

Home School Books – 18 March 2016.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

This week was the last week of our theme ‘on the farm’. The children have really enjoyed this topic and we hope they have talked to you at home about the many different aspects we have covered. We have had many discussions about a variety of activities that happen on farms around the world, from taking care of the animals, to planting the crops and everything in-between.

This week we talked about growing rice in China and growing tea in India, we then talked about what we could plant and grow in the nursery farm. The children decided beans would be a good idea, so if you look opposite you can see our instructions for growing a bean stalk. When the weather gets better, we will of course plant the real thing! For now, ask your little one what they can tell you about growing beans and all of the elements needed to make the stalk grow big and strong!



Next week will be all about Easter and in preparation we have made an Easter tree, which you can see on the table next to the talk topic wall. Many people celebrate Easter around the world and different countries and individual families have different traditions, we will be talking about a number of these next week. If you have a particular Easter tradition in your family that you would like to share with us, please let us know and we will do a little talk about it in group session, children love to chat about familiar events.

In our letters and sounds sessions this week, we continued with name recognition and listening out for the sound of the first letter of our name.

Just a few quick reminders: If your child has a fever, has vomited or is just generally unwell, please keep them at home for at least 24 hours or longer until they are free of symptoms. This is not only to give your child time to recover but to try and keep the spread of infections and viruses to a minimum.

Please don't forget to leave a selection of spare clothes in your child's tray, remember to include pants/knickers and socks. Nursery children can have the odd little mishap throughout the week and we don't have enough nursery spare clothes to fit all sizes! Thank you.

Please join us in welcoming Abhinav and his family who have just joined the afternoon nursery.

Until next week, have a lovely weekend

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

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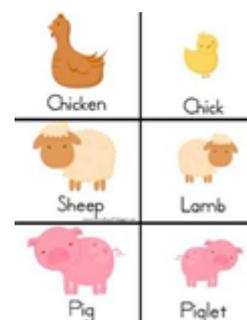
Please click [here](#) for our Nursery webpage

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

This week we did not have a focus story but read some stories and watched several short video clips about baby animals, their different names and how they change as they grow into adults.

This week in literacy we were reviewing the digraphs we have learnt, using our phonetic knowledge to read animal names and the names of their babies. The children played some tricky word games to help them remember these words. We also ordered sentences, using our knowledge of capital letters and full stops to help us as we ordered them.



In maths we have looked at estimation. The children were trying hard to make sensible estimations, aware that it is not about guessing the right answer but about getting an answer close to the number. We also did a few short games encouraging the children to use and distinguish their right from their left.

This week in swimming the children were continuing to develop their swimming techniques on their fronts and backs. The children also had the opportunity to jump in to the water independently and swim to the side without the aid of the noodle. It is lovely to watch them grow in confidence each week!

In French with Mrs Scharf, we have been talking about Easter. We looked at the animals that are born around this period. We learnt a song about a hen eating bread on a wall and we drew beautiful hens. We also spoke about chicks.

The Talk topic for Monday will be discussing different signs that spring is on its way.

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,

It's been so lovely to see the sun come out this week. We have made the most of this with our topic work by learning some popular playground games that children enjoyed in the past and still enjoy today. We played 'Ring a ring of roses', 'In and out of the dusty bluebells' and 'the farmer's in his den'. We also practised playing hopscotch, marbles and with hoops. We also learned a clapping rhyme called 'A sailor went to sea'. We talked about how playgrounds in the past would have looked different from our playground today.

In our literacy lessons we learned how to follow instructions listed in a recipe to make Chocolate Easter Nests. We also talked about what equipment we needed to use and what ingredients were necessary. The children then wrote the recipe down and counted the nouns they used in their recipe. You can see the recipe in their home school books this week should you want to make them at home yourselves. Also in phonics we are coming to the end of letters and sounds, phase 4. We have been reading and writing words with the triple consonant blends scr, str, spr, shr. After the Easter break we will be moving onto phase 5 of the programme where we will look at the alternative spellings of sounds we have already learned such as /ai/ /ay/ /a_e/.

In maths we have practised counting forwards and backwards in 10s from any small number, using a 100 square to help us. We then solved sums where we added and took away 10s. We also revised measuring objects using cubes, adding sets of mixed coins and grouping objects into 5s and 10s.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we coloured beautiful table mats which helped us learn the vocabulary of cutlery that we learnt in our story "une maison de musiciens". We also talked about Easter, learnt new vocabulary around this theme and drew beautiful pictures.

In art we started to make some Easter crafts. We made some Easter bunnies to go in our Easter baskets next week and we made a card to take home for Easter using drawing and finger paints. Next week we are looking forward to having our Easter egg hunt. And that was our 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,

This week, the children have again worked each morning on maths and literacy with Mrs Keogh. They have enjoyed their sessions with Mrs Keogh, and have learned a lot.

In mathematics, the children worked on division, drawing at first on their knowledge of multiplication and understanding that grouping 15 into groups of 3 is dividing. They are beginning to learn the division facts, as they did the multiplication facts.

