

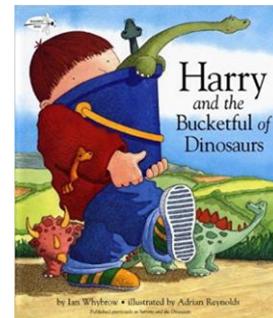
Home School Books – 04 May 2018.

## Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents

It might not have been a very long week but it has certainly been a busy one! The children were happy to be back after the bank holiday and very quickly went into Dinosaur mode!

Over the last few days we have concentrated on the story 'Harry and the bucketful of dinosaurs'. If you don't know the story then have a look and listen to it on the following link, <https://youtu.be/uWoopkMgLqM>



We read the story from the paper version of the book with small groups of children and then reread it to the large group during circle time. The children were then asked to retell parts of the story themselves to the teacher and it was wonderful to see how many children were able to remember the familiar parts of the story. This is one of the steps we cover in our letters and sound sessions; so great to see that listening skills are improving! and the children are really enjoying stories.

Stories open up a whole new world for children, whose real life experiences are still unexplored and books can help them to imagine a world full of possibilities.

The nursery bucketful of dinosaurs display, will be going up soon on the large display board in the corridor outside of nursery, so please take a look and see what adventures your little one's dinosaurs will be having. We also have a magnificent display of dinosaurs in the nursery book corner but don't get too close just in case they bite!

Our baby dinosaur the nurseryosaurus, is doing well and we are about to release him into the wild! The children are very excited about him going out into the world!

There is a public holiday next week and the school will be closed on Thursday and Friday the 10 & 11th for half term so there will be no home school book that week. Due to the short week this week, we have prepared another dinosaur game for you to play at home with your little one. It is an ordering by size game and the vocabulary we use is, large, medium and small. Of course you can use the same dinosaurs to create all sorts of different scenarios, just ask your child what else they can think of to play.

When we return the week after the break, our dinosaur topic will continue for an extra week and the children will make some papier maché dinosaur eggs and go on a dinosaur ice egg dig! After that our new topic will take us on an adventure into the Jungle, so watch this space!

Have a great weekend and hope to see you all at the flower power event in school tomorrow (10.00 – 12.00), lots of fun and crafts to be had and it's also going to be great weather!

Our talk topic is 'When Harry left his dinosaurs on the train, how did he feel?' Have you ever lost something precious to you, how did it make you feel?'

Until next time.

Thank you

Alison Davies and Inés van Wassenhove

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

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

### Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

Springwatch update: we now have a real cocoon forming in our caterpillar net in the classroom – it is one of the hedge-devouring caterpillars we ‘rescued’. So, if all goes well, we will have a butterfly or moth soon, and the life-cycle will begin again, ready to attack Mrs Prescott’s hedge again next year... This week we switched our attention to creatures which live in water. On Friday we visited the Junior Department to admire their collection of tropical fish, and in the classroom we took our first look at the life-cycle of the frog. We will continue with our water-borne theme next week.



In Literacy this week, we learned the tricky words ‘go’, ‘no’ and ‘so’. It was very encouraging to see that the children had also retained their knowledge of ‘to’ and ‘do’ from a couple of weeks ago. Although these five words all look similar, they do, of course, have a different sound. The children take all this in their stride and are quickly learning which word has which sound.

In Maths, we worked out that counting in 10s is a much quicker way to count 100 objects than counting in 1s, so we practised quite a lot, and the children are now becoming more familiar with the concept of ‘10s numbers’ (10, 20, 30 etc.). We also tried some counting in 2s and in 5s, using fingers for 5s, ears, eyes and feet for 2s, and spotted the patterns these numbers make on a 100-square.

On Tuesday next week (8th May) the whole class will visit the park at Wezembeek-Oppem. We will be looking for signs of the creatures we have studied, such as those which live in the ground, those which fly and those which live in water. We should hopefully have time for a short PE session, as well as some time to play on the slides and swings. A note has been placed in your child’s bag, asking for three parent volunteers for the outing. Please contact us if you would like to offer to help.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we described the weather and we presented ourselves by answering questions like “comment tu t’appelles ?” (what’s your name ?) and “quel âge as-tu ?” (How old are you ?). We also started talking about Mother’s Day and why we love our mummy so much.

Talk topic for next week will be answering the question "what sort of creature would you like to be – one that digs, one that flies or one that swims?"

We hope to see you at the Flower Power morning at school on Saturday (10.00 – 12.00),

Patrick Tranter and Ivana Julaton

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

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

### Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

Dear Parents,

It's been a short but busy week here in class one! We've continued with our topic and did some more work on ladybirds. We discussed the stages of their life cycle and learned that there are many different types of ladybird and that they do not all look the same. We made our own ladybird spotter's guide of 16 of the most common types of ladybird. In our art lesson we made caterpillar and ladybird finger puppets to link in with the story we did this week in literacy, 'The Hungry Caterpillar.' It was a great activity for improving scissor skills.



