

Home School Books – 11 December 2015.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

We think it must be official, with all of the glitter floating around in nursery, we can now be seen from space! Yes, you guessed, Christmas has started in nursery; the children are busy putting sparkle and shine on everything and it's just like Santa's workshop!

In our 'understanding of the world', curriculum area, we have started looking at how Christmas is celebrated around the world. We have a digital advent calendar on our interactive white board and the children have enjoyed opening the Christmas baubles to reveal a Christmas scene from days gone by.



The children also enjoyed the story of the little fir tree who wanted to belong to someone and have its branches decorated with beautiful Christmas ornaments. It was told as a word of mouth story, with real objects to visualize the tale of the little tree. Ask your child if they can remember what happened next. This is great for language skills and developing imagination.

In keeping with the magic of Christmas, we have been singing all about Rudolph and his shiny red nose; if you look opposite you will see your little ones' red nosed reindeer' creation, complete with hand print antlers.

This leads us onto the Nursery Christmas show next Thursday 17th December at 14.30pm in the Infant department. If your child is in the morning session and you would like to bring them in for only the show, we are happy for you to do so. Please drop them off at 14.00hrs in the nursery, as we will need time to prepare a little first before we begin our super singing!

Of course your child is welcome to attend the morning session as normal, with pick up at 12.10pm as normal and you can then bring them back into nursery for 14.00hrs. It is entirely your choice. The show will last approximately 20 minutes and it will be packed full of Christmas fun!

Just a quick reminder that next week is our final week before the Christmas break and nursery finishes at 12.10pm on Friday 18th December. There is NO Garderie service on that day.

Our talk topic for next week is; do you have a special family meal at Christmas time? What sort of food do you eat?

Keep sparkling!

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 we have been enjoying many winter themed activities. Our focus story this week has been Denise Fleming's 'The First Day of Winter'. We had a very exciting start to the week with a visit from Saint Nicholas!



This week in literacy we have been looking at tricky words, reviewing 'the' and 'like' and we have been looking at the new tricky word 'you' to help us as we wrote our thank you cards to Saint Nicholas.

In mathematics we have been continuing with numbers to twenty and have started looking at 3d shapes. We have been discussing the differences between a 2d and 3d shape. We have looked at cubes and cuboids and the children are beginning to recognise these as well as stating the 2d shapes that make up these 3d ones.

In P.E. this week we had P.E. on Friday as Thursday turned out to be very busy. We carried on with the winter games started last week; they were having great fun! The children are enthusiastic and participate really well during P.E. sessions. They engage well during team activities, showing good team work.

In French with Mrs Scharf, Saint-Nicolas paid us a visit on Monday morning and spoiled us. We have now started talking about Christmas and are a little confused between Saint-Nicolas and Father Christmas!

Finally, for Talk Topic on Monday the children will be sharing what they hope to do during the holidays.

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,

This week has been filled with lots of festive spirit and sparkly glitter! We have been busy making some lovely things to take home for Christmas including a very sparkly Christmas gift out of clay, a Christmas card and a Calendar to help us remember lots of important dates in 2016. The children were also lucky enough to have a visit from

St Nicolas on Monday, which was very exciting. We talked about being thankful and how to write a letter to say thank you. In their home school book this week you can see your child's thank you letter to St Nicolas.

We have continued with our phonics and we focused on reading and writing words with the /ee/ and long /oo/ sounds. We also continued to practise writing sentences using dictation and the children are really improving their ability to hold a sentence in their head and write it down. In mathematics the children did their end of term assessment and showed me all of the mathematical concepts they had learned such as ordering and comparing numbers, subtraction problems, positional language such as left and right and measuring the length of objects. In science this week we learned all about the different parts of a reindeer and learned some new vocabulary such as 'hooves' and 'antlers'.



We are really enjoying our show and tell sessions; its lovely to hear the children taking about things that are important to them and they are developing their ability to ask and answer questions. Please note that these sessions are informal and there is no need to rehearse or prepare the children beyond a quick discussion about whether they would like to bring something in or tell us some news.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, Saint-Nicolas paid us a visit on Monday morning and spoiled us. We have now started talking about Christmas and are learning all the vocabulary pertaining to this joyful topic.

After the Christmas break we will start swimming in Year 1. You should have received a letter with lots of useful information including whether your child is in swimming group 1 or swimming group 2. If you have any questions or queries about this, please speak to either myself or Mr Tranter and we will try to assist you. We also welcome helpers to assist us with getting the children changed and ready to swim but numbers are limited each week so if you would like to help with this please sign your name on the sheet on the Year 1 classroom door or send us an email.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Patrick Tranter

Year1teacher@telenet.be

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

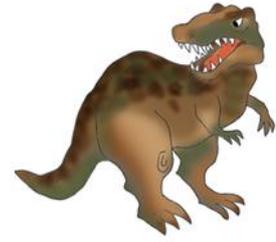
Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to say that all the children made it back safely in our time machine, after their visits to the time of the dinosaurs. They saw a wide range of dinosaurs, some

friendly and some that they had to run away from. What a wonderfully imaginative and co-operative group of children they are!

