

Home School Books – 27 November 2015.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents

It has been a very short week in Nursery this week because of the reasons we are sure you are all too familiar with by now. Thankfully we made the most of our time and the children who attended have been very busy indeed!

Our new nursery rhyme for the week was ‘baa, baa, black sheep ‘or baa, baa, pink, yellow, blue.....sheep. If you look opposite you will see some wonderful woolly creations, made out of different coloured finger paint. This is a wonderfully messy and fun activity, great for fine motor control.



The children also did some colour mixing with powder paint and drew their own sheep, then painted them with whatever colour was in the mixing pot. We did get a lot of rainbow coloured sheep!

We also had a very funny story about a sheep called Marvin, who was so hungry he ate the whole world! We are working on story recall at the moment in nursery, so ask your little one to tell you all about Marvin and see what they can recall.

In our music session with Mrs. Mayeur on Thursday, the children practised their songs for the nursery Christmas show. They are singing really well and are full of enthusiasm, so let's hope there is no stage fright on the day! If you haven't done it already put the date in your diary: Thursday 17th December at 14.30 in the infant department. Otherwise you will miss a very special treat! If you are leaving to go on vacation early and your child will not take part in the show, please let us know.

We hope to see everyone back in nursery next week and during the next week Nursery will continue to finish at 15.00. The children will exit from the main school door and not the side door. As the situation changes we will keep you informed.

Our talk topic which links in with next week's new nursery rhyme 'Miss Polly had a dolly', is: Why do we need to visit a doctor? What does your doctor look like? Do they have a bag and a hat?

Until next week, have a restful weekend.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

This week has been the last week of our toys topic, and rather than having a focus story our focus was on the film 'Toy Story'. The children have watched small sections at different times of the week, discussing the different feelings that the toys go through.



In phonics this week we have been reviewing the digraphs we have so far learned, especially those that have two ways of writing the same sound, for example, /ee/ as in see and /ea/ tea. We have also looked at the digraphs /oy/ as in toy and /oi/ as is coin.

This week in mathematics we have been working on addition using a dice. We have been rolling the dice making number sentences. We started the week printing the dice faces to make the number sentences and finished the week with the children drawing the dots themselves, trying to use the same pattern as used on a real dice.

In P.E. this week we completed lots of activities using a small ball to work on both our fine motor skills and our hand eye coordination. The children practised catching, throwing and aiming.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we are still training every day counting up to 20 and are getting really at it. We also started talking about Saint-Nicolas and the way he dresses, what he brings to all good children and we learned a song for him. We also tried to draw a picture of him.

Finally, for Talk Topic on Monday we will be sharing different games and activities we can do and enjoy doing in the snow.

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Gill and Ivana Julaton

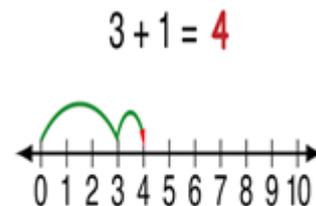
receptionteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

It might have been a short week but we've been as busy as ever in Year 1! In our phonics lessons we have practised reading and writing words with the /ng/ and /ai/ sounds. The children are making great progress with their phonic skills with many children now trying to use digraphs in their reading and writing. In maths we have practised counting on and back along a number line to solve addition and subtraction problems. We talked about the different



words used to describe addition and subtraction such as plus, add, more, counting on and minus, subtract, less and counting back.

In art we discussed how it's possible to get different shades of the same colour. Some shades are lighter and darker. We then investigated the effect of gradually adding white to green to see if we could get the colour to become gradually lighter and lighter. In science we looked at the parts of a dog and a fish and we talked about the similarities and differences between these animals and humans.

In computing the children completed their first lesson on coding with Mr Tranter. They listened well and learned how to give a computer simple programmed instructions.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we talked about Saint-Nicolas, where he comes from and the way he is dressed. We also drew a picture of him and talked about being very good children always not just for Saint-Nicolas. We also learned to say j'aime and je n'aime pas.

We are looking forward to learning all about the 'Funnybones' stories and skeletons next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Patrick Tranter

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

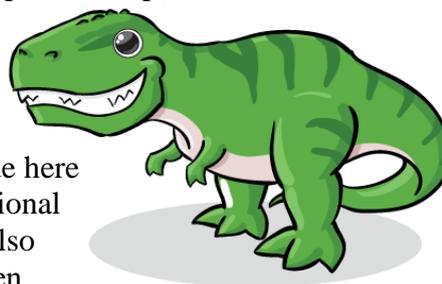
It has been a short but productive week.

