

Home School Books – 15 January 2016.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

We have started our new project with gusto this week and have been very creative, painting boxes to make our display of buildings. We now have houses, shops, office blocks, apartment blocks and a variety of other structures.

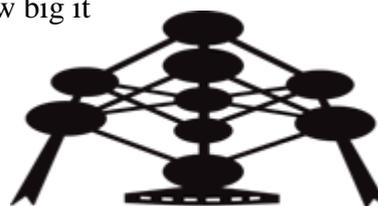
In our group discussion time, the children talked about which room, in their house, was their favourite. Most of the children said their bedroom, because, this is where they played with their toys. Some children liked their kitchen best because it had yummy food! A couple of children preferred mummy and daddy's bedroom because they liked to sleep in their big bed!

We will be starting our shoe box houses next week, the children will recreate their favourite room inside of the shoe box. If you have forgotten to send in a shoe box for your child can you please do so before next Friday?

The children also looked at photographs of important buildings and we talked about each building, where it was in the world, how tall it was, how big it was,



what shape it was and of course we tried to remember its name. We gave them four buildings to choose from, the Eiffel Tower, the Taj Mahal, the Atomium and Big Ben. If you look opposite you will see which



building your little one chose to draw. Remember the learning process is in the whole activity and the end result is not always the important bit.



We also started our phase 1 phonics sessions, with the game, 'my teacher has a box and in that box she has a.....' The children listened to the noise coming from the inside



of the box and then had to guess what the object was. Listening skills are an important first step in identifying the individual sound a specific letter makes. Just to remind everyone, we do not use the letter names during our phonic sessions, only the sounds of the letters. Please bear this in mind when you recite the alphabet with your child.

Next week, we will continue our theme of 'buildings' and discuss the rhyme when Goldilocks went to the house of the Bears and the story of Goldilocks and the three bears. Our talk topic this week is; 'Why did Goldilocks eat baby bear's porridge?' Until then, keep warm and watch out for the snow, winter is on its way!

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 started our new dinosaur topic, focussing on dinosaur eggs. We watched a short video about ducklings hatching out of eggs, discussing how they must have felt inside the egg before hatching, as they were hatching and how they must feel now having hatched.

On Tuesday evening Mrs Julaton found a very big egg in the woods and brought it in to show the children on Wednesday. They were very excited to see the egg and can't wait for it to start hatching! The children have been writing signs to other classes about how to act around the egg when they come to the classroom to see it. We have been discussing what could be inside the egg and have come to the conclusion that it could be a dinosaur!

In maths we have spent this week continuing our work on addition. The children have been developing their understanding of number lines



and how to use them when the numbers become too big for us to use our fingers easily. The children used our giant number line to physically jump from number to number before going on to drawing the jumps on worksheets.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we have started our new projects : animals. We have learnt lots of new animal names, the noises they make and songs with animals names. We also played guessing games and we learnt how to draw some of them.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who have already brought in their child's costume for the winter production. If you have yet to do so then please could you bring them in on Monday ready for our dress rehearsal.

Talk topic for Monday will be discussing what dinosaurs used to eat? Do different types of dinosaurs all eat the same thing?

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Gill and Ivana Julaton

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

Wow what a busy week we've had getting ready for our Winter Show taking place next week on Thursday the 21st of January. We've made our hats to go with our costumes and our classroom now sparkles with glitter! If you have not yet brought in your child's costume or you have a question about what to bring in, please come and see us. We have also been practising our dances and learning a few lines to say as well. It promises to be a great show so we hope to see you at the theatre on Thursday. We will take the children to the theatre after lunchtime at around 1pm. The children will start their performance at 5pm. After this they will need to be picked up from the theatre. We will also provide an afternoon snack for all of the children for them to eat while they are at the theatre.



The swimming lessons are going well at the pool. The children are all making good progress. In literacy we have continued to talk about the story 'The Three Little Pigs'. This week the children wrote a letter from the Big Bad Bad Wolf to say sorry for blowing their houses down. They did some lovely work which can be seen in their home school books this week. In phonics we did the /er/ and /ow/ sounds, the children practised reading and writing words with those sounds and using them in sentences.

