

Home School Books – 16 March 2018.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

We said last week Spring was in the air; unfortunately it seems not to be true! However nursery are keeping with the idea or at least indoors. This week the children have finished off painting their lovely spring flowers and putting the finishing touches to their spring lambs. These will be on display next week as part of the staircase spring scene in the infant library. So don't forget to have a look when you come in from the cold outside!

This week has been all about uniforms and the children have looked at discussed and dressed up in different sorts of uniform, that we now have in our role play area. The most popular ones are the police officers and the chefs! Mainly because we decided princess dresses and super hero costumes were not really a uniform! Although next week for the end of term we may introduce some more flamboyant costumes to the role play area just for a bit of fun.



We talked about why some people wear uniform and how we knew what job they did or what organisation they belonged to, just by looking at their clothes. The children looked at their own school uniform to start off the discussion and strangely enough, one or two children had not realised that the jumpers and joggers were all printed with the same school badge or logo. There was a simple explanation given about the tree and the name of the school around the tree and why that was chosen to be on everyone's uniform. Ask your little one and see if they can remember why.

If you look opposite, you will see your little ones fantastic efforts at identifying and matching the objects to the uniformed worker. Take time to revisit the activity with your child and ask them in your mother tongue, if they can tell you the names of all of the objects and the names of the people they belong to in English. You can extend this activity by drawing one more object and matching uniformed worker e.g. Fire engine/Firefighter. Adding new vocabulary to your child's growing repertoire of English words, is always a useful thing to do.

In maths this week, the children did an activity in 'counting on' during circle time. Try this by counting objects in the street or people on the bus etc. Then ask your child to count on from a given number and wait for the answer. It's quite tricky for some children, as they don't realise that counting can start from any number and it doesn't always start at one.

In our language and literacy activity, we have continued with name recognition and writing our name without help from the teacher, you can see their attempt at this on the bottom of the matching activity opposite. Children are all at different stages of development with this, so please don't worry if the name is not legible in the traditional way just yet! Although if your child is in the nursery group it is something

you can practise at home, remembering to use a capital at the beginning but that all the other letters should be lower case letters.

Please remember to keep your little one at home if they are unwell, we still haven't got rid of the winter viruses just yet! Do not give them medicine and send them to school; this will eventually wear off and your child will be unwell and unhappy.

Our talk topic for discussion next week is: If you could design a uniform for a nursery rhyme character, who would it be for and what would you make for them?

Thank you and have a great weekend.

Alison Davies, Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

In Reception this week our topic focus was all about keeping cool. The children were challenged with the idea that the type and tightness of the material is more important than the amount of materials you wear, when keeping cool.

In phonics we have been revising the tricky words and have learnt the new word 'you'. The children have been working hard on their comprehension when reading and have completed a variety of activities encouraging them to focus on reading for meaning, looking at the whole phrase rather than taking each word individually.

In maths we have begun looking at time. The children have been introduced to seconds, minutes and hours. They are showing increasing understanding that there are sixty seconds in a minute and sixty minutes in an hour. We have looked at recognising o'clock times on both digital and analogue clocks.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have started talking about spring and Easter and all the animals related to this event like hens, chicks, rabbits, sheep etc. We learnt a new song (Une poule sur un mur) about a hen eating hard bread on a wall and we drew beautiful hens.

Group A has successfully completed their first swimming session. The focus for the session was building water confidence, as many of the children had not swum before. They completed activities such as blowing bubbles and crocodile walking to get them comfortable with having their face splashed. Group B stayed at school and enjoyed a great P.E. session with Mrs Prescott.

Talk topic for Monday will be answering the questions 'What time do you wake up in the morning? What time do you go to bed?' We will also begin to discuss other times of the day, such as when we start school or when we eat our lunch.

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,

It's been a busy week in Year 1! We had a great time on Thursday going on our class visit to the Grand Place. We enjoyed looking at all the magnificent buildings there and closely observed all the little details we saw such as flags, stone figures and gold. The children chose buildings to sketch and tried their best to recreate the shapes they saw. We also had waffles and then when it rained we went for a walk in the 'Galerie St Hubert' and admired the beautiful window



displays of lace, old toys, fancy watches and of course massive chocolate Easter eggs! We bought postcards and wrote about our trip when we got back to school. In our art lesson we talked about spring and the children painted baby animals to contribute towards the infant department seasonal display, which will be changing from Winter to Spring soon.

