

Home School Books –08 December 2017.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents

Wow! What an exciting week we have had in nursery and all because Christmas is almost here. There is sparkle and shine everywhere and not to mention Santa's workshop! The children are having a great time making toys and wrapping presents in our role play workshop, they are busier than Santa's elves at the North Pole!

The fun element is of course the most important part but your children are also acquiring a variety of skills, including, new language, dexterity, maths and how to use tools such as hammers, screwdrivers, saws and spanners. Which are all especially designed for use with young children of course. We haven't just let them loose with dangerous objects!

The highlight of the week was of course the visit from Saint Nicholas or The Sint if you live in Flanders. He took time out of his busy schedule to come into school and give out presents to the children. They were fascinated with his tall hat and long beard and everyone was brave enough to come and receive the present from the Sint himself. Although one little girl told me she had already seen him in Colyrot the day before and was she allowed two presents! The photographs will be on the website soon, so keep an eye out for them.

To start off our Christmas crafts, everyone made a terrific Xmas tree which you can see opposite. We were all inspired by our lovely tree in the school library and looked at the lights and the baubles, then made a good effort to draw them on our paper tree.



We also have a beautiful tinsel tree on our book corner wall, take a look as you walk through nursery.

Next week is our last week in school before the holidays and it will be full of exciting Christmas activities. There will also be two special events that week:

On Thursday the 14th December at 11.30am it will be the nursery Christmas show. There will be no afternoon session, therefore all of the afternoon children will be required to attend the morning session and can be dropped off at school from 8.30am and no later than 9am.

On Friday 15th December we will have a visit from Santa Claus and once again all children will attend the morning session only and there will be no afternoon nursery, apart from full day children. If you have any issue regarding this arrangement, please speak to Mrs Davies.

There will be no garderie on the 15th December, so full day children need to be collected no later than 15.20 on that day.

Please remember that although the weather is cold outside it isn't cold inside, so not too many layers underneath uniforms please. This especially causes problems for children going to the toilet, as tights and leggings underneath the jogging bottoms are not easily pulled down!

We can't wait to see you all at our Christmas show on Thursday next week; the children have practised their songs so well, let's just hope that big voices don't turn into whispers on the day!

Until then have a great weekend and while you are out and about ponder this question for our talk topic, 'when ice melts, what does it become and how can it become ice again?'

Thank you

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

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

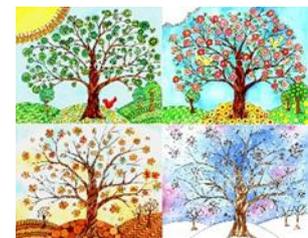
Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

This week in Reception we have looked at maps and trails. We have looked at what maps are and what they are used for. The children learnt the importance of clear instructions when guiding people to different places. The children took it in turns to guide one another from one shape to another on the carpet. We also played with the beebots, guiding them on special beebot maps. We also had a very exciting visit from St Nicholas, to whom the children sung some lovely French songs they'd learnt with Madame Scharf.

In phonics we have learnt our final phoneme /q/. They have learnt how the queen never leaves without her umbrella, thus /q/ is always followed by /u/. The children are still practising writing this letter and remembering that she needs long hair otherwise it could be confused with an /a/. The children have now learnt all the single sounds and will begin to learn some digraphs, two letters that make one sound as of next term.

In maths we have looked at the four seasons and twelve months we have in a year. The children have learnt the order of the seasons and begun to distinguish the changing climate in each.



They have enjoyed listening to some seasons songs helping them to remember the order

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksGiLaIx39c>)

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZjpI6fgYSY>). The children have also begun to memorise the months of the year with the help of more songs and lots of repetition

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5enDRrWyXaw>). We played some games to the

songs including having to stand up when their birthday month arrives which the thoroughly enjoyed.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been so busy getting ready for the visit of a very special person this week and he did come because we have been good and we sang so well for him. We had also made a “mitre” (his hat) like his. Saint-Nicolas spoke to all of us and gave us goodies. We are now talking about Christmas and that may be a little confusing !

Talk topic for Monday will be answering the question ‘What do you like most about winter?’

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,

What an exciting week we’ve had full of festivities! St Nicolas came to visit us which was such a treat; he was so kind and he looked so magnificent in his robes that we had to draw him in our home school books this week to remember his visit. This week the classroom has been covered in glitter and sparkles almost every day as we’ve worked hard to make some wonderful things for Christmas. The children have finished making their beautiful gift to take home, everything was handmade including the wrapping paper! They’ve also made a Christmas card and handwritten a lovely poem.



