

Home School Books – 29 March 2019.

Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

This is the last home school book for this term as next week will be a slightly shorter one. We will not send out the folders over the holiday period; incredibly Easter is arriving at quite a pace! Next week will be full of fun and creative crafts with an Easter theme, including of course our Easter Hat Parade in Nursery.



Mrs Davies has already spoken to you about the idea of it but here is the final reminder of how it can become a reality! Please remember first and foremost it is for fun!

You are invited to make an Easter themed hat or bonnet (very old fashioned word for fancy hat!) at home with your child, it can be as complicated or as simple as you wish. Of course it must involve your child's input, they are a dab hand at drawing, colouring in, cutting and sticking, now! Some of the components need to be Easter themed e.g. eggs, chicks, bunnies, hot cross buns! The rest can be anything else you consider 'hat' worthy. You have until Thursday next week to finish it and then let your child wear it to nursery on that day. We are having an Easter egg treasure hunt in the garden both morning and afternoon and then afterwards a very important person will be our Easter Hat judge! Of course everyone will go home with a little something but one lucky winner will go home with a bigger something!

This week we have continued with our Garden theme and it was all about growing very big Vegetables, just like Oliver's grandad did in the book we have read called 'Oliver's Vegetables' take a look at the story using the following link
<https://youtu.be/BTYoaJY7k-Q>

We have also looked at garden pathways for our fine motor control development; you can see your little one's efforts on the page opposite.

Our talk topic is 'Where do vegetables grow? What do they need to help them go from tiny seeds to the yummy food we can eat?'

Until next week have a vegetable packed weekend, just like Oliver!

Thank you,

Alison Davies and Inés van Wassenhove

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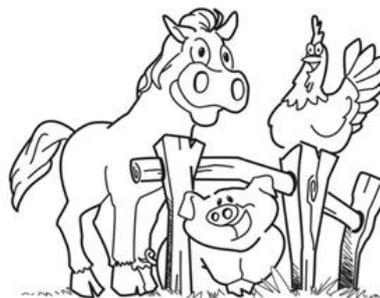
Please click [here](#) for our Nursery webpage

Home School Book– Reception

Dear Parents,

The highlight of this week has of course been our trip to the city farm on Friday! The children have been very excited about it and have asked every day, many times a day, if it's Friday yet. We have no doubt that the farm will live up to the children's expectation and we'll all have a great Friday, learning all about the different farm animals!

In maths this week we continued to practise our days and the children are now really good at knowing the days, and knowing what day was yesterday and what day it will be tomorrow! We have also been practising the months, and have been singing the months song almost every day – much to everyone's delight, as singing is always a fun activity!



In phonics this week we continued to practise our diagraphs, specifically /sh/, /ch/, /th/ and /wh/. Although diagraphs can be very tricky, the children are doing great with them. They are both good at remembering the sounds of the diagraphs and how they are written – although we will of course have to practise lots more!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are reading, watching and having great fun with our wolf stories topic. We also started talking about Easter and spring. We learnt a new song about a hen eating old bread and we drew beautiful hens. We talked about all the animals being born in spring.

Next Friday we will have parent-teacher meetings. I want to remind everyone to fill out the form we sent home with the children last week and return it to us, confirming that you will attend the meeting. We are looking forward to see mummies and/daddies next Friday!

The talk topic this week is: What was your favourite thing that happened on our farm trip? Which animals did you like the best?

Finally, the stars of the week go to Akira for doing an excellent job with her maths assignment this week and for always trying her very best! And to Ishaan for doing a really good job in literacy this week and also for practising to use his quiet voice inside! Congratulations Akira and Ishaan 😊

We hope you 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,

We have started the build-up to Easter - the children are becoming quite excited at the thought of Easter activities and, possibly, treats!

In Literacy this week, we have concentrated on the Phase 5 'tricky words' - those words which cannot be sounded out using normal phonics sounds. We have practised reading them, writing them and spelling them, and we also made up some sentences in which each one was used correctly. One of our exercises was a word search, which you can see in this week's Home School Book. The children enjoy this type of activity, and it is very good for teaching them to spot correct word patterns. Also in Literacy, we learned how to write a greetings card (more of which later), and in Grammar, we had a revision session, looking again at punctuation, plurals and the use of 'and' to join sentences.

