

Home School Books – 22 April 2016.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

The children have made a great start on our new topic on "clothes" this week.

We have looked at the different clothes we wear in different types of weather and talked about why we wouldn't wear a ski suit on the beach, or a swimming costume in the snow for example. The children had some very funny answers, as well as some very sensible ones of course.

Our math's activity this week was looking at and copying patterns, the children did this on a pair of socks and if you look opposite, you will see how well they understood the exercise. Pattern making is not as easy as it looks but is a great way of helping children think about how to look for patterns in a variety of everyday settings.

The story this week, which is part of our literacy programme, was, "The Emperor's New Clothes." The children watched a power point with story slides on the smart board, depicting the different scenes in the book. We then had a word of mouth version of the story without illustrations and the teacher used props as visuals. The children were then asked to recall the story verbally during small groups and then put the story cards in the correct sequence to retell the story visually. If you are not familiar with this story ask your little one to tell it to you and see how much they have remembered.



The nursery individual parent/teacher meetings will take place on the 10th & 11th May. You will receive a slip of paper with your appointment time and date very soon.

Unfortunately we do not have very much capacity to change appointments, to suit everyone's personal requests. So please keep your original time, unless it is absolutely impossible for you, then come and speak to Mrs Davies. Otherwise put the date and time into your diary and we look forward to meeting with you then.

The appointments are 10 minutes long and we do try to keep to time and not run over too much. Please remember unless you are the last one in the queue there is always someone waiting behind you!

Our clothes topic continues next week and we will be setting up our role play clothes shop, so if you have any dressing up clothes donations to give us, please send them in. The talk topic next week is 'what is your favourite item of clothing and why?'

Have a lovely weekend.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

Let me introduce myself. My name is Tina Keogh and I have been teaching your children this week, working with Mrs Gill, as part of my teacher training practice, which will continue for the next 3 weeks.

Our topic at the moment is space. The children spent time in the playground using their senses to learn about their planet. They can tell you that our planet is special because it has water, oxygen and is full of life. Today is World Earth Day and we discussed how we could take care of our planet by looking after the big and small creatures. We compared recycling to life cycles and on Thursday we planted an apple tree.



Beegu was our focus story this week. It is about a little alien who crashed onto earth. She very much liked the little people during her short visit. As a follow on to the story we had a space package arrive from the ISS space station. It contained a toy Beegu and a recording device. Beegu's Mum sent a letter to our children asking them to teach Beegu about school, planet earth and our solar system

In maths we have been learning how to measure how tall and how long different items are using non-standard measurements. The children today measured each other using a toy monkey.

In literacy we introduced the new sound /igh/. They quickly learnt to sound out words such as flight, sigh, night, light and many others.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we finished listening to our story "Lilly la grenouille" and we learnt a song about a funny robot in the story. We drew its picture and we also talked about spring.

Next week we will start to explore our solar system. The children will begin to name the planets of our solar system in order and learn a little about each one.

Our Talk Topic this week is "What do you know about the other planets in our solar system"?

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Tina Keogh and Aleksandra Hauwaerts

Naomi Gill

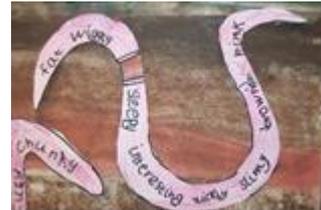
receptionteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

This week has been all about worms in year 1! We made our own wormery in class and have been watching the earthworms move and make tunnels through the layers of sand and compost. We learned about how useful earthworms are for recycling leaves and plant scraps and turning them into good quality soil. In our literacy lesson we came up with lots of describing words for earthworms including, squishy, fat, deep red, wiggly, wriggly, slimy and stripey. We then made our own earthworm shape poems and tried to make our writing follow the shape of an earthworm. We then made a display by using paint, pastels and crayons to recreate the layers the earthworms tunnel through and we made grass by cutting up painted tissue paper, a technique used by the author and artist Eric Carle.



