

Home School Books –2 October 2015.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

We discussed our talk topic from last week and decided everyone either lived in an apartment or a house; no one lived on a boat or a train or in a tree house! So that is what the children designed with different shapes, you can see their masterpiece on the page opposite. Don't worry if it doesn't resemble the real thing, we realise some of the designs are a little Pablo Picasso! In nursery it is the doing that is important and not the end product. We like creative thinkers, which means children making their own piece of work without too much guidance from the teacher. Although we may give a little help if needed! It was the first time some of the children had used proper sticky glue, so apologies if some of it strayed onto hair or clothes, it does wash out without too much difficulty.



Our story for this week was the 'three little pigs' and how they made their houses out of different materials, until the wolf came by.... Ask your little one to tell you what Mr Wolf did and see if they can remember. Retelling and recalling stories is an activity we practise frequently in nursery as it is great for acquiring new vocabulary and using memory skills. We continue with our work on turn taking and sharing, so please continue with this at home, as it is an important social skill and one that needs continuity.

Just a quick reminder about the dropping off procedure in nursery. Whatever time you arrive you must accompany your child into the nursery or onto the playground where there should always be a staff member to leave them with.

**Please do not leave your child unattended in the classroom.**

**If you are dropping your child off in the playground, before the 9am whistle, then please leave promptly as unnecessary hanging around can cause difficulties for your child if you are still there at lining up time.** Plus it makes for a lot of congestion in the hallway, when children from other classes are meant to be hanging up their coats etc. Thank you for your understanding.

Our talk topic for next week is: Do you have a pet? If you do, what is it? If you don't, then what would you like as a pet? No pressure parents!

Until next week, have a great weekend in the beautiful autumn sunshine.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

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

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

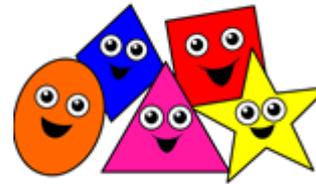
## Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

In Reception this week we have not had a focus story but have been looking and discussing autumn. The children are aware of the change in weather but also of their surroundings, such as changing leaves and falling acorns.

This week we have not learnt any new sounds but have spent each day revisiting the sounds we have already learned. The children are excellent at recognising these different sounds and can blend them together to read simple cvc words such as, c/a/t cat or p/i/n pin.

In maths we have spent the week looking at 2d shapes. We have been discussing the number of sides of different shapes and we also went into the playground on our own shape hunt searching for shapes around us.



In P.E. this week we have been working on our aiming. The children engaged in different activities that encouraged them to throw beanbags, hoops and balls into specified objects.

For Talk Topic on Monday we will be answering the question ‘we’re going on a bear hunt, what will we see? What do we do?’ This will link in with our focus story for the week.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we sang all our songs and especially our new ones about the weather. We talked about autumn fruit and vegetables. We have also started our colours books in order to revise the eleven colours we have learnt.

Finally, due to the change in temperature, we’d like to ask that each child arrives to school wearing a coat. During the morning playtimes it is still cold and so to avoid children becoming too cold please encourage them to wear a coat to school. Also could you please check the length of your child’s fingernails. While children are playing scratches can accidentally occur and so to avoid these accidents please make sure fingernails are not too long.

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,

In Year 1 this week we have continued to learn all about the weather. In our geography lesson we talked about the different clothes we wear in different weather conditions and chose what we would wear in the winter and summer. We continued to work on our weather diaries and we talked about how the season has changed and autumn has come. We made some wonderful autumn leaf sun catchers out of transparent tissue paper to make our class look autumnal. We also practised doing some leaf rubbings with autumn leaves we found outside.



This week in Literacy we practised blending and segmenting some longer words which contain sounds we have learned such as 'sunset', 'rucksack' and 'bucket'. We also practised answering yes/no questions which contain high frequency words and decodable words which the children have learned such as 'Did I get to the top?' and 'Is the mug red?'. This week we read and discussed a story called 'Nobody wanted to play'. The children wrote a list of the play equipment that Wilf went on and then wrote about a trip to the park. This piece of work can be seen in their home school books this week.