Our focus in Maths this week has been on mastering the concept of 'tens' and 'ones' (or 'units') in 2-digit numbers, and we used a range of methods to reinforce our knowledge, such as bead bars, 100-squares, '10s sticks', 10c & 1c coins and place value cards. The children are becoming increasingly confident about the number of 10s and 1s in, for example, 37. We then moved on to finding numbers 10 more and 10 less than any 2-digit number, with the focus on moving up and down the 100-square, rather than laboriously counting on 10. The end result is that the children can perform additions and subtractions of 10 and recognise that it is the first digit only which changes.



For our Science investigation, we adopted an Easter theme - cooking eggs. This allowed us to explore the concepts of liquid/solid/gas (water/ice/steam), and we were able to observe the differences between a raw egg (liquid), a 2-minute egg (beginning to solidify), a 4-minute egg (solid white, liquid yolk) and a 12-minute egg, which we dropped on the floor with no harm done! We cooked enough eggs to enable us to have one each to decorate next week for Easter. Whilst in an egg mood, we also began work on our Easter decorations - a salt-dough egg, which we will be painting, and a papier mâché bowl, in which we hope to put some chocolate eggs...

Our Art project was making a pop-up card for Mother's Day - celebrated in many Anglophone countries this Sunday, 31st March. Hopefully, all Year 1 mothers will receive their lovingly created card this weekend.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have finished our house project and the beautiful drawings are exhibited in school on the walls going up to the first floor. Please come and admire them. We finished listening to our story "Une maison de musiciens" and will now be talking about Easter and spring.

Talk Topic for next week will be "What will you be doing in the Easter holidays?"

Maths homework takes a break now until the start of next term - next week will be a revision week. Next Tuesday will be the final swimming session of the year, so we

will revert to a 'normal' timetable on Tuesdays for the Summer term, including PE in the afternoon.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Patrick Tranter and Smita Bandaru

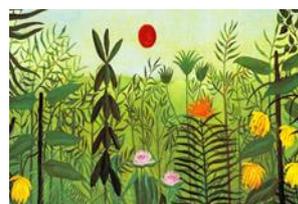
Year1teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

Yet another week has flown by and it has been lovely to work in a bright classroom and play outside in the sunshine. We are trying to imagine what might be planted in the new flowerbeds outside school, and hoping there will be some exciting plants to make the street bright and colourful.



We started the week with the Spring Pira reading assessment. This tests reading comprehension and the level at which each child understands different texts. I was delighted to see how everyone set to work, determined to find the clues that would help them to answer the questions. They are all moving beyond the stage of decoding and are developing strategies for working out the deeper meanings of the text, as well as beginning to analyse how language is used. The extensive vocabulary used in tests can still pose a problem – it may be impossible to answer a question if even one word in a sentence is not understood. Thank you for your on-going support in listening to reading at home – it is quite clear that those children who read enthusiastically and regularly have a larger vocabulary and therefore a great advantage in such assessments.

In Literacy we finished our stories, read them to each other and started to edit them, looking for missing words, spelling and punctuation mistakes and sentences that don't make sense. We talked about the differences between the language used in chapter books and short stories and looked at differences between legends and fairy stories. We read the legend of King Arthur and the Sword in the Stone, and compared what we have found out about knights to the knights in the legend.

We have done lots of maths this week, concentrating on halving and doubling, ordering fractions and dividing both numbers and shapes into halves, quarters and thirds. We realised how doubling and halving is the same as multiplying and dividing by 2, and played board games to reinforce mental calculations. We used our cardboard pizza quarters in a team pizza race, trading pieces to create whole pizzas, and then worked out how to sequence fractions using mixed numbers. This can be confusing, particularly trying to link the spoken terms - 'half', 'quarter' etc. to the written symbols and to the reality of half an apple or a quarter of a cake, but we are getting there! Mrs Tolentino captured some very concentrated faces in her latest class

photos: <http://www.bisb.org/project/practical-maths-fraction/> . We finished the week by halving every number up to 100, looking for patterns and predicting answers. In Art we moved on to scaling up our shield designs – folding large pieces of paper to create a symmetrical outline before transferring the designs. This time we used paint and it was impressive to see everyone organising their material; selecting colours and appropriate brushes, sorting out a work space and then really concentrating on their painting, with excellent results! The designs will now be stuck onto thick card to create a solid shield with a cardboard arm strap.

