

Home School Books – 14 June 2019.

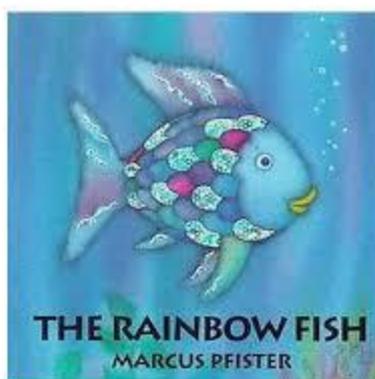
Home School Book – Nursery

Dear Parents,

Under the sea is our motto of the moment! We have continued this week with our theme and have read the famous ‘Rainbow fish’ story. It is about a rude and selfish but beautiful fish that lives in the ocean but sadly has no friends because.... Ask your child to retell the story to you verbally first and then take a look at the following link to see if they remembered it correctly:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9mryuEKkKc>

We have also looked at an under the sea I spy and count activity, in conjunction with the I-spy check list. You can find this activity opposite and it is a great exercise for you to do together with your little one. Using one to one correspondence, count each type of object you can spy under the sea and then fill in the answers. One to one correspondence is the ability to match an object to the corresponding number and recognise that numbers are symbols to represent a quantity.



Young children often learn to count by rote without having an understanding of one to one correspondence. The easiest way to model one to one correspondence, is take your child’s hand and ask them to use their index finger to touch each object carefully while saying the number.

The preparation for our summer show continues and this week we have all got creative making the props! You are going to love the show, so please if you are still in the country don’t miss it. Here are the details to remind you once again when and where it is happening:

Monday 24th June at 11.30am, in the infant department building. It will take place in the playground, weather permitting.

It will be a Summer themed show, so we ask you to dress your little one in a colourful T-shirt with shorts or leggings for the show, we will do the rest.

The afternoon children are invited for the morning session on that day and there will be no afternoon session. However if your child has a full time place, provision will be made if you wish them to stay-on after the show.

That is all for this week folks, tune in next week for another fun packed time in nursery and over the weekend discuss our talk topic;

‘Why was the Rainbow fish so sad? And what made him happy?’

Have a great weekend and

Thank you

Alison Davies and Inés van Wassenhove

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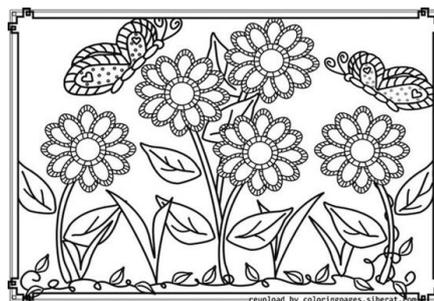
Please click [here](#) for our Nursery webpage

Home School Book – Reception

Dear Parents,

Our summer show will be on the 24th of June at 11.30. We would like all the children to come in t-shirts and shorts (or leggings, if it is a cold day). The children have been practising their songs and they have already started working on their costumes – which will look just right with shorts and a t-shirt. Please do not bring the children to school in big colourful dresses and special outfits, as it will simply overshadow their super-cool handmade costumes. We hope you will all be able to join us on this fun day, and you are of course welcome to take your child home with you after the show.

We have continued to learn a lot about mini-beasts, plants and the nature and it is brilliant to see how excited and enthusiastic the children are about the plants and the little creatures living in our playground. We have also continued to discuss the importance of recycling, and the children are starting to understand how important it is to re-use and recycle anything we can!



In phonics this week we continued to practise our diagraphs, our high frequency words and our reading. We focused especially on the /oi/ and /ou/ diagraphs this week, as these are a bit tricky for them to remember. We also played word Bingo, to help the children remember all those high frequency words that can be quite tricky for them to read. The more practice they get with them, the better!

This week in maths we continued to count forwards and backwards, and we practised counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. We also sang some songs to practise the days of the week and the months of the year!

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we continue singing all songs and are decorating a booklet containing most of the songs we learnt this year. We also talked about what we like doing in school and made pictures of the school.

The talk topic this week is: Summer vacation is around the corner! What are you going to do in your summer vacation?

Finally, the stars of the week go to Stairya, for great improvement in her reading and for being a caring friend. And to Myrah for brilliant drawing and great enthusiasm in everything regarding mini-beasts! Congratulations Stairya and Myrah! Well done 😊

Have a great weekend!

Elín Hafstein and Ivana Julaton

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

Home School Book – Year 1

Dear Parents,

We have been full steam ahead this week, preparing for our show. The mermaids have been making their fishy tails and tiaras, and the pirates have been making their hooks, and been fitted for their pirate headscarves. Thank you for sending in the children's clothes for the show, we will be having a 'trying-on' day next week, to make sure we've all got 'the look'!