In mathematics, we have been practising adding 2 digit numbers mentally, by counting on in tens, and then units. We applied this skill to real life story problems involving money. We also revisited our work on the vocabulary of direction.

In literacy this week, we spent one session reviewing the pieces of writing that we have done over the term during the Big Writing sessions. We made reference to the four factors which are identified in Big Writing theory as being very important in children's writing, namely: Vocabulary (with children aiming to make careful choices about the words they use, rather than just using easy, common words); Connective words (or conjunctions, i.e. and, but, because, so etc.); Openers (the first words in a sentence, with the children being encouraged to use a variety of opening words); and punctuation. The children looked through their own work to find examples of these.

As part of our dinosaur topic, the children have begun to research a particular dinosaur of their choice. In the next two weeks, we plan to use the information that they find out to make a set of short videos, which we hope to incorporate in the class time-machine.

In computing this week, we practised coding using code.org (a site which the children would all enjoy accessing from home, under your supervision). The code here required the children to apply their knowledge of directional vocabulary to guide an angry bird around a maze. We also completed an “unplugged” activity, in which the children drew their own character and maze, and wrote an algorithm to move the character around the maze.



We are all excited about the class time-machine. Next week, we will continue to perfect it. We have had some wonderful ideas about what we would (or will) do if (or when) we travel back to the time of the dinosaurs.

In French, we reviewed vocabulary related to animals and colours and we read the book " Ours brun, dis-moi..." (Brown Bear, What do you see?) by Eric Carle.

This week we also reviewed the class rules that we made in September, in a circle discussion. We have decided that these rules are still important.

This week’s talk topic is ‘What would it be like to go to the time of the dinosaurs?’ Thanks for finding a few minutes to talk with your family about this. We will discuss it in class next 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,

This has been a short week but a busy one.

In Literacy we have finished our class poem on Autumn and have tried to write an extra verse or two of our own. Group reading continues to be a firm favourite with one group reading about dragons and the other enjoying light poetry.



In Numeracy we have continued our look at fractions and have discovered that there are fractions within fractions e.g.: $1/2 = 2/4$. We also began to

look at mixed fractions. Think tank is also a firm Friday favourite and is encouraging the children to think differently in order to solve problems.

In Art we drew some of our favourite book characters which we will use to decorate the Piano/Reading book room.

We enjoyed a session of PE outside on Thursday afternoon where we did a lot of precision throwing (in dodge ball) and running in a hoop race.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we counted up to 50 again and worked in our exercises books to finish the topic about animals.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we had a short week but we were able to review vocabulary and grammar related to our unit " Quel temps fait-il?" (How is the weather?) from our book "Alex & Zoé 2".

Our talk topic this week is: What is your favourite book character and why?

The threat level has been dropped and we are all grateful for that. Please make sure you drop your child off before 9am for reasons of security.

Have a lovely weekend,

Valeria Vetter

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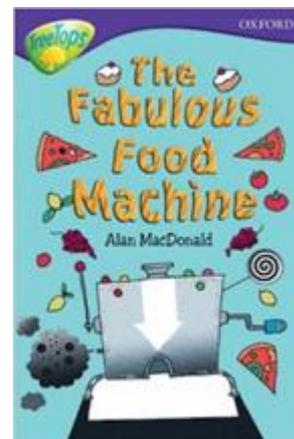
Please click [here](#) for our Year 3 webpage

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

It was a very short week due to all the security measures that were taken in Belgian. Even though it was a shorter week, the children got so many things done and had a fun time at school doing so many different activities.

In Literacy this week we focused on the story “The Fabulous Food machine”. Children found this story so funny because the fabulous machine was able to make any food you liked with a push of a button. What I enjoyed most was the children’s’ ideas of what the story was about just by looking at the title.



In maths we recapped rounding off numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. The children were focused and worked very well at the tables finishing off some challenging number work. This week the children completed the 12 x tables test and will not have a x tables test on Monday.

The children will start having maths table’s tests that will have different multiplication facts.

The children had a Christmas rehearsal this week and this will continue as days go by. Please continue working with your child to learn their words. This will definitely help your child be more confident when standing in front of an audience.

