

Nursery

Dear Parents,

What a fabulous week we have all had making patterns - to be exact, simple repeating patterns, which are a great way of beginning to understand how patterns in maths and science help us to solve some tricky questions.

Mrs Nagy and Ms DiFine showed the children some fun activities on how to make a repeating pattern. This included simple things such as one child standing up, one child sitting down and so forth. We then did some girl, boy, girl, boy standing one behind the other in a line, to illustrate the repeating element of the pattern-making process.

This led onto using our large floor shapes to make a more complex repeating pattern, using one circle, two squares, one circle, two squares and so forth. The children then had great fun jumping from one big circle to two big squares back to one big circle etc. Of course, the most fun was had when making a repeating pattern with our handprints. We then cut these out to make trees and bushes to add to our 'Beautiful World' display in the corridor outside of nursery. Take a quick peek next time you are in school on a Wednesday, after pick-up time if you are a morning parent, or any pick-up time if you are one of our afternoon parents. The children's art work is always super to see when it is all gathered together to create a child-centred art display.

If you look in your child's home school book you will see the end result of all of our hands-on pattern making. Each child coloured in a paper scarf using a simple repeating pattern. To take it one step further and to see if your little one has remembered how to make a repeating pattern, we have given you some strips of coloured paper in an envelope. All you have to do is help them make a repeating pattern using the different colours. You can then stick it in the book and we will look at everyone's pattern in circle time next week.

Thank you to everyone who resent their child's baby photo in this week, we can now start working on the display and find out if anyone can guess who's who! Some of us have changed a lot since we were babies, especially Mrs Davies!

Our talk topic for is: Tell your mummy and daddy where a conker comes from and how it felt in your hand, when we passed it around in circle time.

If you are out and about in the forest this weekend and find any more conkers, bring them to school but be careful if they are still in their spiky shell!

Until next week have a great weekend.

Alison Davies, Anna Nagy and Vanessa define
nurseryteacher@telenet.be



Nursery and Reception Music

This week in music, we practiced how to follow a conductor. We learned to follow instructions such as start or stop, playing loud or soft and fast or slow. We ended up the week singing a beautiful autumnal song: Crunching through the leaves.

Reception



Dear Parents,

What a rainy week this has been! We had a couple of days in which the children couldn't go outside to play because of the rain and believe me, they did miss it!

The focus in Phonics this week has been on practising the sounds the children have learned in the past few weeks. By using a wide range of resources and doing different kind of activities, the children get to say and repeat the letter sounds in different contexts. In this way they start remembering and learning them.

In maths we worked with the days of the week using The Very Hungry Caterpillar story by Eric Carle, which gives a wonderful description of what the caterpillar ate on each day of the week and how he grew to be a fat and big caterpillar, who, at the end, turns into a magnificent butterfly. You can listen to and watch the story with your child through this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY&t=341s>. You will find a piece of work related to the story in your child's home school book, good for retelling the story and to count all the fruit the caterpillar ate.

We have been looking at different types of houses and homes for our topic and we chose to represent a castle on our art wall. You'll find photos in the website soon which will show the fantastic masterpiece the children have created. We have also talked about the different rooms that a house can have, and the children have come up with fantastic ideas about it!

As a continuation of The Three Little Pigs story we had last week, the children were challenged to build their own houses using wooden bricks, magnets, Duplo and playdough. It was a lot of fun for them and they came up with very good and creative constructions, so well done to them all!

Through our talk topic we are slowly introducing friendships; what makes a good friend, why is it important to have friends and how that makes us feel.

Thank you to all parents who have sent their family photo; our 'I love my family' wall is now almost complete. As soon as we have all of the pictures we will also upload an example of it on the website. So don't forget to check it!

Our talk topic for next week is: *'If you were the hungry caterpillar, what would you have eaten to not feel hungry anymore?'*

Please don't forget to label the children's coats and hats. The weather is getting colder and they all need a coat to go out to the playground, especially in the morning.

That is all for now, have a lovely weekend!

