

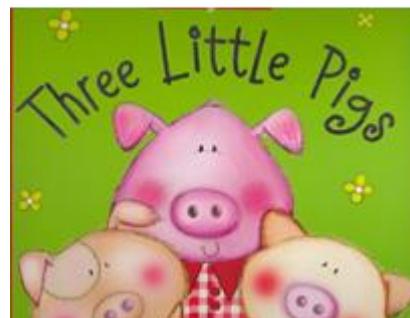
Home School Books – 29 January 2016.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Our shoe box houses are coming along nicely; the children are having a very creative time, choosing items to decorate and create their favourite room. They are currently on the windowsill near the sandpit, so please take a peak when you drop off or pick up your child.

This week's story was "the Three Little Pigs" and of course the big bad wolf, although we did choose a not so scary version of the story, so we didn't cause any nightmares! We also told the story by word of mouth, acting out the characters, using different voices and actions, rather than showing illustrations. Children adore this type of storytelling, as they eagerly anticipate what will come next in the story. Try it at home with a familiar or traditional story in your mother tongue. It's great for concentration, participation and language skills, plus it is great fun to do!



We then concentrated on what types of materials the pigs used to build their houses with, which was the strongest material and which was the weakest. If you look opposite, you will see the three different houses made by the pigs; ask your little one to tell you about them.

In our letters and sounds session, we stressed the sound of the letter "S" for straw and sticks and "B" for bricks. We then tried to think of other words that begin with the sound S or B. Remember we only use the sound of the letter not the name of the letter. The weather was also good to us most of this week, so the children had some lovely outdoor play on the bikes and scooters, something we haven't done for a while. We have also concentrated on bringing our listening ears to nursery! Especially at tidy up and going home time. This is all part of acquiring independence skills and we encourage you to let your little one try and do small tasks for themselves, like tidying toys away or putting on their coats. We know it takes longer but it is worth the effort, honestly!

You have already received an e mail from school, telling you about the flu like virus that is doing the rounds. Just a reminder, please do not bring your little one to nursery if they are unwell, this is not fair to them or the other children. Illness spreads quickly in a nursery environment, so they are best kept home until they are fully recovered.

Until next week, have a lovely weekend and our talk topic for this week is 'Which of the three little pig's houses was the strongest?' Why was it stronger than the others?'

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

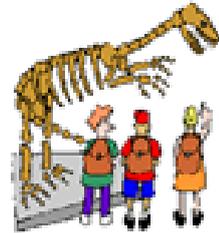
nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We did not have a focus story this week in Reception, but we have been focussing on fossils and other objects you can find in a dinosaur museum. We watched a short video clipped which introduced palaeontologists and how they find, carefully dig up and clean dinosaur bones ready for museums. The children were able to become palaeontologist for a session where they created their own dinosaur fossils using clay.



This week in phonics we looked at the two sounds /oo/ makes, /oo/ as in b/oo/k and /oo/ as in m/oo/n. We have also been talking about giving instructions, and the importance of being clear when doing so. We discussed different types of instructions, for example instructions for baking a cake, instructions for learning a new game or instructions to find a place. The children had the opportunity to use a beebots to help them with this, which they enjoyed thoroughly.

In maths we have spent the week working on recognising numbers in their written form. We have been looking at the ones that can be phonetically read such as six and ten, but also becoming more aware of the naughty numbers such as eight and one. The children enthusiastically participated in different practical games using flashcards, as well as completing worksheets linking the number with the correct word.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we continued singing songs about animals and we managed to learn quite a few more. We also created our own little book based on the song "dans sa maison un grand cerf".

Our talk topic for Monday will be sharing our favourite museum memories.

