



The British International
School of Brussels

The Year 2s
creating silhouette
trees



EYFS Nursery

Dear Parents,

This week was all about 'likes and dislikes.' The children enjoyed playing the thumbs up or thumbs down game during circle time and, of course, we all had to pull the appropriate like or dislike faces. Some of the children were very certain about the type of food they love and the type of food they hate, and we got some great expressions when we asked if anyone would like to eat wiggly worm soup! Or slug stew!

Along with bubbles, lions and Lego, cake, candy and chocolate came very high on the like list and sharks, crocodiles, fruit and vegetables were on the dislike list! Although one of the children said that they didn't like donuts because they were not healthy for you, everyone else decided donuts were a firm favourite!

In your child's home school book this week, you will find an envelope with pictures inside for you to play the 'I like or don't like' game with your little one. Ask them to look at each picture carefully and describe what's on it and ask if they like or dislike the object, activity, food, they can see. Next, glue or tape it into the appropriate box and, when you return the home school book next week, we will discuss each child's choices during circle time.

We finished the week with a little taster session using fruit and vegetables and had to think really hard about why we say we don't like a certain food before we even put it in our mouths! The children were asked to taste some more unusual fruits, such as fig and pomegranate along with some old favourites such as pear, mandarin, banana and apple. We added some tomato, red pepper and carrot for the vegetable tasting. Most of the children put the food at least on their tongue and some even ate the whole selection and asked for more! Before the tasting session we played the 'Guess the fruit or vegetable' using our sense of touch or smell, because we were blindfolded so we couldn't actually see what it was!

Just a little reminder, if you have not emailed the digital contact details form for your child to the school office, please do this as a matter of urgency. We also require the paper copies of the permission forms for website use etc, to be returned to Mrs Davies who cannot upload any group photographs to the website, until everyone has signed and agreed their child can appear on there. Thank you for your understanding.

It's going to be a wet and windy weekend, so batten down the hatches as they say and enjoy a cosy weekend indoors, discussing our **Talk topic:** 'What fruit or vegetable do you really like to eat and which one makes you pull an 'I don't like' face?'



Have a relaxing weekend.

Thank you and see you on Monday.

Alison Davies, Anna Nagy and Vanessa diFine

EYFS Reception

Dear Parents,

Autumn is definitely here, and you can feel it in the air as the mornings get cooler.



In Phonics this week we introduced the new letter sounds 'm', 'd' and 'g', but we also keep going back to the letter sounds we have learned in the past weeks. We are now putting letters together and learning to blend the sounds to read very simple and short words. The children did an impressive job writing cvc words on their whiteboards and have also been learning to recognise the first and last sound in a word.

In Maths we have introduced positional language, so we took the children outside to play with balls and asked them to place them in different places using their body as a reference, 'put the ball on your head, put the ball between your knees, put the ball on the floor in front of you' and so on. The children are also learning number bonds up to 7 using blocks and toys etc... We have also introduced teen numbers and practised naming, recognising them and grouping objects. Next week we will be doing more practice on this and introducing simple addition and subtraction till 10.

Our topic this week focused on friendships. We read 'All are Welcome' by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman, which focuses on the importance of accepting different people and cultures, making friends and feeling included.

To add to this we had a very interesting discussion about friendly and unfriendly attitudes, with the children coming up with very good explanations and ideas. We're now hoping to see this being put into practice in daily play routines. You will find a piece of work on this in your child's Home School Book. Please ask your child to explain the pictures to you and listen to their ideas.



One of the highlights of the week is always our P.E. session. Children love going to the top playground and using the special equipment from the sports shed. This week we played throwing and catching a ball in a big circle and then in pairs. We also played 'Tag', a whole group game with simple rules that have to be followed. This is a little bit tricky at the moment because, with the excitement of running away from the child who is 'it', the rules are simply forgotten. So, every time we go back over them and have another go, in the hope that the children will remember as they play!

Our talk topic for next week is based around the theme of feelings and emotions. We will also continue working on our theme 'Caring for our environment'. Your child should be able to tell you a lot about recycling and the characteristics of different materials.

As the weather is changing, please send your child to school with appropriate coats and shoes. And a kind reminder: if your child is wearing rain boots please include a pair of shoes or slippers in their bag as boots are not comfortable enough to wear for a whole day. Thank you for your understanding.

Talk topic: How do you feel and what makes your feelings change?