We used part of our PE lesson to practice estimating and measuring distance. Each team had to set up a jumping station and measure the distances jumped by each team member with two feet together. This resulted in more complicated measuring when people managed to jump further than the length of the tape measure. Great practice though 😊!

In Music, Ms Da Fine has started to practise the songs for our summer show, which we will be performing on the afternoon of Friday 21 June. Please could you let us know if your child is not going to be at school as we are in the process of allocating the parts.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we focused on ‘le monde imaginaire’ to come up with fun ideas using and combining everything we have learned up to now, such as les animaux, les couleurs, les numéros, les métiers, les sports, les fruits et les légumes. The main objective was to combine the use of the auxiliaries “être and avoir” and to use action words such as je joue au, j’aime le/la, je suis.., j’ai .. etc...

Have a lovely weekend – well done to those children (and parents!) in Year 2 who are participating in ‘Splash’ on Sunday, it is always a fun event and an excellent way to support worthy charities.

Our talk topic is “What would you plant in the new flower beds outside school, and how else would you improve the street?”

Jane Still and Ena Tolentino

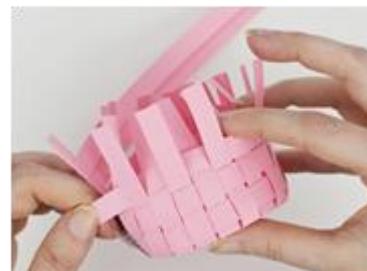
year2teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 3

Dear Parents,

This week has been busy with orienteering, end of term assessments and Easter fun. The children returned to the skill of weaving to make their Easter baskets, doing it with confidence and independence. We then constructed our baskets by making nets, folding and joining the sides and filling them with Easter themed things. In our topic lesson we continued to explore maps. We discussed what a ‘key’ means in this context and made a visitor’s guide to our school using a key and symbols to indicate points of interest.



This week in literacy the children learned about subordinate clauses. They learned how to distinguish them from a main clause and how to write their own sentences using them. In spelling we did week 5 of term 2b. Next week will be the last of the term 2 spellings, we will start on term 3 after the Easter break. Also the children completed their progress in reading tests, showing how much progress they've made with their reading comprehension so far this year.

In maths we did the grid method of multiplication for the first time. The children learned how to multiply any 2 digit number by a 1 digit number using this method. We also revised all of the other methods we have learned so far for completing calculations - the frog method (subtraction by counting up), rounding and adjusting, expanded column addition and partitioning. The children also did their end of spring term assessments.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we started watching a new film on Mondays : Zarafa. In grammar, we revised the plural of nouns and used expressions like “j’aime / je n’aime pas”, “j’adore / je déteste” with either plural or singular words : “J’aime le chocolat, le poulet, etc” but “J’aime les fruits, j’aime les légumes etc”. We also started talking about families.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we went over ten different prepositions and we played a game ‘Où es Sam?’ the main aim of the game was to use the prepositions in full and complete sentences. We also came up with interview questions using the important verb ‘pouvoir’ (can).

The tennis players completed their last lesson today. From next week the class will be together once more on Thursday mornings but we shall continue to do PE on this day in school. Next week is the last week of school before the Easter break, I look forward to seeing most of you on Friday the 5th of April for parent – teacher meetings. If you haven't yet completed the appointment slip please send it to me as soon as possible. The list of appointments will be sent to the school office on Monday

Our Talk Topic for the week is “What are your plans for the Easter break?”

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week has been all about Topic and testing.

The class did really well in the PIRA reading tests with high scores but then this class has always registered top scores so what's a definition of good?