Also in literacy we have looked at the /or/ sound and its alternative spellings /au/ and /aw/. We made decisions about which spelling to use for a series of words and practised spelling words with the different spellings of this sound. The children have begun changing their own reading books in preparation for their move to Year 2 next academic year and they are learning to make decisions about which books they would like to read.

In maths we have revised the number bonds, the pairs of numbers that make 10 when added together. We have practised using this knowledge to solve sums with a total greater than 10, for example, if we know that $7+3 = 10$ we can easily work out $7+4$ by counting on 1 more. We also looked at using our knowledge of simple sums such as $4+2$ to solve bigger sums such as $14+2$, $24+2$ and even $294+2$! We also looked at subtraction patterns such as $8-2$, $18-2$, and $28-2$ etc.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we listened to the next chapter of our story "Une maison de musiciens" and learned all the rooms of the house and some furniture. We looked at lots of books with pictures of houses and we have now begun to draw our own houses. We started by drawing "la cuisine".

Next week is the last swimming lesson for Year 1 this school year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has come with us to help the children to get changed. Your help really does make our lessons go much more smoothly and helps the children to make the most of their time at the pool. After the end of swimming Tuesdays will still be our PE day so the children can continue to wear their jogging bottoms on that day, but our focus will change to outdoor games and preparation for sport's day.

Have a lovely weekend.

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,

Please note: next week, from Monday 25th April, Year 2 will be in the junior building (in the adjacent street, Avenue de L’Emerauld 59), not in the infant building. Please take your child to the junior building, and collect her/him from there in the afternoon.

We have very much enjoyed the Spring weather this week, and have spent every playtime looking at the flowers blooming, trees blossoming and new leaves growing, as well as listening to the birds singing.



Inspired by these observations, the children wrote some lovely Spring poems, which are displayed on the Spring wall beside the staircase, and will also be displayed on our website.

The children planted some new seeds with our class volunteer, Mrs Flynn. They are looking forward to seeing the progress of the plants.

I was pleased to see that the children are still keen to write in their diaries. They have brought the diaries home to write in whenever they want to, but please make sure they keep them in their school folders and bring them in each day.

In literacy, we looked at nouns, verbs and adjectives. We also wrote instructions for planting a seed, after the seed-planting activity.

In mathematics, we have been working on mental subtraction, especially on seeing subtraction as finding the difference, and counting on to solve it. For example, for 53-46, we saw that it is more efficient to think $46+? = 53$, than to try to count down 46 from 53. We used this concept to calculate the change needed when paying for something with a 50 cent, or 1 euro coin.

In French, we worked on a new project on Spring. We did many vocabulary activities and each child created a beautiful album entitled " Le printemps est là!"(Spring is here!).

In science this week, we examined various everyday materials, making observations about their strength, hardness, resistance to scratching, flexibility, and other properties. In the coming weeks, we will explore the properties of materials further, particularly looking at the suitability of different materials for different purposes in our homes.

Our talk topic this week, please, is “How can I tell that I am growing up”?

I wish you a happy weekend.

Yours,

Kate Read and Elizabeth Flynn

year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

What a beautiful sunny week we have had. We have taken full advantage of our days to do PE and discover new games.

In Literacy we have carried on with our look at Hilaire Belloc's poem the Tarantella. We also found out about the poet himself and discovered that he has written a lot of poems. A link to his anthology of cautionary tales for children is on our website http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/27424?msg=welcome_stranger . We have also been looking at rhyming words and written about what happened to Miranda (the girl from the poem).

In Numeracy have been adding and subtracting single digit numbers and 3 digit numbers trying to use good mental strategies. It has been fun and sometimes not easy for the children to explain verbally how they worked the problems out.

In Topic we began by looking at India's place in the world, geographically. We spoke about her neighbours and the seas on either side of her. We marked out the main cities and will begin our tour in New Delhi on Monday.



In Science we had a lot of fun discovering the 3 main rock types. We had the chance to feel and study different rocks and with the help of the ipads began to identify them. We will carry on with identification next week as a lot of children have brought their own specimens into school.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went on learning the possessives by describing our families. We also worked hard in our exercises books and we did some revisions on numbers up to 50 and the days of the week. We also learnt to ask why (pourquoi) and answered with because (parce que).

