

Home School Books – 30 September 2016.

Home School Book – Nursery

Over the course of this week we have welcomed three new children into nursery, so please take time to say hello to the children and their respective families when you meet them.

The children have talked about their likes and dislikes of various things this week during our small group discussion times. We then cut out different images and decided what we liked the most. If you look at the page opposite, you will see which ones your little one chose. Of course nearly every child liked ice cream but funnily enough not many liked tidying their toys away! For home participation this week we have asked each child to draw three things they dislike, they can then ask you to name what they have drawn, and we will discuss their choices next week.

Maths this week was all about shape again and we introduced some unfamiliar 2D shapes to the children; ask your little one if they can remember what they were?

The children have also started practising their cutting out skills. At the moment the use of scissors is supervised, as not many of the children have used scissors before, so they need a lot of guidance. Eventually scissors will be put in an area to be used freely, so please talk to your child about scissor safety. Cutting out following a straight or curved line is an important skill that the children need to learn so please invest in a pair of small safety scissors with rounded blades and you can help your child practise at home.



Just a quick reminder to please bring your child's nursery folder back to school no later than Wednesday, together with their library book, , so we can start preparing the folders ready to be taken home again for the following weekend.

Plus don't forget to bring back your child's language poster with a photograph attached for our welcome to our world wall.

Until next week, have a fabulous weekend and go walking in the forest, then you can answer our talk topic question 'why do some leaves Change colour in the Autumn and some leaves don't?'

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 we have been focussing on doctors, looking at the different instruments they use and how they have helped us in the past. We have read a couple of doctor themed stories throughout the week.

We have revised our sounds during the week, using songs, games and worksheets. Alongside sounds revision we have also learnt the sounds /o/, /u/ and /k/. We have been focussing a lot on initial sounds, and blending cvc words as a whole class.

In maths this week we have been looking at prepositions, such as on, in, under. We looked at organising stickers in a doctor's surgery, according to the prepositions in the instructions. As well as this we have looked at the days of the week. We have been learning the order of the days of the week, starting with Sunday and remembering how many days there are in a week and how they relate to us in our daily lives.



In French with Mrs Scharf, we are working on learning all colours and we continue exercising the questions "Comment ça va?" "Bien merci et toi ?" We also introduced the answers "ça va mal" and "comme ci comme ça" with the help of a song. We counted up to 12 as well with the famous song "1,2,3 nous irons au bois".

In P.E. this week we have been completing doctor style games. For example, in a relay form, children take it in turns to run and fetch a doctor's item and place it in his doctor bag before the next children goes. They enjoyed these games and showed their ability to listen to and act out instructions resulting in a pleasant P.E. session.

Talk topic for Monday will be discussing why police cars, fire engines and ambulances have/need flashing lights and make noises. When do they use these and why?

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Irakoze and Ivana Julaton

receptionteacher@telenet.be

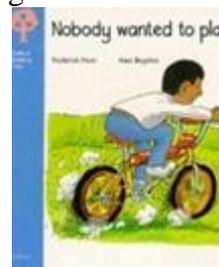
Please click [here](#) for our Reception webpage

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

We've continued to enjoy the lovely weather this week and did lots of outdoor games in the sunshine. In our topic work we talked about how we change from a baby to a toddler, a child to a teenager and then an adult and the children ordered pictures of people in these life stages in their home school books this week. Also as part of our topic work we talked about our hobbies, or what we like to do in the evenings and on weekends. The children in Year 1 have a wide variety of interests including painting, dancing, doing gymnastics, playing with friends, playing games and football.

This week in Literacy we focused in particular on the phonemes e/g/r/ and we played lots of different games to help us remember these sounds in our reading and writing. We read the story 'Nobody Wanted to Play' together and we had a delightful discussion about the main character, Wilf, and his amazing imagination! We made a list of all the play equipment that Wilf played on in the park and then the children wrote about their own trips to the park. The children also completed some reading assessments with me and it was lovely to see how well they are progressing.



In Numeracy this week we have been learning all about 2D shapes. We revised the 2D shape names: circle, triangle, rectangle, square, pentagon and hexagon. We talked about how many sides and corners the shapes had and whether the sides were curved or straight. We also did some work on symmetry and made some beautiful butterfly paintings. The children began to explore how symmetrical objects are the same on both sides of a line of symmetry.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been having lots of fun revising and learning more animal names. We made a memory game to help us remember them and played games around the same theme. We also revised all colours.

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the appointment slips sent out for the Year 1 parents evening on Wednesday the 12th of October. Please can you sign the slip and return it to us as soon as possible if you have done so already so that we can plan the appointments accordingly.

Next week we will be talking about our senses and in particular our sense of smell so our talk topic will be 'What is your favourite smell and why?'

