

Home School Books – 15 September 2017.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Another busy week in nursery but one without any tears!
Your children are superstars and are settling incredibly well. We are now able to sit on the carpet in a circle for 10 minutes while we play the pass the teddy game.

This is such a great way to get communication and language going, even if your little one doesn't have any conversational English they are able to say one or two words in response to a question. The teddy bear is passed to each child in the circle and the teacher asks a question e.g. what is your favourite colour? This means while the child is holding the teddy they speak and everyone else listens. Listening for increased periods of time is an acquired skill at this age, but is an important building block for improving concentration. We always start small and build up the listening time factor, as the weeks go by.



Our topic 'Myself and My family' started this week and if you look opposite you will see your little ones fantastic attempt at drawing their facial features on to the face template. Fine motor skills are something else we will build on throughout this academic year, so don't worry if things are not quite recognisable on the drawing front yet.

Children develop at different paces when it comes to drawing recognisable figures or objects, eventually we will have some budding artists amongst us, although we definitely have some great Picasso drawings already!

You will also find in your home school book a booklet called 'All about me' this is for you and your child to complete together and bring back next week. It will be used for discussion during our talk topic sessions next week, so please don't forget to bring it back in the folder.

A couple of quick reminders: Please do not send in Sweets, chocolates, nuts or crisps in your child's snack box or lunch box.

Also children are required to wear school uniform every day, even when it is their birthday.

Last but not least remember to bring back your language poster with your child's photograph for our wall. If you are having a problem finding or printing a photograph, please let us know and we will do one for you.

Have a fabulous weekend and we look forward to seeing you all again next week.

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We have enjoyed a successful first week following our topic ‘Our World’. We have looked at the planet where we live, Earth, and how some places are hot and others are cold. We have briefly looked at which animals can be found in which types of weather depending on whether they like hot weather, wet weather or snowy weather etc. You will also find in your child’s bag an Earth cupcake that we made as a celebration of our amazing planet!

We have started our reading adventure in Reception this week, learning the sounds /s/ and /a/. We have completed numerous different activities involving use of these sounds, both recognising them and forming them. On Thursday we got very messy as we practised number and letter formation in shaving foam.



In maths this week we have been doing lots of work using Numicons, helping children visually recognise numbers through patterns. You can see an example of this in their home school books. The children have been practising counting confidently to twenty, recognising these numbers and completing actions depending on the number.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on asking the name in French and we also added the question “Comment ça va?” We are learning a number of songs on this subject and it is interesting to see the children sing in a new language. We have also started counting up to five and learned the three primary colours : “bleu, jaune, rouge”.

Many thanks to all the parents who were able to come along to our curriculum briefing evening on Tuesday. If you were unable to attend, please find in your child’s folder the hand-outs given during the evening.

Talk topic for Monday will be responding to the following ‘You are walking in a jungle, what do you see? How do you feel?’

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Irakoze and Patrick Tranter

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

This week has gone by very quickly in year 1! Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 1 curriculum evening. It was great to meet with you to discuss the year and answer the questions you had, we hope you found it informative. Please try to ensure your child brings their school folder every day if possible, as this is where we keep all of your child's communication with school. In science we will soon be discussing how we have changed since we were a baby. Please can you bring in a photograph of your child when he or she was a baby or send one electronically to the Year 1 email address at the bottom of this page. Any photographs sent in will be copied so we won't harm the originals.

This week in Literacy we continued to work on blending sounds for reading and segmenting sounds for spelling. Also we read the story 'On the sand' together and the children sequenced the main events from the story and tried to write about the pictures. You can see their efforts in their home school books this week. We have also given the children their tricky words bookmarks to use at home. Please practise reading these words whenever your child reads and try to find them in the books. In Numeracy this week we have been learning about number bonds or pairs of number that make 4, 5, 6 or 10 when added together. We have started to learn our superheroes song which helps us to remember the number bonds to 10.