Our theme for literacy continues to be Myths and Legends. Thank you for sharing the legends from your own cultures with the children. In the Big Write session this week, they wrote versions of these legends. On Friday afternoon, the children plan to perform their play of the children of Lir to Year 1 and Reception. They have very much enjoyed preparing for this, and have done very well to learn their parts (each child has an important role to play).



In science this week, we conducted a practical experiment, working in groups, to explore the properties of some everyday materials, specifically whether or not they were waterproof. This led to some interesting discoveries and discussions, which your child should be able to talk to you about.

In French, we reviewed the numbers from 20 to 60 and we learned how to tell the time (the hours). We sang the song " 1, 2, 3, nous irons au bois" and practised reading www.readinga-z.com .

In art, we completed our pictures inspired by the bowerbird, using collage to create a decorated bower, and adding to it the bird which we painted last week, using the pointillist technique. The pictures will be displayed outside the Year 2 classroom from next week.

Please note that next Tuesday, 22nd March, we plan to visit the park in Wezembeek. We will leave school at 10:55, and return to school by 12:45. Thank you to Mrs Gugilla and Mrs Kanavi for volunteering to accompany us.

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,

It is good to be back at school. We have had a lovely week and have taken advantage of the lovely sunny weather.

In Literacy we focused on information texts and have been compiling pages for our book on Pirates. This will flow into next week but we have been adding subheadings and captions to our illustrations. We finished our phonic work on adding – ed and –ing and the rules involved. On Thursday we spent the last half hour watching a live broadcast featuring Jacqueline Wilson and Michael Morpurgo. They gave us great ideas for creative writing and we will watch it again in more detail soon.

In Numeracy we have been revising subtraction using frog (subtraction by adding on a number line). We have also been partitioning 3 digit numbers and have learnt how to use the column method in conjunction with partitioning. It sounds very complicated but is not and we all managed this fairly easily. Think tank on Friday was as usual interesting and fun.

Seeing as it was St. Patrick's Day this week we made a card using shamrocks and green trimmings to decorate it. The children had great fun deciding who to give their cards to. We had PE in stunning sunlight and honed our cricket skills. We will soon be ready to take on the other classes.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we summed up our clothes topic by working in our exercises books and by finishing every activity we had started. We now know a lot of vocabulary based on clothes and we also played a game to remember the correct article: le pull, la jupe, les chaussettes, l'écharpe We also started talking about Easter.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on our project on Animals. The children used the iPads and prepared their drafts for their oral presentations, collecting all the necessary information on wikimini.

Our talk topic this week is: A leprechaun finds a pot of gold at the end of his rainbow. What will you find at the end of your rainbow?

This leaves me to wish you a relaxing weekend and may the sunshine continue.

Best wishes,

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 weather continued to be cold but the children definitely enjoyed the bright sun. Spring is definitely here!!!!

We continued working extremely hard as always, but the children are glad to start new fun Easter activities. I have also been listening to readers and I have noticed the wonderful progress in some children's reading. I would just like to remind you to listen to your child read on a daily basis. It is important that your child changes their reading books 2-3 times a week. If your child reads a word incorrectly then please ask them to re-read the sentence again. It is vital that you ask your child questions related to the book to see the level of understanding and what they remember whilst reading aloud.

In Grammar we worked on Phrases. The children learnt that a group of words together, that forms part of a sentence is called a phrase. We learnt how phrases written on their own do not make sense. The children worked on a variety of tasks where they had to use the correct noun phrase in a sentence. We looked at many sentences that were not punctuated, so the children corrected the sentences by using the punctuation marks that were needed.



In writing skills the children had to write an imaginary story about a fisherman going on a fishing trip with his friend. The children used their imagination by making up their very own version. The children were reminded to set their story into paragraphs making sure they had a happy ending.

In maths this week we worked on handling data. The children had the opportunity to read tally charts, bar charts and pictogram charts. We also created our own class bar chart on their favourite chocolate. We all had a rumbling tummy by the end of the lesson. The children were highly motivated and enjoyed creating their very own graph.

In Topic the children worked extremely hard to complete their timelines. The children then had the opportunity to present their timelines to each other. The children were extremely happy and found their friends' pictures very cute. Our next topic in the Summer Term will be "Ancient Greece and The Olympic Games".

In Science we looked at evaporation and condensation. We conducted another experiment this week by looking at how evaporation and condensation occurs. We used a pot with boiling water as well as a transparent plate to see how droplets are formed when water evaporates into the air.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we summed up our clothes topic by working in our exercises books and by finishing every activity we had started. We now know a lot of vocabulary based on clothes and we also played a game to remember the correct article: le pull, la jupe, les chaussettes, l'écharpe We also started talking about Easter.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we continued working on our project on Animals. The children used the iPads and prepared their drafts for their oral presentations, collecting all the necessary information on wikimini.

The Year 4 artists completed their 3D fish so, this week we began Easter art fun. The children were thrilled to start a new art activity. We began making Easter cards and many other fun crafts too.

The talk topic this week is “Why are science experiments so much fun?”

Hope you have a happy and positive Weekend!

Despina Kafouris

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

This week our topic and the term reached their culmination and the sun shone down on us.

