

Home School Books – 15 April 2016.

### Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Easter break, spring has sprung and summer is just around the corner! We have started the week with renewed energy and the children look rested and well, after all of the viruses doing the rounds last term.



This term's topic is all about 'clothes' and next week we will start with gusto on this subject. Until then, to get the children's enthusiasm and curiosity going, our talk topic is "why do we need to wear clothes?"

However this week our talk topic has been, "what did you do during the holiday break?" We then asked the children to draw what they had discussed with the teacher. If you look opposite you will see your child's description of what they did in pictorial form, plus some scribing of their discussion. The younger children or the children without extensive English, were encouraged and helped by the teachers to put their drawing together. Remember it isn't the end product that is important at this stage, it is the process, the actual hands on, doing the activity that is the most important element.

As the weather is so good at the moment, we have tried to get outside and do some structured P.E. Sessions, as well as playing on the tricycles and climbing equipment. Ask your little one if they can tell you about the Mrs Crocodile game we have been playing outdoors, see if they can remember how it's played. Please remember to keep chatting to your child in your mother tongue or home language; this is very important for bilingual or trilingual children.

As part of our topic on clothes, we will have a role play clothes shop, so if you have any items of clothing, especially traditional dresses from your home country, that you are willing to give us for our shop, they will be gladly received.

You may have noticed we have an extra member of staff in the nursery at the moment, please take time to say hello to her, she is a student teacher be doing her teaching practice with us until the end of June. The children are calling her Miss Maria.

Until next week, have a lovely weekend, we hope to see many of you at the Spring crafts and coffee morning this Saturday at 10.00.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

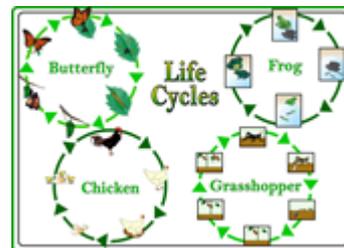
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Please click [here](#) for our Nursery webpage

## Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a lovely holiday and were able to have some rest. This week we have been looking at life cycles and so did not have a focus story but enjoyed a collection of short videos and books helping our understanding of the life cycles of frogs or butterflies. We have enjoyed looking at the different stages of these life cycles and have completed different activities.



This week in literacy we have been doing lots of revising of sounds and have been starting simple dictations. The children have to use their knowledge of sounds, especially digraphs in order to write the phrases stated by an adult. It seems that the children have remembered all that we have been looking at very well despite the long break.

In maths we have revised one more than, one less than, and simple addition and subtraction. We played a collection of games where the children had to work out the answers to such questions.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we have been listening to all the songs we learnt so far and we also started talking about spring and the weather of this season.

This week in swimming the children swam independently the width of the pool, both on their fronts and on their backs. The children jumped into the water and swam to the small pool. There were some very big splashes!

Talk topic for Monday will be discussing Space and planets.

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 has been lovely welcoming everybody back after the Easter break and we have been very busy!

We have started a new topic for the summer term, called 'Down at the bottom of the garden.' We made a class brainstorm about this topic and we came up with many ideas including growing plants and learning about flowers and trees. We also talked about mini-beasts such as butterflies,



caterpillars, worms, bees, snails, ladybirds and spiders. We also mentioned tree houses and play houses. We discussed how people eat picnics and barbeques in gardens and we became excited about summer and being able to enjoy the sunshine outside.

We started our topic linked work in art by looking at the work of the artist, Henri Matisse who 'painted with scissors.' We recreated his work 'the sheaf' and it really made us focus on our scissor skills!' The children then made their own individual works based on Matisse's style. These can all be seen on display in the classroom.

In literacy, we read the Oxford Reading Tree book, 'In the garden' and the children completed a reading comprehension exercise to show how well they understood the story, which can be seen in their home school books this week. Also in literacy we have moved onto phase 5 of our letters and sounds programme. This week we talked about how the same sound can be made by different letters and focused on /ai/ and /ay/ and /ee/ and /ea/.

In maths we have looked at 1 more, 10 more and 1 less, 10 less than any number up to 100 this week. The children practised making cross patterns using a 100 square and practised making totals of coins using 10 cent and 1 cent pieces. We also talked about partitioning numbers into tens and ones and learned a song called 'break the glue'; ask your child to sing it to you at home!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we resumed our story "Une maison de musiciens" and revised all the rooms of the houses and some furniture too. We will now start drawing our own house.

Swimming and gymnastics has continued on Tuesdays and we have two more weeks left. The children are gaining confidence in their skills and making very good progress. Our talk topic for next week is 'Where do worms live and what do they like to eat?'

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, in literacy, we are learning about, and writing, diaries, so ...

Tuesday 12th April 2016

The first day back after the holiday! It was wonderful to see all the children again and to hear about all the fun they had. We learned about nouns, and in mathematics, we revised some of the mental strategies we have used to solve addition, notably:

doubling; adding on whole tens, then units; partitioning (i.e. adding tens to tens, and units to units); using bonds to 10 (e.g. for  $37+8$ , doing  $37+3+5$ ).