Mrs. van Wassenhove and Mrs. Julaton

receptionteacher@telenet.be

Languages

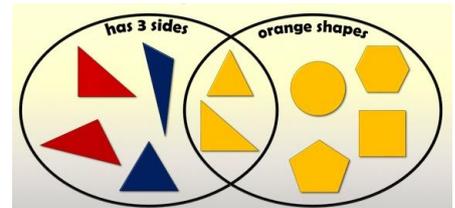
In the Reception language focus sessions with Ms Read and Mme Scharf, we worked on the language needed to talk about our friends. The children made good attempts to use sentences such as *I see a dad playing with a girl; I see three children playing with dolls*, in response to pictures. We are pleased with the children's developing confidence, and with their engagement in the language classes. Next week, we will introduce a full session of French, on Wednesday, and will continue to practise the basic essentials on the other days.

Year 1

Dear Parents,

We completed our recap of Phase 2 of the Letters and Sounds programme this week, by looking at the /f/ and /l/ sounds, together with their 'double' sounds /ff/ and /ll/, and also the /ss/ sound. The children learned another 'golden rule': these double letter spellings are never used at the beginning of a word, only at the end (mostly) or in the middle - examples are 'puff', 'bell' and 'hiss' (see this week's home school book). For our main writing session, we used an extended version of one of the 'Floppy' stories: we discussed the events in detail, placed some pictures from the story in the correct sequence, then wrote some sentences of our own to accompany the pictures. In grammar, we had a session practising two very important rules: a capital letter at the start of every sentence and a full stop at the end.

In Maths this week, it has been all about shapes and their properties: the basic 2-D shapes of circle, triangle, square and rectangle, how many sides and corners they each have, and whether their sides are straight or curved. We then learnt how to sort them according to their properties (for example, straight sides and curved sides) using Venn diagrams, and discovered where to place something which had both properties (in the intersection of the two circles). From there, we moved on to using Venn diagrams to sort different things, such as monsters with different numbers of legs, arms and eyes.



The children had their first Computing lesson this week: as an introduction, we looked inside a computer and talked about how computers need to be given very clear instructions, in the correct order - these two 'rules' will be the basis of our practical activities in the coming weeks.

In our topic session, we finished our work on the different layers of the ocean by adding some examples of sea creatures to the different layers on our individual pictures. Also on our oceans theme, the children each made a hand-print crab, and a series of large-scale creatures is also on the way, starting with a metre-long shark...

Finally, Maths homework for next week is entitled 'Excellent Estimating 1.5', and the Talk Topic for Monday 30th September will be "Apart than the many types of fish and shellfish, what other animals live or swim in the sea?"

Wishing you a relaxing weekend,

Patrick Tranter and Smita Bandaru
year1teacher@telenet.be

Year 1 Music

This week in music, we practiced rhythms on percussion instruments. We were able to follow a simplified rhythmical score accompanying the music of Strauss' "Radetzky March". And as a reward for achieving this, we ended the lesson by singing our favourite song "Monster".

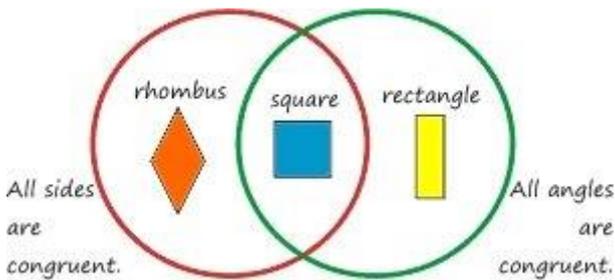
Year 1 French

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we are still following Tourloub Blanc who is now in the country of colours and playing "cache-cache" (hide and seek) with the animals. This episode gave us the opportunity to learn some prepositions like "devant, derrière, sur, sous, dans, à côté de et au milieu de". We sang songs to help us remember these words and we played games.