In phonics this week the children did more work on consonant blends including words with 'nch' such as lunch and 'tch' such as watch. Also in literacy we wrote a recount of our trip to the Grand Place using words such as 'first', 'next' and 'then'. We wrote about what was happening in the photos that were taken during our trip and thought about the order of the things we did. In mathematics we did 1 more, 1 less, 10 more and 10 less than any number up to 100. The children learned how to count forwards and backwards and up and down the rows of a 100 square to find patterns.

In science the children did an experiment to test whether different materials were waterproof or not. They made predictions about what they expected to find and tried to test the materials fairly. They also practised building with the salt dough bricks they made in last week's science lesson.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we revised all the parts of the body once again and I believe the children know them by now. They can also express where they have pain by saying "J'ai mal à la tête; J'ai mal au ventre; J'ai mal aux dents....". We also listened to our story again and learnt new vocabulary related to kitchen utensils like spoon (cuillère), fork (fourchette), knife (couteau) etc.

The group B swimmers went for their first swimming lesson at the pool. They behaved very well and listened carefully to instructions. Hopefully they will enjoy their lessons and the pool and make really good progress.

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,

The old adage that time flies when you're having fun seems to really be true. Time is flying and we are having fun learning and growing.

In Literacy, we discussed the new pier that was built on The Island of Struay carefully noting the benefits and downfalls to the islanders. We then wrote a short text in our books outlining the points we had noted. The class did not have to cover both sides but many of them did anyway which I thought was really good. We also used our knowledge of adjectives to complete a grammar unit on expanding noun phrases. It impresses me as to how well the class deals with new vocabulary and how eager they are to add these new words to their weekly spelling lists. It is also pleasing to note that these words are used in stories and creative writing which indicates that the children 'own' these words.



In Phonics we looked at the alternate pronunciations for the letter – 'y' as well as picking out words with different sounds in a given line. We also did our termly reading assessment test this week and the results overall were pleasing.

In Numeracy we have been having such fun building different arrays using interlocking blocks and recording the multiplication facts in our books. We have also been doing inversions of these facts and the children can now see how 2×5 is the same as 5×2 . Add to this the fact that we are beginning to explore the world of division and we have a most productive week. Next week we will be doing our termly tests.

In Art we painted backgrounds using green, white and blue paint which we blended together. We also drew and painted flowers and leaves to add to the background. These we cut out today and glued on to the backgrounds. We will then make some beautiful dainty butterflies to add to our work. These bright scenes will replace the umbrella art and so herald in better weather, we hope.

In PE we had to rearrange our activity as it was raining so in the classroom we did a podcast which combined movement and art. The class do enjoy these podcasts on the rainy days.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we finished working on our project and bricolage 'Je pars au ski'! & j'emporte dans ma valise : une écharpe, une veste, un bonnet..' (Let's go skiing! I pack my suitcase and I bring: a scarf, a jacket, a woolly hat etc.).

In Computing we again stretched ourselves with some coding <https://studio.code.org/s/artist/stage/1/puzzle/1> and then moved onto activelearn primary maths activities.

Sadly our trip to the park on Tuesday had to be called off due to the weather so we will try again next Tuesday when the weather forecast is more positive i.e. cold and dry. I do need at least one volunteer parent to accompany us on this outing please.

The talk topic this week is: Are the golden rules teaching us to be good people? Why do you think this?

Have a lovely weekend,

Valeria Vetter

year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

Time for our own journey this week! In preparation we studied satellite map images, analysing what we would see, particularly on the 44 tram journey. The map showed the different environments – dense city streets, grand suburbs along the Avenue de Tervuren, differing forest densities and finally, a village environment. We identified specific things to look for, such as the Woluwe Lakes, the Tram Museum, the isolated track through the Forest, the Quatre-Bras junction, and the impressive approach to Tervuren. We compared different journey times using public transport, a car, a bike, and on foot, and worked out how far we would need to walk. We also studied the tram timetable and decided which trams to take.