We began to learn about the Great Fire of London (which happened in 1666), and how Samuel Pepys famously wrote about it in his diary.

We also went into the playground, in small groups, with Mrs Flynn, to look for signs of Spring. We took some excellent photographs on the ipads.

Wednesday 13th April 2016

In mathematics, we began working with numbers between 100 and 200.

We discussed the reasons why the Great Fire of London spread so widely and caused so much damage. There were some interesting theories, with many of the children pointing out that the houses were built of wood. In the coming weeks, we will be studying the properties of different materials, especially in the context of building, and this initial discussion was a good starting point.

Thursday 14th April 2016

Today we did two especially exciting things.

Firstly, we started writing in our diaries. The children are free to include whatever they want to in their diaries, and they will bring them home to write in too (but please make sure the diaries come back to school each day). Today, we learned a little more about nouns and verbs.

Secondly, we went into the playground, again looking for buds of flowers and leaves beginning to appear, observed them closely, and sketched them in our sketch books.



It is Thursday as I write. On Friday, we will continue to work on nouns and verbs, and on numbers between 100 and 200. We will also have some handwriting practice.

Please take a moment to look at this term's topic web, on the BISB website. Also, please note this week's talk topic: how are our modern buildings different from buildings of the past?

In French, we worked on a new unit from our book "Alex & Zoé" on the human body. We did many vocabulary activities and had a great time singing the traditional French song "Jean Petit qui danse".

I wish you all a happy weekend and I hope many of you will be able to come to the Spring Crafts morning on Saturday.

Yours,

Kate Read

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

## Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see you all back after half term. The weather has been good and we have enjoyed being outside in the sun.

In Literacy we have begun looking at poetry in more detail, particularly performance poetry. We will learn how to deliver our lines and make the poem come alive. As usual, guided reading was a highlight of the week.

In Numeracy we revised work covered last term and have now completed our progress assessments. Think tank is coming along well and it is good to see that the children are enjoying these logical problems.

In Topic we will be starting our Tour Bus India project next week. We will look at India generally focusing on its place in the world and which countries it borders and its resources.

In Science we began the wonderful and exciting topic of rocks and soils. We started with a look at our earth and what it is made of. We then looked at how volcanoes are formed and found out that Hawaii is a range of islands formed from the same vent in the earth's crust.



In Art we just had to do some volcanic art which is up on our wall in the classroom. They look lovely and bright.

In PE we began our rotation of tennis. The coach had lost his voice but he pointed out to me how much the children learnt in that first lesson. I think we will have some budding tennis stars in our class. We also managed to play a game of cricket and enjoy the warmer weather.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we quickly revised the vocabulary about clothing and talked about the members of our family. This theme helped us learn the possessives mon, ma, mes.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we shared stories from our spring holidays. We talked about the places we visited, the way we travelled and the people we met, and the children created beautiful mind maps illustrating the vocabulary we learned this week.

Our talk topic this week is: Discuss how volcanoes are created and if they are all created in the same way.

Don't forget the spring crafts tomorrow morning. That is always a lot of fun.

Have a lovely weekend,

Valeria Vetter

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

## Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school!! I hope you all have a marvellous Easter break. The sun is out and the weather is so much warmer. The children are full of energy ready to give their greatest effort in the last term of school.

In literacy we looked at poems. The children were given the opportunity to look at a large variety of poems and how certain poems differ from one another. This week we only concentrated on rhyming poems. At first we created a class rhyming poem and then the children completed their very own rhyming poem about school. For extra support the children used a rhyming dictionary.

In Grammar we looked at Paragraphs and how stories are divided into paragraphs. The Year 4's have worked on paragraphs before so they were well aware of this unit and didn't find it at all challenging.

In big writing we completed our poems. The children re-wrote their poems neatly on white paper and decorated their page with colour. We will be looking at different poems and definitely writing our own poems in the next few weeks.

In maths this week we worked on multiplying and dividing 3 digit numbers. In addition to this we practised our times tables and revised previous maths work that had been completed in the last term.

Ancient Greece and The Olympic Games is the new topic for the summer term. As it was our very first lesson the children learnt basic facts about Greece and where it is situated on the world map. They also researched on the iPads during computing and wrote down interesting facts too.

The children created their title cover page as well as coloured in the Greek flag.



In Science we also started our new topic "Sound". We had a wonderful discussion on what sound is, what makes a loud and soft sound and most importantly how we hear? The children completed a worksheet by labelling the anatomy of the ear. We also learnt about how we hear and the importance of sound vibrations. The children were extremely focused during the lesson and were eager to ask questions about sound.

In art the children drew a beautiful picture of amazing scenery from a view in Greece. The children then started painting them using water paints. This will be continued in next week's art lesson.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we quickly revised the vocabulary about clothing and talked about the members of our family. This theme helped us learn the possessives mon, ma, mes.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we shared stories from our spring holidays. We talked about the places we visited, the way we travelled and the people we met, and the children created beautiful mind maps illustrating the vocabulary we learned this week.

