

Home School Books – 13 November 2015.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

We have started off our new theme of 'nursery rhymes' and Humpty Dumpty has been our rhyme of the week. The children have looked at the different versions of the rhyme on the white board and they have decided on a favourite which you can find on <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=humpty+dumpty+hoopla+kidz&FORM=VIRE1#view=detail&mid=85A9BC2C26ACB3AF8A7585A9BC2C26ACB3AF8A75>

During group time we talked about the shape of Humpty and what he was made from and why he broke when he fell off the wall. Ask your little one if they can remember the answers to all of the questions and discuss the Humpty Dumpty rhyme with them. Any type of discussion or conversation in mother tongue or English or preferably both, is immediately enriching for your child's communication and language skills.



The children then made their very own Humpty Dumpty which you can see opposite. The paper folding required for the arms and legs of Humpty is a great way to improve your child's fine motor movement. All you need are a few scraps of paper and then show your child how to fold it from front to back like a fan, try it. It's great fun and the children love it. Please take a look at the Humpty Dumpty display that nursery have made, you will find it on the long wall opposite the Reception class.

We have also celebrated Diwali the Hindu festival of light this week, some of the children were very animated about this celebration and gave us some great Diwali story's, we heard all about little Diwali and big Diwali and there was a lot of food involved in both! Again take a look around the nursery and see if you can spot our Diva lamps and our Rangoli patterns.

Just a quick reminder, in preparation for the winter, we are encouraging all of the children to become more independent when putting on coats for going outside. Please continue this at home as it makes a huge difference to how long it takes us all to get ready to go out, if each child can put on their own coat and zip it up!

Our nursery rhyme for next week is Hickory Dickory Dock, so our talk topic is 'What would you do, if you saw a mouse in your house?'

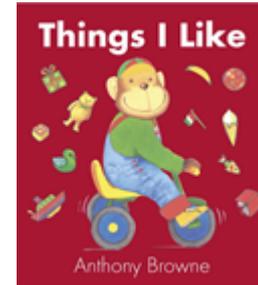
Have a great weekend
Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove
nurseryteacher@telenet.be
Please click [here](#) for our Nursery webpage

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

Despite being a slightly shorter week we have still managed to get lots done in Reception. Our focus story for this week has been Anthony Browne's 'Things I like'.



This week we have started learning 'tricky words', otherwise known as common irregular words. These are words that cannot be phonetically written or read and must simply be learnt. This week we have looked at the words 'like' and 'the'. To help the children begin to remember these words we have been playing simple recognition games and been using funny voices to read the words. The children also wrote a phrase in the format of our focus story 'I like ...' and they tried hard to use their phonetic knowledge to complete the sentence.

In mathematics we have been looking practically at subtraction and sharing. We have done lots of whole class activities which encouraged the use of mathematical vocabulary such as 'take away', 'minus' and 'equals'. The children have also completed activities where they crossed off objects to show they have been taken away.

In French with Mrs Scharf we finally finished our colours book and talked about the seasons and how we dress in autumn and winter.

In Reception we are going to start having a junk modelling box available for the children during the afternoons. Therefore, please feel free to bring in any empty cereal boxes, milk bottles and the like to help us keep a steady range of junk modelling materials in the classroom.

Finally, for Talk Topic on Monday we will be sharing ideas of what our favourite toys might say if they could talk.

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,

In Year 1 this week we have been busy as always and although the week was only 4 days we certainly have done a lot!

As it was Diwali this week we talked about our favourite celebrations in circle time. Some children liked Easter because of Easter egg hunts, Christmas because it's great fun and Diwali because of the beautiful Rangoli patterns. We all agreed that we love

to celebrate special occasions! We focused on Diwali this week and we looked briefly at the story of Rama and Sita and sequenced the main events in the story. We made Diwali cards and Rangoli patterns too to decorate our classroom.