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we worked on the unit "De quoi as-tu peur?" (What are you afraid of?) " from our book " Alex & Zoé". We studied ways of expressing our feelings and emotions and watched the short movie "Mathilde, la méchante".

In Art we sketched the Taj Mahal and the Lotus Temple. Wow, what stunning results!

In PE our tennis coach had found his voice and he worked the children very hard indeed. I suspect we have a few budding stars amongst our midst. We also played cricket with the year 5's and 4's with some children learning how to score on a sheet.

Our talk topic this week is: Harry Potter and the iPad14 - A new blockbuster! What do you think will happen?

Have a lovely weekend,
Valeria Vetter

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

The second week of the summer term was busy, busy, busy!! The children did not only work extremely hard but they also went on their school outing to the Train World. The children had a great time and enjoyed learning about the history of trains and how they have changed in time.

The Year 4's were so well behaved and showed great interest. They were super excited getting in the different trains, pushing buttons and leavers. They loved the train's horn and were eager to have a go at pulling the string to hear the hooting sound.



In literacy we continued looking at poems. The children looked at different poems but this week we focused on Acrostic Poems and how they are set out. The children looked at different acrostic poems and they made their very own Acrostic Poem. The children tried to use similes, alliteration and some rhyming words too in their poems.

In Grammar we focused on Sentences. To be more specific we looked at sentences with a subject and verb agreement. The children had to spot the main subject in the sentence but also had to find the verb that agreed with the subject. The children worked in their Grammar notebooks working on different activities. They also completed a verbs table by filling in the present and past tense of a given pronoun. This was an excellent activity for the children. They were focused and kept them busy for a good amount of time.

In our writing lesson the Year 4 children worked on creating their very own Acrostic Poem. The children worked effectively creating wonderful poems. This type of poem was far easier than the rhyming poems.

In maths we worked on reading, writing and comparing 4 – 5 digit numbers. This was a great activity as some children find reading larger numbers difficult to read. We looked at the value of numbers and how they are read and written in words. We then moved onto negative numbers and how the way they are ordered onto a number line or thermometer. We also discussed the difference between negative and positive numbers too. Learning new things is so much fun!!

In topic we did some map work. The children looked at an outline map of Greece. They labelled the capital of Greece, some islands that surround Greece as well as the two seas that encircle Greece. The children then looked at schools in Ancient Greece and how they differ to our school life style here at BISB. The children were surprised to learn and compare the differences. They were chuffed that they are all allowed to attend school and having equal amount of fun.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went on learning the possessives by describing our families. We also worked hard in our exercises books and we did some revisions on

numbers up to 50 and the days of the week. We also learnt to ask why (pourquoi) and answered with because (parce que).

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we worked on the unit "De quoi as- tu peur?" (What are you afraid of?) " from our book " Alex & Zoé". We studied ways of expressing our feelings and emotions and watched the short movie "Mathilde, la méchante".

In Science we continued our topic "Sound". This week we looked at how sound travels. The children were given the opportunity to look at a you tube clip about sound. They then continued working on a worksheet about how sound travels. In art we continued working on the astonishing scenery view in Greece. The children continued painting their drawings. I have to say once again that the Year 4 children are definitely little artists. Their paintings are amazing. They work vigilantly, taking their time to use a big variety of colour and detail in their painting. They should definitely keep up the excellent work.

The talk topic this week is "Why were schools in Ancient Greece so different to schools today? What would they have done about ipad14?"

Hope you have a restful Weekend!

Despina Kafouris

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

We had a lovely week in Year 5 this week. Despite some maths and science tests, the sun shone, we got inspired by mermaids and we had half a thrilled eye on next week's residential trip to the UK.

In Literacy we played with the present perfect tense, considered the feelings of the characters in our texts and wrote a nice, scary legend to finish. Within that, there was a lot of performance recital – the class used various instruments and sounds to present a passage from a legend and Ishika had an important drama exam. We all hope that she did really well.

In Maths, we continued adding decimals but a major part of the week was grappling with our study programme test. It was a tough one but really highlighted areas that we need to re-visit, learn or improve.