Fortunately the weather was perfect. It was fun spotting our various landmarks and we arrived just in time for the workshops. One group painted ceramic dragons using special paints, whilst the other group made decoupage birdboxes, then we swapped over. The sessions flew by, but we had time to read books and play before eating lunch and heading into the village. We discovered a great new playground and squelched along the muddy forest paths in our hunt for signs of spring. We ran around the park, and ended up with a last-minute detour and a very fast walk to the tram, as

our planned route turned out to be ... a building site... good for fitness levels! It was an action-packed day and, as ever, I was really impressed with the enthusiasm and great behaviour. Many thanks to Tanvi's mum for coming with us and braving the pots of glue and muddy puddles!



The reading and maths tests are well underway and the results are looking good. Positive mindsets are very much in evidence and there is great determination to tackle the questions enthusiastically, with an open mind, looking for ways to solve problems. This attitude makes such a difference to the test experience and to the results. Well done to all!

We have continued with our Book Week display board, adding to our sub-headings and paragraphs and writing text that involves the reader, using questions, fact boxes and interesting vocabulary. We have also worked in pairs on the reorganisation of the reading scheme, sorting and classifying books into new boxes and listing missing books. This is a great way of discovering new books to read, and a useful organisational skill.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still full on in our food topic and the children wished to make a fruit salad which enabled them to discover and taste new fruit. In grammar, we practiced using countable and uncountable articles like “du (pain) de la (confiture) de l’(eau) des (bonbons)”.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we created an interactive scenario ‘Je vais chez le médecin’ (I have to see the doctor) to talk about what hurts ‘ j’ai mal au genou, j’ai mal au pied, j’ai mal à la gorge, j’ai mal au ventre, j’ai mal aux oreilles ‘ (My knee hurts, my foot hurts, I have a sore throat, I have an earache .etc..)Enjoy the cold weekend by staying in and warming up with some quick-fire times table challenges and some good stories!

Our talk topic is: What strategies can I use to help me tackle work that seems difficult at first?

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

The back end of this week would be the highlight of our week but first we had to deal with a few important bits and pieces. We had money change and decimals in maths and writing our sportsperson biographies and Rippledown events day in Topic. Then we finally reached Thursday.

That morning Mrs Mayeur warned: ‘It’s going to rain today!’. I said: ‘Brilliant!’. The children asked: ‘What about our Golden Time?’ I said: ‘You’re about to get 6 hours

of Golden Time!' And so it was – this year's Walk Through the Forest was a classic. The children knew the mission: Mr Prescott's private jet had been shot down, Semolina pirates had taken him prisoner and it was down to us to get him back.

The Year 4s set about the task with gusto. Indeed, they completed the course in record time as we arrived back to school with time to spare. The children ran, climbed, balanced, chatted and played all day. There was also lots of maths and a mission to read and digest. And Dev even temporarily lost a shoe (...both shoes in fact) in some mud. The rain didn't dampen anyone's spirits and we had the forest pretty much to ourselves. This cohort is a really outdoorsy, athletic group and they were in their element. A great day!

See photos: <http://www.bisb.org/project/y4-walk-through-the-forest-operation-acorncrack18/>



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we looked at l'auxiliaire Être (to be) and the way we use it with adjectives, nouns and how we apply the agreement in gender and number with être. We created an interactive and a fun scenario and a dialogue 'J'ai mal docteur! ' (Doctor, I'm not well!) to talk about what hurts ' j'ai mal au genou, j'ai mal au pied, j'ai mal à la gorge, j'ai mal au ventre, j'ai mal aux oreilles ' (My knee hurts, my foot hurts, I have a sore throat, I have an earache ..etc..) .

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we revised the body parts and worked on the physical description of a person. We played a game which gave us the opportunity to ask questions using the new vocabulary we learnt. The children described one of their friends in writing as well.

As I'm writing this I am pretty sure that the children are zonked out either in bed or on the sofa looking forward to tomorrow's trip to the EU History Museum. We will learn all about the evolution of the European Union; the commission and council, and how migration has played a big part in the formation of its peoples.