This week in Literacy we have been learning a poem called 'The Sea'. We practised performing it using our voices in different ways and we wrote our own sentences to describe how the sea is using the structure of the poem. In phonics we looked at the sounds /qu/ y/ z/ and we've also been talking about how two letters can sometimes make just one sound. From next week we will be moving on to the consonant digraphs such as /ch/sh/th/ and trying to use them in our reading and writing.

In numeracy this week we revisited number bonds to 5, 6, 7 and 8 and quick recall of all the ways of making these pairs. We also practised writing numerals and we learned how to play bingo using whiteboards. We starting by playing the game to practise writing numbers and recognising them to 25, then we used it to practise finding 1 more than any number up to 25.

In French with Mrs Scharf we finished our first story and enjoyed it very much. We will now slowly start talking about winter and Saint-Nicolas.

In art we have continued our work on colour and after talking about primary colours last week we moved on to doing some colour mixing by doing colour sums e.g. red + yellow = orange. In Computing the children practised using beebots (programmable toys). They worked on following a sequence of instructions to make them move in different directions. And that was our week!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Patrick Tranter

Year1teacher@telenet.be

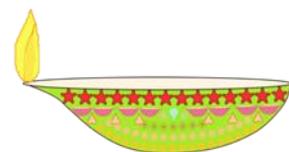
Please click [here](#) for our Year 1 webpage

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

We have enjoyed the two weeks back after the half term holiday.

This Diwali week, many of the children have been excited to share their news and to tell us how they are celebrating Diwali. We also read a short book on the subject.



In maths this week, we have been adding and subtracting multiples of ten, and other 2-digit numbers, mentally, by counting on in tens, then in ones. We have applied this skill in making amounts of money.

We have begun to look at chronology, in relation to our study of dinosaurs. We made simple timelines, putting in order a set of pictures. This involved very interesting discussions about the development of human achievements, from the Stone Age to the present. We are beginning to understand that dinosaurs existed before any of the people in our timeline.

In connection with this, the children designed their own time machines, producing some very imaginative creations, including one powered by orange juice and another by air.

We used our Big Write session this week to write a set of instructions on how to use the time machines. A main focus was on using capital letters and full stops. A second focus was on ordering the instructions sensibly.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on farm and domestic animals. We did vocabulary activities and practised reading on www.readinga-z.com

Next Wednesday 18th November, we will make our Year 2 trip to the Musee des Sciences Naturelles. It is important that all the children participate in the trip, although several of them may have visited the museum several times before, as we will be looking for answers to our questions about the dinosaurs (especially their diet, their habitat, and changes over time), and looking for similar information about the live spiders and insects at the museum. The children have posted some of the questions that they hope to investigate here: <http://padlet.com/kread11/q3zswycqpkmg> They can visit and add to this site from home.

This week's talk topic is How did the world look when it was new? Thanks for finding a few minutes to talk with your family about this. We will discuss it in class next week.

Swimming Group 2 will continue their sessions until the last week of this term. We would appreciate a parent volunteer to accompany the group each week. We currently only have a volunteer for next week. Please let me know if you or a grandparent/aunt/uncle/big sister etc. can accompany the swimming group. Thanks. The children who were in swimming group 1 will stay with me in school on Tuesday mornings, working mainly on literacy and drama.

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,

Another short week has come to an end. We have been busy little bees yet again and covered a lot of work. We managed to find a good weather to take our school photo on Thursday afternoon.

In Literacy we have been looking at poetry and have compared 2 poems about winter. We have spoken about the mood of both poems and how they made us feel. This led to some word and phonic work on \ow\ sounds. In phonics we also looked at the different combinations that make up the \igh\ and \ew\ sounds. We spoke in particular about their positions in words and which is the most common of all.

In Numeracy we have done some progress tests. We have also continued our look at subtracting by counting on using a numberline. The class has this for homework. We counted in 5's and I have allocated another revision game on [activelearnprimary](http://activelearnprimary.com).

In Science we began looking at healthy eating and got sidetracked into talking about the heart. We felt our own pulses before and after exercise and learnt that the heart beats faster in order to send oxygenated blood around the body.

In Topic we began looking at the Roman Gods and Goddesses. What an interesting topic this is.

