

Home School Books –29 September 2017.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

This week has seen a shift in the season and autumn is definitely on its way. To celebrate the wonderful change in the colour spectrum that the season brings, the children have painted some fantastic autumn leaves for our big oak tree scene, on the role play area wall.



We had great fun mixing different coloured paint together to create some fabulous autumn scenes. Take a look at the wall and ask your little one to tell you about the tree and if they can remember the autumn poem.

Our topic on 'myself and my family' continued this week and if you look opposite you will see your little ones' great effort at creating their house or apartment out of different shapes. We used the smart board to draw a house and an apartment and talked about the different features each one had. Afterwards the teacher made a house or an apartment with each child individually using 3D shape blocks and then they were asked to use the 2D shapes to recreate the building they had made. This was not only a super maths activity for shape recognition but also an introduction to new vocabulary, as several of the children don't have English as their mother tongue or only a very basic understanding of the language.

During our P.E. lesson this week, we tried to practise holding hands to make and walk in a circle for ring games; this is a work in progress! As many children couldn't get the idea of keeping the shape of the circle, while walking! However it was great fun singing 'ring a ring of roses'.

During music this week the children sang about different types of beans, ask your child if they can remember what sort of beans they were!

Personal, social and emotional development is an area of the E.Y.F.S. curriculum that is hugely important for nursery children and during circle time this week, the teacher has talked about right or wrong. For example, 'if we are unkind to our friends, is that rights or wrong?' or 'when it is tidy up time, do you keep on playing?' of course some children said yes to that one!

The aim of the exercise is to help children develop an understanding of how life works in and out of school, which will help them to transfer negative actions into positive ones as they grow and mature. Even young children need boundaries and rules, as this is how society in general operates, so it is never too early to start gently but firmly, reminding children of appropriate and in appropriate behaviour. In nursery this is done through role play and good role modelling from the teachers but it is also important to work together with you on this, so please ask if you want to know more about this particular curriculum area.

Just a quick reminder, please keep snack boxes healthy and small! Do not send in several biscuits or cakes at one time, as this is not only a big sugar surge for your child but it is just too much for little tummy's to handle! Snack time is not meant to take any longer than 20 -30 minutes and if you are sending in mounds of food this can be off putting and distressing for your child especially if they feel obliged to eat every morsel! Thank you for your understanding.

Our talk topic this week is, ' what is your favourite animal and why?'

Until next week, have a super weekend.

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We have been focussing on deserts this week, comparing them to jungles and learning how living things can survive in such a harsh environment. We have looked briefly at different deserts around the world and how they are all unique, some being rocky, others sandy. Some are extremely hot all year round while others have very cold winters. We have watched various parts of the BCC documentary 'Planet Earth II' on deserts, watching how lizards walk on the hot sand and how cacti store water.



We have learnt the sounds /i/ as in igloo and /n/ as in net this week. The children have continued working on hearing the initial sounds in words. We have spent some time reviewing each sound's correct letter formation and using them in our name writing. We played an Alphablocks game using large foam letters, acting out the characters from the programme, encouraging children to blend the sounds together.

In maths this week we have been counting to twenty, looking at how to order numbers to ten, fifteen and then onwards to twenty correctly. We have once again used numicons to help number pattern recognition. We have also made handprint camels, which you can see on one of our classroom displays, walking in a line just like real camels.

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 learnt the three primary colours : "bleu, jaune, and rouge".

Thank you to everyone who has already brought in some plastic bottles for our class igloo. We have so far managed to fill two Ikea bags which is excellent and we are hoping to fill another two bags by next Friday so keep bringing them in!

Talk topic for Monday will be responding to the following 'If you were a mountain explorer what would you need to take with you?'

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Irakoze and Patrick Tranter

receptionteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

This week we pretended we were scuba divers and dived down under the sea. We saw so many fabulous things including colourful fish, the coral reef, jellyfish with hundreds of tentacles and crabs and other animals. We then drew our own pictures of everything we would see if we were scuba divers after discussing the topic. We made some sparkly blue spirals to represent waves in our art lesson.