In computing the children have made big strides in their understanding of how to use code to make an object move in different directions. This week they also learned how to make objects move when they are clicked on too. They are learning that it is necessary to be precise when giving instructions to a computer.

In phonics we learned how to spell words with the long vowels /oa/ and /oo/. We practised reading and writing these words and using them in sentences. Next week we will revise all of the long vowels we have covered so far and then in January we will continue looking in depth at 2 sounds each week as well as practising quick recognition of all of the sounds in the Year 1 curriculum.

In maths this week we worked with reading and writing numbers as words up to ten and some children wrote numbers as words up to twenty. We practised making numbers on bead strings, using our knowledge of counting in 5s and 10s to make it

quicker and easier. We practised labelling numbers on a number line and on a 100 square. We also revised addition and subtraction problems with totals up to 20 and some children did problems with totals up to 50. We also started to work on a new display to help us remember doubles all the way up to double 13. The new maths homework game 'Hedgehog Hurry' is now available.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been so busy getting ready for the visit of a very special person this week and he did come because we have been good and we sang so well for him. We had also made a "mitre" (his hat) like his. Saint-Nicolas spoke to all of us and gave us goodies. We are now talking about Christmas and that may be a little confusing!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Ivana Julaton

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

Again the weather has been cold and somewhat damp. However, our spirits are far from damp and we have had another enjoyable week.

In Literacy we have been working on our compliment presents. We chose 6 classmates and then had to formulate compliments for them. We then transferred these to small envelopes and finally cut them and stuck them on a backing sheet. The class were very interested in what was written about them but I suggested they read them at home. They went home in their folders yesterday. This has been a worthwhile exercise as it has encouraged the class to think of positive aspects of their peers. In Numeracy we did our end of term tests. In the time we had over we have been finishing off worksheets in our Abacus workbooks.

Christmas and winter holidays lend themselves to many different crafty projects. This week we have all finished our flies and they are currently suspended in our classroom. We have made baubles which are displayed on our windows and will go home next week. We have made a super special calendar for you, our parents. We also made our very special paper plate trees. They will look lovely suspended on a window.



On Tuesday we also made our customary shoe for Saint Nicholas who came to visit on Wednesday. I was especially pleased at how the class made a huge effort to answer his questions in French and how fantastically well behaved they were.

In PE we managed to finally go outside and enjoy time in the fresh air. We worked with hoops, practising the skill of hula hooping as well as skipping. We ended off by passing the hoop to a partner, either by rolling it or gently throwing it to each other.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we coloured and prepared 'la mitre de St Nicolas' (St Nicolas headdress) in order to get ready and wear it for his visit on St Nicolas' Day. We also got to talk through an interview with each other about questions they had for St Nicolas. We also practiced and sang different songs about St Nicolas.

In Art we are moving on to creative projects. We have been making some really eye catching flies which we hope to hang up soon. We have also started on Christmas crafts and have plans for the coming weeks.

Of course, we have been singing our songs for the play every day as well as doing our dance. We have even begun doing the dance without seeing the moves. I think we are doing very well indeed.

The talk topic this week is: What makes a good compliment? Think of some compliments for your family members.

Have a super weekend,

Valeria Vetter

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

This week could definitely be described as 'all singing and dancing'! As the countdown began to the performance on Monday the adrenalin kicked in and rehearsals took on a new intensity. The play may well be a pantomime, but we are discovering that this requires discipline and concentration. Entrances and exits have to be on time, even when the pantomime cow is creating havoc, and everyone has to be able to improvise in order to cover unexpected events. This means that each person has to know exactly who should be doing what, and when, and work together as a team to make sure that the audience understand what is going on too!



The music is challenging as many of the songs are written in parts, with one group singing one melody, while another group sings something quite different. The play is also written in verse, and we have worked on making the rhymes come alive, so that the characters become 'real' people or animals.

Not only has the building been filled with singing, but there has been a constant pounding of feet from the dance routines being practiced in the studio – ‘Strictly Come Dancing’ has nothing on BISB! On the design front we have made more props and scenery, and created our own masks to fit our characters.

There were, nevertheless, periods of peace and quiet, with a first look at fractions in maths (always a challenge, but easier to understand with a pair of scissors and a pretend cake on a paper plate), and some more work on money. We also completed the end-of-term maths tests, listened to various retellings of the Jack and the Beanstalk tale and thoroughly enjoyed our interactive advent calendar activities.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we practiced the French song “Il était une bergère”, the school’s show song and we sang different songs about St Nicolas. We also got to talk through an interview with each other about ‘parle-moi de toi’ (tell me something about you) in order to ‘be ready’ to talk to St Nicolas. In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been busy with Saint-Nicolas who paid us a very special visit because we have been good. We had written him a letter and gave it to him personally. We could ask him all the questions we wanted and he gave us goodies. We also rehearsed a song for the show and started talking about Christmas.

