

Home School Books – 13 January 2017.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

We can't believe this term has gone so quickly! Thankfully spring is well and truly in the air and everything looks a tad more colourful inside and out! Please take a look up at our staircase wall and see the wonderful spring creations each class has made to brighten up your day!

This week has been all about Easter celebration and during circle time, we passed the Easter rabbit and asked each child if and how they celebrated Easter in their home. Most children were familiar with chocolate eggs and were very excited at the Easter egg hunt that took place on Friday. Most eggs made it to the communal basket but a few definitely only made it to our tummies! Enjoy sharing the ones that made it home in your little ones Easter basket!



Thank you for all of your support this term and we look forward to an interesting start to our summer term, when our new theme will be 'Transport'. So watch this space.

Nursery returns on Wednesday 19th April, so until then, have a fantastic Easter break, enjoy whatever you are doing, wherever you are.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Ena Tolentino

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

In Reception this week the week was split into two halves. The start of the week focussed on completing our space topic by reviewing their current subject knowledge, a huge difference from the beginning of the topic! We ended the week looking at spring and Easter.

In phonics this week we have been focussing on sentences. We started looking at ways of identifying correct sentences, those with a capital letter at the beginning, a punctuation mark at the end and a finger space between each word. The children worked on creating their own sentences, using their imagination and then copying it down using the correct format. We also briefly looked at question marks, how they are different from full stops and when they are used.



In maths we have done more work with teen numbers, making sure they are correctly written starting with tens and then the units. We moved onto recognising numbers to 100 and they were very good at this.

Now that the children are about to enter their final term in Reception, they are reading independently several times a week in preparation for Year One. If your child is taking one of these story books home, please return them quickly after you have listened to them read so that they can have a new book and thus more practice.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we spent the whole week talking, singing and drawing Easter and Spring. We made a beautiful Easter card. Joyeuses Pâques

Our class trip to the museum is also fast approaching so please make sure you bring in the permission form and 22 euros in a named envelope by the latest Wednesday 12th April (first day back after the holidays). Thank you to the many who have already done so.

Talk Topic for Wednesday 19th April will be sharing our holiday adventures.

We wish you a lovely holiday,

Naomi Irakoze and Ivana Julaton

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

Preparing for Easter and setting up our classroom toy museum have occupied much of our time this week.

The children enjoyed all aspects of creating the museum display, including all the information and warning signs, their 'Museum Guide' badges, and the actual arrangement of the exhibits. They were also very enthusiastic about showing the Reception and Year 2 children around the museum, as well as their own family members immediately after school. I hope you all enjoyed their efforts. As the classroom was temporarily 'out of normal



use' for most of the day, we took advantage of the lovely weather and had our first outdoor picnic lunch of the year. I have uploaded some photos of our day at <http://www.bisb.org/project/the-year-1-toy-museum/> .

Meanwhile, back in the classroom, we continued with our Phase 5 sounds in Phonics, covering 2 more 'o' sounds (/oe/ and /o-e/, as in toe and bone respectively). We practised reading, writing and spelling words with these sounds (together with the /oa/

sound from Phase 3), and played a few games designed to test the children's knowledge.

In Maths this week, we have revised all aspects of the last 5-week block, including pairs, 5s, 10s, word problems, telling the time, addition to and subtraction from 2-digit numbers and making amounts of money by coin recognition. The Easter theme has been present, too, and there are a number of Maths activities, such as measuring and symmetry, in the children's Easter Booklet, which they will have brought home for the holidays.

During our Art session, we had a double production line running: the children painted their own (hard-boiled) egg and made a stand for it to sit on, and they also decorated an Easter cone, in which to put the eggs they collected during Friday's egg hunt. In addition, they created their own 'surprise egg', which I'm sure they will be keen to show you. Please have a look at the photos - <http://www.bisb.org/project/easter-craft-fun/>.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we spent the whole week talking, singing and drawing Easter and Spring. We made a beautiful Easter card. Joyeuses Pâques

There is no formal homework for the holidays, but the children each have their Easter Booklet, in which there are a number of pages still to be completed. We have also given them extra reading books for the holidays. Please remember that there is a class outing to the Montagne Magique theatre on the second day of next term (Thursday 20th April) - if you have not yet sent in your permission slip and payment, please do so on the first day of term.

Wishing you an enjoyable Easter holiday.

Patrick Tranter and Aleksandra Hauwaerts

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

What wonderful spring weather we have had this week. Long may it continue.

