

Home School Books – 22 February 2019.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who did their activity in the home school book last week. During circle time discussion some of the children were very well versed in what they thought made a good friend and not such a good friend! This then led on to a chat about other choices we make which are good or not so good, including the food we bring for snack. Everyone definitely decided that FRUIT was a much better choice to keep us fit and healthy, than BISCUITS, which contain lots of fat, sugar and other unhealthy ingredients and although they taste good, fruit tastes just as good too!

This week, we have looked at day and night and the sort of activities we might do during the day when it is morning and what we may do at night when we go home from school. This was an interesting topic and some children insisted only certain things could happen in the morning, whilst others thought they only got done at night. Therefore we have put the entire activity together for you to do again with your little one at home, it is a great one for language development and critical thinking skills. Have a go and see what they come up with. You can use it over and over again like a lotto board.



The weather was too good to miss this week and we have taken advantage with extra outdoor games and activities. On Thursday, we split the children into smaller groups and worked on visual and audio skills, using coloured hoops to play a moving, running and jumping game. We also played the swop places with..... game, using names and directions in quick succession, we all laughed when it got faster and everyone ended up standing inside of the same coloured hoop!

Next week is our last one before the half term holiday and there will be NO school on FRIDAY 1st MARCH. So your child's last day will be THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY. If you intend to take extra time before or after the break, please let us know.

Please remember to bring your child's folder back after each weekend no later than a Tuesday. This makes it easier for the teacher to get everyone's library and home school book ready for the following weekend.

Have a lovely weekend and when you have a moment discuss **the talk topic with your little one, this week it is 'The Sun is a planet, is this true? If it isn't true, then what is the Sun?'**

See you all next week.

Thank you

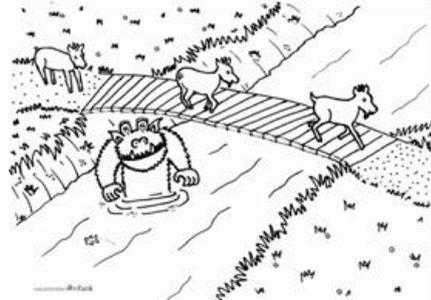
Alison Davies and Inés van Wassenhove
nurseryteacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

We are still learning all about Fairy Tales – Please see our webpage for some pictures of the great Fairy Tale Art that the children have made and is now decorating our classroom. This week we read the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. We read some different versions of the story and discussed the differences. However, they all ended in the same way, with the big billy goat gruff pushing the troll into the water, much to everyone’s delight! We did some very fun work with the story that the children brought home with them on Wednesday!



In phonics this week we learned one new triagraph (triagraph is when three letters make one sound) and one new diagraph (when two letters make one sound). The triagraph we learned this week is ure as in pure, cure and adventure. The diagraph that we learned this week is er, as in her, sister and river! We practised writing words with er and ure in them and as always, all the children practised their reading!

In maths this week we worked with 3D shapes again, the fat shapes. We made our very own 3D shapes by cutting some pieces of paper and gluing them together. This way we could make cones, cylinders, cubes, cuboids and pyramids. This was great fun and helped the children understand the difference between 2D shapes and 3D shapes and they got to practise their cutting skills some more, which is a very important skill to practise at this age so the more they cut, the better!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been learning yet a new song about children going for a walk in the forest while the wolf is not there but still question him while he gets dressed to come out and read them a story, eat them or play with them ... “Promenons-nous dans les bois” will also give us the opportunity to learn the vocabulary related to the clothes we wear.

The talk topic this week is: Why did the troll want to eat the goats? And why did each goat say that it was ok for the troll to eat the other, bigger goat?

Finally, the stars of the week go to Nishaank for being really good at practising his cutting and for doing an excellent job on his 3 Billy Goats Gruff artwork! And to Adrian for being really good at practising both his writing and his reading! Well done Nishaank and Adrian 😊

Have a lovely weekend!