In our science lesson we discussed parts of the body and we practised labelling a diagram which is in their home school books. If you haven't already done so please send or email a photograph of when your child was a baby for our science lesson as we will be discussing these on Monday.

This week in Literacy we practised reading and writing cvc words and revised all of the single letter sounds and names. In our grammar lesson we continued to practise writing capital letters at the beginning of names. We also read a very funny story called 'The Rope Swing' and discussed the characters and events together. Then we retold the story orally and in writing.

In maths we learned all about shapes this week. We went over the names of the 2D shapes - circle, triangle, square, rectangle, pentagon and hexagon. We discussed their properties including how many sides and corners they have and whether they have straight or curved edges. We also practised sorting shapes and objects according to different criteria e.g. size or colour into a Venn diagram.

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 several scenes.

Thank you to everyone who has already sent back the letter about coming to the park. Please send this back soon if you have not already done so. Also if anyone is available to come along with us to help please let us know. We will be out of school from 11.00 until approximately 12.45.

The new homework game ‘Pesky Pests’ is available now. If you have any problems with accessing this please let us know.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

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 really good week and we have been blessed with some lovely warm weather.

In Literacy we had our first spelling test on Wednesday. Each week we will choose 3 extra words that we would like to learn how to spell. The spelling tests will be done in the little red spelling book so you can track the progress of your child’s tests. These books have absolutely got to be at school on a Wednesday please. In phonics we have moved on to –/ee/ sounds. We discussed the different sounds and we had fun finding words for each one. Our literacy focus this week has been on diaries. We spoke about what they are and we made a collective chart for our classroom wall. Our project has been to identify different diary entries based on the story ‘Room on the Broom’. This story is a firm favourite and we are planning to do some dramatic activities next week.

We also had fun on Wednesday morning making a fruit salad. There was a lot of preparation, work on instructions and finally eating going on. Thank you to all the moms who contributed to this very worthwhile activity. You can see the photos here <http://www.bisb.org/project/making-fruit-salad/>



In Numeracy we began the week by looking at right angles. We spoke about acute and obtuse angles. We also looked at 2D shapes with emphasis on regular and irregular shapes. We spoke about quadrilaterals and parallelograms. This led us on to looking

at symmetry and tessellation. We ended the week with a brief look at telling the time. As you can see, it has been a very busy mathematical week.

In Topic we took a closer look at Samuel Pepys. We discussed his life and his social activities. It would seem he was quite the ladies' man. We enjoyed learning that he wore a wig. Another thing we particularly found funny was that he buried an expensive French cheese and a bottle of wine in his garden.

In Science our experiment is not doing too well. Our beans have not sprouted so we have decided to try the experiment again next week. We also took a look at the food pyramid and learned what is needed to stay healthy. We would like to make a chart for our class and I ask for some shop advertisements so we can cut out different foods. In Art we created autumnal pattern trees on a background of fireworks. We will use these to brighten up our classroom.

In PE we split into pairs and worked on finding ingenious ways to pass the ball to each other. We tried doing this without using hands and feet as well. The swimming group did very well this week and there is a lot of progress going on.

For Swimming we still need moms to volunteer to help. Please could you consult the list on the office door? Thank you.

The non-swimmers went to the park again and we took Floppy along for an adventure. It was evident that the children and Floppy enjoyed themselves immensely. Floppy saw the signs of autumn as well as smelling flowers and looking at ducks and he even saw a heron. You can see photos of this outing here <http://www.bisb.org/project/floppy-in-the-park/>



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked and sang Les jours de la semaine (Days of the week) quel jour on est aujourd'hui? (what day is today), J'aime les couleurs (my favourite colour), numbers from 0 to 25, Quel âge as-tu ? (How old are you?), we reviewed greetings and introductions, bonjour! comment tu t'appelles? Comment ça va?