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,

Despite a number of absences, Year 2 has continued apace this week. In Literacy, the children revised the various 'e' sounds: /ey/, /ee/, /e-e/ and /ea/, and the non-swimming group also revised the /ai/, /ay/ and /a-e/ sounds. The class also wrote a piece based on what it would be like to be their chosen animal, in connection with our 'animals' topic. Also related to our topic, we had an interesting discussion about the distinguishing characteristics of mammals, reptiles and birds, and learned the terms

‘vertebrate’ and ‘warm-blooded’. In our D&T lesson this week, the children made individual moveable animals, using card and paper fasteners.

In Maths, the week has focused on Geometry, revising 2-D shapes and symmetry, and learning some new terminology (quadrilateral, parallelogram and tessellation). We then learned about the use of Carroll diagrams to sort objects according to their properties, and finished the week by applying the concept of sorting to non-mathematical objects, such as fruit and vegetables.

The swimming group, although somewhat reduced this week, had another good session, learning and practising the ‘frog-kick’. This group has 4 sessions remaining, and we are hopeful that they will progress to the third (green) level certificate by the end of their scheduled lessons.

Also this week we did ‘computing without computers’. We quickly recapped our coding knowledge from Year 1, and revised the principles of ‘instructions’, how they must be clear and in the correct sequence, and practised giving and carrying out instructions as human robots on a grid-pattern carpet. At this point, we introduced the concept of the algorithm, a term for a sequence of actions, in order, to complete a process. We listened to an algorithm song (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=od_zF0HZWGM) and the children then did a practical exercise, giving instructions to the robot (teacher) on how to make a jam sandwich, using real ingredients. Please ask them how it went!



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we talked about **animals** using “**J’ai**” and **numbers**”. We worked on **Days of the week**. They each had a brief presentation, **introducing themselves, their favorite day, and could choose an animal** and say how many of these animals they had.

The children are looking forward to welcoming back Mrs Vetter on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend

Valeria Vetter, Kate Read, Patrick Tranter

year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

Yet another week has flown past and we have really enjoyed making the most of the last sunny days outside before the colder weather begins. The Year 3s are now thoroughly at home in the playground and are joining in the games with great enthusiasm.

In literacy we have worked on writing accounts of our trips to the swimming pool. We created 'concrete' poems to explore different ways of using interesting vocabulary and have read stories and poems about water and the sea, trying to find out how we can bring our writing alive. We are getting used to sharing each other's work and looking and listening for words and phrases that create an impact.

'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' is proving to be a popular choice for our class book and tension is mounting as the search for the last Golden ticket continues... There has been a lot of discussion about the differences between the original book and the various film versions that have been made. We have discovered that it is difficult to recreate your own vision of a book once you have seen a film.

In numeracy we are still working on making sure that we can tell the time using analogue clocks and have been solving time problems using calendars and our knowledge of divisions of time. We continue to concentrate on reading questions carefully to make sure that we know what we are trying to find out. We are also revising our times tables and using them to help with different calculations. We enjoyed whizzing through the new coding blocks on the iPads; we had more than our fair share of disappearing fish and popping bubbles!

In topic we have moved on from our origami hand puppets to look at shadow puppets. We used the iPads to research shadow puppet plays and discovered an excellent production of 'The Rajah's big ears', in which the story is told through a song and using shadow puppets. We watched the play carefully to work out exactly how the puppets were being manipulated and how they had been made. We are now making our own puppets with moving parts and cut-out colour sections. This requires considerable patience and dexterity – we have managed to decapitate several dragons and characters by cutting off the wrong parts... Shadow puppets tie in perfectly with our light topic in science. We spent an afternoon in the dark trying to find out the best way to make shadows. We discovered, amongst other things, that it is really important to have a strong light source in order for the shadows to be clear. We now need to work out how we can best light our own shadow puppet plays, and where the light needs to be positioned. We successfully added transparent screens to our theatres and used them to test the new puppets. We have had to find ways of stabilizing the theatres to avoid squashing people in the front row of the audience, and we are also looking at how to attach the excellent scenery backdrops that are being made – these range from colourful jungles to futuristic cityscapes – the creativity is endless!



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on the use of **descriptive adjectives** with the use of **être** and **the interrogative words: Qui & Comment, Qui est-il? Comment est-elle? Qui sont-ils ?** We sang and reviewed **Days of the week** and played the game: **Quel jour on est aujourd'hui? Demain and après-demain.** In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have revised the alphabet to be able to spell words and names in French. We also counted up to 100 and we also wrote numbers up to 20. We had a number dictation and we revised all colours.