Elín Hafstein and Ivana Julaton

receptionteacher@telenet.be

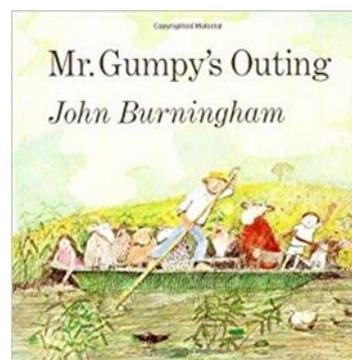
Please click [here](#) for our Reception webpage

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

It has been a challenging week - the lovely weather made it less attractive to stay indoors and work, and a succession of heavy machines working right outside our window to upgrade the pavement made it rather difficult to concentrate! However, we pressed on...

In Phonics, we learnt two new 'long i' sounds - /ie/ as in 'tie' and /i-e/ as in 'kite', making a total of three versions of that sound the children now know (having already learnt /igh/). We worked through a series of reading, writing and speaking activities, including a 'human alphablocks' game, trying to remember which words need which version of the sound. In our work on Mr Gumpy, we talked about the ending to our own stories, and revised last week's story beginning. We then took some of the children's ideas and made up a class story. Finally, the children created their own individual story map, using their own characters and setting, and noting down a few key words. We will use these next week, when we will be writing our individual stories.



We have had a very successful week in Maths; we began by learning about odd and even numbers, and how it is the last digit that determines which of these a number is. We practised odd/even counting, had a random-number-generated speed recognition game, then moved on to learning about pairs of things (shoes, socks, eyes, ears etc.), which we then counted by counting in 2s. We introduced the concept of 2 pairs of shoes being '2 lots of' shoes - the early stage of multiplication. In the second half of the week, we had our first look at fractions: the children were already familiar with the concept of half, but we saw for the first time how it is written numerically (i.e. $\frac{1}{2}$) and learnt what the numbers mean in that formula. We explored cutting, dividing and folding shapes in to halves and quarters, and practised colouring $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of different shapes.

Our Science investigation this week was about a different type of force, namely 'thrust', as produced by rockets and aeroplanes. We experimented with balloons - taped to a drinking straw on a piece of string attached between the Reception door handle and the front window - a distance of 9 metres! We found out that the long, thin balloons were more powerful and stable than the round ones, and that if we put too much air in to our balloon rocket, it will end badly!

In Art, we are currently working on a selection of collaborative projects, using large cardboard boxes: we have four teams, each working on either a sit-in car, a dolls' house, a treasure chest or a pirate ship. The last of these is somewhat bigger than the others, so work on it will be shared out - you will be able to see it (all being well) towards the end of next term, as it will be a major part of our summer show.

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. So far we have learnt very useful vocabulary: “cuillère, fourchette, couteau, assiette, verre, serviette”

The Talk Topic for next week will be "If you could programme a toy, what would you make it do?"

Maths homework will be ‘Bop a Bird 1.17’ (number pairs to 9). Finally, a member of Year 6 came to our classroom to explain about the forthcoming charity swimming event ‘Splash’ (see main Newsletter for more details). There are 4 places available for Year 1 children, so if you would like your child to take part (and raise money for charity), please let us know, so that we can send you the forms.

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,

Having more or less mastered quarters and halves on the clock, along with converting analogue to digital times, we are now dividing pizzas into different fractions. This is a far easier concept to understand and helps to reinforce the more abstract idea of quarters and halves on a clock face. We each made a cardboard pizza and added different toppings before cutting it up into pieces, which we swapped with each other to recreate a whole. If you have pizzas this weekend, let the children cut them up and decide who has which half or quarter!



We continue to enjoy quick mental maths challenges, working on times tables, general facts and figures about days, months, years, hours and minutes and concepts such as after, before, between, next etc. The spelling words this week all concentrate on describing number positions and are essential for solving number problems, so it is very helpful if they are learnt carefully. We completed the mid-term Abacus maths assessments this week, with some excellent results. I was very pleased to see that everyone tackled the two papers enthusiastically, determined to find a way to solve each question, even if there were some that seemed hard. As ever, the difficulty often lies in the way the question is phrased, rather than in the actual computation required. This is why it is essential to read and re-read the questions several times to work out exactly what is being asked.