In history we have started our new topic, 'A Street Through Time.' We have started to look at life in the past. First we looked at how kitchens have changed and what we have in kitchens now that we didn't have 100 years ago. Then we looked at how transport has changed and how people moved around 100 years ago. In mathematics we looked at doubles and number bonds to 10 and 20. The children also thought of number stories to go with sums, for example 'There were 2 reindeer and 3 more came along; now there are 5'.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have resumed our new story "Une maison de musiciens" and started by learning parts of the body. We sang "tête, épaule et genoux, pieds" and other fun songs which helped us memorise more easily all new vocabulary. Just one last note, please can you remember to bring your child's library books in on Thursdays as that is our time slot to use the school library in Year 1.

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,

We have had a busy week, with lots of excitement as we get ready for the play next week (Thursday 21st January at 5pm). Thank you for getting the children's costumes

ready, and helping them to learn their lines and the words of the songs. All the children have equally important parts to play, with dancing and singing, as well as saying their individual short lines.

The play is on the theme: we have a wonderful world. We have continued to talk about this in class this week. We made an illustrated mind map to show what we think is wonderful about our world. The sections of the mind map include water, air, landscapes, people, animals, plants and human inventions, and we learned some special vocabulary to help us talk about these different areas. In our Big Writing session, we wrote letters to someone from another planet, telling them about our wonderful world, and making use of some of this vocabulary.

The children are continuing to progress with their writing. They should now be able to write sentences using capital letters and full stops confidently, and to start using other forms of punctuation (especially question marks and commas). We have looked at using commas in a list, and to separate parts of a sentence.

In maths this week, we looked at counting on to the next multiple of ten ($53+?=60$ etc.), the relationship between addition and subtraction (especially in problem solving), and subtraction as finding the difference between two numbers.

In our discussions about our wonderful planet, the question was raised: why does our planet not fall down? This has led to more knowledge-sharing discussions, with children reading parts of books they have read, and explaining what they know, enabling all the children to begin to form and discuss theories about how gravity works. This form of knowledge-building is, I am convinced, a very good way to develop the children's curiosity and confidence in intellectual inquiry, as well as deepening their knowledge and understanding.



In French, we started a new unit on Food. We talked about fruits and vegetables and enjoyed singing the song "Pomme, poire, abricot". We also read the books " Les fruits" and " Les légumes" on www.readinga-z.com .

Please remember to send your child's library books back to school with them every Wednesday: they will not be able to borrow new books unless they have returned their old ones.

We wish you a happy weekend.

Kate Read and Tina Keogh

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy week and rain has dominated our weather. As luck would have it we managed to get out for PE when the sun came out.

In Literacy we have been reading Peter Pan. This is a story full of rich language and the children have learnt quite a few new words. We discussed Neverland and the children have been drawing their interpretation of it. Friday sees us writing a descriptive passage on our Neverlands. Guided reading is a time greatly appreciated by the children. One group has nearly finished The Dragons of Wayward Crescent and the other group read Amazing Grace.

In Numeracy we were finishing off our look at measures with a practical lesson. We measured cups, litres, half cups, quarter cups and even teaspoons. I hope the children now know how much a cup is, for example. We have also been plotting numbers on a number-line and finished off the week with a maths test. On Friday another favourite comes up – think tank, a real weekly highlight.



In Topic we are looking at Vikings as part of our pirate theme and also as a continuation of our Romans theme last term. We briefly mentioned the Anglo-Saxons. We found out that the Vikings used to plunder and steal using their very fast longboats. We also played a Viking quest game.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/launch_gms_viking_quest.shtml

In science we looked at different fabrics, we discussed how they felt and what they looked like. We then commented on their absorbency and whether they were waterproof or not. We then wove our own piece of fabric.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit " Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire?" (What are you going to do?) from our book "Alex & Zoé". We also talked about how to form the future tense (Future Proche) and read the story " Une visite au Louvre".

