

Home School Books – 11 March 2016.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,



The farm topic was very exciting this week, as we looked at farm machinery, specifically the tractor. We talked about why the farmer needs a tractor and what exactly is the job of the tractor. The children decided that the farmer drives a tractor because it has big wheels to go through all of the mud that you find on the farm, the tractor's job is to pull the trailer to carry the animals or the heavy bales of hay, to feed the animals

We then looked at pictures of different types of tractors and the red tractor was definitely the most popular! If you look opposite, you will see the tractor that your little one has made from different shapes. Ask them if they can remember the name of the shapes they used to put the tractor together. The children also made some 3D tractors from junk boxes and then drew the farmer to drive the tractor. You can see our tractor trail on the windowsills near the sandpit.

During our letters and sounds session this week, we practised using positional language; on, under, behind and in front. This is a great way of introducing not only new vocabulary to your child but it also gives them a meaning to an action, ask them to show you the action to an instruction e.g. put your hat on your head, put your hand in front of your face, etc.

We have also started looking at our names and trying to recognise them amongst other names that begin with the same letter. Some children will only recognise their name by the first letter and cannot recognise their full name yet, so please practise this at home, it's a fun activity and children will soon stop guessing and remember the pattern of their name.

In our music sessions with Mrs Mayeur, the children have been singing a new song about clouds and rain and helping the garden grow. They are also practising tapping out fast and slow movements with the rhythm sticks and are surprisingly good!

Thank you to everyone who brought in empty milk bottles and cartons last week, we finally got enough to make our ten milk bottles hanging on a line rhyme and you can see them dangling above the shop.

Just a reminder, Mr Prescott put in a paragraph about healthy eating in last week's school newsletter. Please remember fruit, yoghurt or even a small sandwich is a much better option than biscuits and cakes, which some children have a lot of in their snack boxes at the moment; or as a compromise just send one small plain cookie and a piece of fruit. Children will never get into healthy eating habits if we don't encourage them! Thank you to everyone who saw the newsletter and have already made a change to their child's snack or lunch box.

We have two new children in nursery this week; please join us in warmly welcoming, Yuvanathi and her family and Karthika and her family.

Until next week, have a happy, positive, healthy weekend!

Thank you.

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

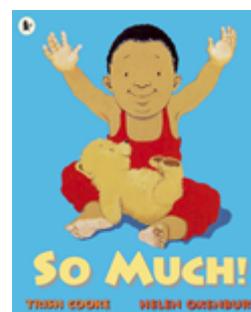
nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents

This week our focus story has been Trish Cooke and Helen Oxenbury's 'So Much. We have spent the week looking at how to properly care for babies. On Thursday the children practised bathing babies, using water and dolls. They were careful not to let the water into the babies' eyes!



This week in literacy we have continued reviewing sentences and have been working on coming up and writing our own super sentences. The children chose an image, made up a sentence then wrote it out using full stops and capital letters. We also did a lot of sequencing work, where the children had to order images accordingly. We also wrote get well soon messages for Mrs Julaton.

In maths we have started looking at left and right. The children are showing increasing awareness, many using their pointing fingers and thumbs to help them determine whether the hand is their left hand or their right.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we have been working on our books illustrating the song "une souris verte". We also sang all our songs and learnt new ones. We also listened to another chapter of the story "Lily la grenouille".

This week in swimming the children were swimming independently on their fronts and backs using swimming jackets and noodles as support. They had to remember to stretch and pull while kicking their legs. In P.E. with Mrs Prescott the children were working on their hand eye coordination, throwing and catching small balls.

The Talk topic for Monday will be talking about what we do when we can't sleep.

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Gill and Aleksandra Hauwaerts

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

The highlight of our week was making paper in our science lesson; it was something new that none of us had tried before! We used scrap paper to make our own handmade paper, a piece of which can be found in your child's home school book this week. The children learned about the process of how paper is made: first we ripped up scrap paper into smaller pieces, then we put the scraps in a blender with water to make the pulp. After that we put the pulp into a tray of water and scooped some pulp onto a deckle or wooden frame. We pressed out the water then left the sheets to dry. The children also wrote a set of instructions to explain the process which can also be seen in their home school books. Next week in our science work on materials we will be moving on to talk about metal and magnetic objects.