As I mentioned the previous week, the children are super excited because Christmas is around the corner. They have been singing Christmas carols but also have started working on Christmas art fun. This week the children worked in two groups. The first group painted Santa on a huge cardboard paper and the second group painted a huge tree. The children will then make Christmas decorations for the tree in the next coming weeks and will be able to hang it on the tree they painted in art. This will be displayed in the Year 4 classroom so that children will have their very own Christmas tree in class. It was a successful activity for the children as they worked in groups and knew that they had to work together and share responsibilities. They succeeded and did a fantastic job!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we counted up to 50 again and worked in our exercises books to finish the topic about animals.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we had a short week but we were able to review vocabulary and grammar related to our unit " Quel temps fait-il?" (How is the weather?) from our book "Alex & Zoé 2".

This week's talk topic is to discuss with your child is what is bullying? How can you open up to someone if you feel you are being bullied?

Have a joyful weekend and keep safe

Despina Kafouris

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

Despite the chaos of the last week, it was business as usual in Year 5 – back to the routine, high level of enthusiasm and quality learning and laughs. There were some questions about current events but Art, PE, Sports Wednesday, 'Can we listen to music?' and Golden Time were far more pressing.

In Literacy, we analysed our fantastic Titanic poems critically and started a new unit on another Victorian author, Lewis Carroll's poetry.

With just three days to work with, though, we hit Guided Reading with singlemindedness. We're currently enjoying our group books and the reading we have to do at home and the children like to recount what they've read.



They are really improving their fluency and interpretation skills too which is really satisfying.

In Numeracy, we honed our skills when multiplying 3- and 4-digit numbers. This week, we made estimates before we start using the calculation method we prefer to use.

In PE, we played handball and I was impressed by the intensity and determination upper Key Stage 2 play at. Great to see!

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the unit "Tu habites avec qui?" (Who do you live with ?) from our book " Les Loustics". We practised vocabulary related to family members and reviewed the possessive adjectives (mon, ma, mes, etc.)

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we worked on the present tense of -ER verbs, had our dictée of mots invariables and started a new book "Le mot interdit".

This week both Tennis and our trip to the mine museum were cancelled but I do still hold the hope that we will go to La Louviere and the colliery before the end of term. In topic, in supposed preparation for the trip, we started making papier machee models of the mine. So far the gooey creations are looking good and with their final lick of paint, will look just like the real thing. And that was our week.

Don't forget that next Friday is Red Nose Day and for 3euros the children can get a red nose, dress up in red and support a good cause.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

Notwithstanding the security difficulties that challenge us at present, we have enjoyed our three days in the classroom this week.

On Wednesday, we revised punctuating direct speech and the pupils corrected their previous work on this topic. We have not yet mastered punctuating more complex sentences and we shall revisit this subject next term.

The students enjoyed their sports session with Year 5 and Mr Stedman, which was followed by 'Think Tank' maths.

Thursday it was our weekly Chinese lesson, via Skype, from Beijing. We learnt some new vocabulary and were then put through our paces learning 'Tai Chi'. Of course, the 'Jackie Chans' in Year 6 were ready to leap into action!

In maths, some of the pupils are still battling with calculating density, whilst others are furiously fighting with fractions. We will succeed!



It was our third experiment in our Open University practical science course: yeast, sugar and life. The experiment was designed to help us identify which environment promotes the most yeast growth. Approaching the top floor, and from the aroma permeating the atmosphere, you could easily have mistaken the Year 6 Science lab for a brewery or bakery. We analysed our four samples using the digital microscope on video mode, which was thrilling; being able to see the 'fermentation' process close up was mesmerising. There is a marked improvement in the quality of the recorded observations, so we are on target to achieve our learning objective.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on the unit "Tu habites avec qui?" (Who do you live with ?) from our book " Les Loustics". We practised vocabulary related to family members and reviewed the possessive adjectives (mon, ma, mes, etc.)

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we worked on the present tense of -ER verbs, had our dictée of mots invariables and started a new book "Le mot interdit".

Thank you for the positive response to our future trip to see Romeo and Juliet. Obviously, in the current security climate, I am unable to confirm that this will go ahead; I will keep you informed.

Enjoy a peaceful weekend and stay warm and safe.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

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

In EAL this week

Reception

We continued work on the delightful story of Lost and Found. We finished creating the main characters out of paper. There was such a lot of wonderful discussion work as we compared our creations and talked about the differences in size and how each penguin looked quite unique. We played a lotto style game with pictures from the story too.

Years One and Two

We also continued our work connected to the story Lost and Found. We continued discussing vocabulary connected with directions and even started giving each other directions for where to find things in the classroom.

Years Three and Four, Five and Six

In both groups, we finished our assessments and making the Top Trumps style grammar cards. We played oral games, trying to catch each other out with dastardly verbs that would then need cunning adverbs to go with them... but we all succeeded, even me!