

Home School Books – 16 October 2015.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Photograph day went without too many hiccups for nursery, so we hope when the photographs come in, there are some happy smiling faces on them!

Talking about faces, we have revisited our knowledge and understanding of what our different facial features are and their purpose. You will see on the page opposite how your child transferred this onto paper. First they looked at themselves in the mirror; children really love doing this! Then we talked about what they could see, looking at similarities and differences, they then drew their interpretation of how they saw themselves, onto the face template. Remember to ask your little one to talk to you about their work, help them to use appropriate vocabulary to discuss with you what they have achieved.

We also went Autumn mad this week; the children enjoyed leaf printing, painting real leaves in wonderful rustic colours and then pressing the patterns they made onto paper. They also made sticky, shiny apples from coloured foil, very messy and just wonderful for three and four year olds to get creative! These items will be added to our whole school autumn display, which you can see in progress on the staircase wall, remember to take a look when you are next in school.



Next week is Pumpkin week, so we will be looking at, making, baking and tasting all things pumpkin related! So if you would like to bring in a pumpkin of any shape or size next week, there will be a display table in the school library. Please remember to label it with your child's name and class, so you can take it home again at the end of the week.

When you open your child's folder this week, you will see an appointment slip for the next individual parent/ teacher meetings on Wednesday 4th November. Can you please sign this and bring it back to nursery to say you can make the date and time allocated to you? The meeting will be for around 10 minutes and it is to discuss how your child has settled into nursery and is getting on so far.

Unfortunately we do not have much flexibility for swapping appointments, as we have a lot of parents to see on that day, so please try and stick to the time allocated. If you have a genuine reason for not being able to attend at the time given, then we will try our best to accommodate you on another day.

Our talk topic this week is: Have you ever eaten Pumpkin pie? What did it taste like or what do you think it would taste like?

Have a good weekend and wrap up warm!

Remember next week is the last week before the half term break.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We've enjoyed another autumnal week; with the sudden change in temperature the signs of autumn are very visible around us, from the changing leaves to the foggy mornings. This week we have not had a focus story but have enjoyed a collection of autumn focussed stories.



In phonics this week we have looked at two new sounds /h/ as in horse and /sh/ as in shop. This week the children tried their first piece of unaided writing. Each child had to try and independently use their knowledge of the sounds to write simple words or phrases about autumn.

This week in mathematics we have been working on one more than, one less than chosen numbers to ten. The children are becoming good at remembering which one means moving backwards and which one means moving forwards. We have also started measuring objects using cubes. The children have learnt how to carefully, and accurately, measure different objects, both 3d objects in the classroom and 2d objects on pieces of paper.

In P.E. this week we did lots of quick movement activities to keep ourselves warm. The children had to move in different ways. Such as, backwards, forwards, on tiptoes etc.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we are still talking about autumn as our main topic. We are still singing songs about apples and we also learnt a little rhyme/poem. We also spoke about mushrooms and are trying to learn a song. Our colour books are almost ready but we are still revising the eleven colours we have learnt.

As we are now well into the new academic year we have to start moving the snack and lunchtime sessions towards their allotted length of time. Therefore, if your child is bringing home surplus food it may be because you are providing too much for the children to eat in the time provided. For snack they have twenty minutes eating time and for lunch they have thirty minutes eating time.

Finally, for Talk Topic on Monday we will be presenting our pumpkins to our peers.

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Gill and Ivana Julaton

receptionteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

As the half term holidays are approaching, this week in Year 1 the children have shown me all of the skills they have learned so far since the beginning of September. In reading they are using their knowledge of sounds and high frequency sight words and many children are beginning to comment on what they are reading and answer questions about the text. Keep up all the good work with hearing your child read at home, it really can help them to practise their ability to use phonics to decode words and enhance their comprehension skills.

In writing the children have used their ability to segment words to write some short sentences about a story, and the children are beginning to use capital letters and full stops in their work. In mathematics I was very pleased to see that the children are starting to remember number facts such as doubles up to double 6 and pairs of numbers that make 10; this is great news. We have learned a couple of songs, 'Mr Double Trouble' and 'Superheroes', to help us learn these maths facts so don't be surprised if your child comes home singing these catchy, memorable tunes, I can't stop singing them either!