The swimming group have continued to do well and make very good progress. In gymnastics we learned about different types of jump and practised the teddy bear roll. In literacy we have continued our work on consonant blends. We progressed to reading and writing words with the triple blends 'nch' and 'tch' on the end of words such as 'lunch' and 'catch'. In our grammar lesson we continued to talk about nouns; what they are and how they are used.

In maths we have had a week of addition and subtraction practice. The children practised solving addition and subtraction problems using a range of resources including objects, number lines and 100 squares. They also practised counting on and back mentally and using their fingers.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we carried on listening to our story "une maison de musiciens". The piano is now in the attic (le grenier) and we have now started our new topic : the house. We described the house or the apartment we live in and have learnt all the names of all the different rooms.

In our design and technology lesson the children made another type of moving picture, one with parts that you can push and pull. We made crocodiles, ducks and fish that could move across a pond. In our history lesson we discussed schools in the past compared with now. We looked at how children had to write on slates and wear bonnets and suits to school! And that was our week.

Have a lovely weekend

Camilla Rutayisire and Patrick Tranter

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

This week, the children have again worked each morning on maths and literacy, with Mrs Keogh.

This week the children have covered the /ee/ sound and the split e-e in phonics. They really look forward to playing phonic bingo on Fridays. This means they need to have a good grasp of the words and their meanings and be aware of the different sounds the letters can make.

In maths this week we introduced the 3 times tables. The children have learnt to skip count in 3s. They especially enjoyed watching and singing along to the 3 times table song here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XzfQUXqiYY> (to the tune of “Up Town Funk”). You can find some other great times table songs on YouTube. Our emphasis this week is on memorising the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. Times tables games are planned for Friday morning. Next week, the children will investigate the concept of division, beginning with their knowledge of multiplication facts (asking, e.g. $3 \times ? = 24$).

Our theme for literacy continues to be Myths and Legends. This week the children explored the story of the “Children of Lir”. They are preparing a short play to present to Reception and Year 1 at assembly next week. In their Big Writing session, the children imagined themselves as the swans in the story, and wrote a description of themselves and their lives (as swans).



On Monday morning Mrs Keogh will be asking the children about myths and legends from their own countries or the countries of their parents. We would be delighted if for talk topic your child could tell us a story from your home country and maybe even bring a drawing or pictures to show us. If you cannot remember any, then there is no problem using the internet to help.

In French, we read the book "Peppa va au supermarché" and learned the numbers from 20 to 60. We also sang the song "La ballade des chiffres".

Please note that on Tuesday 22nd March I plan to make the visit to the park in Wezembeek that had to be postponed because of bad weather, in February. We will leave school at 10:55, and return to school by 12:45. We will only be able to make the trip if we have 4 parent helpers, so I would be very grateful for volunteers. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to help. Thank you.

I wish you a happy weekend.

Yours,

Kate Read and Tina Keogh
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Please click [here](#) for our Year 2 webpage

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

Unfortunately Mrs Vetter has been unwell this week (and we wish her a speedy recovery), but for me it has been a real privilege to spend the week with Year 3 and to receive the invaluable help and support of Mrs Tolentino! I was also happily fuelled by the enthusiasm, fantastic behaviour and quite profound (at times) level of conversation displayed by the class - they have been a delight!

In Numeracy, we returned to fractions for a 'spot check' and the assessment was a really useful exercise, as, although in general we had understood the rudiments of different aspects of fractions covered to date, the wording of the questions was however such that we had to apply our knowledge and this proved more challenging! So we spent time marking and discussing all aspects of the paper together and then did some further work on ordering, comparing and adding fractions (with the same denominator). We also continued work on the times tables, by concentrating in depth on the twelve times table. We approached it visually (what do three lots of twelve look like?), practically as well as chanting and sequencing each part and played 'roll the dice' games, and we looked for patterns and connections between each element and shared different methods/ strategies for remembering and calculating each answer mentally.

In Literacy, the children read individually on the carpet each morning for about twenty minutes and simultaneously made notes on a small whiteboard of any unusual, unknown or exciting vocabulary they encountered. These words then formed the basis for a drama based activity that proved very popular! Having chosen and discussed twelve words each time as a group, they then had to mime in pairs a given word whilst the others attempted to work out which of the twelve words it represented. I was very impressed by their originality as who would have thought it would be possible to mime the words - daily, dismayed, viaduct and horizon with such success!

