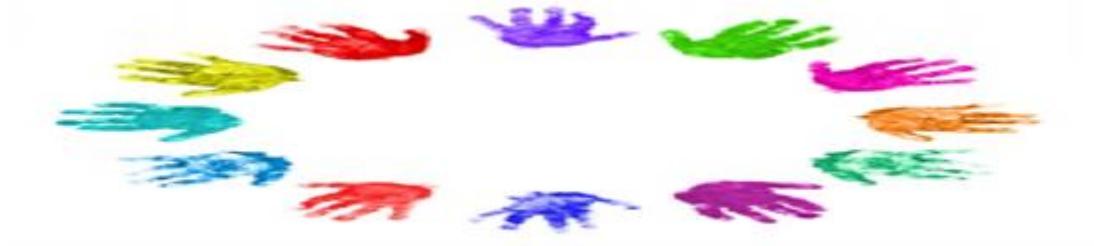


Home School Books –18 September 2015.

### Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

The children have been very creative this week and have started painting with gusto! The free painting at the easel is in demand and we have started using our “turn taking strategies”, something which doesn't come easily to three and four year olds! We will be practising turn taking and sharing a lot in nursery, so please help your little one to do this at home as well.



You will see some very creative hand prints on the opposite page; we had some very funny reactions from some of the children when we painted their hands. Obviously not an activity many children will do outside of nursery, so it was a first for some! We have learned the song “1, 2,3,4,5, once I caught a fish alive”, using our fingers to count on. Ask your child to sing it with you and see how much they can remember.

The children have also started doing a cutting out activity; again this may be the first time some of the children have held a pair of scissors. It is a technique that needs to be acquired and we will be practising our cutting out skills over the coming weeks. If you would like to continue this at home, please see the following link for some top tips on how to help your child use scissors safely:

<http://www.schoolsparks.com/blog/teaching-children-the-proper-scissors-grip>

Our story for this week was, “Shark in the park on a windy day” by Nick Sharratt. The children loved the story of Timothy Pope and his telescope trying to find sharks in the park. This is a great opportunity for introducing new and repetitive vocabulary in a large group setting. We then made our own telescopes to see if we could find any Sharks in nursery!

We also discussed our talk topic from last week, at this stage in the term, we keep it very simple and also use a lot of teacher led conversation, still, a great activity for using language and communication skills, for all of the children.

Our talk topic this week is: How many fingers and toes do you have? Can you count them?

Just one quick reminder, please remember when you pack a morning or afternoon snack for your child to take care over the portion size. It is not meant to be a substantial meal, so one piece of fruit or one biscuit or one yoghurt etc. not several different things. If your child is bringing a lot of snack back home, it is because you are giving them too much. Thank you for your understanding.

Have a great weekend and remember if you go to the park, look out for that shark!

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

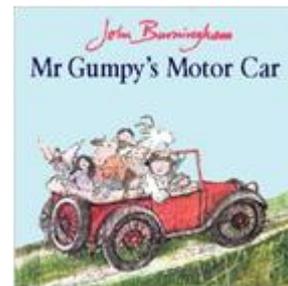
[nurseryteacher@telenet.be](mailto:nurseryteacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Nursery webpage

### Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We've had a good week in Reception, despite the damp, cooler weather. Our focus story for this week has been John Burningham's "Mr Gumpy's Motor Car".



We have continued our reading adventure with learning four new sounds. The sounds we learnt have been /i/ as in insect, /n/ as in net, /m/ as in mouse and /d/ as in dinosaur. Alongside learning these sounds we have spent a lot of the week looking at initial sounds of words. The children have shown they are able to match the correct beginning sound with its picture.

In maths, alongside our continual number work, we have been focussing on repeating patterns. The children have been looking at creating repeating patterns in different ways e.g. not only by using colour but also by size and objects.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we are now able to introduce ourselves in French, we can count up to ten and almost know eleven colours but are still working on them. We have also learnt to say Bonjour Monsieur and Bonjour Madame with the help of a little rhyme.

Sadly it was raining during our P.E. session, but that did not stop us having fun. We played musical statues and completed different stretching activities. The children also shared the effects that exercise has on our bodies.

For Talk Topic on Monday we will be answering the question 'if you had a magic carpet where would you go? What would you see?'

Finally, we'd like to remind you that due to allergies in the class it is very important that the children come to school with a nut free snack and lunch to avoid any contamination for those suffering from the allergies.