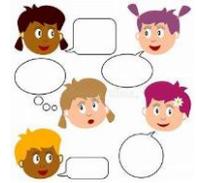
Have a nice, restful weekend.

See you all back on Monday.

Sharmini Nathan and Ivana Julaton receptionteacher@telenet.be

EAL

Dear Parents,



In the Year One EAL small group this week, the children practised some of the vocabulary and sentence structures that they needed for their story writing in class. They made similes, using the adjective fast, in the form: *I can run fast, like a racing car; I can run fast, like a cheetah.*



They played a vocabulary sorting game, involving a range of words describing taste, including *sweet, salty, tasty, yummy, delicious, scrumptious*. They enjoyed explaining to me what they have learnt in science about how we taste things (with our taste buds).

As well as the bilingual sessions, the Reception children practised their English while sorting items into two groups: human-made and natural. We discussed the question: *What is nature?* and we used sentences including: *It came from nature; People made it.* We practised using the tricky passive voice: *It was made by people.*

Please contact me at the email address: ealteacher@telenet.be if you have any questions about EAL.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kate Read

Music - Acorn Department (EYFS, Years 1 & 2)

Nursery

This week in music, we finished learning our very first song "Everyday I grow". We are already much more confident at singing after a month of classes and this is indeed very promising for the future!

Reception

This week, we had a lot of fun playing instruments together with the songs we have been learning. We succeeded in playing a two-part instrumental accompaniment to the "Steam train" song and we were introduced to a new song called "Beans harvest".

Year 1

We are getting quite confident with rhythms and focused this week's practise on quavers and crotchets.



Year 2

We are practising our listening skills and memory with the poison rhythm game and we are getting quite good at it! We especially enjoyed this week's instrumental version of the game. We also perfected our singing and finished learning the "Alien" song.

KS1 Year 1

Dear Parents,

Wow the rain has come this week! Thank you to all parents for making sure your child has a coat in school, we will be needing them now. It's great to see everyone is able to put their coat on. If you can spend a little time at home helping them to learn how to do up the zip or buttons on their jacket that will help them to be independent in school and be very useful over the winter months.



In Literacy we learned about the double letters /ss/ /ff/ /ll/ and /zz/ at the end of words through a song, 'Doubles at the end'. The children practised reading and writing the words from the song and using them in their own sentences. In our grammar lesson we learned about using a capital letter for days of the week. As part of this lesson we also learned to read, write and order the days of the week too. Also, sadly, our lessons with 'Mrs C' from 'The Write Stuff' have come to an end for now. We have had a go at planning and writing our own new adventure for Winston the dog from the animation short 'Feast'. We tried to pull everything we have learned together and tried to use the new words we had learned.

On Monday, the Year 1 children will have their first spelling lesson. These lessons are linked to our phonics programme in school. After the lesson, the children will have a list of ten words to learn for a short, informal spelling test that takes place on the following Monday. Some children may also be asked to write a dictated sentence in their spelling books using the target spelling words for the week. The aim is to learn how to use the phonics taught in school for spelling and to learn how to spell the tricky words for year 1 too. Children will bring a spelling book home with a letter explaining the dates for the tests until the Christmas holidays and the procedure for helping your child to learn the words. Please ask your child to practice on a separate piece of paper or a whiteboard, the book is only for the test.

In Maths we have learned all about symmetry in pictures and shapes. We learned to find a line of symmetry by folding a shape in half and to sort shapes according to whether they were symmetrical or not. We also revised making repeating patterns of colours and shapes. We discussed the names of the common 2D shapes in the year 1 range, including triangle, square, rectangle, circle, pentagon and hexagon. We discussed the properties of these shapes including how many sides and vertices each different shape has.

In Science, as part of our 'Who am I?' topic, we have been learning about the sense of taste. We discussed the parts of the mouth and foods we like and dislike. We then tried a few different foods and tried to identify their taste such as sour, sweet, bitter. We discovered that we liked sweet tastes the best!

Talk topic: What are the signs of autumn?

And that was our week! I hope you have a great weekend,

Camilla Rutayisire and Smita Bandaru Year1teacher@telenet.be



KS1 Year 2

Dear Parents,

The wind and the rain haven't dampened the spirits of Year 2 this week and we have had another exciting week of learning!

Our Mrs. C writing lessons have come to an end with a fantastic piece of independent writing from the children. They were really inspired to get started and the concentration and writing stamina was noticeably improved since the start of the year. There was evidence of ambitious vocabulary, mature sentence structures and some new punctuation (such as speech marks) in their independent writing. It was a real joy to see how their confidence in writing has grown in this short space of time.