In Numeracy we have been learning some songs about number facts. In particular we have learned the song 'Mr Double Trouble' and we made a display in class to help us to remember the song and learn our doubles up to double 6. The children practised completing doubles sums such as  $1+1$  and  $4+4$  using their knowledge of doubles. We also looked at pairs of numbers that make 10 such as  $6+4$  and  $7+3$ . We added 2 more to numbers up to 30 and practised writing numbers up to 30.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still listening to the story of Tourloulou who is yet in the country of the colours. With the help of a little song, we have learnt prepositions like "sur, sous, dans, devant, derrière, à côté de, au milieu de".

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,

This week's science activity once again involved our woodlice friends. The children planned and conducted their own investigation, observing the behaviour of woodlice when placed in a tray containing two contrasting areas (one dark and one light, for example, or one sandy and one muddy). There was some very sensible discussion of

how to ensure we were setting up a fair test, making sure there was only one variable in each case.

In our Big Write session, in literacy, we wrote a report of this science investigation, using subheadings and a labelled diagram. I am pleased to see the children continuing their progress in writing with increasing confidence and fluency. This week we also took some time to practise a little cursive handwriting, and we will continue with weekly handwriting sessions over the next few weeks.

In mathematics this week, we learned about reflective symmetry, finding lines of symmetry, and drawing symmetrical pictures. We learned about 2D shapes, recalling the names of the basic shapes, describing them by the number of sides and corners, and sorting them using a Venn diagram. We especially looked at right angles, a concept which the children found hard to apply to shapes, but much easier to understand when applied to real world buildings. We also practised doubling numbers, up to double 15.



Please note that Swimming Group 1 will continue their Tuesday sessions until the last week of this half term. After half term, Swimming Group 2 will begin their swimming sessions on a Tuesday. Many thanks to those parents who have kindly accompanied the swimming group as we do appreciate having one parent volunteer each week.

Please also remember that next Tuesday, October 6th, those children who are not going swimming will be going on an outing to a park close to the swimming pool. A notice was given out last week about this outing and we are still looking for a parent volunteer to assist myself and Mrs Keogh with the park outing. Please let me know if you can come with us to the park next Tuesday (we will leave school at 11, and return to school around 12.35.)

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we talked about animals and learned how to say " J'ai un / une.."(I have a...) and "Je n'ai pas de..."( I don't have...). We also sang the song " Un éléphant ça trompe énormément" and practised reading on [www.readinga-z.com](http://www.readinga-z.com)

Here are two useful maths activities online that the children might like to try.

For practising number bonds:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

For seeing symmetry:

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/symmetry-artist-v1.html>

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,

The weather has been stunning this week and the children have profited from the sun in a rather different scientific way with their beans.

In Literacy we have been looking at recounts. We have discussed the features of a recount and have looked at quite a few examples. We tried to write our own and have even up levelled it. In phonics we looked at different sounds and had to choose the correct sound for the picture. Guided reading continues to be a treat with the children so involved in the antics of Mr Majeika and class Three as well as Mr Hoppy and Mrs Silver from Esio Trot. We discussed the authors intentions and question why he writes the way he does. In this way we learn how to vary things in our own writing. The Puffin virtually live workshop on Roald Dahl last Friday was such a treat and the children really enjoyed learning about it. I am sure they all want to read the book now.

In Numeracy we finished our look at doubling and halving and moved on to time. We have had practice in telling the time to the half and quarter hours. We have also been doing exercises in our workbooks on Time.

In Topic we took a look at a Roman Villa and discussed the various rooms and commented on the under floor heating of the time. We also discussed the sanitary arrangements and decided we prefer our arrangements to theirs (communal toilets)

In Science we had a lovely time. Our beans have sprouted so fast due to the sun and water given to them. Most have leaves and it is interesting to note that some beans didn't grow at all. We have been recording the bean progress in our science books. Another interesting thing to note was that the beans not moved into the music room for the weekend grew but were yellow due to the lack of light.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been working in our book "Vitamines". We have described ourselves using simple adjectives and the verb "être". We also worked in our exercises books on the same theme.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on vocabulary related to everyday activities. The children described their morning routine from when they wake up till they go to school. For that reason, we studied reflexive verbs such as "se réveiller", "se lever" and "s'habiller".