As part of our topic 'water' we discussed where the oceans are and looked at a globe. The children coloured in the oceans on a world map. We also talked about how the sea moves and then we made our own waves by blowing on straws on the water to make it move and gently heating up the water using a hair drier. In science we looked at photos of babies, toddlers, children, teenagers, adults and the elderly and put them in order according to their age.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we welcomed new children into the group and revised how to ask for your name in French. To ease this process, we listened to and sang a few songs which really helped. We also listened to the song number two of our story "Un pays blanc" in which we learnt new useful vocabulary and acted out some scenes.

As the weather has gotten colder this week we began to think about autumn. In art we made some colourful squirrels with bushy tails and we also made some acorns for them to eat for the big autumn display that we do across the infant department. And that was our week!



Have a lovely weekend,

Camilla Rutayisire and Ivana Julaton

Year1teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

It has been a week of variable weather so could I ask that your child has a showerproof coat with them from now on?

In Literacy we have carried on with our grammar focus of full stops and capital letters. We have also been doing some joined up writing and I am encouraging the children to join letters wherever they can now. Our phonic focus has been on the –ai, -ay and –a – e sounds. We have been searching our memory banks for these words and have written them down. Due to a timetable shuffle spelling tests will be on a Wednesday and not a Tuesday as previously stated. Yesterday we followed instructions and made banana smoothies in class. We have done a lot of work on instructions which is the basis of our home school book work this week.



In Numeracy we have been counting in tens to 500 and back again. We have been concentrating on the bonds of 10 and 20 this week. We even made a class poster for the bonds of 20. We have been playing a game called ‘Fire!’, which is a good way to practise our bonds of 10 in a fun way. Another good game to play is at <https://www.coolmath-games.com/0-math-lines/10> in order to consolidate these bonds.

In Topic I asked the children what they wanted to know about the Great Fire of London. They wrote the questions on post-its, which we then stuck onto a sheet of paper. We then watched a video in which a lot of their questions were answered. In the coming weeks we will look at the events surrounding the fire more closely.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we introduced fun Jobs- Les Métiers while imitating and acting the sounds and actions of ‘le pompier, le policier, le chauffeur de bus’... We introduced Être (to be) to use ‘Je suis’ (I am) ‘tu es’ (you are), we used them for playing the ‘Superstar’ interview : Qui es-tu?(who are you?) Est-ce que tu es? (are you?). We also sang and played the greeting song “Bonjour, bonjour comment tu t’appelles? Bonjour, bonjour Comment ça va? ” it’s a Greet and an Introduce yourself game that allows them to play and answer naturally: je m’appelle, Je vais bien...

In Art we weaved baskets in which we are going to put harvest products for our display on the stairs. As you can imagine, we used autumn colours to do the weaving. In PE we discovered fun ways to pass the ball to our partner. In this way we bounced, rolled, kicked and threw the balls about. Swimming went very well, I am told. On this note, please try to offer your help at these sessions. So far, there is no one to help for the coming weeks.

I would like to take the non-swimming group of our class to the park next Tuesday. A letter will go out about this and if you are able to join us, please could you let me know?

Please note that homework has been given out today and should be back by next Thursday.

Our talk topic this week is: Why do you think the fire spread so quickly in the Great fire of London?

On this note, have a good and restful weekend.

Best Regards,

Valeria Vetter

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

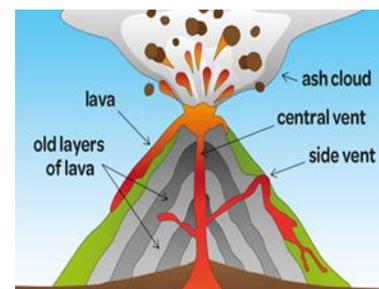
Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

The weather may have been wet, but we have had an exciting, action-packed week in Year 3.

