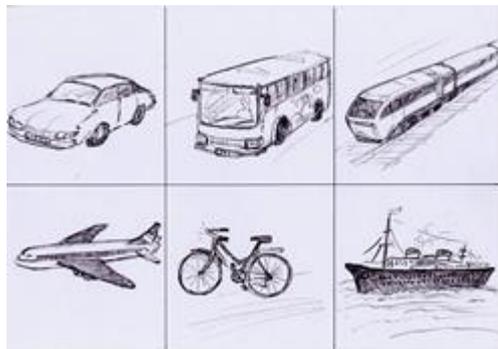


Home School Books – 27 April 2017.

### Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Our first full week after the Easter holiday has been a busy one indeed! The children came back last week full of energy and enthusiasm and, after an initial settling in period, we have got down to the very important business of our new theme of “transport”.



We have spent this week talking about the most popular forms of transport and how we transport ourselves to school each day. During circle time, we passed the teddy bear around and when each child held the bear, they had to tell the rest of the class which form of transport they used to get to school. The answers ranged from, walking to riding on a unicorn! After the question was asked several times, the unicorn became a tram!

We wrote down each child’s answer and made a bar graph to show which mode of transport was the most popular way of coming to school. This will go up in nursery soon, so watch out for it!

Our home school book activity this week was called “wheels or no wheels”, it was primarily used as a language and sorting activity. Each child was shown a variety of vehicles that they had to describe. They were then asked if the vehicle belonged in the wheels or no wheels section. If you look opposite you will see the end result, don’t forget to talk with your child about their piece of work and see if they can remember the names of the vehicles they chose.

The children have also practised a great song called “we all go travelling by”. Take a look at the following link and try and sing along together, don’t forget the actions as well! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSw50Jw0H34>

Unfortunately we seem to have a tummy bug doing the rounds in nursery, so please remember, if your child vomits at home, **do not bring them into school for 48hours** or longer if the vomiting persists. This is for their good and the good of the other children and staff.

You should have all had a parent teacher meeting appointment given to you for either May 3<sup>rd</sup> May 10<sup>th</sup>. Just to remind you that the time schedule for nursery appointments doesn’t have much scope for change across either session, due to the total number of children in Nursery.

This year Mrs Davies will be calling time after the allocated 10 minutes, so we do not run over schedule and keep other parents waiting. If there is anything over and above what needs to be discussed in the meeting a separate appointment can be made at a later date. Thank you in advance for keeping to your allotted time slot.

The weekend talk topic is, 'How could you transport yourself across the sea?' 'Which way would be the quickest?'

Thank you; have a lovely long weekend and see you all on Tuesday.

Alison Davies, Ena Tolentino

[nurseryteacher@telenet.be](mailto:nurseryteacher@telenet.be)

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

### Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

In Reception we have started our new topic of Minibeasts. Each week, for the next few weeks, we will be looking in depth at one or two types of minibeasts. This week we have been focussing on butterflies and we enjoyed reading the well-loved story 'The Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. The children have learned the word 'life cycle', showing understanding of what it is.



The children created their own butterfly life cycles using different shaped dried pasta. Together we also looked at the different parts of a butterfly and the children have shown brilliant remembering skills, recalling the names proboscis, abdomen and thorax and where they are on the body! We also made our very own wormery which you can see in our classroom and the children are enjoying watching the worms make tunnels.

In phonics this week we have looked at the digraph /ou/ as in /sh/ou/t. The children have been doing lots of independent reading, showing increasing confidence tackling multiple words per page stories and many remembering a collection of those important tricky words.

In maths we have been working on addition and subtraction. The children are becoming quick at recognising when a number sentence is an addition one and when it is a subtraction one by always looking carefully at the symbols included. We looked at the use of drawing dots or lines under each number and counting them all to find the answer – the children are getting into the habit of double checking to make sure they have accurate answers. With subtraction we have also looked at drawing lines and dots under the first number and crossing of the appropriate number to solve the subtraction number sentence.

In French with Mrs Scharf, we resumed our exciting topic of animals. We sang a very famous French song that all children sing : "Dans sa maison un grand cerf" and acted it out. We also drew the deer and the rabbit read the story of the song in a book and made our very own book too.

Today we are looking forward to our trip to the farm with Year 2. Keep an eye on Reception's page of the school website for photos of this exciting trip.

The Talk Topic for Tuesday 2nd May will be completing the sentence 'If I could fly like a butterfly I would...'

We wish you a lovely long weekend,

Naomi Irakoze and Ivana Julaton

[receptionteacher@telenet.be](mailto:receptionteacher@telenet.be)

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

## Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

We hope that you all had a great Easter break. It's been wonderful to be back in Year 1 again after the arrival of my daughter. I've enjoyed catching up with the class and getting to know the children who have arrived since I left. What a wonderful bunch they all are! Mr Tranter and I are looking forward to meeting with you for parents' evening next week to discuss the progress of the children this year. You should have received an appointment slip with the date and time of our meeting with you, if there is a problem please come and speak to us as soon as possible so it can be resolved.

