

Home School Books – 15 February 2019.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

This week has been all about friendships and what we think of as a good friend and not a good friend. This is part of our P.S.E.D (personal, social and emotional development) which is one of the three priority areas in the E.Y.F.S (early years foundation stage) in nursery.



If you look opposite, you will see the activity your child discussed with the teacher on a one to one basis. We also looked in detail at the facial expressions and actions of the children in each picture before making the decision as to whether it represented a good friend or not.

The aim of the activity, was to get children to understand how they would feel, if who they thought of as their friend suddenly started hitting or pushing them around. This then led onto which behaviour was acceptable or not acceptable and what the consequence of hurting our friends or being unkind to them would be. Ask your little one to discuss this with you again and keep reinforcing the importance of respecting each other's feelings and that it is not acceptable, although fairly normal at this age, to give a physical response, rather than use words to resolve a dispute.

We hope you liked the 'I love you this much' hands your child gave you for Valentine's Day. These are the little things to treasure and add to their art box, so when they are teenagers you can remind them of how adorable they were when they were 3 or 4!

Spring is definitely in the air and there was actually some sunshine this week, so let us hope it lasts, then we can get out and explore the outside areas for longer.

For our talk topic this weekend, take a little walk and have a look around and then discuss 'What happens to the trees and plants, when the sun shines on them?'

Have a great weekend

Thank you

Alison Davies and Inés van Wassenhove

nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

This week we have been reading the story about the Emperor's New Clothes. The story is quite complicated but after reading it a number of times the children started to understand the story and eventually found it quite funny that the emperor had paraded down the street in nothing but his underwear! We discussed the moral of the story and the children thought that maybe it wasn't good to be as vain as the emperor and also, that it was probably better to tell the truth!



In phonics this week we learned two new triagraphs. /ear/ as in spear, fear and ear. And /air/ as in hair, fair, chair and air. The children also practised writing letters and writing short words, and we also practised a lot of reading this week!

In maths this week we revised what we already learned about 2D shapes, the flat shapes. We discussed what names the flat shapes have and we practised using them in our drawing. For example, a head is a circle, eyes are ovals, noses can be shaped like triangles and mouths can be shaped like rectangles!

The children have been great at remembering the names for both the 3D shapes and the names for the 2D shapes. Well done Reception class! 😊

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been singing and playing on our very exciting topic : animals. The new song : “Une souris verte” is a great hit and the children learnt it really fast !

The talk topic this week is: Why did the emperor go to the parade without any robes on? Why did the tailors lie to the emperor? And why did the emperor believe them?

Finally, the stars of the week go to Saimaathmika for being really good at practicing writing in lower keys letters and for always trying her best! And to Reyansh for being really good at practicing his reading and his writing! Well done Saimaathmika and Reyansh!

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,

First of all a big ‘thank you’ to those who defied the general strike on Wednesday - it is always a pleasure to see the children so keen to come to school! We had a nearly full class, so, thanks to your efforts, we were able to continue with our normal routine.

In Literacy, we continued with our work on Mr Gumpy: we spent some time going over the different questions asked by the animals, and realised that there are about 9 different constructions used in the story, all to ask the same thing - no need to repeat the same words over and over again! We then listened to an alternative version by the children's narrator Pie Corbett, to show how a story can be adapted by changing the setting and a few characters. Finally we worked in pairs to invent our own alternative characters, and presented some of them in front of the class. In Phonics, we learnt a further three 'long e' sounds, namely /ea/ as in 'beach', /ey/ as in 'key' and /e-e/ as in 'these' - together with the /ee/ sound from Phase 3, that makes 4 different spellings of the same sound that the children can now recognise. When practising our new sounds, we are beginning to move away from dictation-based work now, and the children will in future be expected to create more of their own sentences using the new sounds.

We had a thorough Maths revision session on Monday, looking back at all the different things we had done during the previous five weeks. The children then did their usual five-weekly progress check. We also spent some time playing simple maths-based games, which help with both basic numeracy skills and social skills such as taking turns and following rules. Finally, we looked at money problems again, practising how to buy two differently priced items for exactly 10c, and working out how much it would cost to buy two of the same item.

Our Science investigation this week was about magnets: the children learnt about the concepts of magnets having two poles, and that opposite poles attract and like poles repel. We tested a number of items to see whether they were magnetic or non-magnetic, and went on a 'magnetic' search around school, to find different objects to which our magnets would stick. This work is in your child's Home School Book this week. We finished off by working out that just because something is made of metal does not mean it is magnetic.