In Art we have finished painting our Roman shields and will put the finishing touches on to them next week. Now that they have been painted they are beginning to look really spectacular.

Don't forget our outing next Friday to the Brussels Space Expo exhibition.

Our talk topic for this week is: Would you like to have lived in a Roman Villa? Why or why not?

Have a calm weekend and enjoy the sun while it lasts.

Valeria Vetter

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

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

## Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

It has been a real pleasure for me to have the opportunity to work with Year 4 for most of this week. They have been charming and very helpful in ensuring that I know their class routines ! We have had many interesting conversations about a range of topics but one that I have pursued during the week is about eating breakfast before coming to school. It seems that many children come to school having eaten nothing for breakfast. I explained that breakfast is the most important meal of the day as it gives them the energy to get started. We also spoke about bedtimes and the need for our bodies to have enough sleep so that we are truly rested to face each day!



As well as all our talking we also managed to get a lot of work done; we had a very interesting comprehension exercise about survival and the children were reminded about answering in full sentences rather than short phrases. They had some very interesting ideas about how to survive in a situation with no clean water or toothbrushes!

In Maths we tried estimating the position of numbers on a number line without markers. They took turns at correcting each other's maths sheet and realized the importance of checking their work to avoid careless mistakes. All of the children showed great enthusiasm for maths which is a joy to see and they really enjoyed being challenged.

We had fun getting our bottles ready to make rockets next week and also made some silhouette pictures with chalk firework displays. Again I was impressed with how well they got on with their pictures independently. The children also worked on their country brochures ready for the display in the corridor. Tennis was great fun and they all entered into the games with abundant enthusiasm.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been working in our book "Vitamines". We have described ourselves using simple adjectives and the verb "être". We also worked in our exercises books on the same theme.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on vocabulary related to everyday activities. The children described their morning routine from when they wake up till they go to school. For that reason, we studied reflexive verbs such as "se réveiller", "se lever" and "s'habiller".

Mrs Avis has asked that if any Mums (or Dads) would like to volunteer to listen to children read then please let the school office know. It is important for children to

read aloud as often as possible so we are grateful for anyone who has spare time to lend an ear!

Next week's talk topic is to discuss the activities we do during a day that require energy and where we get that energy from.

Enjoy the weather over the weekend and Mrs Kafouris will be back on Monday.

Best Wishes,  
Helen Prescott and Mrs Tolentino  
[year4teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year4teacher@telenet.be)  
Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

### Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

Highlight of the week was our jolly jaunt to Bokrijk open-air museum. We enjoyed having Mr Tranter and the school minibus with us, and the perfect weather and exhibits on show made it the perfect day. We recognised the ink pot holders and the cane in the 19th century classroom that we'd learnt about in class but we hadn't counted on the teacher with his bowler hat nor the clogs for each child. On the village green, I was a bit spooked when the local policeman drew his sword on me but the boys (our girls having been excluded as it was in those days) were surprised when they had to fall in and stand to attention for inspection!



Back in our 21st century classroom, we measured and converted measures of length and perimeter using cm, m and mm as units.

In literacy, we wrote stories which we hope to retell to Infant audiences next week. The children had to try and emulate Kipling's style and imagery whilst paying attention to all important grammar and punctuation. Over the weekend, the children must consider how to story tell their creations with their audience and the goal of entertaining them in mind

In Topic, we examined the problems of Victorian inner city living and the lives of everyday people. We had a fascinating look at the case of William Towers, put in prison for a month at the age of 12: What did he do? Why did he do it? And how did his life pan out afterwards?

Working independently, the children also had to research Victorian dress and customs and add this information on two more PowerPoint slides.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the unit "Vive l' école!" (Long live school!) from our book "Les Loustics". We did many vocabulary and grammar activities and had a great time singing the song "Mes petites mains" and reading the poem "S'il te plaît".

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had our third dictée of "mots invariables", words that never change their spelling. We also read chapter 3 of our book "La disparition" and answered questions about the first two chapters. Worked on "est" and "et" and practised on exercises on the Internet. We also corrected a homework based on c'est and ce sont.

