

Home School Books – 10 November 2017.

### Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

The children have come back with great gusto after the half term break, so we have had a much energised week! With high energy levels we have made the most of the dry conditions although it is certainly getting chillier now. We have managed some active outdoor play to keep our large motor skills on track. This also ties in with our new theme in nursery, which is 'Food and healthy habits'. Exercise as we know is essential to keep our bodies and brain, healthy on the inside and out!

During circle time, we talked about food we like and food we dislike; this was a great language activity for introducing new vocabulary and the children introduced some great facial expressions for food which they thought was yucky!

However when the children did their small group and individual work with the teacher, they found it tricky to transfer their likes and dislikes onto paper. So we are not so sure that this gives a true reflection for some children of things they eat and don't eat, as the understanding of the activity was difficult for some. We do know without a doubt that everyone likes Chocolate cake and thinks it is good for them! Thankfully some of the children said, it's only good for you if you eat little, little! Good advice from one so young!



More on 'Healthy Eating' next week! Without the chocolate cake!

Our favourite food related song in nursery at the moment is do, you like broccoli.... if you don't know the song you can find it on

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frN3nvIHUK>

Our talk topic for discussion next week is; "Name all of the different types of fruit, you would put in, to make your fruit salad tasty".

During music this week we have started practising our Christmas songs ready for the Christmas show, although it seems very early, it's actually only five weeks away! More details to follow.

Just a quick reminder, please DONOT send nuts in your child's snack or lunch box, we have a no nut policy in nursery, not only because of allergies but whole nuts are the number one choking food amongst under-fives. Thank you for your understanding.

Have a warm weekend, turn up the central heating and have summer inside!

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

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

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

### Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

As an introduction to our new topic for this half-term, ‘The Town’, we talked about some of the types of people that work in towns, such as doctors, teachers, policemen, and firemen. The children each stated what they wanted to do when they grow up and then copied out their chosen job as letter formation practice. They also enjoyed playing a game which involved matching various people to the buildings they work in (e.g. teacher – school).



In phonics we have learnt the sounds /h/ as in hat, /r/ as in rat and /j/ as in jam. The children have continued to practise their letter formation and recognition, in particular the difference between /n/ and /h/ and between /i/ and /j/. We went back over all the sounds we have learnt so far and had a go at blending the sounds together to form simple words – we played a game of letters and sounds bingo, which is a fun way to reinforce the children’s recognition of letters and the sounds they make – it was very popular too!

In maths we have been working on measuring, following on from the start we made during pumpkin week. The children measured the height of a variety of toy buildings and practised saying which ones were taller or shorter. We also explored the concept of capacity and enjoyed using a selection of pots and cups to learn about ‘full’ ‘empty’ half-full’ etc.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we resumed our topic about seasons and the clothes we wear when it is cold. We learnt a new song about a wolf getting dressed to come and eat us .... but it should help us memorise pieces of clothing.

Talk topic for Monday 13th November will be answering the question ‘what is your favourite type of shop and why? For example, I like going to the bakers because I love the smell of fresh bread.

We wish you a lovely weekend,

Naomi Irakoze and Patrick Tranter

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

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

### Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

Wow it's certainly felt colder this week in school; we've all noticed the change in the weather and seen how most of the leaves have fallen from the trees now. Thank you for all sending in winter coats for your children to wear, as we still like to go outside to play whenever possible. In class this week we've returned to our main topic of water. We discussed how rainbows were made which we all found very interesting. The children learned the name and order of the colours of the rainbow and in art we had a go at colour mixing using red, blue and yellow to make purple, orange and green.



This week in Literacy we read a book called 'water is...' and came up with some great sentences on this topic including 'water is a tsunami', 'water is a slimy snail's trail' and 'water is an enormous swimming pool', some super creativity! In phonics we have started phase 3 of letters and sounds now and we concentrated on reading and writing words with the consonant digraphs of '/sh/' and '/ch/.' The children did their first spelling test on Friday and I can see that they have worked hard at learning the words at home so well done for practising them. We will have a spelling test every Thursday so please ensure that their red spelling books are in their folders on Thursdays as this is where your child will write the words from the test.

In maths we have worked on measuring the length of different objects using non-standard measures (cubes) and estimating lengths. We used the words longer, taller and shorter to compare and order items by length. The new homework game 'Mushroom mayhem' is available now.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we resumed our Tourloub Blanc story. He is still in the country of colours with all the animals but now there is a black bird stealing all the colours. We learnt to say how old we are, where we live and our nationality. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Ivana Julaton

[Year1teacher@telenet.be](mailto:Year1teacher@telenet.be)

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

### Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

The weather has taken a definite turn for the worse this week. It has been much cooler and we should now be thinking of getting out all the winter woollies. Please make sure your child's clothing is clearly marked with their names. Thank you.