May I also remind you to send library books back on Thursdays please? Thank you.

The talk topic this week is: What healthy fruits do you eat? Are they tasty?

Have a good weekend.

Valeria Vetter

year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

This has been a hands-on, practical week in year 3 and once again it has flown by!

In maths we continued our work on bar charts and measurements by collating data on tally charts, and then creating bar charts to show the information. We also played lots of different times table games in groups and made an origami fortune teller to test each other on our tables.

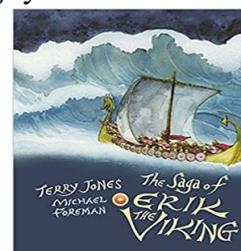
We embarked on our first ‘Mystery maths challenge’ of the year, donning our detective hats and working out different challenges to collect clues that will help us to solve the mystery. Great fun, and an excellent way of practicing different operations. The game is afoot ...



In science we repeated our volcano experiment and wrote a detailed report of each step of the procedure. We then drew some superb labelled diagrams. Now that the volcanoes are dormant, we have added our models of houses and people and created a landscape around the lava flow.

In literacy we studied various pieces of writing, trying to decide what makes sentences interesting. We talked about how words create different pictures in our heads and had fun finding unusual words and descriptions to make our own writing exciting. We used these ideas in our park trip reports, which we shared with each other, creating a ‘Wow’ word board of the bits we particularly enjoyed.

In our Viking work we started reading *The Saga of Erik the Viking*. Erik and his men have set out in their dragon ship on their quest to find the land where the sun sets, and survived the first storm... Exciting stuff and beautifully written!



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. In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked and sang *Les jours de la semaine* (Days of the week) *quel jour on est aujourd’hui?* (what day is today). We also went over *la Rentrée & les fournitures scolaires* (Back to School) with *Avoir* (to have). We worked with ‘as-tu’?

(do you have...?) in order to interview one another using ‘avoir + les fournitures scolaires. We talked about the use of ‘yes’ and ‘non’ when answering questions.

Our talk topic for this week is: How do you feel when you set out on a journey or an adventure?

Enjoy a peaceful weekend,

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino

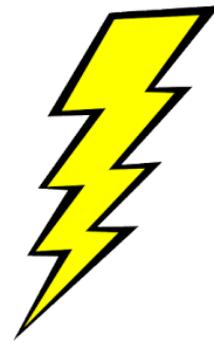
year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

Science electrifies children (excuse the pun) when it makes them fizz-maker, fire-starter, stuff-breaker, bang-creator, measurement-recorder. This is exactly what the EU Science is Wonderful Expo gave the children the opportunity to be on Wednesday. We had a Wonderful time finding out about ocean acidification, tune production, gender stereotyping, fireproofing, useful bacteria and more. The children absolutely loved all of this. The scientists on each activity station brimmed with passion and were thrilled by the children's enthusiasm in return. It was a great day and we owe Marina's mummy a huge thank you for giving us the nudge towards going. Each Year 4 certainly experienced this burning hands demonstration but don't worry, no children were hurt in the making of this fantastic exhibition!



Science in class was just as good mind you, as we learnt all about switches. This involved creating the perfect anachronism: install a burglar alarm in a 16th century house. Using the Tudor houses that we finished in Topic, the children had the task of setting a trap for any would-be crook with a buzzer activated by a homemade switch. Whose alarm would work? How would the switch work?

In maths, in some very valuable lessons, we memorised the 6x table as best we could. For some this was essential, for others it was a case of applying it to more complex calculations. Elsewhere, time was spent discerning when to use 'shopkeeper's' counting up method or when to use direct count back when subtracting HTU.

Literacy was focussed on describing fantasy images and thinking about how we can use synonyms of a word to express increasing levels of emotion or feeling. This features in this week's homework.

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 and sang Les jours de la semaine (Days of the week) quel jour on est aujourd'hui? (what day is today). We went over la Rentrée & les fournitures scolaires (Back to School) using 'Avoir and Avoir besoin +de (to have and to need) in order to interview and to ask questions.

