

Home School Books – 26 January 2018.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

The children have had their tonsils really tested this week as singing has played a big role in our language sessions! We played the 'sing-it' bag game. Each child was asked to describe the scene on a visual song sheet and then match up the corresponding puzzle piece from the 'sing-it' bag. Then the whole group sang the song together and afterwards picked out words that sounded strange or interesting and we talked about what the word actually meant and could we think of a different word to use to describe the illustration we were looking at. For example, twinkle, twinkle little star, could be sparkle, sparkle little star. Above all else it was a fun and enjoyable session and a great way of enhancing and extending language acquisition.

Our topic work continued with weather and seasons and if you look opposite you will see your little ones individual piece of work. We talked once again about the change of seasons and which weather should we expect in each. Then each child was asked to match the single object to the season they thought it belonged too. The umbrella was tricky! As we all know it rains quite a lot in every season here!

We have also asked the children to colour in their season scenes at home and we will take a look at them on Monday during circle time.

In the maths sessions the children looked at written numbers and were asked to pick out and distinguish the numbers from the letters. Some children found this quite tricky, so again this is quite a simple exercise for you to do at home. Just fill a page with letters and numbers, jumbling them up together and then play the spot the number game.

As part of the health and hygiene week in school, nursery revisited healthy eating and what we should bring in our snack boxes and how to wash our hands correctly. We also talked about taking a shower or having a bath, which one did they prefer and our talk topic is 'why do we need to get washed every day?'



Just a reminder, it is virus season unfortunately, so if your little one is not well, please keep them at home until they are fully recovered. Nursery is a busy environment and is not the place for sick children. Please don't forget to inform the school of why your child is absent and remember to get a medical certificate from your doctor if they are going to be away for longer than a few days with an illness.

Until next week, have a great weekend.

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 has been a strange week in Reception. Throughout the week we have had both multiple children off sick and a few last minute winter show rehearsals and so we have not managed to cover many new areas of learning. Instead we have spent most of the week reviewing the areas we have already covered.

In phonics we have been revising the digraphs /sh/, /ch/ and /th/ completing more activities to help us remember these sounds and distinguish the difference them. The children have also been introduced to their first tricky word, ‘the’. This is a word that cannot be phonetically sounded out and must simply be memorised by sight.

In maths we have looked back over odd and even numbers from last week. The children have also started looking at doubles, and how doubling a number is adding a number to itself. We have done a mixture of both practical activities, such as adding cubes together to find doubles, and written work to help reinforce their understanding.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still singing “Dans sa maison un grand cerf” and we produced a little book about this song. We go on singing animal songs to learn as many animal names as we possibly can.

We are all very excited about our up and coming show this Monday, 29th January at 17.00. The kids have put in a lot of time and effort for rehearsals and are looking forward to finally being able to show all the parents. Many thanks to everyone who has been able to send in the clothes for the show. We understand that as many children have been away they have not had the opportunity to bring in their outfits. If this is the case please make sure they come in on Monday – the BIG day!



Talk topic for Monday will be answering the question ‘What is the job of the farmer on the farm?’

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,

The time is almost here for our Winter Show! We're all really looking forward to it and we hope you can come and see it on Monday the 29th January. Thanks to everyone for bringing in the costumes. The children are all very excited and looking forward to showing you what they have learned.

It has also been 'Health and Hygiene' week here in school and so we've been thinking about how to keep ourselves healthy. We talked about exercising, getting enough sleep and friendships which are good for our feelings. Our main focus however was on healthy eating. We thought about foods that are healthy and foods that are unhealthy and discussed how healthy foods we can eat all the time but unhealthy foods only occasionally. The children thought of lots of different examples of both types of food.



In literacy this week we did the /ear/ and /air/ sounds. We practised reading and writing words with these sounds and put them into sentences. We have almost completed phase 3 of our phonics programmes and the children are doing well at using the sounds from this phase in their reading and writing. This week in literacy we also practised writing labels for different types of fruit and vegetable using our sounds as part of health and hygiene week.

In maths we have worked on counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We practised grouping objects into sets of 2, 5 or 10 and we chanted the sequences forwards and backwards. We also revised everything we have done so far in the first half of spring term including days of the week, months of the year, seasons, 3D shapes and counting forwards and backwards. The new maths homework game is 'Clam collector.'