We have also continued to look at the weather in our geography lessons. This week the children practised giving weather forecasts in the weather forecasting role play area, learned how to play a weather forecasting game and wrote their own weather forecasts... a lot of them predicted that it will snow, but I hope it's not going to come for a couple more months! In science we continued to focus on the 4 main seasons and the children finished their seasons' wheels that show how the environment changes in different seasons. In art the children drew some abstract trees using shapes and an autumnal colour palette.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we took advantage of Aarav's birthday to talk about birthday celebrations and parties. We watched a few cartoons on this theme with the help of l'âne Trotro and Petit Ours Brun. We also revised the prepositions we learnt by doing an activity on paper.

Just a reminder that next week is our annual Pumpkin Week. The children will have lots of pumpkin related learning fun all across the curriculum. On Friday they can also dress up in pumpkin related clothing or autumnal colours. They can also bring in a pumpkin for our infant department pumpkin display from Monday. If your child does

bring in a pumpkin, please write their name on the bottom of it using a marker pen so we can return it to them at the end of the week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Patrick Tranter

Year1teacher@telenet.be

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

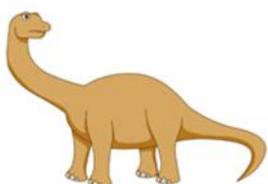
Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

This has been another busy week in Year 2, and the children have all been working hard.

In Mathematics, we have been comparing numbers, using the signs $<$ and $>$, and revising adding and subtracting multiples of ten (e.g. $36 + 20$: we have noticed that the tens digit changes, but the units digit does not). In addition to learning concepts and skills in maths, I am encouraging the children to raise questions about maths, and to investigate their questions. An investigation currently under way includes “How many different kinds of triangles are there?” Investigations like these, and the explanations that the researchers give to the class afterwards, encourage the children to use higher order thinking skills, and deepen their understanding of maths.

In Literacy this week, we continued to learn about poetry, again asking questions, which we will try to answer over the coming weeks, by reading a range of poems. The children also each wrote their own poems describing features of Autumn. It is lovely to see the imagination and talent of the children in evidence in these poems. You will be able to read the poems when they are displayed on the wall by the stairs. We also read together *The Gruffalo*, by Julia Donaldson, after which Mrs Keogh gave a drama workshop based on the story, the children preparing a short presentation about the characters. They very much enjoyed this activity, which was an excellent way of investigating characters and different viewpoints, and of practising speaking aloud.



We began to learn more about dinosaurs, and our Big Writing activity this week was a piece of unaided writing describing a dinosaur, which the children had drawn in a previous session.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we did a revision of the numbers, colours and vocabulary that describe the objects we use at school (un livre, un cahier, un crayon, etc). We also read the book "C'est l'automne" and sang the song "Il pleut, il mouille ".

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 sessions. Many thanks to the parents who have kindly accompanied the swimming group. We do appreciate having one parent volunteer each week.

I wish you a happy weekend.

Yours,

Kate Read and Tina Keogh

year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

It got decidedly chillier this week and we all felt the results of this. Plus, there were quite a few rain showers so I am pleased the class all had rainproof coats.



In Numeracy we looked at 3D shapes. We spoke about their characteristics, counted the faces, edges and corners. We used multi-link cubes to build up our own shapes. We also touched on Venn diagrams which we will do in more detail soon.

Think Tank is progressing nicely and we find ourselves on level 3: Cranium Crackers.

In Literacy we looked at the characteristics of a recount again in preparation for our writing on Friday. We wrote a recount of our trip to the Space exhibition. In guided reading Mr Majeika is getting so exciting and we all want to know what is going to happen next. The Magic Finger is enthralling the second group. We also found time to do some pairs reading this week and it is lovely to see the children discussing the books together.

In Science we are perturbed to see that our beans are not doing as well this week. We discussed this and have decided that it is the colder weather that is to blame.

In Topic we looked at Roman shopping and after researching online, made a document which we shared on Showbie using the ipads.