We also wrote acrostic poems about pirates and included alliteration in our work. Our grammar focus was on nouns - we revised collective nouns and then moved on to compound, abstract and concrete nouns. In phonics we continued with words ending in the suffix- ing, revising the doubling the consonant after a short vowel sound rule. Based on one of our new words- potholing, our Big Writing was inspired by a photo of narrow underground tunnels and caves!

In science we continued with floating and sinking with a creative angle, by looking at what happens when you add oil to water(different densities) and then drop salt and detergent in it!(and glitter too). We worked on practical experiments having first predicted what we thought the outcomes might be and then we each produced our own unique Lava Lamp.

In Art we designed our own wanted posters, complete with pirate costumes and a dastardly pirate to wear them too.

In PE we played 'hoop' based team games as well as an old favourite, the 'bean' game.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started a new project on Animals. We learned how to describe an animal, we talked about the endangered species and started creating drafts for next week's oral présentations.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on our clothes topic and played various games around this theme. We also described orally and in writing the clothes of various people. We now know the name of every single item in our wardrobes. We also conjugated the verb "porter" (to wear).

Our talk topic this week is: Love is an abstract noun but what does it mean to you?

Have a wonderful and peaceful weekend and best of luck to all those involved in Splash!

Ruth Avis

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



Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

In our Reading comprehension lessons we read a lovely story about “The Mango Tree”. This story is based in India. Children enjoyed reading the texts and discussing them. They learn new facts when reading but they also read stories that take them to another world.

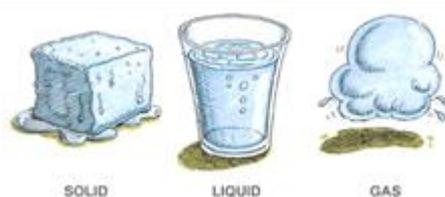
In Grammar we continued working on different activities with possessive adjectives. Following this, we also practised punctuation work too. The children read sentences that were not punctuated and had to use the correct punctuation marks so the sentences made sense. This was tricky for some children.

In writing skills the children had written a story based on “The Mango Tree” story that we read in reading skills

In maths this week we worked on the perimeter of an area. We firstly looked at measuring all sides to a shape accurately before finding the perimeter. We measured a big variety of different shapes. We also learned the value of four digit numbers by adding and subtracting them using the expanded column method. The children are now at a stage where they are working methodically and have become skilled at showing all their workings out step by step. Please make sure that you child continues this in their weekly homework.

Topic was so much fun!! The children did not want to stop working on their timelines. It was wonderful looking at the children interact with each other by showing their classmates pictures of themselves, and where they were when that picture was taken in that specific year. In fact, we also had an interesting discussion about history and how making these timelines we had a chance to look at each other’s past years. Thank you to the parents for supporting me with this activity by finding the photos for this lesson. The children are proud of themselves and were happy to share it amongst each other.

In Science we continued looking at temperature. The children definitely have a better and clearer understanding of temperature and how it is measured looking at a thermometer. This week we looked at changing state from liquid into gas. We continued experimenting this week. The children were put into groups and each group had to monitor their bowl of ice that was placed in a different place in the classroom. The children were mostly fascinated with the bowl of ice on the heating radiator. The ice had melted into liquid and the next day when the children checked the bowl there was nothing in the bowl. The water had evaporated. The children then presented all the information onto the science chart by drawing diagrams and writing information.



In French with Mrs Gorgia, we started a new project on Animals. We learned how to describe an animal, we talked about the endangered species and started creating drafts for next week's oral présentations.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on our clothes topic and played various games around this theme. We also described orally and in writing the clothes of various people. We now know the name of every single item in our wardrobes. We also conjugated the verb "porter" (to wear).

The children's fish were painted beautifully last week in art. They chose a colour of their choice. Most children painted their fish gold, silver, yellow or blue. This week in art the children completed their fish by painting designs on their fish to give it a colourful and finishing look. The children are now ready to set the fish free into the ocean. Well done to our little artists for excellent team work, listening skills and working so well to create their very own 3D fish.

The talk topic this week is "If I know $3 \times 4 = 12$ then, what else do I know?"

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,

We've had everything in Y5 this week: we've had singing and dancing, recital and performance; we saw triumph and despair; joy and desperation; exhaustion and strength; and real grit and determination.

We started off by practising for next week's class assembly. We've added a dance which Abhiram choreographed and the children were left panting by its high-octane aerobics!

In Maths, meanwhile, we looked at factors and square numbers but mainly focussed on compass work for very good reason later in the week.