In Literacy we began a research project on the Vikings, using different resources to collect information on who they were, where they came from and how they lived. We looked at maps to chart their journeys and realised that although they might like to have gone to the beaches of Spain, it was much easier to stop in Scotland and even in Iceland.

We focused on igneous rocks in Science, working in groups to produce information charts on volcanoes. We then rolled up our sleeves and got down to the serious business of creating our own volcanoes using modelling plaster and a plastic bottle. We studied photos and video clips of dormant volcanoes before painting our models in accurate colours to represent the landscape. Watch this space next week for breaking news on newly active volcanoes in Schaerbeek!



Our trip to the park had to be postponed until next Wednesday because of the weather, but we nevertheless celebrated Roald Dahl day with a live video link of Quentin Blake illustrating his version of the Spittler in The Minpins.

In Maths we worked on number bonds to 100, using addition and subtraction, and finding different ways to play with numbers by halving and doubling them. We also revised the 5 and 10 times tables and continued our 'live body' measurements.

I was really impressed with everyone on our first swimming trip – excellent behaviour, fantastic swimming, and no lost socks!

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we introduced fun Jobs- Les Métiers while imitating the sounds and actions of 'le pompier, le policier, le chauffeur de bus'... We

introduced Être (to be) to use 'Je suis' (I am) 'tu es' (you are), we used them for playing the 'Superstar' interview : Qui es-tu?(who are you?) Est-ce que tu es? (are you?). We reviewed, played and sang the greeting song "Bonjour, bonjour comment tu t'appelles? Bonjour, bonjour Comment ça va? " it's a Greet and an Introduce yourself game that allows them to play and answer naturally: je m'appelle, Je vais bien...

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still working on the theme "la rentrée" (going back to school) and we revised all vocabulary pertaining to school. In grammar, we learnt to use "il y a" (there is/are) with a singular and a plural.

Our talk topic for this week is "What do you think it would be like to be a scientist studying volcanoes?"

It was a pleasure to meet you all at the curriculum evening this week. Thank you for coming.

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

We really started the academic year in full this week, beginning topics and adopting the weekly routine in earnest.

In Literacy, we used 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and the 'Lord of the Rings' to examine the typical text features of a story set in an imaginary world. However, we also used the classic novels to look at nouns and adjectives and expand them to create more descriptive writing. In the Big Write today, the children had to write a description of Mr Tumnus's house in Narnia.



Maths was place value and number - units, tens, hundreds and thousands (and in some cases ten thousands): reading them, writing them, saying them and breaking them up into components (called partitioning).

We also undertook an investigation into adding numbers and the class has some professors who are really capable of cracking a mathematical code.

In Topic, we continued looking at homes in the past by including Tudor homes from the 16th century. Next week, the children will build their own Tudor house, so can I ask that they bring in two (or even three) shoeboxes if you have them to school for Tuesday, please?

Property and buildings crossed over into Science too as we built electrical circuits. The idea was to explore what they need to work and how they are in our homes, just on a bigger scale.

In French with Mrs. Scharf we did a reading comprehension about ladybirds all together. The children read aloud and then answered questions about the text and then finished it as homework. We also had a dictation; they had to write all the words of a song about school material. We used “il y a” (there is/are) to describe our school and classroom. They also wrote a small paragraph about themselves and what there is in their classroom.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on family members in a fun theatrical way, focusing on the feminine and masculine use of the possessive and demonstrative adjectives: C’est - Ma, Mon, Ta, Ton and the use of Il s’appelle... elle s’appelle... We talked about the use of Être (to be) and Avoir (to have) and the difference between ‘il est/elle est’ (he is/she is) and ‘ Il a /elle a’ (he has/she has) . They got to talk about the Métiers (jobs) and create a fun sketch choosing a family member with a job and a French name. They used complete and coherent phrases with Avoir and Être combining with the numbers and colours.

The children were overjoyed to see their Tennis coach, Michel, again at the Castle Club in Wezembeek and responded just as enthusiastically to the games he plays with them.