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Gill and Ivana Julaton

[receptionteacher@telenet.be](mailto:receptionteacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Reception webpage

## Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

Wow what a wet and windy week we've had in Year 1, perfect for learning all about water! In art we have continued to explore the work of the French artist Claude Monet and in particular his water lily paintings. The children did some fantastic drawings in his impressionist style with oil pastels; do come in to class and have a look at our display of the children's work. Also on the theme of water we compared what we do on a rainy day with what we do on a sunny day in geography, and discussed what our favourite weather is for our talk topic. Lots of children said they loved it when the sun shined so they could go to the beach or play in the park with their friends, while other children preferred snowy weather for making snowmen.



In science this week the children looked at a poem called 'Sun' by Steve Turner. We discussed all the things the sun does from the poem such as 'food grower' and 'ice breaker'.

This week in Literacy we revisited the p/d/t/m/s/o/a letters. The children practised handwriting these letters carefully using the correct grip and sequence of movements. They continued to practise reading and writing words with these sounds. This week we read and discussed a story called 'The Rope Swing'. The children talked about what was happening in the story and shared their ideas with the class. They then wrote a list of the characters in the order they went on the rope swing and wrote a short sentence to say which their favourite part of the story was.

In Numeracy we have practised counting on from any small number to 20 such as 4, 7 or 6. We have continued to work on careful counting and writing the numbers to 20. We worked on finding 1 more than any number to 10, and then extended to 2 more. We also looked at the story of the 'Quangle Wangle's Hat' and practised putting the animals from the story in order using ordinal numbers.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been listening to the story of Tourloubanc who is now in the country of colours and discovers lots of animals. This gives us the opportunity to revise/learn animal names in French.

Just a reminder that we change the children's library books on Thursday afternoons. You can return the books on any day by putting them in the blue box marked 'returned library books' in class, but the children will only choose a new book during our allotted library time on Thursday. Returning previous books is required in order to get new books from the library.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Patrick Tranter

[Year1teacher@telenet.be](mailto:Year1teacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Year 1 webpage

## Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

We have enjoyed another busy week in Year 2.

We played host to a group of woodlice, and one lovely, huge spider that we also found. These visitors helped with a lot of our learning this week.

In science, we investigated whether woodlice prefer dry leaves or wet leaves, by setting up two small areas, inside a tray, and observing the woodlice closely. This was a very interesting activity, and prompted much hypothesizing about the reasons for this behaviour of the woodlice.

The main writing activity for the week was the 2-paragraph report that the children planned in school, discussed with you at home, and then wrote on Thursday in our Big Writing session. The children thought and worked very hard on these reports, with very good results. I reminded them to use their knowledge of phonics to help them work out any spellings that they didn't know.



In art, we drew our own cartoon woodlice, giving them personalities and beginning to invent stories about them. Next week's Big Writing activity will be to write a story about these little characters.

In mathematics this week, our focus was on revising simple addition bonds for the numbers up to 10, and learning why it is important to know these facts by heart. We found out how to use these simple facts to make more complex calculations. Because we know that  $4+3=7$ , for example, we can also quickly work out  $40+30$ ,  $64+3$ , or  $17-4$ .

In preparation for a special session about Beethoven with the visiting musicians on Friday this week, the children have learned to sing (very well) Beethoven's Ode to Joy.

In French with Mrs Gorgia we worked on the numbers from 1 to 10. We sang the song "1, 2, 3 Violette" and enjoyed reading alphabet books on [www.readinga-z.com](http://www.readinga-z.com). Our word of the week this week was 'encourage'. We need more time to investigate this, so next week's word will be courage. (See also the talk topic for this week, please.)

The children are enjoying our rewards system, Classdojo, where they can collect points for various good behaviours. They will bring home more details of this next week.

Please take note of this weekend's talk topic (When do we need courage?), and find a few minutes to talk about it with your child.

Yours,

Kate Read and Tina Keogh

[year2teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year2teacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Year 2 webpage

### Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

It has been quite a wet week and I am glad to see that most children have a rainproof coat. It is very important for the children to have a run around, even in light rain so please make sure that they have a waterproof coat with them at all times.

In Literacy we have been looking at story openers and adjectives. We have also spoken about parts of a story and even looked at paragraphs. Guided reading was fun and we are currently enjoying the antics of Mr Majeika and Esio Trot.

In Numeracy we have been looking at multiplication tables of 4 as well as 2, 3, 5 and 10. We learnt about multiples and prime numbers as well. Think tank was very enjoyable, once again, and we are learning to think a little differently by using this activity.



In Topic we looked at the Roman army and the lives of the soldiers. We found out about the tortoise formation that they made from their shields and are looking forward to creating our own shields soon.