In literacy, science and topic we are writing building reports on how we constructed our castles. This involves using time sequence words and technical vocabulary to describe the different materials. To understand the processes involved in building we watched several extracts from a documentary on the rebuilding of a medieval castle in France. This is an archaeological project in which they are rebuilding the castle using the tools and methods that would have been used for the original castle. We saw how the masons selected and cut the stones and how they laid them to make the walls. We are now making sure that our model walls are authentic, with the stones set out correctly. We had a go at (rubber) brick laying and realised that if the structure is wrong, the attacking army can easily knock them down.

We finished our chapter book and read some more picture books on alternative fairy tales. The more we read, the more we spot the patterns and see how different versions can be created. We enjoyed a funny rhyming story/poem about a princess who hated peas and managed to guess most of the rhyming words to complete the verses.

It was great to be outside in the sunshine for PE, and we made the most of it to practice more ball skills including bouncing the ball, which was surprisingly difficult! We also tried lots of different relay races and team ball games, all of which highlighted the importance of concentrating – those teams that concentrated were much more successful than the others, who ended up chasing the balls all around the playground!

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned more interrogative words, we focused on questions and answers, and we started preparing for our next food project which will be about : l'épicerie bizarre'.

We had a presentation on Thursday about the 'Splash Swimarathon', which BISB participates in every year, and which is being held this year on Sunday March 31st at the Neder-over-Heembeek Omnisports centre.

<http://lionsheraldic.net/splash/pool-occupancy-2019>

This is a sponsored swimming relay event in aid of various charities in Belgium. Year 2 children (and parents!) can also take part and children can wear a buoyancy vest, so if you would like to join us for the event please let us know next week. It's good fun and a great way to enjoy being part of a whole school event as well as raising money for a good cause.



Our talk topic is “What do you think it would have been like to live in a medieval castle?”

Have a lovely weekend,

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino

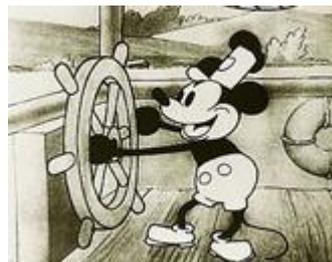
year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

Our work on World War Two moved on this week to explore wartime entertainment. We listened to some songs from the wartime era, rated them out of 10 for how much we liked them and talked about the lyrics. ‘Everything stops for tea’ sung by Jack Buchanan was our class favourite! We talked about radio shows as most children would have had an opportunity to listen to the radio at that time but few families would have had their own TV. However cinema was popular in the war years and the children were surprised to find out how old Mickey Mouse really is! We looked at a few very short clips of wartime era films including Fantasia, Pinocchio and Dumbo. It was interesting to find out that there were some films in colour back then. In art we learned how to draw some of the popular Disney characters from the WW2 era step by step and we learned a bit more about Walt Disney and how he came to be famous for making cartoons.



This week in our literacy lesson on our class book ‘Bon Appetit: the delicious life of Julia Child’ we had a go at presenting our own imaginary cookery show, explaining to our viewers how to make crepes. We learned how important it is to greet the audience and speak clearly and enthusiastically to keep them interested. The children also learned how important it is to explain the method of the recipe step by step. In our grammar lesson we explored how prefixes can change the meaning of a noun. We practised forming lots of new nouns using a variety of prefixes such as anti-, super-, inter- and auto-.

In maths we learned how to use the expanded method of column addition to add two 3 digit numbers and then progressed to a combination of three 2 or 3 digit numbers. We then moved on from written methods and discussed how to add two 2 digit numbers mentally. We revisited how to use a range of strategies such as adding the tens and units separately, using doubles, near doubles, near multiples and number bonds to help us to quickly find the total. In science we learned about the work of Marie Curie, particularly her role in the development of x-rays. We then practised identifying different bones from their x-ray images. In some cases it was quite difficult! We agreed that this technology was very helpful though and we are glad it is around today.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we reviewed the two auxiliary verbs ‘être and avoir’, days of the week, and we talked about our daily and weekly routine. Also, we finished presenting, acting and describing our first short story – ‘Le monde de Sophie’. In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished watching the film “Ernest et Célestine” which the children liked very much. We also about food, the various meals we have during the day and we learnt/revised “les articles partitifs: du, de la, de l’, des” : countable and uncountable articles.

Our Talk Topic for next week is “If you were to write your own cookbook what recipes would you include?”