This week has been 'Positive Behaviour Week' across the whole school and we have used the rainbow fish as a guide for our work on this. We read the story and discussed the message of sharing and being kind to others. In circle time we discussed what positive behaviour is and what it looks like with examples. We have had a big rainbow fish in class and the children have got scales to put on the fish for showing positive behaviour such as being ready on time to learn, doing their best work, listening carefully and helping someone else to understand a maths problem in class. In art we made our own colourful rainbow fish collages for our 'We may all be different but in this class we swim together' display. We also made thank you cards to give to people to acknowledge how others help us.



In literacy we have practised reading and writing words with the /ew/ /ue/ and /u-e/ graphemes and remembered 'same sound, different letters'. We did a quick phonics progress check to see how the children were progressing with their sounds and revised the 'magic e' sounds.

In numeracy this week we learned about using number facts to help us solve addition and subtraction problems. For example if we know that '2+3 = 5' we can also know that 12+3=15 and 22+3=25. We also looked at using our number bonds to 10 and then adding on a small number such as one or two to solve problems e.g. if we know 7+3=10 it is easy for us to work out 7+4.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we resumed our story "Une maison de musiciens" and are now ready to draw our house. We started with "la cuisine" in which we drew "des



In Art we drew hot air balloons and have been decorating them. We weaved the basket to carry the people and added the ropes to keep the balloon tied to the basket. We also drew a portrait of Fogg and Passepartout.

PE involved a game of football in the lovely sunshine. We enjoyed kicking the ball back and forth and will do more kicking skills in the coming weeks.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on 'la garde-robe et les saisons'. We played the game 'dans ma valise' what would you need to pack for your winter or summer break. It's a dynamic game requiring their listening and comprehension skills in order to come up with the right answer. Our outing to the Montagne Magique was fun and we stopped briefly in the comic strip museum which is a good place to visit. The performance was interesting and amusing with some magic tricks involved. In this positive behavior week, I can say that the class was an excellent example of how to behave. A true credit to the school.

Our long awaited trip to the farm on Friday was wonderful. We so thoroughly enjoyed seeing the animals and learning how to make bread.

The talk topic this week is: Where else do you think Mr. Fogg will go next in his trip around the world.

Have a super long weekend,

Valeria Vetter

[year2teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year2teacher@telenet.be)

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

### Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

Year 3 have started the term with a new topic – 'Living things and the world around us'. This is the ideal time to be studying plants and insects, as everything is bursting into life and growing almost before our eyes! We have turned the classroom into a science lab with space for seed trays, microscopes and plant specimens, and have raided the library to find a great selection of reference material to help us identify what we have found, and to give us even more ideas of what we want to find out.



We have planted sunflowers, sweet peas and poppies, most of which have germinated within the week. The seedlings are completely different, and some are growing faster than others, despite a controlled environment. One person managed to plant all their seeds in one pot (which is consequently turning into a mixed flower bed), but we now

know why two of the pots didn't seem to be growing at all! We dissected individual tulip flowers to examine the structure, and successfully turned white tulips into variegated blue and white ones by putting them into water containing blue food colouring. By doing the same with sticks of celery, we could clearly see the way in which the plant takes in water. We also dissected a very large variety of pea, breaking open the pod and the inner peas to look at how they are formed. We are hoping that the peas will germinate in a damp, soilless environment.

We revisited the park in Wezembeek and found a world of difference compared to our winter trip. The tadpoles are out, as are the first honey bees and the water beetles, and the leaves are coming out on the different trees. We came back to school with lots of specimens to study, let's hope the classroom isn't full of escaped bugs tomorrow morning... We also started a new class book – aptly named 'Beetle Boy', about a boy who is befriended by a giant talking beetle!

In maths we have worked on different subtraction strategies and carried out practical work on measuring and capacity. We are also measuring the growth rates of the various seedlings and charting the differences. In literacy, we have looked at apostrophes and adverbs, and are writing entries in our plant diaries along with reports on our experiments.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we talked about our holidays using the passé composé and started a new topic : the clothes we wear. We played the game 'dans ma valise' what would you need to pack for your winter or summer break. It is a dynamic game requiring their listening and comprehension skills in order to come up with the right answer.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on ' la garde-robe et les saisons'. We also played the game 'dans ma valise' what would you need to pack for your winter or summer break.

The highlight of the week was our trip to Flagey to hear Stravinsky's 'The Rite of Spring'. It was a fantastic experience and a privilege to participate in such an exciting performance. The children were mesmerized, not only by the wonderful music with its constant surprises, but also by the amazing dancers. I'm sure it is an experience that they will vividly remember. Our talk topic for this week is "What are the differences between the plant life here in Belgium and in other countries I have been to, or lived in?"



Enjoy the long weekend – and take a magnifying glass if you are out and about in the park!

Jane Still

[year3teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year3teacher@telenet.be)

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This was an eclectic week of sights and sounds as we were treated to nature, beauty and the wonders of the world (and solar system) we live in.

The class enthused about the trip to the forest and really responded well to the activities they were asked to do. From the preparation on Monday, to the map and compass in the woods, to the 3 recreation areas we played in, the children's energy levels never faulted. The actual distance we walked was 8.8km (5.5miles) but as Juliana said: "you've got to include the walking to and from school; travelling on the tram and what we did in the playgrounds"



Anyway, given the keenness and given that we felt so sorry for Catriona (who was unable to come after her operation), it's very possible that a second trip to the forest may be on the cards before the end of term!