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,

This has been an unusual week! Since the Winter Show, the classroom has been half-empty – possibly due to the effects of pressure to perform on stage, or, more likely, due to a nasty flu bug doing the rounds. Nevertheless, for those children unaffected, Year 1 has soldiered on, albeit with a few modifications to the programme. With so few children in class, we have avoided forging ahead with our curriculum, preferring to wait until the class returns to normal. On Monday, during general discussion, it

became clear that the children are very interested in space and planets. So, this week we have done a 'mini-topic' using space as our theme. In Literacy, we re-read Mr Gumpy's Outing, and the children then made up their own version, but based on a character travelling through space, as opposed to a man in a boat on a river! They then were able to tell their story to the rest of the class. We also revised some of the long vowel sounds previously covered, using Geraldine the Giraffe to help us.

In Maths, we practised our 3D shapes, becoming more familiar with the concept of faces – how many and whether they are flat or curved. In our long Maths session on Thursday, we did a basic introduction to telling the time (o'clock and half past) and also revised money, using a practical shop scenario to practise our use of multiple coins.

In Geography, using Google Earth, we looked down on our planet and zoomed right in to our school until we could see the roof and the playground. We then compared that view of the school with the view provided by Google Street View – the results are in your child's Home School Book (those that were present on Wednesday).

We had two Art sessions this week: in the first we constructed our own street using boxes of various sizes to make houses, apartment blocks, a clock tower and even a model of BISB. These are all on display in the classroom, and fit in with our 'A Street Through Time' topic. In the second, having (tenuously) linked into to our 'street' topic by discussing the International Space Station as a home in space, the children then drew a 'white-on-black' picture of the ISS, complete with solar arrays!



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have played a game about animals and we watched a few stories featuring the body parts and a visit to a doctor in which we learnt to say "j'ai mal ..." + the body part that hurts.

Unfortunately, swimming was cancelled this week, due to lack of children! However, we tried to make up for it by having an extended PE lesson outdoors, using the much-loved parachute – the excitement generated by a coloured piece of nylon is almost unbearable!

We hope everyone is feeling better soon and look forward to their return.

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 had very low numbers in Year 2 this week. To all the children who have been sick: we have missed you, and we hope you will feel better very soon. I will make sure that all the children have a chance to catch up with the work they missed.

This week in mathematics, we studied 3d shapes, learning the names: cube, cuboid, cylinder, cone, square-based pyramid and prism. We investigated the properties of the shapes (the number and shapes of the faces, whether the faces are flat or curved etc.). We also studied telling the time from an analogue clock. The children should already know how to read the o'clock and $\frac{1}{2}$ past times. We are revising these, and learning $\frac{1}{4}$ past and $\frac{1}{4}$ to (the latter being the most difficult). We are also learning to convert between analogue and digital time.

In literacy, we planned and wrote a letter from our alien friends, in which we describe the alien planet. I was very pleased to read some of the wonderful ideas the children had, and the confidence with which they write their ideas. I remind children often of the need to use full stops and capitals, and in the coming weeks we will complete some daily exercises to reinforce this most basic punctuation. The children are enjoying practising their cursive handwriting, and I am encouraging them to use it in their free writing sessions.

Our topic for this term is Human and Animal Homes. In connection with this, our science focus is on animals, including humans, especially the essential needs of all animals, and the way that all animals grow from babies to adults. We learned this week the names of some baby animals, tried to identify them from pictures (see the picture alongside). The short slideshow showing the animals to identify is linked on the class website.



In French, we continued working on vocabulary related to Food. We played the game "Les courses à faire " (Going Shopping) and we sang the song "J'aime bien manger!"(I like eating!)

Next Tuesday, 2nd February, the class will be making a visit to the park in Wezembeek (weather permitting). We will travel by bus, sharing the bus with the Year One swimming group. We will leave school at 10:55 and return by 12:45. Mrs Kanavi, Mrs Guggilla and Mrs Moolemane have kindly offered to accompany us. Thanks very much.

I wish you a healthy 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 busy and productive week is over. Goodness, how time flies.