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire

year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week ended with a lovely day out in nearby Josaphat Park. The children explored most nooks and crannies of the park trying to find the 5 adults posted about it. Friday’s orienteering was all about coordinates, and exercises to find them before we left school, would mean the children’s success or otherwise, outside.

The other highlight of the week was writing a script for a class assembly that we will perform after the half-term break. The Batman story we chose was a classic comic strip and covered every theme that you might find in the genre. In fact, there were so many typical but new (and pretty tricky) superhero words that all of next week’s spellings for all groups will be from the story. Everyone participated to write a page of the script, taking the text from the comic and converting it into play script form. Everyone is thrilled to have a part to learn.



Elsewhere, we found factors, used the ‘shopkeeper’s method’ to find change and subtracted from 1000. In Literacy, meanwhile, the children wrote fantastic poems titled ‘Window on Gotham’ and began a new topic based on ‘Henry’s Freedom Box’. Henry is a different kind of superhero and we started reading this book about slavery in the deep US South. The tension has already built up and absorbed us.

In Hockey, we enjoyed pushing, stopping and running with the ball.

The third highlight of the week was the Category 3 Super T final which proved to be probably the greatest SuperT match ever at BISB. Our Aarav was leading 2-0 and had championship point only to lose and allow opponent, Year 5 Sai Shreyas, to come back and draw level. So, it was left to a deciding match. Sai was proving too fast with simple multiplications and divisions but Aarav had the edge by far over the more technical 2-step questions. This proved decisive. Aarav found himself on championship point once more and made no mistake this time. He became Champion and Sai Sub Champion but both will represent the school and India in the online finals in May. An amazing match and a super achievement!

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we reviewed the two auxiliary verbs 'être and avoir', days of the week, and we talked about our daily and weekly routine. Also, we finished presenting, acting and describing our first short story –'Le monde de Sophie'. In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished watching the film "Ernest et Célestine" which the children liked very much. We also about food, the various meals we have during the day and we learnt/revised "les articles partitifs: du, de la, de l', des" : countable and uncountable articles.

And that was our week.

Our Talk Topic for this week is: What can you see from your bedroom window? Do you like or dislike it? Why? Describe it poetically!

Best wishes

Tim Stedman

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

What lovely weather we have had this week. The sun has been shining and we are all benefitting from a good dose of vitamin D. We had the pleasure to welcome Ronit to our class and we hope you enjoy being a part of the Year 5 family.

In Literacy we spoke about personification. We discussed what it meant and did some work on it. Bearing this in mind we read chapter 3 of The Wind in the Willows and looked for examples in the text. We found loads of examples. We finished off by doing some pairs reading, taking turns to read to each other and ask questions.

Another grammar focus this week was on the use of brackets, i.e. parentheses. Again we had a chance to practise and will hopefully use this punctuation skill in our writing in future. In comprehension we read 2 very different poems called Sea Fever and Sixteen steps. The children especially enjoyed the sixteen steps as it was a concrete poem and the language was very descriptive. In Sea Fever, the class came across quite a few examples of personification and were thrilled by this.

In Numeracy we finished our unit of short division and began the next section which focusses on fractions. We revised perimeter and area. The rest of the week was spent working out fractions of 3 digit numbers. We really do enjoy our maths sessions. This week saw the final of the superT competition with a very hard fought battle between our Sai and Aarav. Sai came back from 2 – 0 down and only just missed winning it in the end.

In Computing we looked at what makes a good webpage. We looked at colour, security and ease of navigation. We decided that colourful



pages win hands down. <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/> seemed to fit all our criteria, plus it is a very good, informative website.

In PE we once again enjoyed our swimming session. In our regular PE slot we played a game of handball which was closely won.

In Science we discussed life cycles and compared the life cycles of plants and birds in particular. We looked at the parts of an egg and were amazed to find out that even mammals start life as a tiny egg.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, We reviewed key action and auxiliary verbs, followed by a fun and an interactive activity 'Rencontrons la vedette' (Let's meet the star!) where they had to interview 'a superstar' and come up with questions regarding his/her future plans, while still keeping in mind the use of these action and auxiliary verbs.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished working on our health topic which was very rich in vocabulary. We also learnt very common expressions using parts of the body and read a story: "La paire de chaussures" by Pierre Gripari.