We enjoyed our penultimate swimming lesson this week and the coach has praised our little class for their dedication and enthusiasm. There has been so much progress in the last few weeks and it is because the children have worked so hard.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have made an alphabetical list of all the animals we know and have learnt them by playing various games. We also worked in our exercises books.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started a new unit from our book "Alex & Zoé" on Family. We did many vocabulary activities, and the children prepared a small presentation about their extended family.

In Art we are almost finished our rainy day pictures and they look stunning. We have used a mixture of paint and pastels to good effect.

Wednesday was Photograph day and it was exciting for us to have our photos taken.

Our talk topic for this week is: A piece of moon rock was found in the Sahara desert. How did it get there?

The Interview time slips have been attached to your child's reading diary. Please make a note of this time and if you need to change the time, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Have a warm and peaceful weekend.

Valeria Vetter

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

The children started the week by discussing the trip they attended at the Space Expo last Friday. They were ecstatic about the different things they had seen at the Science Expo, as well the fun space games they were able to go on. It was a wonderful trip and the children gained lots of interesting knowledge about the different astronauts that went up into space and the lifestyles they had.

This week the Year 4 children worked to their very best effort as the children were assessed on their Numeracy, reading and writing skills. It was wonderful to see how hard they worked and the great effort they put into their assessments.

In Grammar we continued looking at comparative and superlative adjectives. We discussed how some adjectives cannot be changed using er, est, more or most and that the whole adjective changes.

In maths this week we looked at time. Our first lesson was basic with constant repetition of telling the time. We then looked at an analogue clock and discussed the changes in the numbers when reading a digital clock especially when the time is in the afternoon and before midnight. The children practised writing the times in both analogue and digital. We then looked at time problems which were challenging at first but as time went by the children were a lot more confident. Please do spend time with your child by asking them different questions related to time. It could be very helpful

for your child as they will definitely become more familiar with the clock and telling the time.

A Marine food chain is what we focused on this week in Science. The children looked at producers and consumers of the ocean and had to complete a food chain by ordering the pictures of the marine life into order. The children have become more certain of the food chains and can now easily make up their very own food chain.

In Topic we did map work. This week the children had a chance to use an Atlas. We firstly looked at the contents in the Atlas and discussed the way the Atlas is separated into different titles and how an Atlas is used. We then took a glance at the world map and looked at the seven continents of the world. The children then worked in their Topic workbooks where they had to do some labelling work and colour in the seven continents of the world.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have made an alphabetical list of all the animals we know and have learnt them by playing various games. We also worked in our exercises books.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started a new unit from our book "Alex & Zoé" on Family. We did many vocabulary activities, and the children prepared a small presentation about their extended family.

The Year four children are the BISB architects. The children completed a 3D drawing task and they were superb!! They had excellent listening skills as they had followed challenging instructions step by step to complete their buildings and property 3D drawing. Once they had completed their 3D drawing in HP pencil, they then began colouring in their drawings lightly making sure that they didn't lose the 3D pencil effect in the background. This will be continued the following week.



Next week's talk topic is to discuss what is aggressive behaviour and bad manners in the playground?

Enjoy the weekend

Best Wishes,

Despina Kafouris

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

This week autumn finally arrived as did trains at all platforms! To ready ourselves for next week's anticipated trip to Trainworld, we explored how the locomotive was

invented and how the exploding railway network went hand-in-hand with the Victorian's Industrial Revolution. Which routes were laid down? How did it change the lives of people in the UK? Was it for the benefit or to the detriment? These interesting questions and others were answered in Topic this week.

In Literacy, we started a pocket-sized unit on Narrative Poetry and the focus was the story of poor Charlotte Dymond, murdered on a Cornish moor by her suitor in 1844. The gory details; the spooky setting and atmosphere; and the brilliant poetry all had us enthralled (and chilled). Year 5 are also now getting to become excellent detectives as this is the second Victorian crime they have had to investigate.



For his crime of passion Matthew Weeks was hung at the gallows whereas our Year 5 children's fate was a reading test; both being quite similar in the horror they bestow in their victims. We'll know how we did by next week.

In maths, meanwhile, we found change from £10, £20, £50 and £100 and also looked at multiples. In PE we played handball.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Où habites-tu?" (Where do you live?) from our book "Les Loustics". We worked on vocabulary related to the description of a place and we talked about cities, countries and landscapes.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on the physical description of people. The children wrote two descriptions or more and read them aloud. We had to guess the person the child was describing. We also listened to a song containing lots of adjectives and had to spell them correctly.