Year 2

Dear Parents,

This week we have been focusing on shapes and on Venn diagrams. We incorporated the shapes and the Venn diagram into our art and into our science this week, so the children have been practicing those in all different areas of their study over the week. This week we worked with 2D shapes, focusing mainly on squares, triangles, rectangles, circles, pentagons and hexagons. The children also learned about the *line of symmetry* and we learned that when we fold a symmetrical 2D shape it fits inside itself – That's how we know that the shape is symmetrical and that's how we find the *line of symmetry*. We also learned a brand-new word, *vertices*, which is where 2 lines meet, i.e. a corner. We did all kinds of worksheets, games and activities with shapes and Venn diagrams this week, so it turned into a fun learning experience!



Last week we decided to start imagining all kinds of impossible things! The children have been brilliant at imagining all kinds of things, ranging from 2D planets and swimming-pool-houses to monkeys in spaceships. These thought experiments have been brilliant. The children did beautiful artwork out of the things they imagined and wrote very fun stories about their favourite imagined thing! Working with their imagination this way helps the children develop their creativity as well as their logical thinking skills. And last but not least, it helps them become more independent in their thinking. We also continued to learn about poems and how they tend to be a bit short, a bit rhythmic, and to have some rhymes.

Next week the children will be finding a poem that they like and will bring it home to read with you. Discuss what the poem is about and then you can figure out together if the poem is short or long, if it has any rhyming words or if it has a rhythm when you read it together.

Finally, the stars of the week go Shaurya for excellent work in maths this week and for his beautiful artwork. And to Kecia for brilliant reading and for her happy and problem-solving attitude! Congratulations Shaurya and Kecia 😊

We hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy the mild autumn weather

Elin Hafstein and Ena Tolentino

Year2teacher@telenet.be

Year 2 French

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we sang, played and talked about '**Quel Temps fait-il?** (the weather forecast). We learned so many expressions and ways to describe the weather forecast in action.

Year 2 Music

On Monday in music, we found the answer to the question: what can make a hippopotamus smile? This fun song was a great way to practice our group singing. On Thursday, while half of the class was away swimming, the remaining half had the chance to practice rhythms on bucket drums.

Year 3

Dear Parents,



This week we became researchers and learned all about different aspects of Viking life. We read fact files and used the internet to find out what clothes Vikings wore and what they would have eaten, we learned about their art, crafts and jewellery, we found out about their housing, their writing and rhymes. The children worked in small groups to produce posters on these different areas of Viking life and then we shared what we found out.

In our art lesson we looked at the types of design that Vikings used for the brooches which they used to pin clothes together. We then used card, wool, foil, shiny paper and jewels to make our own Viking brooch designs.

In mathematics we have been learning how to tell the time in all its forms. We learned how to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes on analogue clocks, including roman numerals, and on digital clocks. We learned how to say the time in words, remembering we say 'past' up to halfway round the clock face and then 'to' until we reach the next hour, and how to say the time on digital clocks correctly. We also discussed the properties of 3D shapes.

In literacy we discussed story settings, the place in which a story happens. We discussed Moomin valley, a place where the Moomin trolls live and used as many interesting adjectives as possible to describe it, such as majestic, misty, lonely, calm, peaceful. The children then chose their own story setting to describe, using adjectives to provide detail and interest. In grammar we talked about when we use 'a' and when we use 'an'. We also did our guided reading session on Wednesdays. Please can you remind your child to bring in their green reading record on Wednesdays because, after each guided reading session, we like to put our objectives, along with some comments on how your child read.

Have a lovely weekend.

Camilla Rutayisire

Year3teacher@telenet.be

Year 3 Music

This week in music, we continued practicing our singing with a beautiful song, "The lady in white", a ghost searching for her lost love.

Year 4

Dear Parents,

The main event of the week was clearly the EU's 'Science is Wonderful' but I have noticed from the Junior School Edmodo forum that the children absolutely love Wednesday swimming; that they are motivated to write about it and worry enough about it to remind each other that it's '*swimming tomorrow*'.