In science, we all agreed, through various experiments, that air is contained in solids with spaces (e.g. sponge), air pressure exerts a downward force upon everything and air expands and rises when it is heated.

In PE we played football in beautiful sunshine and under beautiful blue skies. Passing and chipping but above all ball control was the focus.

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,

If you look at the Year 6 page on the BISB Website, you will see that the MI5 candidates have had their ID photographs taken, and are now ready to commence their training. They will be issued with gadgets, which are in the final stages of the design process and all 'Year 6 Q Branch' scientists are to submit, to MI5 Headquarters next Friday, the explanation texts and blueprints for their gadgets. To support the writing of their explanations texts, the pupils have studied the passive, active and imperative form of verbs as well as technical vocabulary.

In computing, the students continued with their work on the features of ROM and RAM and binary code. This links with the base 2 maths that some of the pupils are studying in maths, which includes mastering addition, subtraction, multiplication and division using binary numbers. All pupils have revised factors and prime numbers.

In Mandarin last week, we were treated to 'Moon Cake' as part of the Mid-Autumn Festival. We learnt about the legend of the Moon Festival involving the characters Chang-E and Hou Yi as well as vocabulary associated with this event.



I hope that you have all received the various emails concerning the World Space Quiz week on Sunday. Students travelling in the school minibus should arrive at the Infant Department at 13.30. Our estimated time of return is 18.15, again at the Infant Department. If you are making your own way to the venue, please aim to arrive by 13.45. I have posted, and continue to post updates, to Edmodo and Google Drive.

Next Friday is the department outing to the 'Gateway at Space Exhibition'; children will require two 'large' snacks for the day and a bottle of water. The following week, we have the visit to the Planetarium and overnight stay in the Atomium; please make sure that you have all the necessary kit, including 'Top Secret' items!

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the unit "Vive l' école!" (Long live school!) from our book "Les Loustics". We did many vocabulary and grammar activities and had a great time singing the song "Mes petites mains" and reading the poem "S'il te plaît".

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had our third dictée of "mots invariables", words that never change their spelling. We also read chapter 3 of our book "La disparition" and answered questions about the first two chapters. Worked on "est" and "et" and practised on exercises on the Internet. We also corrected a homework based on c'est and ce sont.

Today, we have our first Inter-House Quiz in the Junior Department, and yes, you can guess the topic – space! I would like to thank Mr Edward Prescott for all his help in researching and devising quizzes to prepare the year 6 astronauts for Sunday; the children eagerly awaited his visits.

See you on Sunday.

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 focused on some basic mathematical vocabulary. We counted and ordered numbers to ten and we looked at basic 2D shapes- including circles, triangles etc. We combined this with exercises to improve our basic cutting skills as we had to cut various shapes and stick them in order of size from largest to smallest. It also involved following basic instructions, like 'try to cut along the line if you can!'

Years One and Two

We have focused our attention on vegetables. We really enjoyed two stories about not liking certain vegetables, one was about Charlie and Lola and her dislike of tomatoes, and the other was about a mum who didn't like Brussel sprouts and her daughter who hated peas. This led onto the creation of a whole group, heart felt ode to the humble cabbage, when we discovered that the inside of a cabbage is called a heart! So it must have feelings..... right?!

Years Three and Four

We concluded our work on instructions. We wrote clear and precise (slightly bossy too!) instructions to make sandwiches and discussed them as a group to check for any ambiguities - like had we made it clear which slice of bread to put the salad leaves and cheese on to! The only part of a filling for sandwiches we could all agree on to

make together on Friday was the bread itself and then butter! We also had great fun reading aloud together the glorious poem by AA. Milne aptly entitled The King's Breakfast, in which he laments a sad lack of butter!

#### Years Five and Six

We have continued to conjugate verbs in the (simple) present, past and future tenses (I will/shall..... eat/drink etc.) both orally and then in writing. We also considered vocabulary connected with food and combined this with practising expressing our likes and dislikes. We played bingo too, not just for the fun of it of course, but to revise numbers to 100. We had another look at question words as they always prove tricky! Especially once you try to think of the correct missing question word that fits into a partially completed sentence.