

Home School Books – 25 January 2019.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents

Yes, we finally got the snow we have been wishing for! The children were so excited to see the beautiful white snowflakes fall from the sky we looked out of the window to see how much had gathered in the playground, as everyone was desperate to go outside and build a snowman!



Unfortunately not much fell the first day and after several failed attempts and lots of wet gloves in trying to scrape enough snow together to build a snowman, we gave up! However Mrs Davies brought the snow inside and we played with it on the table until it melted into puddles on the floor, look out for photographs on the school website soon!

We have still had a number of the children away with one virus or another this week and we are hoping everyone is fit and well and back soon. In the meantime we have continued with our 'Space' theme and have made some flying saucers this week and amazingly enough they do actually fly! We also looked out our space word mats and did some out of this world writing practice! If you look opposite you can see your little one's efforts, please look at the pictures with them and see if they can describe what it is and remember the special word underneath. This is a fabulous and fun way to extend vocabulary and discuss the topic. Thank you for helping your child do their wonderful space rocket drawings from last week, they were super!

Mrs van Wassenhove put together all of our inflatable planets to hang up in nursery, so the children can start to get some idea of what the solar system looks like. Next week we will concentrate on making some planets of our own and remembering their names. To help with this take a look at and listen to this great song about the planets, by following the link below; https://youtu.be/BZ-qLUJj_A0

Our talk topic is ' Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system but which planet is the smallest?' Please discuss this over the weekend with your child, either in English or your mother tongue.

Until next week, wrap up warm and go out and find the snow!

Thank you

Alison Davies and Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

Now that winter has properly arrived it is important to remember to send the children to school with warm winter jackets, warm and sensible shoes, as well as with hats, scarfs and mittens! And please remember to label all of their belongings!

Also, the length of time some children are taking to eat their snack or lunch is far too long. This could be for a number of reasons. If they are not feeding themselves independently at home it can be hard for them to have to eat on their own at school. We are happy for you to encourage your child to eat but please do not feed your child. The other possible reason is that they do not like the food they have but they become anxious that they will be in trouble at home if they do not eat all of their food. Whatever the reasons, we cannot continue to let children sit for such a long period to finish food. Snack time will from now on be limited to 20 minutes and 30 minutes for lunch. This rally is plenty of time and after that time their boxes will be packed away and leftover food brought back home. If too much food is coming home, check and re-adjust portion sizes. Thank you for your understanding.

This week the Reception children continued to work on their class topic: Fairy Tales and we read Jack and the Beanstalk. The children listened to many different versions of the story and we discussed the differences between the stories and we discussed who was doing something wrong and who was doing something good in the different versions of the story. The children also did a lifecycle of a bean worksheet and they planted some beans and we are going to see if the beanstalks will grow and reach the castle in the clouds that they made!



In phonics this week we learned the new digraphs oo, as in boot, food and spoon and we practised blending and writing some consonant – vowel – consonant (cvc) words, e.g. can, pan, fun, pin.

In maths this week we started to learn about odd and even numbers, learning that even numbers are numbers that can be paired in two's, and odd numbers are the ones who cannot be paired into two's and still have as many objects in both groups. The children also continued to develop their numeracy skills, reciting the numbers up to twenty and practising writing the numbers in the right order.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have obviously talked about the weather because of the snow but we also went on with our very exciting new topic : animals. We sang a song about butterflies (papillons) and we drew beautiful pictures of them of all sizes and we also looked at other animals.

The talk topic this week is: Why did Jack take from the giant? Was it ok to take things from the giant? Why / why not?

Finally, the stars of the week go to Saksham, for excellent work in phonics this week and for practising his colouring and cutting skills. And to Myrah for being really good at practicing her writing and her letter sounds! Well done to Saksham and Myrah!

Have a lovely weekend

Elín Hafstein and Ivana Julaton
receptionteacher@telenet.be
Please click [here](#) for our Reception webpage

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

The undoubted highlight of the week was our trip to the Museum of Natural Sciences on Wednesday, which went without a hitch, despite the weather and road conditions. The children enjoyed a full day - the very informative bear exhibition in the morning, and the dinosaur collection in the afternoon. We also managed to fit in a visit to the top floor, to see a wide variety of other creatures on display, including some giant butterflies and enormous beetles!