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still singing songs to learn about the parts of the body and we are doing quite well. We also exercised saying "J'ai mal à la tête; j'ai mal au ventre; j'ai mal aux dents" etc. ... we drew beautiful pictures of ourselves and wrote the parts of the body we know.

The Group A swimmers continue to do well at the pool. If you have any availability to help us out with getting them changed for swimming on Tuesday mornings then please let us know. When we have help to change the children they have longer to spend in the pool with the instructor and therefore they get more out of the session and progress more quickly.

We hope you have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Ivana Julaton  
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Please click [here](#) for our Year 1 webpage

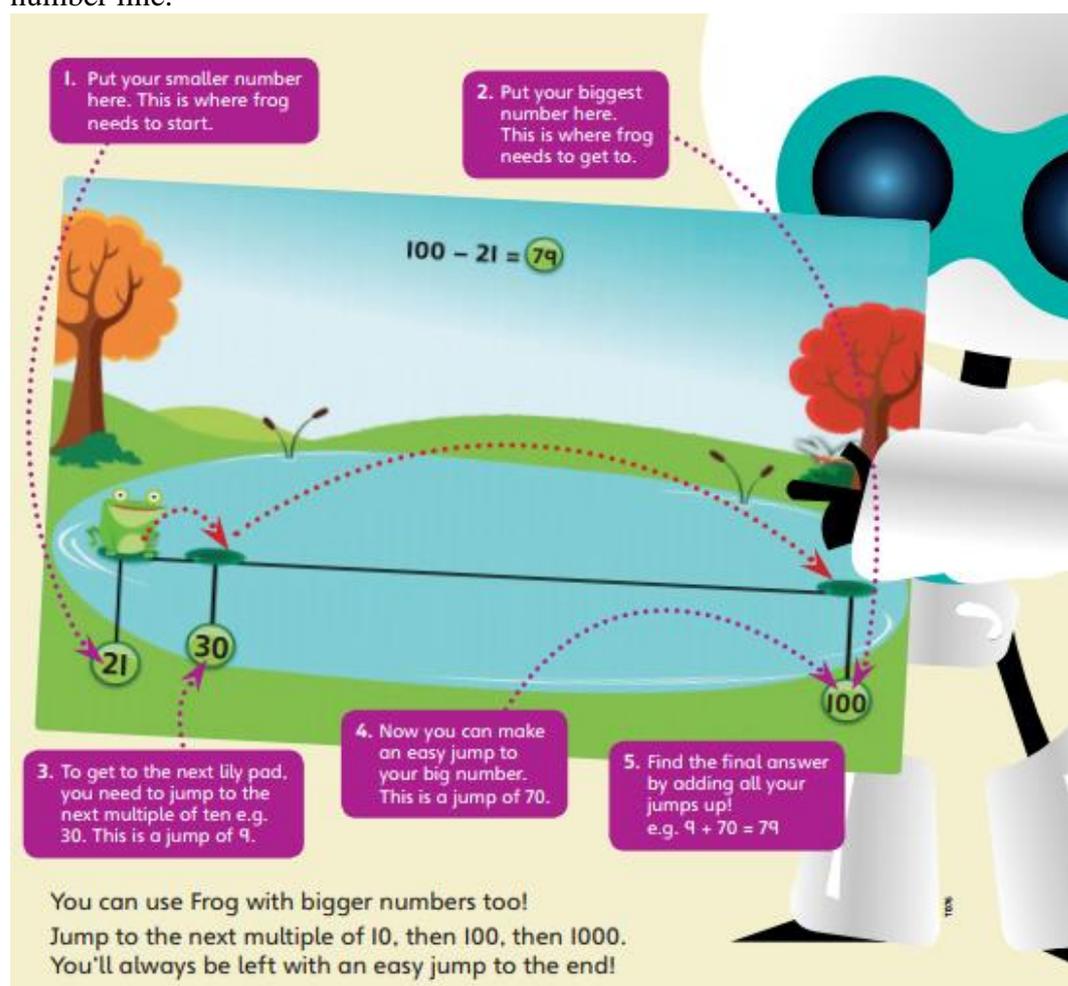
## Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy week of play practices and healthy living.