In Literacy we have moved off from Room on a Broom and have begun our study of the delightful book, The Lighthouse Keeper's lunch. This story is interesting and the

authors have used many adventurous words. It is a delight to see the children trying to spell and understand them. Some of them are in our spellings this week and I have taught the children how to spell the words in segments. For our Phonics and spelling this week we read a story about Geoff the giraffe and had to find words in the text according to the sounds. We have some of these for our spelling homework. For our grammar focus we delved into the realm of prefixes. We discovered that the prefix –un will give us the opposite of a word. We also touched on the prefixes – dis and –im. We also revised punctuation by correcting a paragraph, adding capital letters and full stops.



In Numeracy we have been counting in 10's beyond 100. With the aid initially of a 100 chart we learnt how to add 11, 21, 31 and 9 as well as how to subtract the same numbers. We did some consolidating work in our workbooks on this. We also incidentally discovered how easy it is to count in 11's.

For our topic we spoke about timelines. We then looked at the timeline of the Great Fire of London and saw that the fire lasted 4 days from Sunday Morning to Wednesday. The fire was finally out on Thursday mainly because the wind died down. We spoke about how the wind fanned the fire and how the weather was hot, dry and windy most of the time.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we practiced using the indefinite article 'un&une' with masculine and feminine nouns while playing the game: Qui est-ce? Who is this? Or Qu'est-ce que c'est? What's this? We worked on Quel Jour on est aujourd'hui? The children were divided into 3 groups to interview each other.

In Art we worked on our musical men for the music room display.

In Science we spoke about healthy toppings for sandwiches and listed our choices. I was amused that more than one child wanted carrots and potato as sandwich toppings.

Swimming began this week for group B. A sign up list for parent helpers is on the office door. Please try to accompany your child's group at least once if possible. The non-swimmers are planning to go to the park on Tuesday. A parent helper is essential for this outing. Here's hoping the weather will be dry for Tuesday.

In PE we played class games and had fun with musical hula hoops.

The talk topic this week is: What would be your favourite sandwich filling?  
Enjoy your 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,

It was lovely to welcome all the smiling faces back and to share the events of the holiday. I was particularly pleased that nearly everyone had completed their holiday reading challenge, and delighted with the enthusiastic way in which the children presented their books to the class. The hard work on spelling last term really made a difference to our first dictation this year; this can be a difficult exercise, but the results this week were impressive! We finished our Viking dialogues this week and have worked on direct speech and speech marks.

In maths we have been revising subtraction using the frog method, and rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. We also continued work on telling the time on analogue clocks and on sequencing events. It is good to see children wearing watches and checking the time during the day – this makes it real. We had fun constructing cube configurations in our maths investigation and enjoyed inventing challenges for other groups, although this was not as easy as we thought it would be!

We narrowly avoided a catastrophically messy week by working carefully and methodically on plaster cast moulds, demonstrating how shells and fossils are squeezed between the layers of sedimentary rock.

We will be wielding our palaeontologist's hammer to find out what the layers look like when the moulds are broken open. We also created ammonite models using wet newspaper and plaster strips.

Once painted, these will be added to our geology museum, which is overflowing with wonderful, labelled rock specimens.



We had a great first tennis session, despite being exhausted after the warm up! We also enjoyed running around during a chilly PE lesson out in the playground – the first real sign that the weather is changing. Please could you make sure that all gloves and scarves have names on them to avoid confusion?

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on the use of Avoir with age- Quel âge as-tu? Quel âge a-t-il/ a-t-elle? We worked on the use of the interrogative words Quel & Combien (what and how much/ how many). We worked on Quel Jour on est aujourd'hui, and we reviewed the colours, animals and the Numbers from 0 to 20.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we resumed working in our ZigZag books quickly revising numbers and colours to go on to our new topic : animals. We also went to the local library.

The great excitement of the week was the first run-through of the end-of-term play. The singing is already excellent, and, with pantomime cows and giants on the cast list, it looks as though we are going to have fun!

Our talk topic is: Why is sport important, and which sports do you enjoy?



Have a lovely weekend,

Jane Still, Fiona King and Ena Tolentino

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

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

## Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

We had all enjoyed our Half Term Break and we needed to kick start ourselves to get back into the swing. We started by adding and subtracting big numbers, learning a new strategy to make sure we understand the concept fully. Meanwhile, we had a go at commas and finished our Literacy unit by writing our own story set in an imaginary world. The children invented kingdoms such as Candyworld, Volcanoeism and the Forest of Fear to name a few.

In Topic, we compared homes and house prices in two different localities in the UK something we had done previously for Belgium. The children got very excited by this and were interested by the houses people live in in Mrs Still's hometown and those found close to Rippledawn. We discussed reasons for price differences for houses of different size. Very soon, the children will be 'selling' their own properties and be estate agent themselves.