This Saturday Marina and Maanas have made it to the Semi Finals of the FBJM Maths Puzzle competition and we wish them both the very best of luck in trying to reach the national finals.

On Sunday morning, I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual sponsored swim: Splash. They'll be lots of endeavour and toil in the swimming centre and that will keep us warm from the cold outside.

Whatever you doing, have a nice weekend

Tim Stedman and Ena Tolentino

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

Sunshine and warmth at last - really wonderful to watch the Asia v Europe football match in glorious sunshine, after a picnic lunch surrounded by daffodils and our new shrubs and trees. I think the playground is going to look spectacular this summer.

On the subject of rising temperatures... There are a lot of us in our classroom, most of whom are hovering at the entrance to the 'tunnel of adolescence', therefore it seemed an appropriate moment to discuss personal hygiene (as part of the National Curriculum). As you can imagine, this topic generated much heated discussion! The following day, pupils wafted into the classroom, eager to share their efforts to 'keep Years 5 & 6 smelling sweet'. I received many invitations to 'sniff' delightfully fragrant armpits! I do hope that your stocks of soap, liquid soap, deodorant and perfume have not suffered too much, as most children described (in detail) which of your products they had used! Thank you in advance for your support with this campaign.

We have opened our personal spy folders. Trainee spies are now completing their documentation and training to apply to join MI6. This week, whilst investigating the qualities needed to be a spy, we learnt about the Cambridge Four, and watched a video clip showing Kim Philby 'lying' to the media about his spying activities. As part of their training, the recruits need evidence of code-breaking skills, so this week, they have learnt about letter frequency and the Caesar Shift.

We have been continuing our maths revision including: 2D shapes, lines of symmetry, interpreting graphs, solving word problems about fractions of amounts and completing the ultimate fraction, percentage and decimal challenge. The Abacus test will take place on Monday. I do hope that students have been following their individual revision plans and I look forward to marking the results of their efforts.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we looked at l'auxiliaire Être (to be) and the way we use it with adjectives, nouns and how we apply the agreement in gender and number with être. We created an interactive and a fun scenario and a dialogue 'J'ai mal docteur! ' (Doctor, I'm not well!) to talk about what hurts ' j'ai mal au genou, j'ai mal au pied, j'ai mal à la gorge, j'ai mal au ventre, j'ai mal aux oreilles ' (My knee hurts, my foot hurts, I have a sore throat, I have an earache ..etc..) .

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we revised the body parts and worked on the physical description of a person. We played a game which gave us the opportunity to ask questions using the new vocabulary we learnt. The children described one of their friends in writing as well.

In Science, we continued investigating electromagnetism, by constructing 'tiny dancers' - a homopolar motor - using copper wire, a battery, neodymium disc magnets and some crepe paper. We enjoyed limited success. After having evaluated the experiment, we decided that next time, we shall design our own wire shape.



Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

English as an Additional Language

This week, in the Reception EAL group, we again practised using the vocabulary relating to the class study of materials, talking about which objects need to be made of hard things and which of soft things. This involved the use of words such as strong, straight, fall, cuddly, wobbly, squeeze, and phrases such as If it is soft, it might.... or it will... We also played games using the simple consonant-vowel-consonant words which appear in the children's first reading books.

The Year One and Two EAL group's main writing activity this week was on the subject of signs of Spring: the children chose and wrote about pictures of spring, using words drawn from our conversations about spring. I am pleased to see the children using their knowledge of sounds to work out spellings. We also talked about buildings and drew and labelled the buildings in which we live. This was in connection with Year One's visit to the Grand Place, to see the amazing buildings there.



The Junior EAL group spent some time working with the essential verb do, and its use as a modal verb in questions and negatives (e.g. Michael Morpurgo did not write Black Beauty/ Does the woman go running every day?), revising the verbs be and have , and going over the two-letter sounds that we have covered this term. The children's great enthusiasm for writing their own stories continues, and this is very helpful, as it enables us to go over points of grammar as they arise.

If you would like to talk about your child's progress in English, I do encourage you to make contact with me through your child's class teacher, or via the email below.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read
ealteacher@telenet.be