In PE we played dodge ball and will be concentrating on accurate throwing next.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we reviewed vocabulary related to the days of the week, months and numbers up to 100. We also worked on the project "Toutes les fêtes de l'année " (All celebrations of the year).

In French with Mrs Scharf we have been doing lots of revision to welcome Harkeerat into the group: colour, counting, introducing ourselves etc. We performed these revision tasks in our exercise books.

We have also done an early Hour of Code by using a brand new Star Wars themed activity which you can find at <https://code.org>



Our talk topic for this week is Why do trees lose their leaves in autumn?

Valeria Vetter

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

The children returned to school this week with great excitement after the long weekend. They were all excited to see what the teachers had learnt on the training in Spain.

It has been a great week. The children are enjoying all the different lessons, especially in science with the new topic “Circuits and Conductors”.

In Literacy this week we continued working on the reading comprehension “Portable Power” from the previous week. This comprehension combined perfectly well with our science topic on electricity.

In maths we looked at fractions in more depth as well as looked at changing fractions into decimals. We first looked at fractions like $\frac{1}{10}$ and changed that into a decimal 0.1. To work in more depth the children also worked on multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 100 or 1000. Keep working with your child by giving them a simple tenth fraction and ask your child to change it into a decimal.

In science we recapped the difference between mains and battery electricity. We then discussed what circuits are. The children first had to decide what is needed in order for a circuit to work. The children loved the practical work in science. They received a battery, wires, light bulb and a light bulb holder. They worked in pairs trying to find the way the light bulb in the circuit would work. They were screaming with excitement when their bulb lit up. To make the lesson even more fun I had switched off the lights and closed the shutters so the light bulb would have a great glowing effect. The children wanted to add more batteries and lights to their circuit to see what would happen next. The picture above shows the excitement when their light bulb lit up. All the children were more than happy to continue their investigation till the end of the school day.



In Topic the children began their topic project on a house they wanted to do research on. They had previously researched during computing as well as researched at home so, the children worked on beginning their project on card paper. Before starting their poster, we discussed the important factors when completing a project (catchy title, headlines, neat handwriting, colour and most importantly interesting facts. The project is to be completed for this coming Monday so, please ensure that your child has completed their project. Your child can bring in their small home model that they have built too.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we reviewed vocabulary related to the days of the week, months and numbers up to 100. We also worked on the project "Toutes les fêtes de l'année " (All celebrations of the year).

In French with Mrs Scharf we have been doing lots of revision to welcome Harkeerat into the group: colour, counting, introducing ourselves etc. We performed these revision tasks in our exercise books.

Our first swimming lesson was fantastic. The children listened carefully to the swimming instructor and followed instructions carefully. Please continue dressing your child in the P.E clothing with their school bag as well as a small bag packed with a costume, towel and swimming cap on Thursdays.

This week's talk topic is to discuss with your child the importance of school rules. Another important reminder is to practise with your child the given words from the script for the Christmas play.

Have a restful weekend,
Despina Kafouris
year4teacher@telenet.be
Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

This week was all about Titus Salt and his Victorian cotton mill. Built for profit but also with the worker's interests at heart, Salt's Mill was built by the philanthropist to escape the pollution and squalid conditions of the Bradford city slums in the North of England. The children learnt about the benefits that the man brought to his workers and how he built them a village of unparalleled modernity by the standards of the day.

The children mapped the workers' town and used charcoal to make a portrait of the man himself. The aim was to portray the businessman's gentleness but at the same time his iron will and determination. We also looked at the biography of the famous local artist - David Hockney - who was so inspired by the beautiful mill and the moor behind that he painted it in his famous style. The children eagerly painted their own copy with the same bright colours.



In literacy, we wrote descriptions of shipwrecks using powerful and adventurous vocabulary. This will enable the children to write sea poetry about the Titanic in the lessons to come.

The children looked carefully at photos of haunting or just plain interesting wrecks as a stimulus for their inspiration.