In Literacy we used our brainstorming session from last week to write about both grannies from the Katie Morag books. We wrote in our literacy books and then made posters which we have put on our wall in the classroom. In phonics we worked on tricky words and their usage, compound words and sound talk. We sounded out words and put dots and dashes under them according to their sounds. We also counted phonemes and syllables. In grammar we have been working on past and present tenses of verbs. We particularly focused on regular verbs this week and will move on to irregular verbs next week.

In Numeracy we have been learning how to subtract using the frog method on a number line.



1. Put your smaller number here. This is where frog needs to start.

2. Put your biggest number here. This is where frog needs to get to.

3. To get to the next lily pad, you need to jump to the next multiple of ten e.g. 30. This is a jump of 9.

4. Now you can make an easy jump to your big number. This is a jump of 70.

5. Find the final answer by adding all your jumps up!  
e.g.  $9 + 70 = 79$

$100 - 21 = 79$

You can use Frog with bigger numbers too!  
Jump to the next multiple of 10, then 100, then 1000.  
You'll always be left with an easy jump to the end!

In Science we revised the food pyramid and spoke about healthy foods. We arranged to make soup on Tuesday and it turned out to be a very tasty vegetable soup indeed.

We did a lot of chopping and the smell was exceptionally appealing. My thanks go to those parents who supplied vegetables to add to our soup. As a literacy exercise we followed the instructions to make the soup.



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we talked about 'bien manger' (healthy eating). We covered 'l'alimentation' (food) and Qu'est-ce que tu manges? Qu'est-ce que tu bois? What do you eat and drink? through fun games and role-playing.

In Art we took the healthy living theme to another level and made posters which currently adorn the hall outside our classroom. We chose 4 areas to highlight for our posters. To add more colour and interest we have apples, trees and carrots full of relevant words interspered amongst our posters.

PE was once again honing our dance skills and together we decided on the ways to move in order to give our dance a bit more polish.

In Computing we did some maths work before enjoying ourselves by creating QR codes and reading them. It was certainly a novel way of communicating.

Please could you practice your child's lines with them this weekend, paying special attention to the cues they need to focus on? Thank you.

The talk topic this week is: Can you think of ways in which we could use QR codes around our school and home?

Have super weekend and see you all on Monday at the play.

Valeria Vetter

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

### Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

From Jack and the Beanstalk, via Beatbox and Bozar to a mystery adventure in Parc Josaphat, we have covered kilometres, danced and sung our hearts out and generally had a whirlwind time this week.

The children worked wonders in remembering all of their songs and lines for the winter play – it may have lacked the Christmas feel, but it was great to see all the effort come alive on the big stage. The musical theme continued on Tuesday with a truly spectacular concert at Bozar. We were treated to a roller-coaster ride



through a whole range of orchestral pieces, all brought together by the most amazing beatboxer, who had the audience spellbound. We danced our way through the choreographed pieces that we had learnt at school, and had fun conducting with our light sticks at the end. We ate our picnic overlooking the rooftops of Brussels and made the most of a playground in the sun on our walk back to the bus – a perfect day!

The rest of the week was busy in the classroom, with a concerted effort on equivalent fractions and, in preparation for the mystery adventure, a first look at coordinates in maths. We finished writing the initial drafts of our own stories and worked in pairs to copy read and correct each other's spelling and punctuation. This also involved giving opinions on sentences that we particularly liked, and suggestions for words or phrases that could be improved. We finished reading 'Fortunately the Milk' and moved on to 'Snow Dragon', a fantasy quest with lots of beautiful descriptions, perfect for our work on adjectives and interesting writing.

French time was limited this week due to the school show and the outing to Bozar but in French with Mrs. Scharf, we talked about potatoes and the way we like to eat them. We also sang a song about potatoes and we learnt many facts and figures about this special vegetable. In other matters we are getting ready to go to see the exhibition about potatoes at the Mill in Evere.

In Science we started our own information posters on Magnets and Forces – planning our sub-headings, paragraphs and diagrams, and bringing together all that we have discovered about the subject. To tie in with Health and Hygiene week, we looked at the food pyramid and discussed the different foods that we eat and how we can make sure we are eating healthily. We also had a go at taking our pulse and seeing how it changes when we exercise. Our mystery walk and orienteering in the Park certainly added to our kilometre count this week – and although some people still seem to find walking a struggle, we are starting to see increasing stamina levels!