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we learnt to use "J'aime" and "Je n'aime pas". We also revised the 12 months of the year and we watched the story of "Ernest et Célestine".

In Art we are still busy with our Pirate ships. We are beginning to paint these now. Papier Maché is very messy but also very enjoyable.

PE was a lesson on batting and bowling skills. We enjoyed our time outside and are glad we didn't wait for Thursday.

A little snow is around and hopefully there will be more at the weekend. Have a lovely time.

Valeria Vetter

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

Another wonderful week has gone by. The children were active and busy working hard but most importantly learning through fun.

London was the topic we focussed on in Literacy this week. The children firstly had the opportunity to discuss with the class what they liked and disliked about London and what they enjoyed most when they had visited London. The children produced wonderful booklets on London. They did a wonderful job. In writing skills the children wrote an informal letter to their friend telling them about their “journey” to London. In Grammar we continued focusing on pronouns this week. We firstly looked at different examples of pronouns and played a game to see who could make up a sentence orally using that specific pronoun. The children were well aware that the rules of the game were to use wow words, adjectives and verbs in the sentence. That was super fun!



The children worked on a lot of addition and subtraction sums. They worked on the addition and subtraction partitioning method as well as had a choice later to work on the compact addition and subtraction method.

The children revised on the whiteboards showing their working out as well. Then, they shared the answer to the problem with the other children. This was great fun and helpful for those who are shy to take part in class discussions.

In Science we continued looking at the digestive system. This week we paid more attention to all the different organs that help the food to move and digest. We talked a bit about our teeth, the oesophagus, stomach, the large and small intestine and many more.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire?" (What are you going to do?) from our book "Alex & Zoé". We also talked about how to form the future tense (Future Proche) and read the story " Une visite au Louvre".

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we learnt to use "J'aime" and "Je n'aime pas". We also revised the 12 months of the year and we watched the story of "Ernest et Célestine".

In art the children continued workings on their sports art work that had been started in the last art lesson. The children put effort in drawing different objects that are used in sport for example (ball, cricket bat, gloves etc.) and had to draw them in different shades of pencil. This week the children had to add colour to their art work. The children are becoming more confident with the use of oil pastels.

This week’s talk topic is to discuss with your child is: What part of London do you like best and why?

Have a lovely weekend,

Despina Kafouris

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

Winter finally came this week so it's lucky that Topic this term is as Spring as you could possibly get. Faint rays of sun are already beginning to peep into Year 5 as a result and we visited (virtually) many tropical, exotic places this week. I shall let Miss Ishika Sharma - this week's guest writer - fill you in:

This week in maths we played an interactive game and games with dice regarding rounding and properties of numbers; we did this with whole numbers and decimals. The best thing was the interactive game because it was really fun using detective skills to solve the problem.

Try at home; you'll need a pen and paper:

http://www.wldps.com/gordons/Wizards_number.swf

In literacy, we learned about semi colons, colons, dashes and bullet points; and when to use them. Here's an example for a semi colon: there are many English-speaking secondary schools in Brussels; one of the largest is BSB – the British School of Brussels.

We also made a sort of slideshow (with animations) game on the iPads in pairs. The aim was to create an educational game to teach the punctuation points. What was great about this was that it was so fun adding and watching the animations!

Our new topic is Rivers! We learned all about their characteristic features this week. We did tasks on the iPads and in our topic books. The coolest thing was when we made the longest river spreadsheet on the iPads.



In sport, we played handball. The game ended with a tie (the scores were 17-17)!

In swimming, meanwhile, the boys had to jump in the water and front crawl with a floaty. The coach taught them how to keep their arms straight at the end of a stroke while swimming.

This week instead of Wednesday Think Tank we played interactive maths games on the interactive whiteboard then did some mapwork in preparation for the mighty Rippledawn outdoor adventures.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished our story "le mot interdit". In grammar, we studied l'impératif présent of -ER verbs and revised the infinitive of verbs. We also started a new vocabulary topic : the house.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we worked on describing people's appearance. We practiced vocabulary related to the human face and body and for grammar we reviewed the verb " avoir" in the negative and affirmative sentences.