<http://www.bisb.org/project/y4-walk-through-the-forest-map-and-compass/>

The following day, we sat enchanted to the 'Rites of Spring' at Flagey Theatre. We joined in with the dance to the powerful music (and the six other schools which were there) and enjoyed the spectacular dance display by the pair of professional dancers. Our own Madame Mayeur and the other MC's introduced us to instruments of the orchestra and the story behind Stravinsky's piece.

Back at school, we continued our 'Journey into Space' Topic and looking at the amazing conditions on our galaxy's planets, gobsmacked by tales of molten rains, 200-year old storms and unimaginable minus temperatures. This excitement and the previous day-and-a-half's adventures proved too much for one of the children who fell asleep at back of the class, or perhaps it was my teaching.....? A satisfyingly exhausting week!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we talked about our holidays using the passé composé and started a new topic : the clothes we wear. We played the game 'dans ma valise' what would you need to pack for your winter or summer break. It is a dynamic game requiring their listening and comprehension skills in order to come up with the right answer.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on ' la garde-robe et les saisons'. We also played the game 'dans ma valise' what would you need to pack for your winter or summer break.

Elsewhere, we studied coordinates;

<http://mathszone.co.uk/shape/coordinates/dino-dig-count-on/>  
decimals; light sources and the eye; and netball.

And that was our week.

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman & Anna Nagy  
[year4teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year4teacher@telenet.be)  
Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

## Home School Book – Year 5/6

Dear Parents,

This is it - the summer term has arrived! Now all we need, is for our days to be filled with sunshine.

The, soon to be secondary school students, have just a few more weeks of independent exam revision left. For the moment, our daily routine is a combination of comprehension, maths and SPaG revision each morning; this is facilitated using worksheets, text books and workshops. In the afternoon, we study our topics. Pupils have completed three practice tests: SPaG, arithmetic and mathematical reasoning. As always, we mark these together so that we can discuss any misunderstandings and learn from our mistakes!



Our new topics are Forensic Science and Titanic. Last week, we learnt about different types of fingerprint patterns and then the ‘suspects’ took their own and completed an official ‘Fingerprint Identification Form’. Today we studied Cheiloscopy (lip prints). Thank you for sending in your ‘unwanted’ lipsticks’. Some pupils couldn’t wait to paint their lips in ‘flame red’, others preferred orange tones - pink was a hit! After much hilarity and pouting, each child managed a set of lip-prints. Next week, you may be asked to provide a hair-sample; I hope that you don’t mind...



We have visited a ‘virtual’ Titanic and are in the process of completing a diagram of the cross-section of the ship. At present, we are investigating problems associated with the construction of the ship: the removal of lifeboats, the lowering of bulkhead doors to allow space for the grand staircase and the inferior quality of iron used for the rivets.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on “Le printemps et le réveil de la nature” (Spring and the awakening of nature) in order to prepare for the the Stravinsky’s ‘Rite of Spring’ concert in Flagey.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we worked very hard on verbs to be able to conjugate all verbs, regular and irregular, in the present tense. We also talked about Igor Stravinsky to prepare our musical outing to Flagey. We also finished watching "Jack et la mécanique du coeur".

Thank you so much for ensuring that the children arrived at school early on Wednesday for our outing to Flagey. It was a joy to see the children's facial expression as they entered the concert hall, and watching them participating with heart and soul throughout the concert was truly rewarding.

Not long now until our eagerly awaited trip to Ripplendown; if you have not yet handed in your child's pocket money, it would be appreciated if this could be as soon as possible.

I look forward to meeting you next week.

Enjoy the long-weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter

[year6teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year6teacher@telenet.be)

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

### In EAL this week

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We have had an enjoyable week, talking about our holidays, as well as working on our Big Book of Our World (Reception), revising the key phonics a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, ee, oi, as in game, line, phone, tune, street, boil (Y1), and starting discussions on the topic Around the World (Y2).

Each of the children who attend EAL sessions is going to need a photo from their home country, to help in our discussions. Would it be possible, please, for your child to bring in, or for you to send me by email ([ealteacher@telenet.be](mailto:ealteacher@telenet.be)) a photo, showing something of the country, that he or she can talk about? (A photo of your child with relatives at the family home, or of a countryside or city scene, or of a visit to a place of interest, for example)

During this term, we will be reviewing the areas of vocabulary that we have learned since September, especially Ourselves and our families, People in our community, Animals (big and small), Toys, Castles, Space and Our World. We will spend much time in conversation, using this vocabulary, and practising particular elements of grammar, including past and future tenses, comparative phrases (eg. There are more cars in the city than in the country), adverbial phrases (e.g. When I was in Brazil,... Before I came to Belgium, ...) and conditional phrases (e.g. If you fall asleep in the sun, ...)

I wish you all a happy long weekend.

Kate Read

[EALteacher@telenet.be](mailto:EALteacher@telenet.be)