Let's hope the weather keeps fine and that we can get out and about this weekend. Have fun!

Our talk topic is: What can I do to make sure I am fit and healthy?

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 has been a very busy week. As you know, Monday was the Juniors' winter production of Jack and the Beanstalk. I hope you enjoyed watching our show. To celebrate our victory, we went to the wonderful Bozar MOVE concert. In Bozar, we did lots of singing in French, beat boxing (don't worry we didn't actually box

anything); we also body clapped and all the children got little light bracelets to wave in the air to the final piece.

On Wednesday during maths, we multiplied money amounts but Marina and Maanas also completed a Belgium problem-solving test: fingers are crossed that they, Swarnima and Aahil make the next round - the semi-final!



That afternoon, we continued our research and mapping of international sporting events. This involved a trip down memory lane to key moments at the Sydney, Athens, Beijing and London Games including doping, an unfortunate marathon-runner's nightmare (google 'Grand Prix Priest'), cycling races by the Great Wall of China and BMX. We also began finding out about the history of competitive sport.

The following day, we celebrated Health and Hygiene Week by looking at the science of the food pyramid. The children already know much more about healthy eating and life styles than we ever did at the same age and the class enjoyed reeling off their knowledge and the nutritious habits they keep.

In French with Mrs. Scharf we worked hard on grammar and more specifically conjugation this week (être, avoir and -er verbs in the present tense). We also started talking about potatoes (history, facts and figures...) to prepare for our visit to the potato exhibition at the Mill in Evere.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to use and conjugate "être" (to be) with the different personal pronouns. We had a class project "je me présente et je parle de mon copain" (I talk about myself and about my friend) using different adjectives in the affirmative and the negative voice: Je suis et je ne suis pas (I am and I am not) Il /elle est and il / elle n'est pas (he/she is and he/she isn't).

Today, we did the Great Celebrity Balloon Debate, each child having to argue over the inclusion of a sports star in a hot air balloon of 'greats'. Good writing skills and convincing oral presentation skills were required

And that was our week. This newsletter was co-written by Marina and a select few of her classmates.

Best wishes

Tim Stedman and Ena Tolentino

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

What a night! After having eaten ten large pizzas and ice-cream, we hopped on a tram to the city centre and made our way to the theatre. We waited in the bar and then enjoyed a question and answer session with the director. What a performance! This was a perfect ‘first experience’ of a Shakespeare play for the students and I am looking forward to hearing their critiques this morning. Mr Edward Prescott is liable to be ‘mobbed’ next time the students see him!

I am pleased that you enjoyed our production of Jack and the Beanstalk; we are always looking for different types of plays and musicals to perform and the children really enjoyed Roald Dahl’s interpretation of this well-loved tale.

In French with Mrs. Scharf we worked hard on grammar and more specifically conjugation this week (être, avoir and -er verbs in the present tense). We also started talking about potatoes (history, facts and figures...) to prepare for our visit to the potato exhibition at the Mill in Evere.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to use and conjugate “être” (to be) with the different personal pronouns. We had a class project “je me présente et je parle de mon copain” (I talk about myself and about my friend) using different adjectives in the affirmative and the negative voice: Je suis et je ne suis pas (I am and I am not) Il /elle est and il / elle n’est pas (he/she is and he/she isn’t ).

Thank you so much for ensuring that the children arrived early on Tuesday morning – we were able to depart on time. Bozar, as always, is very special and the children were thrilled to be part of this exciting concert: dancing, beat-box, movement and an orchestra! Seeing the elation on the children’s faces, as they waved their ‘glow-sticks’ in the air during the finale, was a joy.

We have finished reading Stormbreaker: action, adrenaline and adventure up until the final page. Students were grabbing their hair and gripping their chairs; anxiety etched on their faces when Herod Sayle (the villain) appeared two pages before the end! Our next mission is to write like Anthony Horowitz.



In Chinese, we learnt how to say Happy New Year, the members of my family and the four different “o’ sounds.

The quality of answers in the weekly comprehension texts is improving and some students are achieving pleasing results in the word-work, dictation and spelling tests.

We tried very hard to be healthy this week and promise to ‘walk-off’ the pizza and ice-cream during this afternoon’s mystery adventure assembly!

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

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