In Literacy we finished our spring poems and worked on rhyming words as a result. Guided reading with Mrs. Irakoze was as wonderful as usual. The children get a lot out of hearing others read and also discussing the books and authors intentions. We also revised capital letters and full stops, which continue to be a real problem to some children.

In Numeracy we finished our work on pictograms and revised multiplication. We then moved on to division and the children have really grasped this concept well. We even had the opportunity to see how multiplication and division are related in much the

same way as addition and subtraction as. We also managed to do our end of term tests.

In Art we have made Easter baskets and other fun Easter crafts. Creativity is a very good thing and we really love to show off at times like this.



On Thursday afternoon we had the opportunity to visit the Year 1 toy museum. We each had one or two guides who talked us through all the lovely toys. It was so lovely to see how serious and interested the children were in learning about these toys. Many thanks to Mr. Tranter and Year 1 for their gracious invitation.

Being outside is an absolute treat in weather such as this and we took advantage of this in our PE lessons. Once again the children practiced skills such as skipping, balancing and using a hula hoop.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on ‘C’est Pâques’ (It’s Easter). We talked about all themes and topics associated with Pâques: Les Cloches de Pâques (Easter Bells), Le Lapin de Pâques, les oeufs en chocolat, la poule, les poussins etc ..We sang, danced and we made ‘le panier de Pâques (Easter basket).

Earlier this week we had a fire drill. The class didn’t panic, but rather behaved in a very mature manner. However, it did bring to light a small issue regarding inside shoes. Some children still don’t have a pair so could I ask you to get a pair of slippers or gym shoes for them to wear inside please?

The talk topic this week is: Why do you think we have Easter eggs? What is their significance?

Enjoy your holiday and, especially if you are travelling, stay safe.

Valeria Vetter

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

This term seems to have flown past and we have had a week of rounding off work and checking what we have really understood well, and what we need to look at again in more detail. We successfully completed the half termly maths tests, with positive results from everyone. We did, inevitably, add to our ‘ridiculous mistakes’ board, with people deciding to do additions rather than subtractions, or arranging sequences in the wrong order... but these mistakes provide the ideal opportunity for talking

about how we react in a test situation (or in any situation in which we are asked to do something that seems difficult).

We talked about how we feel if we think we don't understand something, and how we can break questions down so that we begin to understand what we need to do. We looked at different strategies for using what we know, and what we feel confident with, so that we can tackle questions from different angles, using different methods and picking away at the problem until it suddenly makes sense. We also talked a lot about how to check our own work methodically, rather than presuming that we got it all correct just because it might have seemed easy!



In Literacy we completed various grammar checks on tenses, word families and punctuation, and also did some creative writing. This was a choice between finishing off the adventure of the miniature Minpins with our own version of events, or writing a description of 'My special place'. This resulted in some beautiful, imaginative and detailed descriptions of places that we have visited, or that we picture in our heads. We are now proof-reading and editing our writing, extending sentences with interesting vocabulary and structures, and checking that we have used the correct punctuation and spellings.

In Science, we continued the Easter theme and took a look at the egg. This time we concentrated on the egg white and had a go at making meringues. We observed the changes in state of the whisked egg white, from a transparent, viscous liquid to stiff, white peaks of foam, and discovered that it is perfectly possible to turn the bowl upside down over our partner's head, despite our hypothesis that it would be impossible! We experimented with various types of whisk, and, although the electric beater was at the ready, each group had enough wrist power and enthusiasm to beat the whites with a normal wire whisk. We experimented using different types of sugar, to see whether this would make a difference to the cooked result, either in terms of taste or texture, and also used food colouring to produce different colours.

Unfortunately, we ran short of time and the meringues ended up being devoured, hot out of the oven, without having the opportunity to test the sugar results – you could always try it at home!

In French we had our French Assembly this week. The topic was: Pâques (Easter), how it's celebrated in Belgium, France and we talked about other Easter traditions and customs around the world. We also talked about its origins, its links to spring and to nature. We got to play a quiz on the use of words and terminologies related to Pâques. With our students, we prepared 'Les nids en chocolat' (chocolate nests). It was fun and very tasty!

Our talk topic for this week is "If I had the chance to go off on a journey – where would I go, and why, and what would I take with me?"

Have a very happy Easter holiday – make the most of the sunshine and enjoy your travels if you are going away!

Jane Still

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week was a week of triumphs. The children did their bit and the weather delivered cosy warmth to let us end the term on a high.

The class managed to finish our Topic work in time with some great comic strips. All were fantastic – Bhargav and Sahasra were superb and Deepesh and Ayush's work ethic was really impressive - but Sandra's was pick of the bunch and a real star.