Science tied in with Topic and was also very interesting. To cast off a new unit of Keeping Warm (conductors and insulators), we did an experiment involving thermometers. What happens to ice, boiling and tap water's temperatures once they are left? The activity involved estimating, predicting, measuring, using logic and understanding of the world around us; and recording, both on paper and using technology - a great investigation, therefore.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on les vêtements (clothing) and 'Qu'est-ce que tu portes aujourd'hui? What are you wearing today? We combined this topic with the weather forecast and the seasons through an interactive game. We also worked on the use of the interrogative words Qui, Quel & Combien (who, what and how much/how many). We worked on Quel Jour on est aujourd'hui, and we reviewed the colours, animals and the use of masculine and feminine indefinite articles (un & une). In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went to the library on Monday and then dedicated the rest of the week to conjugating verbs (être and avoir and verbs ending in -er) in the present tense.

PE was with me and we learnt to Indian dribble in hockey and use the reverse stick; and run with the ball. The weather was chilly but kind and the children were kept moving for the whole lesson.

Highlight of the week, however, was finding out our parts in the End-of-term show (to be performed at the Lijsterbees Theatre, 11th December) and doing the first read-through!



All very exciting so do keep that afternoon free to watch all the fun!  
And that was our week.

best wishes

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

### Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

We have huge anticipation for our trip next week to the Antwerp Diamond Museum. Just a reminder that everyone must be at Gare Centrale by 07.40 (in front of the ticket counters) on Tuesday 14th.

This week, we have been revising and mastering our long multiplication skills, as well as using and applying these to solving word problems. Next week, our focus will be mastering long division. Also, we began our algebra module and have investigated substitution, collecting like terms and solving simple equations.

We were hoping to finish our class reader, the Falcon's Malteser, but we ran out of time...

On Thursday, we went for our first swimming session at the Castle Club. This term we have a mixture of confident and less-confident swimmers. Notwithstanding the ability levels, everyone enjoyed being in the water.

Who would have thought that Jack and the Beanstalk could create such excitement? The joy on the pupils' faces when they found out they were to play the role of either a chicken, sheepdog or Daisy the cow was delightful. I know that we are going to have a lot of fun preparing for this production. Details about costume requirements will be sent out as soon as possible

At present, we have eggs immersed in a variety of fluids in the classroom. This week's science experiment was to investigate the effect of Coca-Cola, vinegar, orange juice and water on an egg. The egg in vinegar is proving to be the most popular as it has increased in size and become 'rubberised'! This egg was then 'bounced' by eight students before collapsing (much to the enjoyment of the children!).



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on les vêtements (clothing) and 'Qu'est-ce que tu portes aujourd'hui? What are you wearing today? We combined this topic with the weather forecast and the seasons through an interactive game. We also worked on the use of the interrogative words Qui, Quel & Combien (who, what and how much/

how many). We worked on *Quel Jour on est aujourd'hui*, and we reviewed the colours, animals and the use of masculine and feminine indefinite articles (un & une). In French with Mrs. Scharf, we went to the library on Monday and then dedicated the rest of the week to conjugating verbs (*être* and *avoir* and verbs ending in -er) in the present tense.

Another busy and thrilling week ahead of us; our 'Diamonds are Forever' theme will continue with Alex Rider, a young James Bond, and our next topic – Stormbreaker.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

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

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

### English as an Additional Language

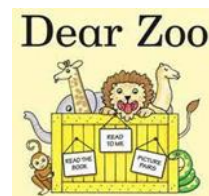
Dear Parents,

It is very good to see the children again after the holiday, and to hear about what they have been doing.

During this first week, I have tried to give each of the EAL groups some opportunities to practise using their English in an extended way, in free conversation. In the Junior Department, this led to discussions about traditional stories from our different cultures, as well as different genres of story (including realistic fiction, historical fiction, fantasy, science fiction, adventure and traditional stories).

In Year 1 and 2, we talked about our holiday activities, then tested each other to see whose listening skills and memory were working well. In Reception, we talked about which shops we like to visit, and where we like to go in a city.

In addition, the Junior EAL group began looking at adverbs and how to use them in sentences. The Year 1 and 2 EAL group began to look at adjectives, especially in the context of the book: *Dear Zoo*. We will continue to work on using adjectives in sentences next week.



I am free to meet with parents if you would like to discuss your child's progress in English, on Mondays (between 12:15 and 1:00), Tuesdays (between 8:30 and 8:55), and Wednesdays (between 8:30 and 8:55). Please send a note to me via your child's class teacher or the school office, or an email to me at the address below.

Many thanks, and I wish you a happy weekend.

Kate Read