We continued to work on our team skills in PE, moving around the basketball court so that everyone has space to pass and dribble to each other. It has been good to see

teamwork in the classroom too, with each table trying hard to work together to gain points for their teams. We are making great progress at listening to each other, rather than all talking at once, and in clearing away efficiently with everyone contributing. With excitement building in anticipation of Space week next week, our Talk topic is 'If you could go up in a rocket, where would you choose to go, and why?' We are looking forward to seeing some amazing space helmets creations, and if anyone has space models they would like to add to our space table, they would be more than welcome!

Have a lovely weekend,

Jane Still

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week was a mix of tricky maths, playscript practice, inspiring Dragons and yet more interesting topics.

Some of the children will have performed their fairy-tale playscripts in assembly by the time you read this and the groups practised these short sketches throughout the week. We also started a new unit based around 'How to Train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell and the children were enthused by the descriptive writing and the subject.

In maths we had to multiply big and then find fractions of amounts ($\frac{1}{5}$ of 25) and this was challenging for most!

<http://mathszone.net/mw/decimals/fraction%20of%20amount.swf>

<http://www.counton.org/games/map-fractions/falling/>

In Science, we grouped organisms depending on similar features they possess.

Antennae, number of body parts, legs and wings all helped us sort various insects.

In Topic meanwhile, we learnt about Mozart and Beethoven, contrasting the two and enjoying some beautiful music in doing so. The class also considered the Abolition of Slavery; carefully, with maturity and we learnt a lot of tough facts. The week was rounded up with a look at the Brothers Grimm's Germany.



To take advantage of the last of the summer warmth we played cricket for probably the final time this year. Golden Time had something to please everyone, too - both boys and girls. And (on the whole) there is a real sense of togetherness in the class. They are a very sociable bunch and like a bit of a 'chinwag'. The goal, however, will be to select the appropriate time to have one!

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on the use of **descriptive adjectives** with the use of **être** and **the interrogative words: Qui & Comment Qui est-il? Comment est-elle? Qui sont-ils ?** We sang and reviewed **Days of the week** and played the game: **Quel jour on est aujourd'hui? Demain and après-demain.** In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have revised the alphabet to be able to spell words and names in French. We also counted up to 100 and we also wrote numbers up to 20. We had a number dictation and we revised all colours.

Next week is World Space Week and the children will be treated to a 4 day, 4-activity carousel as the school goes into 'Space across the Curriculum'. It really could be amazing and we look forward to it.

And that was our week.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

It seems that there has been a slight change in the weather this week, still sunny but with more of an autumnal feel, making for very pleasant days! Outdoor P.E. lessons have been enjoyed by all this week – there were plenty of games played including 'Gladiator', 'Ball Race' and a mini game of Dodgeball.

The main focus in maths this week has been decimals. The children have reviewed partitioning decimal numbers as well as ordering and mental addition and subtraction. They all completed their own number pyramids using decimal numbers – perhaps you could ask them to demonstrate what this is at home! I have continued to be impressed with the attention they all pay towards presentation in maths and none of them are happy to finish until a problem has been solved.

To tie into a project that the class is working on with the year six pupils, we have been developing our PowerPoint skills. This week, we have begun creating a presentation about Madagascar and have been inserting images using both Google images as well as clip art. I encourage them all to give something a go on the programme before asking for help. I am pleased to report that this does happen most of the time. Next week, we will be working to insert sound as well as adding a hyperlink and renaming it.

Kensuke's Kingdom continues to entertain the group and the main character has finally met the mysterious Kensuke. We continue to discuss the text as we read and I ask the class to make predictions as we read, as well as test their inference skills and ask them to provide evidence when they give answers. Our recounts are now complete

and they should be proud of their final pieces. These will be put on display in the classroom for others to read.

The current science unit gave us the opportunity to dissect a lily to give us first-hand experience of identifying the parts of a flower. We were able to use electronic microscopes to look at the parts in detail and used a checklist to mark off the parts that we found. The activity was worthwhile because it raised new questions and discussions to prompt future learning.



We made the deadline for our magazine entries about a ‘Supermarket of the Future... What imaginations! Ideas included: ‘hover-trolleys, underground pipe delivery systems, personal shopping drones, a vacuum powered ball which sucks-up the shopping and a spa! Well done to all the pupils.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on the description of a person both physical and personality. We are gathering adjectives to be able to use them to describe a person but also to study them in grammar : feminin and plural. We also worked on the story we read "La paire de chaussures" and acted it out in class.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on the use of **descriptive adjectives** with the use of être and **the interrogative words: Qui & Comment**

Qui est-il? Comment est-elle? Qui sont-ils ?

We reviewed the **definite articles**, singular and plural nouns, family members, **Days of the week**, and played the game: Quel jour on est **aujourd’hui? Demain and après-demain.**

The children had fun in Latin, acting out a scene from Minimus and constructing their first sentences. In Mandarin they learnt numbers 1-5 and how to ask ‘what’s your name?’.