But, before we got to the exhibition hall down by the canal for all things scientific, there was lots to do in the classroom. In Numeracy, we learnt or mastered the 6x and 9x tables and looked very hard at strategies for subtracting; specifically, which method to use for which type of question. This kind of analysis-learning is key in Year 4.

Here are some websites to reinforce the times tables visited:

http://www.transum.org/Software/Fast_Factors/Default.asp

<https://www.digipuzzle.net/minigames/mathracer/mathracer.htm?language=english>

<https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/duckShoot/index.html>

In Literacy, meanwhile, we described our favourite building and had fun exploring adverbs, degrees of intensity and how characters in stories react to their surroundings. This manifested in a bit of drama, some games, imagining and lots of word work and hopefully the learning of some new 'wow' words.

Elsewhere, the children learnt how to draw an interior design plan (of our classroom) and we were presented with the not-so-insignificant task of building a Tudor house. Many thanks for shoeboxes which have come in from home. The class have been asking all week when the DT project would begin, and they were thrilled to get going when we did.

'Science is Wonderful' was exactly that and we had a wonderful trip. I can only fully speak for my group but they were engaged and riveted for all 3 hours. Playdoh stomach- and intestine-building, paper from poo, robots, brain cells under the microscope, plants looking for light with samples to take home and goodie bags - superb! Thank you Aadriyan's mum for coming along to help!

And that was our week. Have a nice weekend.

Our Talk Topic for this week is: What type of scientist would you become if you had to and why?

Best wishes

Tim Stedman & Mrs Irakoze

year4teacher@telenet.be

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

Years 3 &4 French

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we learned how to use 'Il y a' (there is/there are) to name 'le matériel scolaire' (school stationary) and what we can find in our 'trousse' (pencil case) or le cartable (school bag). It was fun coming up with all the related vocabulary.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, we have been working really hard on être (to be) and avoir (to have) in the present tense. We also reviewed the French pronouns to be able to better understand how French conjugation works. It was not an easy exercise, but the children did really well and will now be able to introduce themselves by using these two verbs.

Year 4 Music

This week in music, we learned about Brahms Hungarian Dance n.5. We were challenged with the task of learning a tricky body clap demanding great synchronization and rhythmical skills. We also realized Brahms was the very same composer who wrote the famous Lullaby.

Year 5

Dear Parents,

What a week we have had with the undoubtable highlight being the trip to the EU 'Science is Wonderful' exhibition.

In Literacy we enjoyed playing with sounds and words and found out all about onomatopoeia. We watched a PowerPoint presentation which put it all into perspective and I am hoping the children use it in their stories from now on. Our words of the day included babble and bellow. It was also did a comprehension about famous Victorians and it was interesting to find out that Lewis Carroll lived and wrote in the Victorian era. From this comprehension we gained yet another few interesting words to add to our widening vocabulary. We managed to read a few chapters of Mill Girl as well.

In Numeracy we revised the digital and analogue times. We spoke about the 12 hour and 24-hour clocks. We then moved on to the reading and understanding of timetables. It was so lovely to see how the children were discussing how to fill in gaps and generally working together to solve problems.

Victorian schools were on our agenda this week and we noted the differences in rich and poor children's education as well as the differences between boys and girls' education. We all agreed that today is much fairer and better for all.

In PE due to inclement weather and the cancellation of tennis, we again moved the desks in our classroom and danced around. Tennis returns next week so please note that PE uniform should be worn on Thursdays.

In Art we looked at the work of Claude Monet and had a fun time painting or using pastels to recreate one of his masterpieces.

The outing on Thursday was very informative and the children asked intelligent questions. The behaviour was exemplary. We were treated to 10 exhibitions on subjects such as magnetic fields, anti-corrosive products, agriculture, smart materials, plants, robotics and eco-friendly plastic. We returned to school that much wiser and happy.



Please note that children absolutely HAVE to bring their recorders in to school on a Thursday. Mrs Mayeur is not able to teach if half the class do not have their instruments.

The talk topic this week is: Not many schools had a uniform on at the EU event. How did you feel in your smart uniform?