In Literacy this week, we continued with our Phase 4 sounds, learning about ‘triple blends’ - groups of 3 consonants which occur at the beginning and end of words. Examples are /scr/, /spl/, /spr/ and /str/ as in ‘screen’, ‘splash’, ‘spring’ and ‘strong’, and /nch/ and /tch/, as in ‘pinch’ and ‘fetch’. In our work on 'The Three Little Pigs', we took a ‘non-violent’ version, where the wolf escapes, and discussed how we might catch him. The children then designed a ‘wanted’ poster, complete with description, crime, reward and picture. There were some great descriptions and pictures, but some of the rewards proposed were a little low, and unlikely to tempt me to tackle such a notorious villain! In Grammar, we continued our work on nouns, and practised dividing a group of nouns in to three different categories: people, animals and buildings.



Our Maths focus this week has been on addition: adding 1-digit numbers to 2-digit numbers. Starting gently with sums such as $15+4=19$, and using a variety of strategies and tools to help (fingers, number lines, bead strings and 100-squares), we ended the week confidently taking on sums such as $6+85=91$. Through their knowledge of number bonds to 10 ($2+8$, $8+2$ etc.), the children already know that addition sums can be switched around, so they have been taught that when confronted by a ‘scary-looking’ sum such as $6+85$, they should do two things: first, begin with the biggest number (85), and second, put that number ‘in their head’, and count on 6. We finished the week by looking at addition patterns, such as $3+2=5$, $13+2=15$, $23+2=25$ and so on.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still learning the vocabulary related to the human body with the help of songs, games, stories all of them pertaining to the human body. We also wrote down the poem we learnt and drew our body and wrote all the parts we already know.

Winnie the Pooh's broken umbrella was the subject of our Science investigation: which material would we need to fix the hole in it? We did an interactive materials testing activity, learned about the concepts of waterproof and bendy (flexible), and

factored weight into our discussion of suitable materials. We then conducted a practical experiment, which involved subjecting a series of potential repair materials to some very heavy 'rain' - you can see the results of our investigation in this week's Home School , and some action photos at <http://www.bisb.org/project/year-1-january-2019/> .

Talk Topic for next week will be "use different animals to make your own version of the Three Little Pigs story". Maths homework will be 'Reel It In 1.14' - all about 3-D shapes.

Enjoy the weekend.

Patrick Tranter and Smita Bandaru

Year1teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

It's difficult to decide which caused the most excitement this week – our visit to the Science Museum, or the arrival of the snow. There's no doubt that both were a great success!

We had a great day out and enjoyed having the museum almost to ourselves. This gave us plenty of opportunities to look closely at the exhibits and to try out all the interactive screens and games. As we have been talking about mining and materials in our new

Science topic, we headed straight for the underground exhibits where you can see, and walk over, the giant iguanodon skeletons laid out exactly as they were found in a Belgian mine at the end of the 19th century.

(<https://www.naturalsciences.be/en/museum/exhibitions-view/239/394/390>) We tried to imagine what the miners must have felt when they discovered them, and what they might have thought they had found. We then explored the Mosasaur specimens, which were also discovered in Belgium and date back as far as 70 million years.

(www.naturalsciences.be/en/museum/exhibitions-view/256/468/394). We were fascinated to see how they compared to the whales and sharks that we learnt about last term. The huge dinosaur hall was empty, and we were able to study not only the enormous exhibits, but also the building itself, which is stunning. We identified lots of the materials that we are looking at in Science. The Bear exhibition was fun, with lots of buttons to push and models to look at – we divided into quiz teams and rushed around trying to solve as many bear clues as possible. Then it was time for lunch and the ride home. I'm not quite sure where the time went, but we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and the children were a real credit to us all. It was a pleasure to spend the day out with them. Mrs Tollentino has put some great photos on the website, so do take a look! <http://www.bisb.org/project/museum-trip/>

In literacy we are writing a report on the visit. This gives us practice in using the past tense and involves working out a time frame and deciding which 'time' linking words



we can use. We also have to choose interesting vocabulary to describe what we saw and explain how we felt. We practised using time words as a class earlier in the week by retelling a story in basic sentences and choosing the best linking words to make the story more exciting.