In Science, we had a deep think about what happens to wet washing on the line and puddles. What happens to the water and where does it go? We had some very unusual and some very scientific explanations. The children then devised their own experiments to test out the theories we'd shared.

And that was our week!

Note that next week will be the mighty Pumpkin Week! We need a pumpkin each, please, for we will be thinking about all things pumpkin, we will be cooking and will also be entering a prize member of the marrow family (o.k., squash family) in the competition for judging at the end of the week.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

year5teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

By the time you read this email, I think that I will have fallen asleep on the sofa. You will have collected your very tired child, and an overnight bag which will no doubt have one sock missing! The children are finding it extremely difficult to concentrate, and the word 'Atomium' keeps being mumbled at regular intervals.



Mr Prescott tried to go into his office and almost fell over the mountain of bags, suitcases and sleeping bags; the girls appear to have taken enough clothes for a week!

We had an amazing outing to the Space Expo last Friday; I am sure that our budding astronauts would have stayed until the end of day, given half a chance. I hope that you have seen all the photographs on the school website. Our Space display in the Entrance Hall is taking-off, too.

The children were tested on their reading comprehension skills this week and despite my pleas to read the question at least twice, and put the required number of ticks in the relevant boxes, some students lost valuable marks for either too many ticks or not enough. Always an important exercise, afterwards, we analysed the test papers; I could hear moans and groans of frustration as pupils discovered their unnecessary mistakes. We have also been learning how to write sentences using a fronted adverbial.

Book club on Monday, 'Journey of 1000 Miles, generated a lot of discussion about the plight of refugees; it was obvious that some pupils had studied the book in depth - well done. Students have been given their new reading books for our next Book Club on Monday, 16th November.

In maths, we are revising all four operations; addition, subtraction, long multiplication and long division including decimals. We shall continue this work next week. The students enjoyed their 'Think Tank' session with Year 5 and Mr Stedman.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Où habites-tu?" (Where do you live?) from our book "Les Loustics". We worked on vocabulary related to the description of a place and we talked about cities, countries and landscapes.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on the physical description of people. The children wrote two descriptions or more and read them aloud. We had to guess the person the child was describing. We also listened to a song containing lots of adjectives and had to spell them correctly.

Edith Cavell has been in our thoughts this week. On Tuesday, with the Year 5 pupils, we investigated her life and horrific death. The children have produced portraits of Edith and these will be on display. Next Tuesday, during school time, we shall be visiting an exhibition to commemorate the centenary of her death.

We continue with our reading of Stormbreaker; Alex is in trouble and his cover is about to be blown. Herod Sayle is suspicious. Our aim is to finish the novel by half-term.

Good night! Have a quiet and relaxing weekend.

Kind regards,

Beverley Tranter

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

In EAL this week

Reception

We continued work on vocabulary connected with the topic of houses and home. We discussed the different types of buildings that people can live in, including: apartments, bungalows, semi-detached and detached houses. We also started to focus on vocabulary connected to the bedroom and living room, using affirmative and negative statements as we responded to the question 'Does this belong in the...room?'

Years One and Two

We shared the book *We're Going on a Picnic* by the author and illustrator Pat Hutchins. We discussed the fruit picked by each character and then sequenced and discussed the story using the higher order language skills of explanation and persuasion. We used the conditional tense orally by responding to lots of 'what if' questions.

Years Three and Four

We continued work on the Pie Corbett story *Lazy Jack*. We finished story mapping it and then started to rewrite the story in our own words, just using our story maps as prompts and I have been extremely impressed by the results so far. We also spent time on reading comprehension exercises and played games to reinforce the correct usage of adjectives.

Years Five and Six

In EAL this week, we finished our recent stint on tenses by working on the past tense (continuous) with both with written and oral exercises. We worked extensively on mathematical vocabulary connected to fractions, including terms such as denominator and numerator. It has been very useful to solve fraction problems guised primarily as written problems, as the language itself can obviously be a potential barrier to our mathematical success. Our time together was curtailed slightly by the exciting trip to the Atomium, but we will resume in earnest next week.