We have also been busy in Maths this week, finishing off the last few teaching points of the year. The main one of these was telling the time to the quarter-hour. This is always tricky for 5-6 year-olds the first time they see it, as it involves many different skills. First there is the need to understand quarters/three-quarters of a circle, and transpose that image on to a clock face. Then there is the problem posed by the fact that we don't say three-quarters past, but rather a quarter to (the next hour, which hasn't arrived yet...). Then there is the positioning of the hour hand, just after or just before the hour. Then, having mastered that, we have to consider the digital clock, too - one quarter is 15, three quarters is 45 - that is an awful lot for young children to take on board! We spent two sessions on it, and by the end most children were reasonably comfortable with 'a quarter past', but 'a quarter to' was still proving tricky. Please practise at home - the children should be able to translate o'clock/quarter past/half past (and maybe quarter to) from analogue to digital clocks and vice versa.

In Literacy, we have started to look at 'alternative pronunciations' of the short vowels. This week we started with /e/ and /i/, which normally the children would sound out as in 'egg' and 'insect'. However, in words such as 'equals' and 'find', the sound is a long vowel. We made lists of words with each variation, and did some interactive activities to help us. You can see examples of some of the words in this week's home school book. These alternative sounds will be covered in greater depth in Year 2.

We combined our topic with art this week, and painted African animals in the style of a famous painter. We chose Piet Mondrian, famous for his criss-cross of squares and rectangles, randomly painted in the three primary colours. The children were allowed to choose their favourite animal, then drew the horizontal and vertical lines themselves, and finally filled in some of the



shapes in red, yellow and blue paint. I think they look great, and they are already on display in the classroom.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still listening to our story “Un coucou dans la pendule” and are following Lucie in her search for Monsieur Lampion. We are still learning about fruit and vegetables and talked about school and what we like.

Talk Topic for next week will be “What is your favourite part of ‘Pirates vs Mermaids’?”

Please remember that the show starts at 17.00 next Friday 21st June, at the De Kam theatre.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Patrick Tranter and Smita Bandaru

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

Home School Book – Year 2

Dear Parents,

This is the final countdown and, as we are determined to crack telling the time by the end of the year, this week has been full of clocks, hour hands, minute hands, past and to. We ticked off o’clock, quarter past, half past and quarter to, re-checked the basics of digital time and then tackled telling the time to five minutes. We are trying hard to remember that the clock face gives us all the information we need to know – we just have to remember which clues we need and in which order! We worked on converting analogue times to digital times and vice versa, and little by little, we are getting there!



In number work we played lots more games on place value, each choosing a secret number and racing to find our partners to make up a given three-digit number. This reinforced the concept of hundreds, tens and units, and generated lots of discussion about the order in which groups had to sit, for their number to be correct. We revised subtraction and addition by calculating with 10p and 1p coins and made sure that we can do calculations involving pounds and pence. We finished the week by tackling the last two Numeracy tests of the year – setting to work confidently and enjoying the challenge.

As the Summer Show fast approaches, it is time to put the programme together so that you, the audience, have a good idea of what is really happening on the stage. Our first Literacy task was to write a synopsis that encapsulated the whole story, without giving away too much detail and without being too complicated. As actors concentrating on our own parts, it is difficult to work out a clear, full story line that is easy to understand. We established the structure of the play and then decided how to make the different scenes and characters sound exciting. There



were some excellent ideas using ‘publicity style’ language – let’s hope we got it right and you follow the story!

We took a look at some last grammar points and learnt about the homophones ‘their, they’re and there’, creating different sentences to illustrate each meaning. We also managed to fit in the first instalment of our final class book of the year – Fantastic Mr Fox, by Roald Dahl. If we make the most of every spare moment, we should have time to complete it by the end of term.

In Art we painted some bright, imaginative sea creatures that will feature as a backdrop for the show. It is good to see that after a year of practising, everyone can organize themselves responsibly and efficiently when using paints, and, more importantly, not paint each other! We then got out the fine black pens and did some detailed line drawings to use as illustrations in the programme. Our first attempts were not very successful and would certainly not have featured on any programme, but after a good discussion and a second attempt, we now have an amazing flotilla of fantastic pirate ships, gangs of gruesome pirates and a bevy of beautiful mermaids to choose from.

We continued our work on animal classification by looking at the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates and classifying animals according to this characteristic. We discovered that skeletons can be found both on the inside and the outside of the body. We then discussed our own skeletons, wondering what life would be like without a spine, and made a flap book to reveal the skeleton inside our body.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to use many action verbs with “ **Je peux**” (I can) and “**je ne peux pas**” (I can’t), and we played a fun game “Jacques a dit” to reinforce the use of these action verbs. We also had a fun competition match counting between ‘1 et 99.