In maths we did more work on multiples and practised using frog to reach the next multiple of 10. We also looked at the difference between numbers, using the concepts of more than, less than. We played games identifying numbers according to different criteria and did some practical work on division by sharing objects out between different numbers of people. Division is by no means an easy concept to understand so, if you get the chance to share things out at home, make the most of the opportunity to practise a bit more!

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we continued learning more words about 'le corps humain', we reviewed 'Avoir' (to have), and we saw how it was used in a song about "mon corps". Also, we played the game 'Jacques a dit', similar to 'Simon says' where they had to use the words related to 'le corps humain'.

We tried out a new 'Workshop Challenge' system on Monday morning to encourage the children to work independently in concentrated bursts. Challenges this week included spelling, language, phonics and number tasks based on work covered in previous weeks. Everyone should be able to settle straight into each task and complete it in a given time, at their own level. This gives the children specific practice at decoding questions and working out strategies for answering them, without being overwhelmed by lots of questions on one page.

Our talk topic is "What did I most enjoy about the Museum, and what else would I like to find out about?"

Wrap up warm and have a lovely weekend,

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino

year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

This week we have continued our learning about World War Two by finding out about how the war experience was for children. We discussed evacuation and found out how children were transported from cities to the countryside in order to remain safe from bombing. We discussed what evacuees would take in their suitcases and drew items a typical evacuee's suitcase might contain from doing some research. In art we discussed remembrance and how the symbol of the poppy has continued to be used to remember victims from the war from the



first and second world wars to victims of much more recent wars. We made mixed media collages of poppies to display in our class to remember the people who died as a result of war.

This week in literacy we continued to read our class book 'Bon Appetit, the delicious life of Julia Child.' We found out about Julia's job during World War Two. She was a spy in Sri Lanka and was tasked with making shark repellent to keep sharks away from explosives designed to blow up enemy ships. We wrote a diary entry for Julia, describing what she did in a typical day with her interesting but 'Oh So Secret' job. Also in literacy we learned how to use speech marks correctly in our grammar lesson and practised putting them in sentences in the correct places.

In maths we did lots of work on fractions this week. We ordered fractions with the same denominator and then with different denominators. We ordered fractions along a line from 0 to 1 and talked about bigger and smaller fractions. We discussed equivalent fractions and wrote some examples looking at visual representations to help.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we worked on verbs ending in -ER like "jouer, danser, sauter" and we also focused on "être" (to be) and "avoir" (to have) in the present tense. Two basic but difficult verbs and again the children did very well.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to describe different people and events taking place in a fun and active drawing, using "Il y a" (there is/ there are), many action verbs and a wide range of vocabulary.

Our Talk Topic for this week is "What makes a good poster? Keep a look out for advertising posters on your way to school or home."

Next week on Friday we will be going to the Theatre Montagne Magique so please return the permission slip and 7 euro as soon as possible. We have been enjoying playing in this snowy weather so please ensure that your child has a hat and gloves for going outside.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Fiona King

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

Year 4 HOME SCHOOL LETTER

This week's newsletter is co-written with Hana.

This week, we did some maths, literacy, sports and a little bit of dancing related to our topic. And at times, it got quite technical.

This Monday, we went about the school spotting materials to see which was most prevalent and then learned about the advantages and disadvantages of those materials.

After a bit of science, we made a magazine article trying to persuade people about not cutting trees. This had to include all manner of features that such publications exhibit: quotes, statistics, subheadings, captioned photos, paragraphs and closing summaries.

On Tuesday, we learned about superheroes and their gadgets and more specifically villains' weapons.



Which reminds me that we also spent a lesson mastering the possessive apostrophe and the apostrophe in contractions, e.g. Dr Doom's Doombots; the villains' hideouts; Dr Doom'll try to defeat Spiderman; Spiderman's sworn to defend the city's citizens.

The beginning of the week was further marked by 'ladder method' multiplication: $HTU \times U$ The class both very much enjoyed and coped well with this even when we entered the realm of times-ing money amounts!