In our Topic work on toys, we looked at a range of (real) old toys in the classroom, and compared them to the toys of today. The children then drew side-by-side pictures of one old and one modern toy, and wrote some descriptive words to accompany them. We then each made our own modern 'take' on the old 'cup and ball' toy - thanks to the invention of elastic, our version is slightly more dynamic than the original - we hope you enjoyed it!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have resumed listening to our story "Une maison de musiciens" and will now follow the piano around the house and learn all the vocabulary pertaining to that topic.

Talk Topic for next week will be "Last week you created your characters for a 'Mr Gumpy' story. This week create your story ending - what happens to the vehicle and its passengers?"

Maths homework is back to normal - Bingo! 1.16 (fractions). Please remember that group B start swimming this Tuesday - we still need one or two parent volunteers, please.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Patrick Tranter and Smita Bandaru

Year1teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

This has been a week of clocks, quarters and halves as we set ourselves the challenge of finally cracking quarter past, half past and quarter to, along with estimating minutes and comparing digital and analogue times. It may sound easy, but it has proved to be very tricky, so we got out the coloured paper, scissors and glue and went back to hands on practice. If you take a look at the photo gallery <http://www.bisb.org/project/dividing-a-clock-face/> you can see everyone in action, creating and labelling their own clock face with all the essential facts. We also worked on halving and doubling numbers and giving change from £10 and £20. This too involved practical work with our own class bank (and banker), shop (and shopkeeper) and accountant to keep track of the spending. If there is any opportunity for the children to use real money to buy bread or fruit, for example, at a local shop this weekend, it would be a good way of reinforcing their understanding of giving money and receiving change.

Having finished our fantastic dragon descriptions, we started looking at how to create a whole story in which our dragons can be the main character. We began reading our first chapter book, discussing how each chapter introduces something new, such as a character, a place, or an important event that will determine what happens next. We discovered the idea of a ‘cliff hanger’ chapter ending that makes us want to continue reading all day and talked about how the author describes places and characters. It is fun to read a longer book and to have to wait for the next installment to find out what is going to happen. We then took the traditional fairy story of The Princess and the Pea and read a very basic picture book version. This had short sentences and basic vocabulary.



We worked out the plot and then read a slightly longer version with added interest given by lift-up flaps and cartoon style illustrations. We listed the extra plot details and then read the original, Hans Christian Andersen version, which has beautiful language, stunning illustrations and a lot more detail in the story. Finally, we read a modern retelling, which had funny jokes and extra characters. We now understand how one story can be told in lots of different ways and yet remain true to a basic plot line. We then worked in groups, putting a set of events cards into order to retell the story, before choosing one particular event to describe in detail. In this way we were able to create our own class version of the story, which included each special event being described by a group.

It is great to see the enthusiasm being shown for reading and sharing stories recently. Lots of children are bringing books in to show the class, and the general levels of reading are improving significantly. We are using books of all kinds in the classroom as well as reading ebooks on the whiteboard, which gives everyone the chance to read aloud to everyone else. Initially, this was a challenge for the less confident, but it is great to see everyone now volunteering to participate, and everyone being tolerant and patient of different reading speeds and comprehension levels.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned more about 'la nourriture' (food), We played a memory game using all sorts of fruits, vegetables and other food items (ex: la confiture, le miel, les crêpes..) with verbs- manger and boire (to eat and to drink) in affirmative and negative sentences.

In PE we had another go at skipping, which was much more successful than last time, and enjoyed playing ball games with the lovely new footballs. Our throwing and catching skills are definitely improving and it was a real treat to be outside in the sunshine without hats, scarves and gloves (it is also far easier to catch a ball!).

Our talk topic is "How does it make you feel now that the days are lighter, and the flowers are beginning to come out?"

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 learned all about the different types of planes used in World War Two, for example Hawker Hurricanes, Spitfires and the Messerschmitt BF109. We researched what they look like and other facts about them and we did a 'build a plane' teamwork exercise. In science we discussed which muscles we used to complete different activities such as reading and running. We made predictions about which muscles we used and then recorded our actual findings.



This week in literacy we read further on with our class book 'Bon Appetit: the delicious life of Julia Child' to the part where Julia was writing her cookbook. We discussed questions we would like to ask Julia about her life and her work and the children wrote a short interview script and answered the questions from Julia's perspective using their knowledge of her life and interests. In our grammar lesson we explored how suffixes such as 'er' can be used to change a verb into a noun e.g. play turns into player. In our spelling we did the last of the spring term 1 words. We will

be moving straight onto week 1 of the spring term 2 words next week as there are only 4 weeks of school after the half term break.