Have a very relaxing weekend,

Mrs Vetter Year5teacher@telenet.be

Years 5 & 6 French

In French with Mrs Halvorsen, we reviewed 'les jours de la semaine' (days of the week), we followed up with a game, and then we looked at verb '**Aller**' (to go) used with combined prepositions. We had several exercises and we worked on our French book Zig Zag.

In French with Mrs. Scharf, the children recited the poem we read together last week and they all did a fantastic job! In the future, we will learn more poems because it is an excellent exercise for pronunciation. We also revised using the right preposition for the means of transportation and did the same exercise for

going to a country or a city : “Je vais en France, au Danemark, aux Pays-Bas, à Paris, à Bruxelles, etc”. We also did some geography and talked about Europe and the European Union.

Years 5 & 6 Music

This week in music, we practiced a tune based on the famous “Frère Jacques” song, slightly modified: “Brother Jack, why so blue?”. This four-part canon was a good way to remind us about how to keep a good intonation and rhythm while playing and singing different parts.

Year 6



Dear Parents,

What an exciting week in the Year 6 Bootcamp! Four weeks completed and I can report that homework is ‘usually’ handed in on the correct day, students have given up with excuses for not having done it AND much more effort is being exerted when completing it! A win-win situation.

It looks (and smells like) like an Italian restaurant in our classroom. This week’s science experiment was all about the physical properties of different household liquids and how they change when they are frozen. We used olive oil, sunflower oil, passata, tap water and a saline solution to investigate whether or not the frozen liquid sinks or floats when placed into its own liquid form at room temperature.



Absolutely thrilled with our first set of book reviews. These have been inspired from Year 6 teacher’s own book reviews on Twitter. Our work on summarising texts has been a success, with most pupils managing to strictly adhere to the 50-word word limit. We have now met Arlo the author – his skills are: spotting examples of ambitious vocabulary; figurative language and explaining how these words and phrases add to the meaning of the text.

Again, another terrific outing to the EU – Science is Wonderful exhibition. We were treated to two coaches on the way there, and on our return, we sat in a 76-seater luxury bus, which we fell in love with - we want to buy one for Junior Department outings! There were 67 fascinating exhibition stands including automated vehicles, unlocking the future of tidal energy; measuring emotions and biometrics on the move. My sincere thanks to our parent-helpers, without whom this trip would not have been possible!

Fractions - we managed to work through addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions this week; the division ‘fraction flip’ promises to be a favourite manoeuvre.

News Reporter Aasvhi presented the Year 6 weekly news; she told us about the deepest parts of the ocean and the Chinese salamander. Fascinating information!

Next week: a sleepless night in the Atomium, working lunch with the School Council and House Captains and first Junior Debating Society event.

Talk Topic: What are the positive aspects about wearing a school uniform?

Happy Weekend,

Mrs Tranter and Mrs Tolentino

Year6teacher@telenet.be

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Dear Parents,

This week, the Year 1 and 2 EAL small group talked again about ocean creatures, sorting them into groups according to their properties (eg. *they have legs, they have no legs; they have a tail, they have no tail*). We revised the letter sounds covered so far this term. We played a bingo game involving writing and reading 3 letter consonant-vowel-consonant words (eg. man, cut, pig, ten). We took time to have a group conversation, in which each child told us about their home activities.



In the Junior Department EAL small group, we revised key words related to time and dates. We read an exciting and rather scary book, *The Kidnap*, which introduced some useful new vocabulary (including *jolt, nap, nightmare*). The children should be able to tell you about the story. They have been very engaged in the classes, keen to share some interesting knowledge, and making a good effort to complete writing tasks. We looked at using apostrophes to show possession (eg. *My brother's bag is heavy*), and again at the present and past tense of simple verbs.

If you would like to meet with me, I am usually available each Thursday at 8:30 in the Junior Department, and Friday at 8:30 in the Infant Department. Please contact me via the school office, or at the email address below.

I wish you a happy weekend.

Kate Read

EALteacher@telenet.be