In Circle Time, meanwhile, we talked about our hopes and fears for the year and where we want to improve. Rippledown and being away (for some) for the first time is already in some children's minds.

And that was our week.

Best wishes,

Tim Stedman and Ena Tolentino
year4teacher@telenet.be
Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

Home School Book – Year 5 / 6

Dear Parents,

Thank you for attending our parents’ evening on Tuesday. I hope that you found the meeting informative and I thank you for your support. Please remember that if you would like to meet with me, I am available on Mondays at 14.45. I have been asked if the date of our overnight stay in the Atomium could be changed as it clashes with the Diwali festival. Due to their popularity, these events are usually booked three years in advance, so, on this occasion, changing the date is unfortunately not possible.

Considering we are only in the second week of term, the online homework system is working remarkably well! I am pleased that both you and the students are benefiting from our Edmodo class page.

This week in maths we revisited estimating numbers on a range of simple and complex number lines and extended our understanding of negative numbers. Some students have pre-learning homework on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of these.

In SPaG, the children studied word classes and determiners. They also learn about 2A sentences (two adjectives before the noun). The first comprehension homework highlighted that we have a few 'quick-fixers' in the class who prefer a one-word answer instead of a full sentence! We worked through a comprehension text about diamonds together, so all the pupils are crystal clear about the quality of answers they should be providing in the future.



We learnt about 'conflict diamonds' and I was impressed with the level of understanding and maturity shown by the pupils towards this complex issue. In this week's science experiment, we

tried to replicate kimberlite pipes 'forcing' diamonds up to the surface.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we did a reading comprehension about ladybirds all together. The children read aloud and then answered questions about the text and then finished it as homework. We also had a dictation; they had to write all the words of a song about school material. We used "il y a" (there is/are) to describe our school and classroom. They also wrote a small paragraph about themselves and what there is in their classroom.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on family members in a fun theatrical way, focusing on the feminine and masculine use of the possessive and demonstrative adjectives: C'est - Ma, Mon, Ta, Ton and the use of Il s'appelle... elle s'appelle... We talked about the use of Être (to be) and Avoir (to have) and the difference between 'il est/elle est' (he is/she is) and ' Il a /elle a' (he has/she has) . They got to talk about the Métiers (jobs) and create a fun sketch choosing a family member with a job and a French name. They used complete and coherent phrases with Avoir and Être combining with the numbers and colours.

In sport, we enjoyed skipping relays, an aerobic session and goal shooting practice using the new hockey sticks.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino
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Please click [here](#) for our Year 6 webpage

EAL

It was very nice to see many parents at the curriculum briefing. I mentioned at the meeting that I am available to meet you if you would like to discuss your child's progress in English: I am free on Monday from 12:15 to 12:45 (Infant Department), and on Wednesday from 8:30 (Junior Department), and you can contact me via your child's class teacher, or at ealteacher@telenet.be

After a second week of term, I feel that I am beginning to know the children, having watched and listened as they interact with their friends and teachers in the classroom and in the playground, and as they join in with the work in class. I have had conversations with each of the children who come to EAL, and I am pleased that all the children are keen to communicate.

In our classes in the Infant department, the Reception EAL group spent the week learning some vocabulary to talk about people, especially how people change, and what they need, as they grow up, as well as practising some simple useful phrases in a game. The Year 1 and 2 group talked about our planet, especially about our need for water, in connection with Year 1's class study of Water.

In the Junior Department, the EAL group learned the language needed for talking about a written text (including sentences, questions, paragraphs, chapters, characters). We revised the key vocabulary of days, months and years, and began to look at the past, present and future tenses of verbs. Each child in the group has an EAL file, containing the written work from the EAL class, and some work to be completed at home. They also have a reading book. They should bring the file and the reading book to school each day, please.

With thanks and best regards,
Kate Read