In their practical science session, the children are conducting an experiment about osmosis.

We are all looking forward to space week next week and to all of the exciting learning that will be taking place. In connection to this, the Talk Topic for this week is: Why do we want to explore space? Do you think it is a valuable activity?

Here’s hoping the sunshine continues over the weekend...

Kind regards

Alison Godwin

year5teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

In Science we revised: variation, adaptation, evolution and fossils which included watching some Ted-Ed video presentations. As I write this, I am surrounded by beakers containing cucumber slices in either distilled water or a saline solution. Our practical experiment this week, is about osmosis, and the scientists are scheduled to weigh their cucumber slices at 09.15 on Friday morning. At one point, I was concerned that we were going to run out of cucumbers, such was the determination to cut perfectly matching slices!

We made the deadline for our magazine entries about a ‘Supermarket of the Future... What imaginations! Ideas included: ‘hover-trolleys, underground pipe delivery systems, personal shopping drones, a vacuum powered ball which sucks-up shopping and a spa! An outstanding effort by all the pupils.

The 3___ed (3 related adjectives) sentence; e.g. ‘Frightened, terrified, exhausted, they ran from the creature.’, was our exciting sentence construction formula this week. In Grammar, we are revising past tense verbs, and the weekly comprehension was again, a success story. The ‘word-work’ is still proving challenging for some; access to a dictionary is essential when completing this work. We are now focusing on features of explanation texts, as the Year 6 ‘Q Branch’ is designing a set of gadgets for Alex Rider to take with him on his first mission. Our classroom is cluttered with mobile phones, perfume bottles, lipsticks, sunglasses, alarm clocks and pencil cases, that are going to be transformed into listening devices, radio-transmitters etc.



Fractions proved a challenge, but all students are now able to find fractions of quantities and some are now mastering multiplication and division methods. Our next topic will be percentages.

Our computing Excel course is very popular. We are now learning about functions and the students are creating some very detailed and complicated spreadsheets. We shall switch our focus to programming for the European Week of Coding in a few weeks.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on the description of a person both physical and personality. We are gathering adjectives to be able to use them to describe a person but also to study them in grammar : feminin and plural. We also worked on the story we read "La paire de chaussures" and acted it out in class. In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on the use of **descriptive adjectives** with the use of **être** and **the interrogative words: Qui & Comment Qui est-il? Comment est-elle? Qui sont-ils ?** We reviewed the **definite articles**, singular and plural nouns, family members, **Days of the week**, and played the game: Quel jour on est **aujourd’hui? Demain and après-demain.**

We had fun in Latin, acting out a scene from *Minimus* and constructing our first sentences. In Mandarin we learnt our first numbers and how to ask ‘what’s your name?’.

Our first outing will be on Tuesday 11th October, when we will be perfecting our adventure training, survival and surveillance skills; a letter containing all the information should be in your child’s backpack. You can also find it online at Edmodo.

Enjoy your weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

year6teacher@telenet.be

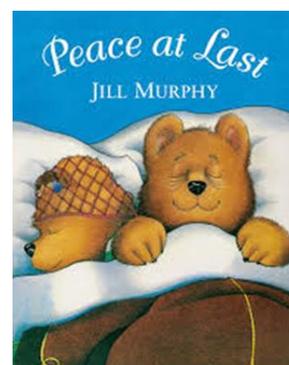
Please click [here](#) for our Year 6 webpage

Dear Parents,

In EAL lessons I have been very pleased to hear many of the children increasingly putting together simple words and phrases in English to communicate with their friends.

In Reception this week, in our small group sessions, we practised the vocabulary of classroom furniture and equipment (pencil, scissors, colouring pencil etc.). We also worked on simple prepositions in, on, under and next to/beside.

Years 1 and 2 read the story *Peace at Last*, and spent some time recounting the story, with a special focus on the vocabulary for the rooms in a home. The children then matched household objects to the right rooms in a house, in a lotto game. To develop literacy skills, we worked on listening to the individual sounds in a word, counting the sounds (rather than letters) on our fingers. This is an important skill, and will enable the children to use phonics when they begin to write. It would be very helpful if the children could be encouraged to listen as carefully as they can to a range of sounds, and to words in their home language. We also revised recognising, and attempting to write, the letters *satpinmoc*.



In Year 3 and 4 this week worked on synonyms, playing a game in which they had to substitute a word in a sentence with a different word with the same (or similar) meaning, for example *big* and *large*, *find* and *discover*. They also worked on using phrases which help to delineate time, when talking or writing about events, for example *5 years ago*, *when I was 6*, *since I came to Belgium*.

Many thanks for the continued support for your children’s English language development. It is very helpful that the children are given plenty of opportunities to

converse in their home language, especially to talk about what they are learning in school.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read
EALteacher@telenet.be