Our talk topic is: What would I write a play about, and how would I stage it?

We look forward to seeing you all next week. Enjoy a quiet weekend in the warm so that everyone is in good voice on Monday!

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino
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Please click [here](#) for our Year 3 webpage

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week seemed a long one but it was really enjoyable!

The whole Junior department has been hugely active preparing itself for the Show next Monday. When not producing fantastic scenery and masks with Mrs Still and Mrs King, our Year 4 heroes have learnt the plot, their lines,



(mostly) their cues, the songs and (half the class) the dances which they have been practicing with me. Furthermore, 2 have become members of the Overture S.A.S – the ‘elite’ dancers who will open the performance with a (hopefully) spectacular first dance. All of them are giving their best, listening really hard and really enjoying the whole experience. Me too. Make sure you get the best seats possible on Monday for 5pm when the fun starts.

With all this busyness (including lots of practice with Mrs Mayeur), Guided Reading and perhaps book-changing has fallen at the wayside somewhat and we (mostly) have squeezed in a spelling test but it's that time of year: please do not worry.

In Maths, we had fun with bar graphs (it being essential to be competent with these, these days) and multiplication of 3-digit numbers (HTUxU).
Meanwhile, in Topic we got one step closer to finishing our project and finishing with a flourish!

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we practiced the French song "Il était une bergère", the school's show song and we sang different songs about St Nicolas.
We also got to talk through an interview with each other about 'parle-moi de toi' (tell me something about you) in order to 'be ready' to talk to St Nicolas.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been busy with Saint-Nicolas who paid us a very special visit because we have been good. We could ask him all the questions we wanted and he gave us goodies. We also rehearsed a song for the show and practiced conjugating verbs ending in ER.

I'm sure the children have filled you in but the class have enjoyed being creative on our interactive Advent Calendar, using fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination and fine touch to complete Christmas-based tasks and activities. We've stayed in the digital (virtual) world when we created an Edmodo Year 4 forum. Through this, the children (& yourselves) can communicate with each other; I can send information and homework; and more crucially the class will learn how to use a controlled social media network responsibly. Indeed, yesterday, the children learnt first-hand how important it is to log out to avoid one's file being entered (hacked).

And that was our week.
Best wishes

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Please click [here](#) for our Year 4 webpage

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

As you can imagine, this week, our focus has been the Christmas Production; we have been rehearsing furiously, and with Mrs Mayeur here for two days, the children have had plenty of opportunity to practise their songs. Thank you for sending costumes in so promptly. I do hope that you are able to come and watch your child on stage on Monday at 5pm.



Notwithstanding the expected typical errors: not reading the question carefully, not paying attention to units of measurement and not simplifying fractions when asked,

the maths test results were very encouraging. It is obvious that most pupils are now putting the required effort in to their studies, which is good news.

Spelling test marks were better this week and most pupil have reduced the number of errors in the weekly dictation. We shall have a book club meeting next week, so all students should have finished reading their books.

You may have noticed that I have created a Christmas holiday homework folder on Edmodo. There are a range of activities in this file for children to enjoy during the holidays. Year 6 children have set homework: revision of Year 7 and Year 8 CIMT maths.

Thank you for your favourable response to the proposed forthcoming theatre trip; the tickets are now booked. If you could arrange the late pick-up arrangements for the children, that would be very helpful, thank you.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we practiced the French song “Il était une bergère”, the school’s show song and we sang different songs about St Nicolas. We also got to talk through an interview with each other about ‘parle-moi de toi’ (tell me something about you) in order to ‘be ready’ to talk to St Nicolas.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been busy with Saint-Nicolas who paid us a very special visit because we have been good. We could ask him all the questions we wanted and he gave us goodies. We also rehearsed a song for the show and practiced conjugating verbs ending in ER.

St Nicolas was subjected to an interrogation by the Year 5 and 6 children! Despite their new found ‘grown-up’ manner, they still couldn’t wait to grab their paper shoes filled with goodies!

Next week, we shall be enjoying a variety of seasonal activities including A Christmas Carol Drama workshop, Highland Games with hot chocolate and stories for Christmas by the fireside.

Wishing you all a relaxing and festive weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

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