We have continued to learn about dinosaurs, including where in the world their remains were discovered, and when in history different types of dinosaur lived. We are getting a good idea of chronology from this study. We are working on making videos about our chosen dinosaurs, and will need to practise these for another couple of days. Dinosaurs were the theme for our art, in which the children painted large cut-outs of dinosaurs, and for our Big Writing, in which they wrote reports on either a real dinosaur, or an imaginary dinosaur, of their own creation. I am reading to the children the short chapter book, *Dinosaurs Before Dark*, which they are enjoying. It is part of the Magic Tree House series, which are enjoyable and informative at the same time.



This week's classroom activities including two sessions requiring good team work, and I was pleased to see the children doing well at working together and exchanging information with each other.

In mathematics, our focus has been time. We have revised the days of the week, months and seasons. We have begun to look at seconds, minutes and hours.

In computing this week, we continued to work with the apps we began last week, with some very imaginative and successful results.

In French, we were very excited to start our new unit on Christmas. We talked about "Papa Noël", we described his clothes, we talked about the presents he gives to the children and we sang the Christmas song " Vive le vent!".

Next Tuesday, when Group 2 go swimming, Group 1 will make a visit to the park, along with myself and Mrs Keogh. I would be very grateful if a parent or two could offer to accompany us. We will leave school on the swimming bus, at 10:55, and will be back in school by 12:45.

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,

As you can imagine, the week before the performance has been a frenetic one. We have put a lot of energy into our acting and the result will be stunning.

During this busy time we have managed to do our hour of code activities. This is an international initiative to get all children interesting in computer coding. Our class, of course, does coding regularly and they really enjoyed the various activities on offer.



We also read a poem called 'Twas the night before Christmas'. We found out all about the poet and that he wrote the poem as a present for his children. Guided Reading is popular and a regular feature of our week. We looked at 'The Snowman' by Raymond Briggs and 'The Dragons of Wayward Crescent' by Chris d'Lacey.

In Art we finished our fireworks pictures, which look superb. We also made some origami Christmas tree decorations.

It fell upon our class to decorate the Christmas tree downstairs with Year 4, which was great fun.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on vocabulary related to Feelings and Emotions. We studied the use of the verb "avoir" when we want to say that we don't feel well ('J'ai mal à la tête, tu as mal au ventre, etc.) and we had a lot of fun role playing a visit to the doctor's.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, Saint-Nicolas paid us a visit and we had an opportunity to ask him questions and the children really enjoyed talking to him. We have been learning about pronouns, verbs and more particularly -ER verbs and conjugating them in the present tense.

Our talk topic this week is: What are you going to do during the holidays? Where are you going?

Have a super weekend and enjoy the show on Monday.

Valeria Vetter

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

The week has gone by so quickly once again. The children have been working extremely hard with practicing for the school Christmas production. Your child received a note of the clothing your child needs to wear for the production. Please make sure your child's clothing is brought into school, in a plastic bag labelled with their name on it. Thanks you for your help and support once again.

The Christmas fun has definitely begun at BISB. The children were so happy to see and meet Saint Nicholas at school on Monday. The children were super excited and it was fantastic to see the children so joyful. It was very magical too.

Glitter, crepe paper and colours have been the highlight of our week. The Year 4 classroom is shining with all the beautiful Christmas work the children have been doing. Children love this celebration of the year. The children took part in many Christmas arts and crafts activities. They all took great pleasure in making all these Christmas art crafts. Amazing effort was put into their work. All the children took their time in making their work look beautiful. We also had the opportunity to sprinkle glitter on our work. I am positive you will enjoy their work, which will be sent home with your child next Friday, when school finishes at 12.20.



In Numeracy this week, we looked at division once again. The children worked on more division activities working step by step to find the answer. As I mentioned before, the children were taught the division chunking method so please do ask your child to show you how this method is done. I am positive your child will teach you the chunking method step to step as they were able to work on their whiteboards practising different sums and working them out correctly. The children have also worked on the short division method too. Some children liked the chunking method and other children preferred the short division method. I am happy if the children use one of these methods that they liked best as long as they have a good understanding of division.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on vocabulary related to Feelings and Emotions. We studied the use of the verb "avoir" when we want to say that we don't feel well (J'ai mal à la tête, tu as mal au ventre, etc.) and we had a lot of fun role playing a visit to the doctor's.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, Saint-Nicolas paid us a visit and we had an opportunity to ask him questions. We have been learning about pronouns, verbs and more particularly -ER verbs and conjugating them in the present tense.

Swimming went very well this week. The children enjoyed swimming as every other week.