Our talk topic is “How do we know if we have really made our best effort during an activity?”

We’re look forward to seeing everyone at International Day on Saturday,

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 passed by in a flash, I can’t believe it’s the weekend already! The children are all set for the summer show now having worked impressively hard both this week and over the past few weeks to learn their lines, dances, songs and acting. Thank you all for bringing in the costumes for the children to wear. We have also made



lots of fabulous props to capture the World War Two atmosphere of the show. I'm proud of them all and I think the audience is in for a real treat. We hope that you enjoy seeing the result of all their hard work next Monday, 17th June.

In maths we revised using the grid method of multiplication to solve problems involving money. These problems were done very well showing that most children have mastered this method for a 2 digit number multiplied by a 1 digit number. Also the children solved a fraction problem where they had to draw 12 children in a photograph according to a given description eg. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the children were waving, $\frac{4}{4}$ of the children were smiling, $\frac{1}{3}$ were wearing scarves etc.

In literacy we did our spelling test for week 4's words, words ending in a 'cher' sound spelt /ture/. Next week the children will be tested on week 5 and week 6's words (both weeks are on the topic of words with silent letters) because there are other plans for our usual spelling time in the last week of the school year. Therefore next week we will complete our spelling program for year 3. I've been pleased to see how hard the children have worked to learn their spelling words throughout the year. Their work has paid off as in our most recent independent writing task I noticed some good improvement in spelling accuracy.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we explored more irregular verbs ending in **-ir** and we reviewed those verbs ending in **-re**. We did several exercises covering these new action verbs and we played the game "QUI"? (Who?) to come up with the right conjugation combined with fun and spontaneous words of the vocabulary we've already learned .

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we talked about where we live; a house or an apartment. We learnt all the vocabulary pertaining to that subject and described the house or apartment we live in orally in writing. We also learnt a song.

The children have taken out their last library books for this academic year so if you have any library books still at home please bring them in by the end of next week so we can organise the books for next year. The children will still be able to borrow reading books next week (week beginning the 17th June) then all books will need to be returned during the week beginning the 24th June ready for the summer holidays.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Camilla Rutayisire and Naomi Irakoze
year3teacher@telenet.be

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

Home School Book – Year 4

Dear Parents,

The year is finally feeling like it's coming to a close. And we drew a final line across Numeracy. We started with division, dividing HTU numbers by U(nits) using the long expanded method. This is a favourite of mine and the majority of the class liked it. Some weren't sad to be doing the last official maths lesson of the year and some clung on unerringly to their own methods for long division but we all had a really good go at this and the results gave us confidence for the three maths papers that would follow the next day.

The class did well with a couple of results really wonderful surprises. We were visited by the usual 'silly error' spectre and two questions on adding fractions (e.g. $\frac{4}{6} + \frac{7}{6} =$) took us all (particularly me) by surprise but we were O.K and everyone's arithmetic really stood the test. Next week, we will analyse the papers and discuss where we went wrong so we learn even more and get even better.

Beyond Numeracy, we followed the story of the NASA Pathfinder mission and the heroic Sojourner Robot on Mars. The children then designed their own Mars moving robot and next week will have another DT day to try and make them reality. Do please start collecting interesting and useful materials and recycling at home.



The PE group played hockey practising controlling the ball, striking crosses and ending with a fantastically well-fought match.

Spelling was very interesting this week because (as you know) the children had not been given the lists. The results were scores around 25% lower and this has lit an idea spark in my brain about future testing in Year 4. Ever the experimenter, I'm wondering what if tests were back-to-front: unseen word lists and children just learn to spell their errors the following week. The spelling test then becomes solely an English language and phonic exercise?!??

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we explored more irregular verbs ending in **-ir** and we reviewed those verbs ending in **-re**. We did several exercises covering these new action verbs and we played the game "QUI"? (Who?) to come up with the right conjugation combined with fun and spontaneous words of the vocabulary we've already learned .

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we talked about where we live; a house or an apartment. We learnt all the vocabulary pertaining to that subject and described the house or apartment we live in orally in writing. We also learnt a song.

And that was our week. See you at the theatre on Monday for a fantastic finale to Year 4!

Our Talk Topic for this week is: Would you like to go to the moon and if you did, what would you do there?

Best wishes

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

Home School Book – Year 5

Dear Parents,

This week has not been very good weather-wise but it has certainly been busy indoors.

We have managed to get some revision numeracy done. Again we all chose different pages of our text books to do in order to prepare for the next school year.