In Art we sketched different animals using drawing tutorials to help us. Our adventure assembly on Friday was very good fun and held in pleasant sunshine. What a way to end the week.

The talk topic is: Spring is just around the corner. What signs can you see already?

Have a super sunny 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,

Yes, we have been in our wonderful Year 6 classroom during the past week – honest! Last Friday we went to the Mill at Evere, where we learnt about nutrition for babies and children. We studied: attitudes towards breast-feeding; looked at ancient terracotta feeding jugs; glass feeding bottles; bizarre looking sterilizing machines; the age of MacDonald's; fast food; sweets and chocolate. After this, the children, using raw ingredients, prepared speculoos biscuits which were then baked in the oven. Thank you to Mrs Kapse for helping on this trip.

On Monday, the LAMDA examiner arrived, as well as some very nervous drama candidates. We made it through the morning and by 1200, the classroom was full of relieved, smiling children. Thank you to all the pupils for their help, support and kindness to each other on this day.

We spent another amazing day at the House of European History; our workshop about WWII was interesting, informative and enjoyed by all. We touched on some difficult subject matter, asked and answered some complex questions. Critical thinking was at the heart of our visit, and I hope that the children have remembered the quotation “Believe nothing, no matter where you read it, or who said it, no matter if I have said it, unless it agrees with your own reason and your own common sense.” — Buddha Siddhartha Guatama Shakyamuni

We finished our KS2 module on Algebra but decided to venture into the world of simultaneous equations, which we found challenging and enjoyable. In SPaG, it was time for the first of our revision tests, which highlighted that we needed to revisit the passive form, which we did on Thursday morning!

Thank you to Scientist SC for her brilliant experiment about quinine in tonic water, which fluoresces under ultraviolet light. This experiment was exciting, well-prepared and researched.



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, We reviewed key action and auxiliary verbs, followed by a fun and an interactive activity ‘Rencontrons la vedette’ (Let’s meet the star!) where they had to interview ‘a superstar’ and come up with questions regarding his/her future plans, while still keeping in mind the use of these action and auxiliary verbs.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we finished working on our health topic which was very rich in vocabulary. We also learnt very common expressions using parts of the body and read a story: “La paire de chaussures” by Pierre Gripari.

On Thursday, the students enjoyed a Skype call with my father about ‘being a child in WWII’. They proudly showed off their Anderson shelters and then had an opportunity to ask questions. It proved to be a learning journey for me – he told the children things that I had no idea he had experienced!

Orienteering adventure assembly on Friday!

Our Talk Topic for next week is “What do you know about quinine?”

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

year6teacher@telenet.be

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

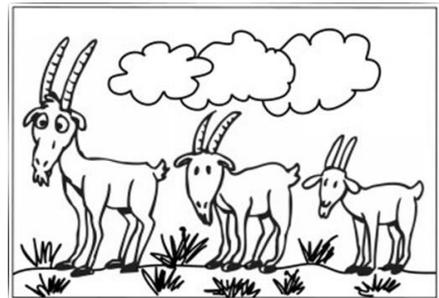
English as an Additional Language

Dear Parents,

This week, one focus for the Junior Department EAL group was on using punctuation in writing, especially full stops, question marks, commas, apostrophes and speech marks. The children have come across these in their reading, and have studied some of them in class. We looked at how useful punctuation is in making our writing understandable. In particular, we looked at the two jobs of apostrophes, at direct speech with speech marks, and at using commas in a list. We also talked about how to reorder words in a statement to make a question.

The Year One and Two EAL small group again took part in some drama, based on Mr Gumpy's Outing, with changes made up by the children. We made story maps, picking out the main points in the stories that we made up, and we wrote the stories, using the story maps as a guide. The children did this extremely well, and I am pleased to see them gaining confidence in writing sentences of their own creation.

The Reception EAL group this week had fun with the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. We sorted out some pictures of big, middle-sized and small animals, and we looked at pictures of big things, and found the biggest. We developed our vocabulary, using adjectives, and finding opposites. We also spent one session building bridges out of Lego and wooden bricks, to help the goats cross over the river.



I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read
ealteacher@telenet.be