In maths we revised angles. We identified acute, obtuse and right angles and practised measuring them. We learned how to use the expanded column method of adding two three digit numbers and practised it with several examples. We also worked on our knowledge of place value and did a short investigation to find the number of 3 digit numbers that have 3 tens.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we watched another chapter of “Ernest et Célestine”. We also worked on the names of all the subjects we study at school and worked in our exercises books.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we used an interactive and colourful picture to describe and review the use of c’est (this is) and ‘il y a’ (there is and there are), and we finished writing, drawing and coloring our story ‘le monde de Sophie’. Then, we started acting it and presenting it to the entire class.

Our Talk Topic for next week is “Do you think it is easy to present a cookery show on TV? Why? Why not?”

The group B children had a very successful first session at the pool and the group A children did well in gymnastics in the studio. Next Friday we will be going on an adventure assembly to parc Josephat. We need some parent helpers to come with us if at all possible. We will be leaving around 11am and returning in time for the end of the school day. If you think you can help us please let us know.

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,

Spring seemed to knock on the door this week after what’s seemed like an arctic half-term.

We started with yet another cracker of an experiment – the tights stretchiness test. The added bonus to this investigation was not just dangling heavy weights in children’s stockings but that we had to produce spreadsheet graphs of the results on the iPads. Apart from the great learning, it was a final opportunity to enjoy Mrs King’s company and help as she leaves us at BISB today. Mrs King has helped in the classroom daily since September and she’s helped every single one of us at some point. We will really miss her. We wish her luck in her new position but we know she won’t need it.

Numeracy this week has visited symmetry and revisited division by chunking which foxed so many of the class last term. This week, we got a much better grasp even when faced with remainders.

Topic, meanwhile, was all about research as the children had to choose from one of five environmental protection measures to present. Wind turbines were popular as were solar panels and oil slick containment booms. The class loved drawing the labelled diagrams and explaining how each works.

Using interactive then and now photos of hurricane or forest fire disasters, Literacy Wednesday was taken over by describing the scenes using the most descriptive of language. Could the children create the same kind of imagery with a pencil that the photos did? Using adjectives, frontal adverbials and similes and suddenly throwing in some very short sentences for impact, they did.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we watched another chapter of “Ernest et Célestine”. We also worked on the names of all the subjects we study at school and worked in our exercises books.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we used an interactive and colourful picture to describe and review the use of c’est (this is) and ‘il y a’ (there is and there are), and we finished writing, drawing and coloring our story ‘le monde de Sophie’. Then, we started acting it and presenting it to the entire class.

The week ended with making a text-supported collage of a view on Gotham City using all these creative skills practised. It was great! The children also created characters for their own comic strips which will take shape over the rest of the term

Also great was PE as we honed our close-ball control skills and then played a match in football. It was great to have the sun on our backs but also great to see so many of the class getting so into team sports. Last year, the class liked sports but would never opt for ball games at playtimes. All change now as about a third of the class, maybe more, have really caught the bug.

Our Talk Topic for this week is: Why is the ocean important and what can we do to conserve it?

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,

The weather began rather badly but seems to have become positively spring-like now. In Literacy we watched the first part of the *Wind in the Willows* film consolidating the 2 chapters we had already read. We spoke of how the book has much more detail than the film and in some cases digresses from the original script. Whilst watching this film we took notes and drew a map of the river. We then broke into pairs and retold the story to our partners. After that we read and discussed chapter 3. On Wednesday, being slightly down on numbers because of the strike, we played Pictionary and charades during literacy. This proved to be a lot of fun and elicited a lot of conversation as well as testing drawing and acting skills.



In Numeracy we began the week by doing our half termly tests. I am most happy with the results. We then began multiplying using the grid method. This is essentially breaking the numbers into tens and units and then multiplying. We are going to move on swiftly to division next week.

Having finished our topic for the half term we turned to computing. We read about the history of computing, Ada Lovelace for example, and the role of coding during World War 2. We also read about a you tube blogger called Dan TDM who posts videos of himself playing games. We watched one and were laughing at the antics he got up to as he tried to cook us dinner. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MADD_fpN0k to finish this off, we did some coding exercises on Tynker and code.org.

In PE we took advantage of the sun to play some football and handball outside as well as a quick game of circular rock, paper, scissors. Thursday saw us begin our swimming rotation. The class took to this like ducks to water and worked very hard indeed. Please note all children need a swimming cap or they will not be allowed to swim.