In Literacy we have made an author study book in the form of a paper folded concertina book in which we are answering questions pertaining to our class reader, *Around the World in 80 days*. Our spelling test has unfortunately not been done but we will attempt to do it on Monday if not, on Tuesday.

The focus this week has undoubtedly been on our play. We have been singing our hearts out and honing our acting skills in preparation for our performance on Monday. We have been finalizing our costumes and props. We have practiced using the props in the play itself. It is interesting to note that our play is about World War 2 and is being performed amidst the 75 year anniversary celebrations of D-Day.

We have also been very busy preparing our pages for the year book. This has entailed much work on the part of the children and it is almost done now. The children used the iPads to write their memories of the year. They then took their own photos to insert into their texts. We then printed them, scanned and inserted them into our pages.



In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we reviewed the use of 'Avoir (to have) and the exceptional use of **Avoir** when it means **to be** with specific expressions. We also covered many more adjectives and we combined them with their opposite meanings, then we followed up with a fun game using 'Les contraires' (the opposite adjectives). In French with Mrs. Scharf, we did a reading comprehension on "Les vacances". The children also learnt a fable by Jean de la Fontaine "Le corbeau et le renard" which they recited in class. They were all very impressive and they all enjoyed the exercise which was not an easy one. Bravo!!

We have also been redrawing our world maps and it is interesting to see how much better the children are at drawing the maps now.

The talk topic this week is: What is D-Day? Discuss this event.

Have a super weekend and don't forget International Day tomorrow.
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,

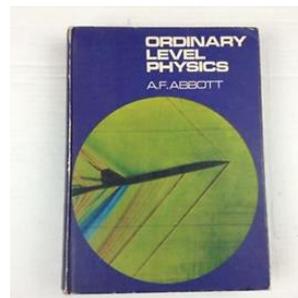
The final week of rehearsals... We are now putting the finishing touches to the production. It is very difficult to move around the Junior Department at the moment, as there is so much scenery tucked into every nook and cranny; desks and tables are piled high with props. Thank you, as always, for taking so much care with organising the costumes. The children are extremely excited and counting the days until Monday. As Miss di Fine (our music teacher) has been in the Juniors, full time, this week, we have had to postpone our Titanic Court Room drama, which will now take place next week.

This week we enjoyed three more student-led scientific experiments about light. Scientist Deepesh, armed with a strange looking box (he had made himself) and other equipment introduced his experiment about light 'bending' in water. Each student, then carried out the experiment. After a concluding discussion, we were all far more knowledgeable about light travelling through water. Scientist Yatin, impressed us with his experiment about Newton's experiment with a prism. We enjoyed looking at a range of rainbows (the spectrum) as they appeared on the board. Scientist Shubham had prepared two experiments about the Laws of Reflection: (1) The incident ray, the reflected ray and the normal at the point of incidence all lie in the same plane and (2) The angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. Scientist Juliana finished off this science project with an amazing experiment about light travelling through minerals.

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we reviewed the use of 'Avoir (to have) and the exceptional use of **Avoir** when it means **to be** with specific expressions. We also covered many more adjectives and we combined them with their opposite meanings, then we followed up with a fun game using 'Les contraires' (the opposite adjectives).

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we did a reading comprehension on "Les vacances". The children also learnt a fable by Jean de la Fontaine "Le corbeau et le renard" which they recited in class. They were all very impressive and they all enjoyed the exercise which was not an easy one. Bravo!!

The students find it really amusing that we are using my ancient 'Ordinary Level Physics' textbook, which has my name, date of issue (14.9.1973) and class IVP inside the front cover!



Enjoy the weekend and I look forward to seeing you at the theatre.

Our Talk Topic is: Why are rocks so fascinating?

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,

This week, in the Junior department, we read a play-script together, in preparation for Year 4's class work. The children enjoyed playing the different characters, and using expression to read the parts, to show fear, anger and excitement. We talked about the characters and noted some key words about each of them. We then thought about a fictional character of our own choice, and used a *Descriptosaurus* to choose words, phrases and sentences to describe the character.

In the Year One and Two EAL sessions this week, we learned the vocabulary for equipment that we might need on a safari to see animals in the African savannah, and we practised the sentences needed to explain (*I would take binoculars, because the animals might be far away; There are no shops, so we would need to take food etc.*).



In the Reception EAL class, we looked at a picture of a family celebrating a birthday. We recognised the characters from previous pictures, and we used the past tense to explain what they did before (*He fell off his bicycle, because he was going too fast*), the present tense to explain what they were doing now (*She is opening a present*) and the near future to guess what they were going to do (*He's going to eat cake*).

I wish you all a happy weekend.

Kate Read
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