Elsewhere in Numeracy, we learnt mental tricks to tackle challenging multiplications. For example, to complete 231×20 , 231×2 then $\times 10$; to calculate 444×50 , $444 \div 2$ then $\times 100$, to polish off 462×4 , double 462 then double again!! This is to name but a few – great fun!?!

This lesson set off with a mental starter based on this webpage manipulated to make the children think hard and laterally about a solution, e.g. $? \times 4 = 7 + ?$

Scroll to the 7th game down on <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy-calculation.html> and set it up for the children using mixtures of \times , $+$, $-$ and \div (but also negative numbers if you like :-)

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we worked on verbs ending in -ER like “jouer, danser, sauter” and we also focused on “être” (to be) and “avoir” (to have) in the present tense. Two basic but difficult verbs and again the children did very well.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to describe different people and events taking place in a fun and active drawing, using “Il y a” (there is/ there are), many action verbs and a wide range of vocabulary.

The children loved dancing to Superhero scores so much that this week's Golden Time winner chose to do it during the class's reward time too. And the others lapped it up. We tried floor pikes, tucks, balances and cat leaps while not forgetting to do Spider-, Bat- and Superman's trademark movements: a very popular activity!!!

Our Talk Topic for this week is: If you could have any super powers, what would they be? Explain why?

Best wishes

Tim Stedman and Fiona King

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 5

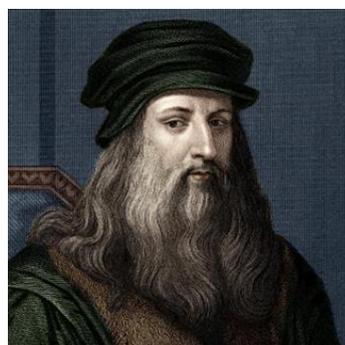
Dear Parents,

Well, the snow finally made an appearance and has thrilled us all. We have really enjoyed playing in it and with it.

In Literacy we finished reading Harry Miller's run and were sad to read that Harry died that day. We agreed that Liam made his last afternoon a really happy one. We are going to start the Wind in the Willows next week. We did a very interesting comprehension on an excerpt from the pied piper of Hamelin called rats. This was written in rhyme and had really interesting and adventurous words, such as ditty and vermin. Add this to our customary daily words and our vocabulary is really being stretched. Our daily words included words such as octogenarian and optimistic. In our grammar books we did a writing exercise. This was a short story and we have tried to add elements such as adventurous punctuation and expanded noun phrases.

In Numeracy we looked at prime numbers and factors. We learnt how to identify these and how to find the common multiple of a group of 5 numbers. We then moved on to square roots and squares of numbers. We spoke briefly about how to calculate the area of shapes. We then moved on to mental multiplication and division strategies. It is really good to see how the children use different strategies and how they are able to explain their methods.

In topic we had fun reading and finding out about Leonardo Da Vinci who really was ahead of his time. We spoke about his works and then did some investigations on his theories about the human body. We looked at what he said, then measured and proved and disproved his theories. We then decided that all people are different, one model not fitting all, and that his theories are approximate ones. What an interesting man he was.



Having done work on David Attenborough, we listened with interest to his recent interview with Prince William. Next week we are going to find out who Eva Crane was.

On Tuesday we went out to a show at the Magique Montagne theatre. It was very interesting and our students were well behaved and polite. Thank you to Mrs Tranter and Madame Scharf for organising this for us.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we talked about the 'Futur Proche' (the near future) and we learned how to use it with verb 'aller' (to go) combined with other verbs. We learned how to formulate questions and answers around this tense and to plan a chain of events using 'Le futur proche'.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we still worked on possessives and did a fiche de lecture on a French history subject which gave the children the opportunity to read aloud. We also started a new vocabulary topic: health.

In Science we spoke about plants and leaves. We discovered that roots spread to anchor the plant in the soil and also collect nutrients and water. We also found out that leaves turn autumn colours when the leaves cease to produce chlorophyll. It is good to get back to regular music lessons and I would remind you that the class need their recorders on Wednesdays now.