In Art, we made posters for use in and around the school. These posters depict our two Houses, Unicorn and Phoenix.

We enjoyed our swimming again this week and the children really do work hard in the pool.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been working in our new book "Vitamines". We revised colours and classroom material. We also learnt to say "il y a".

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the unit "Nous revoilà!" (Here we are again!) from our book "Alex & Zoé 2". We practised spelling and did many vocabulary activities. In grammar, we worked on verbs in the Present Tense.

Friday's music workshop on the History of Music was very interesting and the class got a lot out of it.

Have a peaceful, calm weekend.

Valeria Vetter

[year3teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year3teacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Year 3 webpage

### Home School Book – Year 4

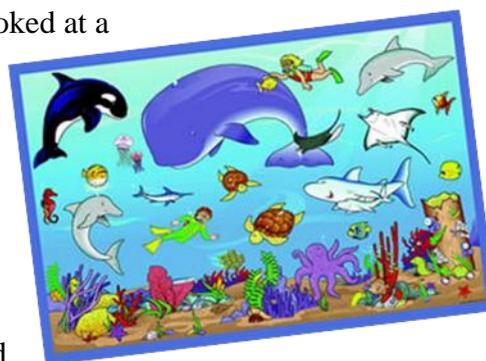
Dear Parents,

The third week of school has flown by. The children have been working hard in all areas of the curriculum. The children did well in the first spelling test this year and I would like you to continue working with your child and supporting them in learning the words. New this week is the Maths times table sheet. The children need to revise their multiples of 4 as they will be tested on Monday. In Year 4 the children will be tested up to the 12 x table.

In Literacy this week we looked at another Comprehension on castles called "The Robbers' Castle". We looked at the beginning, middle and ending of the story with great detail and continued working on questions about the text. The children had to compare this week's text with last week's text and find the differences between the two castles. . The children have become little experts on types of sentences in Grammar. We worked in more detail this week by reading instructions (commands) and writing them into the correct order as they had been muddled up purposely for the children.

In Maths this week we focused on Number Pairs. The children had to find two numbers that when added together would find a total of 100. The children were then extended to finding number pairs of a 1000. The children used the number line method and, as time went by, they began to get more confident.

In Science we concentrated on Marine habitats. We looked at a variety of fish, marine plants and mammals that live in the ocean. The children were pleased to do the research on the ipads. Once we looked at the different sea animals we then grouped the animals into four different habitat categories (beach, rock pools, Open Ocean and ocean cliffs).



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been working in our new the book "Vitamines". We revised colours and classroom material. We also learnt to say "il y a".

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the unit "Nous revoilà!" (Here we are again!) from our book "Alex & Zoé 2". We practised spelling and did many vocabulary activities. In grammar, we worked on verbs in the Present Tense.

In Topic this week we began looking at the important things a travel agent needs to do, to help a client book their dream holiday. The children each chose a country to research on. They worked individually on the ipads and noted important information and facts needed for a brochure that they are going to prepare in the next few weeks.

Lastly, please ensure that your child is wearing the PE uniform on Thursday. Please make sure that you have all purchased the PE uniform for your child.

Talk topic: What is an effective brochure? How can you make a brochure look interesting?

Have a great weekend.

Despina Kafouris

[year4teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year4teacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

### Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

This was a wet, wet week in which it would seem we said goodbye to the summer for sure. Indeed, PE was a damp affair as we doggedly learned how to Indian dribble in hockey.

Don't forget that Mr Stedman, as an Englishman is not totally unfamiliar with inclement weather for sport. Therefore do please make sure the children have a hooded raincoat and warm hat on Wednesdays and possibly a very small hand towel for drying their head and hair afterwards; only hurricane, monsoon or arctic conditions will prevent us from going out.

Back in the dry and snug, we enjoyed Rudyard Kipling's Rikki Tikki Tavi (the snake-battling garden mongoose) and the said author's Just So Stories. We discovered how the whale got his throat and learnt a little about the man himself and the losses and hardships he endured during his life. I intend to make a recommendation to visit his home (Bateman's) in next March's residential trip to Rippledown - the mix of Indian and South African exotic and English reserve must be very interesting.

In Numeracy, meanwhile, we added and subtracted 0.1 and 0.01 (which was hard) and used a trick to multiply by 4 (which wasn't).

In Science we looked at solids, liquids and gases again but had a closer look at air (if that's possible?!?)

In Topic, we started our Prezi Presentation Victorian timeline 'tapestries'.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the first unit from our book "Les Loustics ". We reviewed vocabulary related to numbers and had a great time

practising maths activities in French! We also worked on vocabulary related to colours and the members of our family.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had our first dictée of "mots invariables" words that never change their spelling. We also continued working on numbers up to 100 and we revised the verbs être and avoir. We went on working on our back to school topic.