In phonics we looked at the /or/, /au/ and /aw/ family. We learned to sort words according to the grapheme they contained. We practised reading and writing words with these sounds in them. In literacy we read the story of 'The Hungry Caterpillar' with the view to writing our own stories based on a similar structure. We thought of other hungry minibeasts for our own stories including very hungry honey bees, grasshoppers, earthworms and spiders. They ate all sorts of things including blueberries, dragon fruit and mangoes!

In maths we learned about fractions. We learned how to divide a shape into two parts (halves) or four parts (quarters). They learned to recognise the symbols  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  and how it is important for each part to be an equal size. We also learned how to find half of even numbers e.g. half of 6, half of 10, half of 2. And that was our week!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still continuing drawing our own house. The bedroom is under way and we are almost finished. They look very interesting and we have learnt a lot of new vocabulary.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Camilla Rutayisire and Smitha Bandaru [Year1teacher@telenet.be](mailto:Year1teacher@telenet.be)  
Please click [here](#) for our Year 1 webpage

## Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

This has been a short week and next week is going to be just as short. However we have done a lot of work and enjoyed ourselves a lot as usual.

In Literacy, we wrote our information pages on the pterodactyl. In fact we discovered that the pterodactyl was in fact not a dinosaur but a flying reptile. This has taken a bit of time but I am sure the result will be something to cherish forever. Next week we will focus on grammar skills and phonics instead.

In Numeracy we have been looking at mass. We used a balance to weigh different articles around the classroom before moving on to a kitchen scale and the use of grams and kilograms. We also played some online games to consolidate this section of Numeracy. These games can be found here <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/measures> Next week we will concentrate on mental multiplication and division skills.



For DT( design technology) we began planning out our dinosaurs to make for a paper maché project. We decided on the materials we want to use and will begin building these next week. We will also be making cards for a special person.

In Topic we found out that the pterodactyls lived way before the T-Rex ever roamed the earth.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to use “il y a “ (there is /there are) in order to describe ‘ma maison’ (my house) and everything there is in every room of the house.

In PE we will once again be practising our bat and ball skills on Monday. Please don't forget that we will need a lot of newspaper so dads get reading please. Thank you for coming in to discuss your child's progress. I enjoyed seeing you all.

The talk topic this week is: How can we help our earth? Think of ways you, your family and our class can do more.

There will not be a home school letter next week so I have tried to include the topics we will do in order to keep you informed.

Don't forget the craft morning at school tomorrow. I hope to see a lot of you there. Have a lovely weekend and may the sun shine on us all.

Valeria Vetter

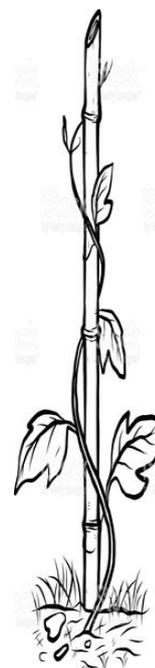
[year2teacher@telenet.be](mailto:year2teacher@telenet.be)

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

## Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

Despite the short week we have been busy, particularly in the garden. The plants are bursting into flower and providing both a great splash of colour and plenty to study. We have sown our first seeds outside, with melon, apple and carrot seeds brought in by enthusiastic gardeners. We're hoping it continues to be warm enough for them to germinate. In the classroom we have potted on our sunflowers and planted sweet peas, which will be planted outside once they are strong enough. We studied the photosynthesis process and watched a fascinating video of what happens inside a leaf. We decided that plants can be compared to machines, with each little part having its own function, and we are now constructing a 3D model to try and show how they use water, sunlight and air to grow.



In maths we have done several mental maths challenges (the times tables are improving☺) and worked on shapes and the properties of lines. In an effort to remember which is which, we have worked in groups and moved our arms, legs and bodies from parallel to perpendicular, taking in horizontal, vertical and diagonal on the way. Great exercise! We also put the theory into practice on paper by drawing a detailed plant diary chart.

In literacy we played a challenging sentence building game and worked on expanding our sentences using as many different types of word as possible. This was good revision of nouns, determiners, adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions and encouraged dictionary and thesaurus work in the hunt for interesting vocabulary. Our 'Beetle Boy' book is getting exciting as the main characters have now been introduced and the 'Beetle' has just made his first appearance. We talked about the character portrayal and looked at how the descriptions are constructed.

We faced our first sporting challenge in the Year 3 v. Year 5/6 cricket match on Wednesday, and, despite considerable trepidation, put up a great fight. We managed one wicket and a decent number of runs against fierce bowling and excellent fielding – not bad at all for a first attempt. The team was organised and determined and we had good support from the crowd, so the next match should be even better!



We will all be visiting the library on Monday morning as part of our French lessons. We should be in for a treat with some really interesting French picture books, which are quite different from the English-language ones.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had a very short week indeed and worked in our exercises books to finish our food topic.