In Science we looked at metamorphosis particularly in amphibians and insects. We enjoyed learning that newt tadpoles can sometimes wait 4 years before turning into an adult. We noted that the life cycle began with eggs and then ended with an adult laying eggs. The circle of life!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished watching “Ernest and Célestine”. We also carried on with our health topic, we quickly revised être and avoir and played a few games.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we got to finish watching Ernest et Célestine, a beautiful animated film about a friendship between a bear (Ernest) and a child mouse (Célestine).

We introduced two important verbs Vouloir (to want) and Pouvoir (can), and we learned how to use them in interrogative, affirmative and negative phrases, followed by infinitive verbs. Then, we got to role-play a fun play- “est-ce que tu veux venir à la foire”? using these verbs.

In Art we painted Ratty and Mole in a boat on the river. We are currently putting the finishing touches to these masterpieces.

Next Friday we have an adventure assembly and we would appreciate a parent volunteer to accompany us, please.

The talk topic is: What is self-confidence? How can I build up my own self-confidence?

Have a lovely restful weekend.

Best wishes,

Valeria Vetter and Ena Tolentino

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 6

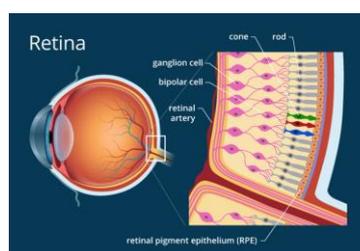
Dear Parents,

We have had another week with many children away due to illness. Let's hope that everyone is feeling better for next week, as we have the LAMDA examinations on Monday, an outing to the House of European History on Tuesday and an Adventure Assembly on Friday.

After a few more construction sessions, we are now the proud owners of an Anderson shelter display, which we have installed in the Common Room. The students have worked so hard on these shelters; no home-comfort has been overlooked!

In SPaG, we have studied consistency when using bullet points, linking paragraphs and punctuation for effect. In literacy, we are preparing for our next piece of writing – a diary entry about a night spent in an Anderson shelter. On Thursday, in complete darkness the students lay on the floor listening to the air raid warning siren, bombs dropping and then the all clear siren. Immediately after this, they had to note down all the emotions that they experienced.

We performed our first light experiment designed by Scientist AK, to prove that he can fulfil all the KS2 objectives in working scientifically; 'What happens in the retina when a bright image is seen?' The activity was well-planned and enjoyed by all. Thank you.



In maths, we are now working through the Algebra module; this week we have studied: finding the rule; using an algebraic rule; substitution; formulae, word problems and one step equations.

We finished our Chinese New Year codebreaking challenge, and following a set of instructions, the children constructed a paper pig for Chinese New Year; these are now suspended in our classroom. Following instructions is not quite as easy as it seems – I look forward to marking the children's instructions for erecting an Anderson shelter.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished watching “Ernest and Célestine”. We also carried on with our health topic, we quickly revised être and avoir and played a few games.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we got to finish watching Ernest et Célestine, a beautiful animated film about a friendship between a bear (Ernest) and a child mouse (Célestine).

We introduced two important verbs Vouloir (to want) and Pouvoir (can), and we learned how to use them in interrogative, affirmative and negative phrases, followed by infinitive verbs. Then, we got to role-play a fun play- “est-ce que tu veux venir à la foire”? using these verbs.

Our next topic for the Year 6 Debating Club is; ‘Should mobile phones be banned at school?’ The teams ‘for’ and ‘against’ the motion have been selected and the debate will take place on Thursday 28th February.

Our Talk Topic for this week is – Discuss how you felt during the air raid?

Spring is here!

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 our EAL small group sessions this week, in Reception group talked about clothes and patterns on clothes, in connection with the class story: The Emperor’s New Clothes. We dramatized the story together, with mini-figures. We also began to investigate 3d shapes, in preparation for next week’s class work. Our priorities at the moment are listening to full sentences, and then using to express ideas clearly.

In the Year One and Two EAL small group, we have been looking at questions, using the correct word order for different forms of question (e.g. Is he happy? Does she like bananas? Did you finish your homework?) We also dramatized parts of the story of Mr Gumpy’s Outing, making our own changes to the story. We are also revising all the phonics covered in Phase 3 of the phonics programme, reading them and using them to work out spellings when we are writing.

The Junior EAL Department this week, we talked about superheroes, in connection with Year 4’s topic, discussing whether superheroes are real or fictional, whether all countries have stories about superheroes, and why we like the idea of superheroes. We also looked for ambitious vocabulary (“wow words”) to describe superheroes and supervillains, and we talked about the prefix super . We revised the present perfect tense,



writing sentences such as My mum has finished cooking, and now we can eat; I have watched tv for 3 hours, and now I feel dizzy.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read
ealteacher@telenet.be