The children didn't quite complete the Super Point Chart this week and so failed to secure Golden Time. But no matter, because the resulting Dance lesson was a major hit and success. Using Victorian composers Gilbert and Sullivan's Three Little Maids and watching Charlie Chaplin and Harold Lloyd silent movies as stimulus, the Year 5's had to choreograph a dance. And what magic the children conjured up.



All recorded on a tablet, the boys' performance using only fingers was very special but the girls' and Artem's dance was sensational. If I can find a way of getting the videos in an obtainable format to you, I will.

And that was our week.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

[year5teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year5teacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Year 5 webpage

### Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

We have now achieved a 90% success rate for both accessing and uploading documents to our e-portfolios in Google Drive, and for wearing (and bringing in emergency supplies of) deodorant for the 'Keep Year 6 Smelling Sweet' campaign! Terrific effort – well done to all.

Yet another very hectic week in Year 6; as you are aware, we are busy focusing on revising all things Space, in preparation for the Belgian World Space Quiz on October 4th. We have finalised the teams: the BISB Rockets and the BISB Astronauts. On Thursday, Mr Edward Prescott, tested the students on their knowledge of the history of space travel. The students are furiously uploading, posting and discussing research on Edmodo and Google Drive.

Alex Rider has now completed his SAS training and is preparing for his mission to discover what really is going on with the Stormbreakers at Port Tallon in Cornwall. Of course, he will need to take some spy gadgets with him and the students' next project is to design a gadget for him. For this, they will have to prepare a blueprint of their invention, as well as write

**BLETCHLEY PARK**



**THE CODEBREAKERS OF  
BLETCHLEY PARK**

an explanation about the gadget and instructions for how to use it. I have warned them not to touch anything on my desk, just in case it is not what they think it is!

In Maths, the pupils have finished their work on fractions and are now beginning the module on fractions, decimals and percentages. However, as we are now training to be spies, we need to learn how to crack codes, so we enjoyed a sneaky look at our first cipher; the code wheel. Today, we begin our weekly Monster Mental Maths challenge, which involves all pupils in the Junior Department; at 13.15 every child will complete a mental maths test.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the first unit from our book "Les Loustics ". We reviewed vocabulary related to numbers and had a great time practising maths activities in French! We also worked on vocabulary related to colours and the members of our family.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had our first dictée of "mots invariables" words that never change their spelling. We also continued working on numbers up to 100 and we revised the verbs être and avoir. We went on working on our back to school topic.

In Mandarin last week, we enjoyed a Chinese breakfast and learnt how to use chopsticks. We also studied the four tones. The Korean Cultural Centre has kindly invited us for a return visit to participate in two workshops (calligraphy and music) on Tuesday, 10th November – another date for your diary.

Today, we have a visiting musical company who will conduct a workshop on the History of musical composers for the Junior Department.

Wishing you all a happy weekend,

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

[year6teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year6teacher@telenet.be)

Please click [here](#) for our Year 6 webpage

In EAL this week

Reception

We revised vocabulary connected with the body and moved on to the topic of Clothes. We really enjoyed sharing a funny story called 'Do I put it on like this?' A little bear was unsure how to put on his clothes and we had to help him and show him how we would do it. So we pretended to put on shoes, a jumper and trousers too, describing what we were doing as we did it. We also continued our oral work with verbs in the present (continuous) tense e.g. she is running.

Years One and Two

We finished off our search for Gaston the missing bug by distributing our 'wanted/lost' posters around the school. We even went to visit Mr Prescott- hard at work in his office and asked him if we could put one of our posters on his door. We were able to recount the mysterious events that led up to Gaston's disappearance and

politely ask to be informed of any sightings. The use of question words and the higher order language functions of explanation and persuasion have been well exercised this week!

#### Years Three and Four

We enjoyed listening to and discussing another Magic Key adventure. Floppy and friends continue to hold an enduring fascination. This time we went to the Red Planet. We focused some general grammar work on compound words e.g. spacesuit. We also started some work on instructions by considering how important it is for instructions to be clear, simple, easy to follow and in the correct order!

#### Years Five and Six

In EAL this week, we had great fun with ensuring we have simple phrases in place, whilst at the same time consolidating work on facial features such as: beards and moustaches, as well as vocabulary like earring and glasses, as we geared up to play the board game Guess Who. We also worked on contractions in the simple present tense (both affirmative and negative). We have covered a lot of ground this week!