Last week's writing assessments were also very pleasing with clear progression to see. Next week, it's maths and after this week's lessons on money and 24hr time and calculating time intervals, there is but one perimeter lesson left to prepare ourselves.

Topic reached a climax this week with the children having to finally write and illustrate their original comic strips. Pages and pages of comic were produced by some and the children were locked on the task all week. Their superheroes must combat an environmental disaster using the gadget they invented and defeating the villain that they dreamt up. The next stage will be to convert their manual creations into something digital.

A final task is also to actually build this gadget as part of DT (Design Technology). Please could the children collect any rubbish or material they think will be of use in the construction phase!

In computing, the children loved using Scratch Jr coding app, to create a scene from Book Week's 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'.
(Again, hugely popular)



Golden Time was another significant event. It was the first time we've played cricket in 2019 and the Fifteen15 match the children played was high scoring and they were hugely enthusiastic. We have a bit of practice to do to get competition-ready come May's interclass tournament, however. We're bowling a lot of no-balls and wides and if we get drawn against the Y6, it could be tough. There's your Easter homework!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we started watching a new film on Mondays : Zarafa. In grammar, we revised the plural of nouns and used expressions like "j'aime / je n'aime pas", "j'adore / je déteste" with either plural or singular words : "J'aime le chocolat, le poulet, etc" but "J'aime les fruits, j'aime les légumes etc". We also started talking about families.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we went over ten different prepositions and we played a game 'Où es Sam?' the main aim of the game was to use the prepositions in full and complete sentences. We also came up with interview questions using the important verb 'pouvoir' (can).

This week we said a sad goodbye to Janani who we're really going to miss; the dance troupe will miss her, and we'll miss her smile and good nature and sense of fun. But what a day to leave. By the time this round up reaches you, the children will have had a super day out in Heysel. They'll have chased round the beautiful but always quiet Osseghem Park, had a charming picnic and got a few mini Easter eggs to restore the calories they've expended. Janani can remember that fondly! Good luck back home. And that was our week.

Our Talk Topic for this week is: What and how will you remember Janani?

Best wishes

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

The weather has been fairly good to us this week and steadily improving as the week progressed.

In Numeracy it has been quite the most exciting and interesting week. We began the week by looking at fractions. We counted in fractions and filled in sequences. We learned how to convert mixed fractions into improper fractions and vice versa. We learned how to multiply whole numbers and fractions. However the most exciting part happened on Tuesday morning. We teamed up with year 6 to make small groups. In these groups we decided on a concept we wanted to teach the rest of us. We had half an hour to prepare and began our presentations. We learned about finding like terms in algebra and how to add proper fractions by finding the common denominators. The last presentation we got to was on finding the nth term in linear equations. The group tried valiantly to explain it and then with some help from Mrs Tranter finally got the concept across. By the end of the session, and much to my delight, the year 5's could work out rather complex terms. The enthusiasm towards Maths is really refreshing and is reflected in the half termly tests that we do.

In Literacy we managed to do our termly PIRA reading comprehension tests and then check the results together. It is good for the children to see where they made their mistakes and try to eliminate these in future tests. We also got to the library this week which is always a joy for us.

We cooked this week with Mrs Nagy. In one of our exercises last week we came across scones, and since some children did not know what they were, we decided to bake them. We made 2 batches, one with egg and one without egg. The children loved making the dough, rolling it and cutting out the scones. We also helped Mrs Nagy make cannelloni which involved rolling pasta and adding sauces and cheese. The best part was the sampling of both of these delights. The scones went well with jam and cream, of course. The cookery photos can be found [here](#)

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/145142186@N02/sets/72157679582710818>

In PE we had our last swimming session and were tested to see what level we are on in the pool. I am pleased to say that some have achieved level 5 and most are now working towards level 4. In Sports we played a good game of volleyball with each team winning a match.

We had our first read though of the end of year play Treachery at Traitor's Quay. The songs are delightful and the story has really appealed to the children.