And that was our week. Next week we visit Bozar concert hall. In Music we have been practising (myself and the teachers included) and thoroughly enjoying learning the dances (or rather, body movements) that we will perform en masse with several other schools. We can't wait; it'll be fantastic.

Best wishes
Tim Stedman
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Please click [here](#) for our Year 5 webpage

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

Winter has arrived! The children will be thrilled to see a dusting of snow in the playground.

We enjoyed our visit from the United Daily News' journalist. She was very impressed with the students' progress in Mandarin and spent quite a lot of time interviewing them. Today we shall be learning about Chinese New Year.

In Latin, we are learning about the Romans and Britons and comparing the endings of adverbs in Latin and English, as well as discovering English vocabulary from Latin words such as *celeriter*, *ferociter*, *diligenter* and *pugnō*.

In Literacy, we investigated 'formal and informal' language and revised homophones and silent letters.

It has been a week filled with hatred, drama and passion in Year 6. We are at day 3 in the play 'Romeo and Juliet'; Juliet has taken a potion concocted by Friar Lawrence and appears to be dead. The weekly news report included information about the events in Cologne, and this, coupled with the romance between Romeo and Juliet necessitated a teaching diversion into the world of puberty!

On Tuesday, it was Forensic Science, examining hair samples from students, parents and pets. Judging by the images, including hair roots, (now on the website) there was some ferocious pulling out of hair going on; one pupil waited until his baby brother was asleep, before cutting a chunk of his hair off. Thank you for all the agony that you may have gone through to support this experiment.

In maths, some students are now working on CIMT year 8 modules; this week, they studied algebra: linear equations, substitution, BODMAS and formula. Other students have revisited long division and multiplication including complex word problems. In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished our story "le mot interdit". In grammar, we studied l'impératif présent of -ER verbs and revised the infinitive of verbs. We also started a new vocabulary topic : the house.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we worked on describing people's appearance. We practiced vocabulary related to the human face and body and for grammar we reviewed the verb "avoir" in the negative and affirmative sentences. We have a busy week ahead. On Tuesday, we shall be participating in an orchestral workshop at Bozar and on Wednesday we are off to the theatre. Mr Carp has kindly

volunteered to collect some children from venue and Mr Tranter will take others home in the school minibus. I shall email you over the weekend with more details.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Chang for everything that she has done to inspire the children to learn the Chinese language and to understand Chinese culture; from making origami dragon boats to eating with chopsticks. We have had a wonderful time and I know that the children will miss both her and Wei-Heng.



Enjoy the snow!

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

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

In EAL this week
Reception

We worked on the vocabulary connected to comparing and contrasting things. Thus we used vocabulary such as: bigger than, smaller than, longer, darker etc. as we compared pairs of photo cards with very similar and yet slightly different pictures. We took it in turns to explain how our two cards were different and also how they were similar too!

Year One and Year Two

We started work on the genre of fairy tales. We discussed fairy tales that we already know and what features make fairy tales unique. We then listened to the story Goldilocks and the three bears. It allowed us to repeat lots of refrains such as 'someone has been eating my porridge' and also to use comparative adjectives like: bigger, softer and smaller. We even acted it out as a group and everyone was very happy to say their lines and anyone else's too!

Years Three, Five and Six

We worked on adverbs of frequency. Not only did it provide us with new vocabulary, such as: seldom, infrequently, invariably etc. but it also proved to be the starting point for some great discussion work, as we pondered on just how often we really have our five portions of fruit and vegetables a day and if we really get to bed early enough, often enough! We all agreed we had to be completely honest and we had a fun discussion. When we used them in our writing later, I insisted they use connectives to extend their sentences, rather than just be delighted with complex, yet short sentences. I was of course frequently pleased with what they wrote.