The talk topic is : David Attenborough said, “We are one world” What did he mean by that? Discuss this.

Best regards,

Valeria Vetter and Ena Tolentino

year6teacher@telenet.be

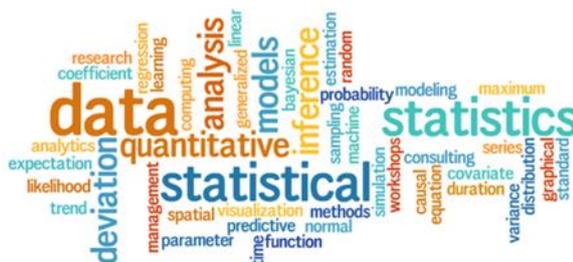
Please click [here](#) for our Year 5 webpage

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

Great to see all the students (fit and well) back at school. Another busy week in Year 6 with the added excitement of snow! Our trip to La Montagne Magique was thrilling in many ways...walking in the snow (and trying not to be seen collecting snow and making snowballs) was a magical treat for the children. The production Nipt did not ‘break the internet’ but as one Year 6 student remarked ‘it broke Mrs Tranter’s ‘steamymeter’ (ask your child what this is...)! Year 6 pupils are, without a doubt, making their way along the ‘tunnel of adolescence’. As a result, their radar antennae are finely tuned to any hint of ‘the topic’. Whilst the other children watched in blissful ignorance, the Year 6 pupils watched in blissful awareness! The post-performance discussion was highly entertaining.

On planet reality, it was back to the Year 6 bootcamp. We began our module on statistics on Monday with reading, interpreting, drawing, reasoning and problem-solving of line graphs. By the end of the week, we had progressed to circles and pie-charts. We also looked at other types of graphs, which we shall be studying during the next few weeks.



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we talked about the ‘Futur Proche’ (the near future) and we learned how to use it with verb ‘aller’ (to go) combined with other verbs. We

learned how to formulate questions and answers around this tense and to plan a chain of events using 'Le futur proche'.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we still worked on possessives and did a fiche de lecture on a French history subject which gave the children the opportunity to read aloud. We also started a new vocabulary topic : health.

Our display about the 'view from Bruno's window is powerfully poignant - as are the compositions from the students. They wrote their work on tiny pieces of paper, as did the children in 'Out-With'. Paper was precious and they also had to be able to hide it from the guards. We continued the reading of The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas.

In grammar, we attacked verb tenses, modals and the passive and active voice. We studied: the simple present, simple past, present perfect, present progressive and past progressive. We revised the use (and verb phrases) of modals and finally practised changing sentences from the active to passive form.

In computing, students are working at their own pace through a range of modules on Code HS; please ask them to show you how they are progressing.

Our Talk Topic this week is: What do you know about the work of a lawyer?

Enjoy your weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

English as an Additional Language

Dear Parents,

In the Reception EAL group this week, we enjoyed talking about the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. In the small group setting, each child had a chance to retell part of the story in their own words, using props, and improvising the speech of the characters. We put pictures from the story into the right order, to make a mini book, and repeated the story retelling activity. I am pleased to hear all the children trying hard to put their ideas into phrases and sentences, and making use of the new vocabulary.



In the Year One and Two EAL group, some very interesting discussions this week gave the children excellent practice in using English. A main focus was on Wednesday's trip to the museum. We practised the future tense (Tomorrow, we will go...) and then the past simple tense (On Wednesday, we went...), we discussed how the animals that we saw had been preserved and how the dinosaurs died out. In connection with Year 1 and Year 2's study of materials, and Year 1's work on The Three Little Pigs, we role-played the characters, and interviewed each other, discussing, for example, whether it is possible to find good

sticks or logs for building in Europe, or whether these are only available in Hyderabad.

The Junior Department EAL group this week learned about accenting/emphasising one word in a sentence, to indicate that it is the most important word. The aim was to develop the children's listening and reading skills: picking out the most important word helps us to understand the essential idea in a spoken or written sentence. This is also an important skill in speaking: if we consciously emphasise the most important words, we can convey our message more clearly.

I wish you all a very happy weekend, and I look forward to seeing all the children next week.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read
ealteacher@telenet.be