In Numeracy we continued attacking fractions, learning how to reduce them to their simplest form. This was done concretely and pictorially to aid understanding as the children must be secure in this; they will face these questions in exams time and time again.

http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/media/games/equivalentfractions/equivalent_fractions.swf

http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks2/maths/fractions/level4.htm

http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks2/maths/fractions/level5.htm

In French with Mrs Scharf we read "la disparition" aloud in class and worked on the theme of the European Union and did examples in class on ce, cette, cet and ces.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Qu'est-ce qu' il y a dans ta chambre?" (What do you have in your room?) from our book " Les Loustics" . We worked on vocabulary related to furniture, objects and colours.

Our first week at the Castle Club and our tennis lessons were a great hit and Year 5 showed themselves to have many great players - great timing, beautiful shots and lots of enthusiasm!

And that was our week.

I'm sure that I will see many of you at this evening's Autumn Crafts night but if I don't

Happy Divali!

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

year5teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

What a busy time we are having at the moment. I hope that you all enjoyed the Autumn break, wherever you were, and that you are looking forward to the festive season. The children have all been given speaking parts in our forthcoming production and I will let you know about costumes within the next few weeks.

This week in literacy we have been focusing on the present perfect and simple past verb tenses, the features of persuasive texts and Alan Peat sentences: 'If, if, if, then' and 'Emotion word, (comma)'. The students are using many of the Alan Peat sentences that they have learnt to great effect within their writing. You can find details of these in our Edmodo or Google Drive files.

In Maths this week, the pupils have worked on: recognizing and naming different types of angles, estimating and measuring angles, drawing angles with protractors, constructing triangles using compasses and calculating unknown angles on a straight line and around a point. Fantastic work from everyone! Some students are also preparing for the UK Primary Maths competition next week.

In Science, we are still in the middle of an experiment to investigate the effect of saline solution and boiled water on cucumber slices. This forms part of an Open University online learning course. Final measurements will be taken later on this morning.

In French with Mrs Scharf we read “la disparition” aloud in class and worked on the theme of the European Union and did examples in class on ce, cette, cet and ces. In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Qu'est-ce qu' il y a dans ta chambre?" (What do you have in your room?) from our book " Les Loustics" . We worked on vocabulary related to furniture, objects and colours.

We are thoroughly enjoying our live Mandarin lessons from Beijing, via Skype, with Mike. These involve, talking to a panda, dancing, mini-conversations, drawing characters and learning about China. Our next session is today at 09.15.



As always, a visit to the Korean Cultural Centre is one of the highlights in the Year 6 calendar, and this year was no exception. The students participated in two workshops: calligraphy and music. Their artwork is now on display in the classroom and you will have seen the Korean fans that they decorated.

Do please look at the Year 6 page on the BISB website where you will find photographs of all our exciting activities.

I look forward to seeing you this evening for our Autumn Crafts' Evening.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

In EAL this week,

Reception

We started work on vocabulary connected with towns, including shops, streets and parks. We read a simple story about going into town on the bus and all the sights and sounds along the way. We felt compelled to sing the song ‘The Wheels on the Bus’ and even created our own verses.

Years One and Two

We started work on vocabulary connected with occupations (jobs). We used the conditional sense by responding to the question ‘If you could do any job, what would it be and why?’ We also used modal verbs as we discussed what attributes you have to have for certain jobs- e.g. you must be strong to be a fireman or woman.

Years Three and Four

We have been working on the sequels to Lazy Jack (Lazy Jack Part 2 was our rather uninspiring but universally approved title). We discussed possible scenarios as a group, plotting the various conflicts and resolutions that might ensue. After reviewing openers, connectives, adverbs and adjectives we started writing and so far..... So very good!

Years Five and Six

We used a text about the Boy King Tutankhamun to formulate questions. We read aloud the text first and discussed the content and then formulated questions to retrieve our favourite facts. Subject/verb agreements are always tricky when distracted by the thought process, but the exercise was a helpful reminder of the need to rehearse our words orally first and to reread our written words once they have been committed to paper too!