In French with Mrs. Scharf, we started watching a new film on Mondays : Boule et Bill. The rest of the week was dedicated to intensive conjugaison of irregular verbs in the present tense.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on le présent progressif and how we use it in French. We had several activities and exercises using this tense. We also we went

over ten different prepositions and we played a game 'Où es Sam?' the main aim of the game was to use the prepositions in full and complete sentences.

Our adventure assembly was marvellous. The children really love these events and look forward to the orienteering. This one, being an Easter Egg hunt, made it all the more fun. Thanks to Parvesh's dad for coming along to help us.

The talk topic is: Which subjects and skills do you think our adventure assemblies involve? Discuss the benefits.

Have a superb weekend.

Best wishes,

Valeria Vetter and Ena Tolentino

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

Home School Book – Year 6

Dear Parents,

Monday began with correcting homework preparation for the SATs tests. These workouts are providing students with an opportunity to create their individual 'gap analysis', so that they are able to target their revision with surgical precision. However, the wording of questions, exacerbated by some pupils still not reading the questions carefully, is proving to be an insurmountable obstacle. We have, and continue to discuss, a variety of strategies to avoid this happening: highlighting, circling underlining etc. Those pupils who use these methods prove, time and time again, that they are beneficial and help in avoiding making unnecessary mistakes.

This week, the children sat the PIRA reading test. Again, the same problem as with the maths: not reading the question carefully – examples included: choose three facts from paragraph two (answers included information from paragraph 1!); tick two words (I will just tick one); draw two lines (I will draw 6), and so it goes on... We have analysed the answer papers in class; I have made my views crystal clear: this is not acceptable in Year 6 and is not to happen again!

We enjoyed an interesting and thought-provoking presentation about 'India in WWII'. As expected, students discussed many of the topics raised in a mature and respectful manner.

On Wednesday, Years 5 & 6 enjoyed an exciting maths workshop organised by Mrs Vetter. In small groups, students had to present a mathematical concept to the other students. Topics included; finding the nth term, BODMAS, working with improper fractions. Each team had to cope with two 'pesky' pupils - Mrs Vetter and Mrs



Tranter asking some very difficult questions and continually asking for explanations about concepts!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we started watching a new film on Mondays : Boule et Bill. The rest of the week was dedicated to intensive conjugaison of irregular verbs in the present tense.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we worked on le présent progressif and how we use it in French. We had several activities and exercises using this tense. We also went over ten different prepositions and we played a game 'Où es Sam?' the main aim of the game was to use the prepositions in full and complete sentences.

On Tuesday, we read through the script for our summer production 'Treachery at Traitor's Quay'. Huge excitement. Actors now have their scripts, so there is no excuse for not learning lines!

The activity plan for Botassart is now in the folder on Edmodo; please be aware that this plan may change due to weather conditions.

I look forward to meeting you next week on Friday to discuss the progress of your child.

Our Talk Topic this week is - What do you understand by education?

Best wishes,

Beverley Tranter and Ena Tolentino

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

English as an Additional Language

Dear Parents,

Now that signs of spring can be seen in both of the school playgrounds, we have been talking in the EAL groups about the spring season in Europe.

The Junior Department EAL small group watched a short video, then read a text, both showing the changes in sunlight and temperature, and the connected changes in plants and animals, that happen in the spring. The children then wrote short factual texts about the changes. We also took the opportunity to revise the months of the year, and to practise using time phrases (eg. in April, on Sunday, at the weekend, last week, next week, two days ago, in two days). We are reading a range of texts in the group, talking especially about whether they are fiction or non-fiction texts, and what differences in style we can see between the two.



The Year One and Two EAL small group also watched a short video about the season of spring, and also revised the months of the year. We learned some new vocabulary, including blossom, bloom, frogspawn, tadpole, lamb, calf, and we made a poster, using pictures and text, to show some of the important signs of spring.

The Reception EAL small group had good fun preparing for their visit to the farm, by reading a book about farm animals, and watching a short video about sheep on a farm. We sorted animals into farm animals and wild animals, and the children made their own mini picture book about the farm.

I wish you a very happy weekend.

Kate Read

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