This week the children were given the trip slip for “The Train Museum”. Could you please fill out the form with 15 euro and place it in an envelope with your child’s name on it.

Many thanks!

The talk topic this week is “Who were the main Ancient Greek Gods?”

Hope you have a super Weekend!

Despina Kafouris

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

### Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

We started the summer term and our latest Topic with a visit to Mexico as we delved deep into the Yucatan jungle to hunt some Aztec Pyramids. This week we researched the Aztec empire of the 15th century seated at Tenochtitlan. The children were enthralled by the spectacular story and it has to be said, the gruesome aspects. The children started creating a website about pyramids which they will top up throughout the term.



In Literacy meanwhile we started a unit on myths and legends which will also tie in with work in topic. Mermaids and Selkies (a new word I learnt this week) were the mythological creatures we investigated. The children explored the internet, made collages and focussed on powerful verbs. In the world of these legends, the sea and waves crash and bite!

Maths was all about adding money totals; good practice for when the Year 5’s face pounds and pence in England the week after next.

In Science, we started the new unit of Keeping Healthy and this week we learnt what use protein is to us; what the two categories of carbohydrates are; and what sources hold vitamins C, D and E, amongst other (yummy) things!

Enjoying the bright sunshine and very pleasant temperatures in the playground, we enjoyed some cricket; throwing and catching and practising run-outs – all good preparation for next month’s Fifteen15 inter-class competition. We’re currently on the lookout for transfer players to bolster our team!

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we completed the unit " Tu voyages comment?"(How do you travel?) from our book "Les Loustics". We did many vocabulary activities and for grammar we practised some verbs in the Present Tense.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we did some very serious conjugation work: we revised all the verbs we have learnt so far and added four more. We also worked on être and avoir again to be able to learn the passé composé in order to prepare ourselves for Rippledawn.

And that was our week.

Have a good weekend and we look forward to seeing you at Saturday's Spring Crafts Day if you are going.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

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

### Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to everyone, to what I am sure will be a wonderful summer term; already, the weather has been kind to us. It really is a heart-warming sight to see all the children enjoying themselves in the playground, basking in glorious sunshine.

The Year 6 pupils should now be in 'full' revision mode for the examinations at the end of May. I shall no longer be handing out regular homework; students are expected to assess 'gaps' in their knowledge from each day's revision programme and use these to form the basis of their individual revision plans. However, they will be expected to complete two comprehension exercises each week to be handed in on Monday.

Notwithstanding other curriculum subjects, each day, students will revise a range of learning objectives from the: Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation (SPaG) syllabus, Key Stage 2 Mathematics syllabus and GCSE Mathematics Foundation syllabus. Students have individual folders detailing all the learning objectives, which they should use as a reference point for individual study; it is essential that pupils begin Secondary School as independent learners.

SPaG revision topics this week have included: co-ordinating and subordinate clauses, modal verbs, passive and active voice, word roots, prefixes and suffixes, sentence types, rhyming couplets, wordplay, alliterations and simile.

GCSE Maths revision topics: Venn diagrams, conversion graphs, angles, multiplication problems, and formula for general terms.

Key Stage 2 Maths revision topics: calculations, factors and multiples, square numbers and data handling.

In addition to the above, the children have completed two comprehension and writing tasks.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we completed the unit " Tu voyages comment?"(How do you travel?) from our book "Les Loustics". We did many vocabulary activities and for grammar we practised some verbs in the Present Tense.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we did some very serious conjugation work: we revised all the verbs we have learnt so far and added four more. We also worked on être and avoir again to be able to learn the passé composé in order to prepare ourselves for Rippledawn.

It has not all been ‘nose to the grindstone’! The children have been jogging round the playground and enjoying relay races, playing football rounders, chilling out on their ukuleles, practising their singing for our next production, and today, as always, we look forward to our weekly news’ report, learning about another of the ‘80 Treasures’ and studying Mandarin.



Wishing you all a sunshine-filled weekend.

Kind regards,

Beverley Tranter

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

In EAL this week,

Reception

We all took the time to get to know one another. We introduced ourselves, talked about our families and expressed our interests. I was impressed by how confidently they were able to write their names. We also played a game with some puppets and talked about our visits to the park, drawing out related vocabulary.

Year One and Year Two

As with Reception, we took the time to get to know each other and find out about one another’s interests (we learned what the word ‘hobby’ means). Using puppets, we played a speaking and listening game, repeating different sentences we heard in differing voices. It became a little tricky once the sentences became longer so constructing longer sentences by the use of connectives in speech and writing is likely to be our target this term.

Years Three, Five and Six

We introduced ourselves and discussed what we did in the Easter holidays. Years 3 and 4 started writing a recount about their holiday while Years 5 and 6 moved on to discuss sentences and paragraphs. We played a sentence game that they had made last term with Mrs Avis (with a focus on adverbials) and then considered how paragraphs are used in non-fiction texts. They also chose a topic of interest to them as a project for this term.