The children got ready for today’s assembly, perfecting their performances, their dance and their songs. They got very excited and even demanded to make props for the play in Art with Mrs Vetter.

I’m totally sure that today’s show will have been a success and that the Years 3, 4 and 6 will have been thoroughly entertained.

The other highlight of the week was our trip to the stream and what a beautiful day we had. Blue skies, bright sunshine and although the thermometer read 13° C (we measured it), it felt much warmer especially with all our layers on. And so the Tour de Woluwe began.



The Year 5 peloton kept together and pedalled safely through Woluwe St Lamberts although the sections of walking weren’t too popular with these enthusiastic riders. Unfortunately, Ishika was unable to join us because of her recent finger fracture but Artem looked forward to the mountains; Amin to the intermediate sprints; Abhiram to the cobbles of the Champ Elysses ‘to do some stunts’ and Darius looked forward to the rest day.

We all really loved the cycling but the fieldwork was interesting too. First, we made tests to calculate the velocity of the water in the stream. So now, if you take visitors to Woluwe Stream you can tell them that the flow is 0.27m/s and very slow and when they ask how you know, you can say: ‘because my son calculated it’.

We also measured the depth and width of the stream discovering that it has a deep channel on one side and a shallow shelf on the other showing what we’ve learnt in class about the relationship between deposition and slack and fast sides of a river.

We also checked the acidity of the water and our plan had been to draw the beautiful Woluwe waterwheel. Sadly, of all the days of the year, we chose the day that the wheel was being taken down for cleaning (or repair – it wasn't clear).

Still it was another great, physical - unforgettable - day outside in nature. Thank you Mr Tranter for coming and helping but thanks even more to your invaluable folding metre rule – priceless!

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we worked on the unit "Tu voyages comment?"(How do you travel?) from our book "Les Loustics". We talked about the different forms of transportation and in grammar we practiced the verb "aller" and "prendre".

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went on working on our food topic. This week we really worked hard on the grammar and more precisely on the article partitif : du, de la, des, de l', countables and uncountables. We also spoke about food for Easter in different countries.

Next week we must use the data we've collected to work out the discharge (flow) of the stream and draw a cross-section and profile of it. I can't wait!

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,

What an informative and brilliant outing the Museum of the National Bank of Belgium turned out to be. We took our favourite no 63 bus to Gare Centrale and then walked to the bank. The guide was so impressed with the students that instead of a one-hour visit, we were there for nearly two hours! The pupils discovered that money has not always existed in its present forms; from the Yap stone, feather belt, salt and beads to electronic money. They also learnt about the history of coins, as well as banknotes, and the various stages involved in the production of a banknote and the protection that it enjoys. The pupils, even though the subject matter was extremely challenging, managed to engage in a discussion about inflation, deflation and the stability of currency.

<http://www.bisb.org/project/visit-to-the-museum-of-the-national-bank-of-belgium/>



Feeling exceptionally proud of the Year 6 students, and as the weather was glorious, we went to the park to enjoy a picnic lunch.

We are still busy organising singing parts for 'Wind in the Willows'; however the children now have their scripts for their acting parts, so they should make a start on

learning their lines ready for the summer term. Those pupils with LAMDA examinations must learn their pieces by the end of next week, thank you.

In Latin, the focus was the imperative form of the verb. Pupils took it in turns to issue orders to the Year 6 Roman soldiers, who then had to perform actions, including the 'tortoise' – ask your child to explain this you...

We studied Frank Thomas & Ollie Johnston's twelve principles of animation this week and the Year 6 animators drew various sketches of jumping and flying movements; I am not sure if my Superman demonstration was very helpful to them!

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we worked on the unit "Tu voyages comment?" (How do you travel?) from our book "Les Loustics". We talked about the different forms of transportation and in grammar we practiced the verb "aller" and "prendre".

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went on working on our food topic. This week we really worked hard on the grammar and more precisely on the article partitif : du, de la, des, de l', countables and uncountables. We also spoke about food for Easter in different countries.

Sport was high on the agenda this week, with the Asia v Europe hockey match and tennis on Thursday; the competitive spirit continues on Saturday, not with sport, but a maths competition, in French – good luck to all the participants.

As always, the students continue to focus on their preparation for the summer examinations...

I do hope that the sunshine continues for the weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

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

In EAL this week,

Reception

We started work on the topic of opposites. We discussed all the pairs of opposites that we knew as a group and even acted some of them out. We then shared a number of books about opposites and we played some opposite matching games.

Year One

We shared the traditional tale – The enormous turnip. We read a number of different versions and were quite fascinated by the addition or omission of a cat and a mouse to the list of 'turnip pulling' helpers. We acted out the story and had great fun inventing turnip based food items. My favourites were: turnip cheese closely followed by turnip pizza and turnip ice cream- yum!

Years Three, Five and Six

In EAL this week, we worked on the poem “From a railway carriage” by Robert Louis Stevenson and it was entrancing to hear each pair read the poem aloud! Each rendition was so individual and impressive. We also looked at the prefix (in) and the various spelling rules associated with it.