Midweek, a change of circumstance meant that Year 5 were at the forefront of the Asia vs Europe football match. This annual spring Junior School sporting event saw our children in the thick of the action but with mixed outcomes. One was sadly unable to play; one was thrust uncomfortably into the position of leader; one saw two yellow cards and (as they say in football) 'went for an early bath'; one suffered an implosion; and one was an absolute hero.

But highlight of the week was of course the Walk through the Forest which did live up to expectations. It was a beautiful day and surprisingly warm and Mr Tranter was with us to help and look after us.

The mission was to find Mr Prescott in the forest and rescue him and what followed was an exciting day-long adventure with the children climbing, jumping, crawling, sliding, pulling, tumbling (at times), wincing, laughing and, overall, smiling.



As the mission came to an end there was no sign of the kidnapped Mr Prescott but we were greeted by our lovely Flemish guide, Birgitte, who patiently and carefully talked us round the Forest Museum. The children listened attentively and endeared themselves enormously to Brigitte who was also unbelievably impressed by their having walked 9km before the visit. So were we. They all did a colossal job and it was a magnificent day and it is not hyperbole to say that they will be different individuals when they wake up this morning – stiff-legged at least, anyway! Many thanks to you for making such an effort to get the children to school by 8:40 yesterday.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went on working on our new topic : food and filled in a few papers asking us questions about our eating habits, what we like and don't like, what we have never tasted, etc. In grammar, we worked on the article partitif : du, de la, des, de l'.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on vocabulary related to The Weather and Clothes. We practised vocabulary on www.languagesonline.gov.au and for grammar we worked on the impersonal verbs.

And that was our week.

Don't forget that if you wish to deposit the children's bikes at school for next Thursday's Stream Trip, I will be there 9-10am on this Sunday before 'Splash'.

Have a nice weekend and see you at the swimming if you're coming to Splash.
Best wishes

Tim Stedman

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

3 cases of sledging rations, 2 cases nut food, 1 tin of Bovril cubes, 36 gallons of fresh water, 1 case lump sugar, 30 packets of Trumilk... On Tuesday afternoon, the crew of the rescue party calculated the actual size of the James Caird from scaled measurements. They then, using ropes and metre rules, made an outline of the boat's dimensions. After this, the crew had to endure 15 minutes, in cramped conditions, trying to sleep under a tarpaulin. This challenge proved extremely difficult, as many of the Year 6 pupils find it impossible to remain still for a second! Then, back in the classroom, which was in the midst of a violent storm (background music effects), the sailors wrote their diary entries for that day.



<http://www.bisb.org/project/recreating-the-james-caird-year-6-shackleton-adventure/>

This week, the Year 6 animators, created their 'morphs' in a variety of colours, these were then photographed in various poses, and using iPads and the app Animate-it, they created some professional animations including making Morph disappear into a desk. Great fun was had by all and we are very proud of our efforts.

<http://www.bisb.org/project/year-6-animation-project-morph/>

All pupils have worked on mathematic examination papers; Year 6 arithmetic or Edexcel GCSE Foundation papers (with and without calculators). The analysis of these papers will generate revision topics for the Spring holiday.

The results of last Friday's Mandarin test, which included answering using Pinyin and drawing characters were extremely encouraging. We have nearly completed Primary Chinese Book 1; the students never cease to amaze me with their enthusiasm for this project.

I am sitting here (dodging the tennis balls) watching the children playing a tennis match; as expected, and in true year 6 competitive style, every point is argued over!

With Mrs Mayeur in music, the focus is now on learning songs for our Summer production 'Wind in the Willows'. The pupils are also learning to play 'Messing about in Boats' on the ukulele with Mr E. Prescott.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went on working on our new topic : food and filled in a few papers asking us questions about our eating habits, what we like and don't like, what we have never tasted, etc. In grammar, we worked on the article partitif : du, de la, des, de l'.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on vocabulary related to The Weather and Clothes. We practised vocabulary on www.languagesonline.gov.au and for grammar we worked on the impersonal verbs.

I have been forbidden by the pupils, to upload pictures of them (wearing a fetching range of wigs and hats) acting out 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' in Latin. 'Brexit' has reached Year 6 – is it going to be included in the News report today? After break, I am looking forward to learning about another treasure from our project 'Around the World in 80 Treasures'. Visit to the National Bank of Belgium next Tuesday...

It's all action in Year 6!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Beverley Tranter

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