In Topic we examined Aztec codices and Egyptian hieroglyphics. The class then had a go themselves at creating some early pyramid scriptures. Tea-stained card took the place of papyrus, tree bark or animal skin.



In French with Mrs Gorgia, we completed a revision of vocabulary and grammar. We also reviewed the units on describing people, nationalities and school items and activities.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we listened to a song containing lots of verbs in the passé composé and we had to fill in the gaps. We worked really hard on this new tense and did lots of oral and written exercises to really get the hang of it.

PE was all about learning the basic rules of Netball in preparation for a tournament the Juniors have been invited to next month. Once we've mastered the rules, then we might get quite good!

In amongst all this, we learnt about the heart in Science: what it and its parts do and how it does it, and where.

And that was our week.

Next week's trip to Rippledawn is already eagerly anticipated and the children are very excited about it too. It does look to be a tough one this year. That it will be unbelievable fun is assured but this year it looks like it will be a bit chillier than usual and the programme will provide a good, healthy challenge. Day one in London will involve a lot of unforgettable sightseeing and I would recommend that the children carry the bare minimum in their daysacks.

See you bright and early on Monday morning at Eurostar.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

year5teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

The students have worked extremely hard this week. This is even more impressive as I know that they are all so excited about going to Rippledawn and would far rather be discussing, after-lights antics, who is going to have the top bunk-bed, how to smuggle tuck in their luggage and how to avoid being on dining room cleaning duty! As I keep reminding them, I went to boarding school, so I know all the tricks!! Of course, I was angelic and would not have done any of the aforementioned...



Just to confirm, students must be at the Eurostar lounge, Gare du Midi by 07.30 with all their passports, ID card etc. Children are to travel in clean and tidy school uniform (grey trousers or skirts). For the return trip, children may wear BISB jogging bottoms instead of the grey uniform.

It was another hard week of revision. In SPaG, topics studied included: idioms, prepositions, adverbs, spelling rules, pronouns, the subjunctive mood, the past and present progressive verb tenses, speech marks and quotations. The pupils completed comprehensions and writing tasks.

In Maths, revision topics included: area and perimeter, number sequences, timetables, negative numbers, data handling, algebra, using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to solve multi-step word problems.

In French with Mrs Gorgia, we completed a revision of vocabulary and grammar. We also reviewed the units on describing people, nationalities and school items and activities.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we listened to a song containing lots of verbs in the passé composé and we had to fill in the gaps. We worked really hard on this new tense and did lots of oral and written exercises to really get the hang of it.

This week, some of the Year 6 pupils have taken their Level 3 Speaking Verse and Prose, LAMDA examinations. The examiner wanted to me to pass on how well-prepared (and delightful) all the candidates were – well done. I too, am very proud of the effort that they put into preparing for this higher-level examination.

It would seem that our only relaxation at the moment is playing the ukulele sport in the sunshine, the weekly news report, Mandarin, Latin and learning about the 80 Treasures of the World. Sometimes, I wonder how we manage to fit all this into five days!

Determination.

This is a quality that you will be expected to demonstrate next week!

I am looking forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

In EAL this week,

Reception

We were using prepositions. We followed instructions to complete a seaside themed picture sheet using the words ‘around’, ‘in front’, ‘behind’ and then went outside to the playground to practise listening to and using these words in a different, more familiar context. We also discussed and used the words ‘in between’.

Year One and Year Two

This week we started to discuss our new theme ‘Summer Holidays’. We discussed what kinds of things we do in the summer holidays and places we might go. We also packed suitable clothing for a summer holiday discussing the associated language and labelled a seaside picture using the appropriate vocabulary.

Years Three, Five and Six

Years 3 and 4 started listening to the story of the BFG. We then used this as inspiration for dialogue (talk between the characters). We practised constructing sentences verbally and then writing them down in speech bubbles. We also made a collection of alternative words for 'said' and discussed where these words would be used (outside the speech bubble). Meanwhile, Years 5 and 6 played a sentence game during which they had to change and add words to make them more interesting. I noticed lovely use of adjectives but fewer adverbs so we used this as a teaching point.