In Numeracy, we converted am:pm times to 24hr times and solved time and perimeter problems: www.mathplayground.com/area_perimeter but the Easter course tests were the main event and we had some great results. Mayank, Catriona and Deepesh were magnificent but Divgun put in a star performance.

Other things we enjoyed this Spring week were the French assembly about Easter, the final Asia V Europe match and the Junior School recorder 'concert'.

Most of the children in the class have been involved in the Asia V Europe football, handball and hockey matches and next term at the start of June will be the after-school Asia V Europe cricket tests. All the children will be invited to play in at least one of these matches so any who were disappointed recently can be content and excited that the Summer Term holds this (and other gems) in store.

The Juniors were also given their parts in the Summer Show, 'Hoodwinked'. What is really important for the team is that as the date for the production is the final Monday of term, 26th June, any families going on holiday early are kindly asked to inform us before the hard work begins.

In French we had our French Assembly this week.

The topic was: Pâques (Easter), how it's celebrated in Belgium, France and we talked about other Easter traditions and customs around the world. We also talked about its origins, its links to spring and to nature. We got to play a quiz on the use of words and terminologies related to Pâques. With our students, we prepared 'Les nids en chocolat' (chocolate nests). It was fun and very tasty!

This week, we also said goodbye to our dear classmate, Aarika, who returns home but she does so with our love and heartfelt best wishes. We've really enjoyed her company and friendship and we and the school will miss her. Good luck, Aarika.

That was our week.
Have a very good Easter holiday.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman & Anna Nagy
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Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

Home School Book – Year 5/6

Dear Parents,

Blistering blue barnacles and thundering typhoons - what a delightful week to end the term with! We enjoyed a fun and educational outing to the Hergé Museum on Tuesday. The weather was glorious as we set off in the school minibuses to Louvain-la-Neuve. On arrival, we ate our snacks and enjoyed a play in the park before going to the museum. Armed with iPod audio guides, we made our way around the excellent and informative displays. It was a joy to see the students so enthusiastic (as well as beautifully behaved) throughout the visit.



Our assemblies, in French, are now a firm favourite in the Junior Department calendar. We learnt about the history of the Easter religious festival and Easter eggs. Children followed instructions to make a mini-basket in which to put a decorated egg.

SPaG test 4 proved to be challenging. However, the learning from these tests is invaluable. All students are aware of topics that they need to revise during the holidays. I shall be changing the TES SPaG folder (as usual) every Tuesday.

The Abacus tests revealed that arithmetic skills are generally good, however, as expected the 'usual' errors occurred: reverse subtraction, incorrect copying of information and ordering 3 ½ buses for a school trip! However, the most serious crime is not including any workings; this is a disaster if a question is worth 3 marks because, even if the answer is incorrect, marks can be awarded for methodology.

Continuing our 'celebrating differences' topic... on Tuesday afternoon, Sebastien arrived at school, and with the aid of a ramp, drove his wheelchair into our entrance hall. Each pupil proudly showed, and handed him, their fantastic design drawing. Sebastien drove off with the art work, and will now have the difficult job of choosing the competition winners.

In French we had our French Assembly this week. The topic was: Pâques (Easter), how it's celebrated in Belgium, France and we talked about other Easter traditions and customs around the world. We also talked about its origins, its links to spring and to nature. We got to play a quiz on the use of words and terminologies related to Pâques.

With our students, we prepared 'Les nids en chocolat' (chocolate nests). It was fun and very tasty!

Congratulations to all the LAMDA candidates – what a fantastic set of results! I would like to thank Mr Edward Prescott for making our drama sessions so enjoyable and giving up his free time to prepare the children for their examinations.

Wishing you all a happy and relaxing holiday.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

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

In EAL this week

Dear Parents,

A short note to wish you all a happy holiday. I hope the children will enjoy lots of time playing, and lots of conversation in their home language(s), which is always a very big support in their learning of English, and in their learning through English.

The EAL support for the children, over this term, has been directed at the two aims of developing the children's fluency in English, and ensuring that the children can access the curriculum as fully as possible. This is very much helped when the children are also able to talk about what they are learning (and about the world in general), in their first language.

Here are some interesting links to look at if they have time over the holiday.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Djz82FBYiug> - songs to develop basic phonics skills.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl> - ebooks which are read aloud for children to listen to while following the text (create a free account to access the ebooks).

I look forward to seeing the children again after the holiday.

Kate Read

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