In Literacy this week we have done our termly test, written a pirate themed story as well as brainstorming adjectives. As usual, guided reading was very exciting with all the children enjoying their books. We certainly do have a love of reading in our class. In phonics this week we have been working on tricky words. Those words, spelt in a certain way but said in a different way; for example – words with the or said like /er/

In Numeracy we recapped plotting 3 digit numbers on a numberline, place value of 3 digit numbers before ordering the numbers from smallest to biggest and vice versa. We also have another game allocated on www.activelearnprimary.co.uk so we played that too.

In Topic we researched and learned all about the famous pirate Edward Teach aka Blackbeard. He was truly a fearsome pirate with a bad reputation. However, we find him very interesting.



Our science this week was somewhat different. I split the class into groups and set them the task of designing and building a waterproof house for a toy. I gave them a variety of materials and left them to it. One of the group had to video their progress with an iPad. It was lovely to see so much science discussion going on and how involved the class was. This is an ongoing project.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Est-ce que je peux avoir un sandwich?" (may I have a sandwich?) from our book "Alex & Zoé". We talked about the three main meals in a day and we worked on vocabulary related to food. In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished unit 4 with "j'aime et je n'aime pas". We worked in our exercises books and corrected our homeworks. We also started our new topic: clothes.

In PE the class worked on hockey skills and enjoyed their time outside after all the rain we have had.

In art we drew pirates and treasure maps with our friend Shoo Rayner. He is an excellent way to learn how to draw.

Don't forget our outing next Friday to the Food and Mill museum. It will be a lovely experience.

Our talk topic this week is: Which materials are waterproof? How can we be sure of this?

Kind Regards,

Valeria Vetter

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week during our reading skills, the children were given their reading comprehension assessment test. They worked at their very best effort, completing their assessment. Well done to all the children for their hard work.

The unit this week in Grammar was on sentences. The children made sure that all their sentences had to have a subject, verb and an object.

The children worked on different activities from the Grammar text books. Some of the activities were difficult but the children managed to work through the tasks really well.

In maths this week we looked at 2D and 3D shape. We worked on the properties of the shapes by looking at the sides and corners. In addition to this we also learnt the differences between acute, obtuse and a straight lined angles. Some of the children enjoyed the powerpoint on the angle family which were Mr Obtuse angle, Mrs Right angle and baby who is cute (acute angle). The children thoroughly enjoyed the powerpoint and had a better understanding of angles and how they differ. We worked on different activities on shapes. The children had fun working with shapes this week. They had to think of a variety of objects that match with these objects.

Brush, brush, brush your teeth. Singing the “Toothbrush Rap” was awesome and cool in Year 4. This week our young ‘little dentists’ learnt about the various teeth we have in our mouths and how each type is used for a specific reason. They then looked at the cross section of a tooth and labelled a tooth diagram using scientific word.



Last week the children designed their paper plates drawing open field backgrounds and then with water paints, painted their paper plates making sure they worked slowly and carefully without smudging the paint. This week the



plates had been cut appropriately and the children weaved their plates making a beautiful tree design. They absolutely loved weaving as it was really entertaining and kept them very busy.

vocabulary related to food.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started the unit "Est-ce que je peux avoir un sandwich? " (may I have a sandwich?) from our book "Alex & Zoé". We talked about the three main meals in a day and we worked on

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished unit 4 with "j'aime et je n'aime pas". We worked in our exercises books and corrected our homeworks. We also started our new topic : clothes.

This week's talk topic is to discuss with your child is: Why is it important to brush your teeth before you go to bed and when you wake up in the morning?

Have a superb weekend,

Despina Kafouris

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

The weather has been much kinder to us this week and the work in class has been really research based and exciting. It's been a big opportunity to show what we can all do.

Our guest home school letter writer is Darius so better over to him:

What a difficult week! The lessons seemed like they lasted for 24 hours! On Monday we started our non-chronological report about rivers. The task was to write 700 words thus no one wanted to do it. Mine is about the River Neman in Lithuania which rises in Belarus.