Our talk topic is: How can we encourage wildlife in the city and in our school environment?

Have a lovely weekend – and please, if you have time, do go out and practise throwing and catching!

Jane Still 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,

It was a short but significant week as we revisited multiplication of 3-digit numbers (HTUxU) once more, learnt about life in ancient Greek homes and carried out a very practical friction experiment. We also wrote about our favourite moments of Rippledawn; only, powerful verbs had to be used. It was all key stuff.

(The children asked for this clock-setting website which we warmed up to Numeracy class with but I include 2 more equally good ones:

<http://www.scootle.edu.au/ec/viewing/L9646/index.html#>

[http://coolsciencelab.com/sum\\_sense\\_multiplication.html](http://coolsciencelab.com/sum_sense_multiplication.html)

[http://coolsciencelab.com/math\\_magic.html](http://coolsciencelab.com/math_magic.html))

In Science, the class had to investigate how surface affects how easy or difficult it is to move an object. Pulling and pushing stuff around the classroom with forcemeters ensued and there was some terrific group and team work, measuring and recording,

<http://www.bisb.org/project/y4-science-surface-friction-experiment/>

Elsewhere, we played volleyball in lovely sunshine and learnt how to set, return and serve.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had a very short week but still managed to cram a lot of work into the lessons: we corrected some exercises on passé composé, we listened to a song along the same grammatical subject and we revised the rules of the passé composé used with “avoir”. We also started using irregular verbs in the passé composé.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, We learned additional regular and irregular verbs (such as ‘s’amuser, brosser, laver, prendre, apprendre, faire, aller...’ in order to describe and talk about “Ma vie quotidienne” our daily activities.

And that was our week.

On Tuesday, we are set to return to the forest. The children will have a choice of 3 destinations and will take turns in pairs to lead the group without help for half an

hour. Maps will have to be read, routes will have to be followed but each pairing's plans can (and will) be overturned. It's brilliant to watch, fascinating when things go wrong but ultimately hugely satisfying when they make it 'out of there'. It will be hot but the forest is the finest place to be when the weather gets that warm. However, do please send the lightest coats the children have.

At last Friday's Orienteering, some of the children were wearing winter coats and had sweated through their vests, t-shirts AND their school jumpers.

<http://www.bisb.org/project/tir-aux-pigeons-orienteeing-the-big-one/>

Whatever happens, it will be another wonderful experience for your courageous adventurers.

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,

Continuing with our project 'The Explorer', the plane-crash survivors are now desperately searching for food. Therefore, we decided to investigate the digestive system to discover what 'fuel' our bodies need to function. Our victims can survive about two weeks without food, but only a few days without water. Having studied the organs and processes involved with digestion, it was time for a practical demonstration...

Armed with a selection of kitchen equipment, including: a hose, funnel, bucket and potato masher, we entered the Year 6 lab. We began by cutting-up a plate of baked beans on toast, then putting the result into a bowl (mouth). With our teeth (the potato masher), we reduced the mixture to a pulp, by adding some 'saliva'. This concoction was then fed into a funnel and down a tube (oesophagus) to the stomach (another bowl) where various enzymes



were added. For the final part of this digestive journey, the mixture was forced down one leg of a pair of tights (intestines) and then, when the 'big toe' was cut off, our perfectly formed product emerged - to the delight of all. This was an experiment we shall never forget! I shall be uploading the pictures over the next few days.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we had a very short week but still managed to cram a lot of work into the lessons : we corrected some exercises on passé composé, we listened to a song along the same grammatical subject and we revised the rules of the passé composé used with "avoir". We also started using irregular verbs in the passé composé.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, We learned additional regular and irregular verbs (such as ‘s’amuser, brosser,laver, prendre, apprendre, faire, aller...’ in order to describe and talk about “ Ma vie quotidienne” our daily activities.

We also need to be able to find our bearings, so in maths this week, we learnt how to measure these – this skill will be useful as we try to find our way to Manaus.

Our characters spend quite a lot of time arguing, so this gave us an opportunity to revise how to set out dialogue in writing, which many students still find confusing.

A very busy and enjoyable three days!

Enjoy your weekend.

Best wishes,

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,

This short week, in the Reception EAL group, we spent some time talking about our families, as well as revising the days of the week. I am pleased to see the children becoming increasingly confident in using longer sentences to express themselves. We also worked on the grapheme igh, and continued to practise blending letter sounds together to begin to read words.

In the Year One and Two EAL group, we looked at the graphemes or, aw and au , noticing that they are three different ways to write the same sound. We read a short non-fiction text about dinosaurs, in connection with Year Two’s topic.

The Junior EAL group this week continued reading a non-fiction book to learn some more about Ancient Greece, noting the new vocabulary. We also reviewed prefixes and suffixes, especially as in the words unforgettable, inedible, painter, inventor, pianist.



I am looking forward to meeting many parents in the coming weeks. If you would like to meet with me, please let me know via the email address below.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

All the best,

Kate Read

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