Since we started last week a scene to role-play la Rentrée & à la librairie" (back to school &, at the bookstore, we practiced and acted in groups of two or three a set of questions and answers based on real-life situations .

Tennis was 'ace'! as usual and the children are always inawed by the sessions. Follow this link to witness it: <http://www.bisb.org/project/y4-pe-tennis-at-the-castle-club-with-michel/>

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 6

Dear Parents,

What an amazing week! The EU Science is Wonderful exhibition was spectacular – we could have spent hours enjoying all the experiments and activities that were on offer inside and outside the Parliamentarium. I am sure that the ‘flaming hand’ experiment, despite looking rather terrifying, will prove to be the most memorable experience - some of the photographs are very impressive; you can find these on Edmodo.



I was delighted to discover that we have won a visit to see behind the scenes of the Antwerp Diamond Industry. We have been offered three dates in November, so as soon as they have confirmed our booking I shall be planning our travel arrangements. This may involve asking parents to take children to Gare Central to catch an early morning train to Antwerp. This week, the students have been studying where diamonds can be found in the world and which route diamonds travelled in the past. Our next topic is the journey from a rough to polished diamond. Our ‘diamond’ tool kit box has just arrived from the Antwerp Diamond Centre.

In maths, we have investigated factors, prime numbers and factors and indices. Most children have mastered long division. Our next topic will be fractions.

Next Monday, we have our first ‘book club’ meeting, so I hope that all the pupils will have finished reading their books... In SPaG we learnt about modal verbs and revised using similes in writing. Word Work is proving to be rather entertaining and highlights the need to reread sentences carefully to ensure that they make sense!

This week in Mandarin, the students were introduced to Chineasy and learnt how the character for person develops into: follow, crowd and everyone.
<https://www.chineasy.com/learn/>

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 and sang Les jours de la semaine (Days of the week) quel jour on est aujourd’hui? (what day is today). We went over la

Rentrée & les fournitures scolaires (Back to School) using ‘Avoir and Avoir besoin +de (to have and to need) in order to interview and to ask questions. Since we started last week a scene to role-play la Rentrée & à la librairie” (back to school &, at the bookstore, we practiced and acted in groups of two or three a set of questions and answers based on real-life situations .

Space Week is next on our agenda - <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/events/event-details/?eventID=15209>

Enjoy a relaxing weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

EAL

Dear Parents,

After this 4th week of term, it is wonderful to see that all the children are keen to communicate and to find ways to make themselves understood in English. Many of the more reserved children have gained confidence and are beginning to speak with their friends and teachers in class and in the playground. Many of those who find listening more difficult are beginning to pay closer attention to what people at school say to them, and to try to respond appropriately.

The EAL sessions contribute to this progress, providing a small, safe environment (a bit like an incubator) in which we can practise hearing and saying key words and phrases, which the children are hearing used around them during the school day.

In the Reception EAL group this week, we talked about animals and the different habitats that they like. We played a game, identifying an animal from its description, practising using sentences like “It has 4 legs. It likes trees.” We read the story “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt”, listening out for vocabulary which describe the landscape.

In the Year 1 and 2 EAL group this week, we talked about shapes, using the words big/bigger/long/longer/short/shorter, straight, curved to help us describe different shapes and their properties. In connection with the Year 2 work on healthy eating, we asked each other questions about which fruit we like.

In the Junior department this week, we practised using regular and some irregular past tenses in sentences, to talk about our home activities, adding adjectives to make our sentences more interesting. We had good fun listening to the song Count on Me <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JNtAtGGNRU> which led us to learn and practise some very useful words, especially need and want, and when and if. The children have the lyrics in their folders if you would like to sing along. I plan to use a song each week, since the children are very good singers. On Thursday and Friday,

we talked about the Science is Wonderful Exhibition which Year 4 and 5 visited this week, and which stimulated much interesting discussion.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read