Later in science we talked about seeds and how they disperse so peanut butter jelly time!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We had to find out the ways that seeds travel in order to make new plants. [Exploding seed pods was a startling revelation to us all]

Now let's go onto Tuesday's work! We read about river pollution and how we can stop it. And then we did three-digit and two-digit number multiplication. Sometimes you don't need to write down with the pen because there are tricks to use. [This was followed up by the same thing but dividing. The week had started with fractions, decimals and percentages, and, despite a few initial worries on my part, the children weren't phased by % at all]



And on Wednesday morning we did a web quest about river pollution. The scariest thing we found out was the fish would suffocate because of algae and factories [and coal mines] put mercury in the rivers.

And in PE we did an epic basketball match!!!! It ended 33 to 32 points. It was awesome but the hardest thing for my team was guarding against the tallest Year 6! And on Thursday we did animal and human food chains. All chains start with the sun and producers.

Also, I did not go to the swimming lesson because I had an ear problem, but still it was fun. They were jumping onto floating islands once the lesson had finished.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finally managed to watch our new film "les choristes". In grammar, we revised some verbs by doing exercises and we talked about chores to do in the house using appropriate verbs.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we completed our unit on the human face and body and did a vocabulary and grammar revision on www.languagesonline.org.uk .

And that was our week. Have a nice weekend.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

Another busy week in Year 6. On Monday, many of the students participated in a maths competition, solving quite complicated word problems, whilst others continued with their individual revision programmes. Maths topics covered this week included: plotting straight-line graphs, multiplication, data handling and perimeter.

In Literacy, we began one of the most challenging skills to master; how to compare and contrast different texts (comparing one subject to another to show similarity or difference, and the ‘killer’ skill, using comparison and contrast in the same sentence). The students have studied traditional, modern, musical and animated versions Romeo and Juliet, and their task is to compare and contrast these.



Also, the students completed their termly reading assessment – PIRA.

Science this week has been about the digestive system; looking at what happens to food after it has been eaten; the path food travels through the body and how it is broken down inside the body. We have carried out two experiments; one, using red cabbage, to demonstrate the pH value of certain substances and the other, using cow’s liver to show the effect of hydrogen peroxide (a harmful by-product within the body) on the liver. The Year 6 scientists discovered that the acid level in the stomach has a pH value of 2, slightly less toxic than the acid found in a car battery, and that hydrogen peroxide is broken down in the liver by the enzyme catalase into water and oxygen. They also learnt about the different enzymes that breakdown protein, carbohydrate and fat and linked this knowledge to the function of enzymes in biological washing powder. So, wearing face masks, protective gloves and lab coats, the pupils, this week, have chopped up liver, added vinegar, tomato ketchup, bicarbonate of soda to a revolting red cabbage solution and had a thoroughly wonderful time making the classroom stink to high heaven!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finally managed to watch our new film "les choristes". In grammar, we revised some verbs by doing exercises and we talked about chores to do in the house using appropriate verbs.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we completed our unit on the human face and body and did a vocabulary and grammar revision on www.languagesonline.org.uk .

Today, the students have their first written test in Mandarin, and I am looking forward to seeing some of their presentations about Chinese New Year. Later on, we will have our weekly News Report, followed by a 'pupil' teacher, delivering a lesson about the 'Seagram Building', one of the '80 Treasures Around the World'.

Enjoy your weekend!

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

In EAL this week,
Reception

We continued work on the vocabulary connected to comparing and contrasting things. This week, we extended our explanations and included a lot of positional vocabulary such as next to, behind, below etc. We also played some barrier games in which we had to describe to a partner what was in our picture.

Year One and Year Two

We continued work on the fairy tale Goldilocks and the three bears. We sequenced the events in the story and created picture books. We then took it in turns to give a small presentation on a chosen scene in the story using our books to guide us.

Years Three, Five and Six

We finished work on adverbs of frequency by creating our own card game. The whole process was very linguistically rich as we problem solved together a few teething problems with the format. In the end, we created something we were all pretty pleased with and in the process we found increasingly obscure adverbs of frequency as well as hilarious scenarios. We also revised contractions in different tenses.