Have a wonderful weekend
Despina Kafouris

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



Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

There has been a spate of sad bereavements in Year 5 over recent weeks and it's through being together that we gain strength and get through difficult times. In such a small class this is not hard to do. Thank you to the well wishes I've received and we all think of loved ones lost, not just our own. Some of us said goodbye to a father, some to a grandfather and Darius said goodbye to a tooth.

In my absence, the class spent the part of the week working with Year 6. Whilst there, we did lots and lots of rehearsals and practised our lines for the Christmas show. In the children's own words: 'It's really, really good'.

Topic was also brought to life as we learnt about great engineers and engineering works of the Victorian period. The documentary the children watched about the sewers of 1800s London, who fixed the problem (Joseph Bazalgette) and Robert Stephenson's Bell Rock lighthouse made a huge impression on the class. The Year 5's were fascinated by the stories of the feats involved and the gory fates of those who perished along the way.



In Maths, meanwhile, we did coordinates; the children linking their own devised point-to-points to produce a reindeer, Santa or Christmas decoration amongst others. The children also paid a visit to Year 4 and Mrs Kafouris, making lovely Christmas bags in which to store any festive artwork they produce. In PE, we did athletics and obstacle course races.

Outside of all this, many of the class started to finish off the models they had been making of the Bois Du Luc colliery. However, it's increasingly likely that our trip to the Mine Museum will not materialise this term. The question is whether to persevere and postpone the visit to next half term; or, to cut our losses and focus strictly on our new Spring topic. I shall keep you informed.

That was our week.

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

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

Home School Book – Year 6

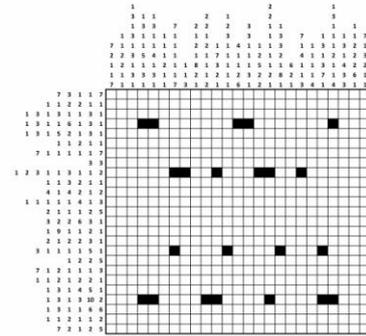
Dear Parents,

We have been working extremely hard this week: singing, rehearsing and making props for our forthcoming production next Monday. Thank you for your support in finding and making costumes. We have a full rehearsal tomorrow and then it is off to the theatre on Monday.

Also this week, the students have participated in the 'Hour of Code', which is taking place throughout the World.

Year 5 pupils joined us for the part of the week, and as they are studying the Victorians, it seemed appropriate to learn about two of the 'Seven Wonders of the Industrial World': the Bell Rock lighthouse and London sewers.

Robert Stevenson, successfully, against all odds, constructed the Bell Rock lighthouse, which still shines out across the North Sea today, and Joseph Bazalgette devised a bold scheme to create a network of sewers beneath London streets.



On Wednesday, the pupils enjoyed a sporting afternoon. They were put through their paces with some circuit training; hurdles, speed bounce, sit-ups, press-ups, squats, beep tests, long-jump and net-skills. After this, it was handball followed by football rounders. Exhausted, they trudged up the stairs to the third floor.

Our 'spy' challenge at the moment is the GCHQ Christmas Card; grid-shading puzzle. You may have seen this on the news, if you would like to have a try (I know that some copies of the puzzle are on their way home this evening), you can find the puzzle at: GCHQ Christmas-puzzle-2015.

We are in the process of completing our spy work. I have decided that as the students' application forms for employment at MI5 are so professionally written, that I will send them to the MI5 Recruitment Office.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, Saint-Nicolas paid us a visit and we took the opportunity to ask him a few questions. We had our weekly dictée of mots invariables and went on conjugating -ER verbs like commencer, appeler and s'appeller. We also read "Le mot interdit".

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started a new unit on how to describe people. We worked on vocabulary related to the human face, we studied descriptive adjectives and we read the poem "Qui a un chapeau?"

Monday is our Book Club, when we shall be discussing 'Private Peaceful' by Michael Morpurgo.

Wishing you all a festive weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

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

In EAL this week

Reception

We finished work on the story *The Wind Blew* by Pat Hutchins. We can now say our ordinal numbers to ten and even beyond! We had great fun sequencing all the objects tossed about by the wind and we even cut out all the pictures and put them in order on a very long strip of paper.

Years One and Two

We continued with our transport theme by looking at two stories. One was called- *You can't take an elephant on the bus* and the other was called *-The duck in the truck*. We used higher language skills such as: explanation and hypothesising to discuss all the animals in their crazy modes of transport and revised rhyming words with the second story.

Years Three and Four

We finished our unit on /ed/ endings for verbs. We have drilled ourselves with the 'rules' for spelling them and tuned our ears to the three sounds they can produce. We had a final competition to see who could transform the most correctly from the infinitive form and it is hard to believe, in a way, but grammar really can be a lot of fun!

Years Five and Six

We finished work on idiomatic language or sayings connected to the body. I would tell you more..... but my lips are sealed! I think you get the idea! We acted them out, played timed matching games and discussed the literal and actual meaning of each saying and then used them in our own sentences. We also realized it is very important to use them correctly for the desired impact, thus always say I have a frog in my throat and not my mouth!