In Mathematics this week we have been having fun playing some number games which involved ordering two-digit numbers, placing them on a 0-100 number line and comparing them using the mathematical symbols for greater than and less than.

Since the weather has been so changeable this week, we thought we would use it to our advantage during our Science lessons by looking at how weather is measured. We analysed weather forecasts and matched forecast symbols to the weather condition. We then set up our own weather station in the playground and every day we go outside to check the temperature, rainfall and wind speed. We noticed that our weather station was missing a weather-vane and so we made our own from craft resources.

The rainy weather meant indoor PE this week and so we enjoyed a yoga class together. The children are getting very good at remembering the sequence for 'sun salutations' – perhaps you could ask them to show you at home?

In Computing, we used the dictionary app to find definitions for the words, 'respect,' 'kindness' and 'tolerance' and researched our favourite kindness quotes for the classroom.



Just as we were coming to the end of our work with our topic book, [Here We Are](#), we heard from the wicked Cruella Deville. In return for information about the stolen puppies, she demanded that the children work in groups to create a 'marketplace' of information. Everyone could choose an area of the book that they found most fascinating and use what they had learned throughout the topic, along with facts they had found from a range of reference books, to create an 'Information Stall' of posters, fact books, drawings and live explanations about their chosen area. Some of the Information Stalls at the marketplace

included Transport (now and then), The Solar System, The Human Body and Endangered Animals. It was fantastic to see the children working so well together in their groups, finding facts and collaborating in the presentation of their informative displays. The children then walked around the classroom visiting the stalls

to learn new facts. Cruella's clue this week; the puppies can be found in a European country with an 'e' and an 'i' in its name.



We have produced some amazing artwork this week! Our artist of the week this week was Gustav Klimt. We looked closely at his painting, *The Tree of Life* and created our own version of Klimt's tree by layering our painted Kandinsky circles onto a collaged tree base. In a second piece of artwork, the children used watercolours and stamp printing to paint beautiful backgrounds of swirling skies and rolling hills and used collage techniques to add a silhouette tree. We were very proud of the finished pieces!

Talk Topic: In preparation for our new topic, **Superheroes**, please talk about the superheroes you know from books, cartoons, movies or toys. Discuss what makes them a superhero and what special qualities or powers they have.

We hope you have a lovely weekend,

Gabriel Bird and Ena Tolentino year2teacher@telenet.be



French - Acorn Building: Reception, Years 1 & 2

Reception: In French with Madame Scharf, we learnt to ask "Comment tu t'appelles?" and we answered by saying "Je m'appelle et toi?" The children were all very excited to be speaking French and they all enjoyed the singing on the same theme: "Bonjour, salut! Comment t'appelles-tu?"

Year 1: In French with Madame Scharf, we finished revising and/or learning 11 colours. We continued revising and/or learning more animal names and used them in sentences. We also listened to a few songs containing names of animals and finally we played a big memory game also pertaining to the same theme.

Year 2: In French with Madame Halvorsen, we reviewed the 'greeting expressions' and worked on **Les numéros from 0 to 50**, we sang and played with *Quel âge as-tu?* (How old are you?) and could choose and come up with different 'ages': 'j'ai neuf ans, j'ai douze ans'..



KS2 Year 3

Dear Parents,

We finished our writing sessions with Mrs C this week, and now have the complete story of Winston's 'Feast' on the two classroom windows. I have transcribed our story for you and posted it on the Year 3 Edmodo page for you to read. You may wish to watch the short, animated film with your child, so that they can explain to you the intricacies of the plot. Each child has at least one of his/her own sentences in the 'screenplay' and collectively, there really was some great work.

Also this week, we have studied pairs of homophones – the children should be able to tell you that these words sound the same, but mean different things and have different spellings. When learning such words, it is important to learn them in context (ie in sentences), so that the children learn when to use the appropriate spelling.

Maths this week has been practical: we have learned about units of time, from seconds to centuries, how to use calendars, which months have 30 or 31 days, Roman numerals, telling the time to the 5 minutes, and the differences in the way we say the time when reading analogue and digital clocks. It is clear that the children are comfortable with reading and saying the time on digital clocks, but less so when reading analogue times such as 25 past, 20 to etc – this is something that you could practise at home. We also re-visited 3-D shapes, their properties (faces, edges and vertices) and how to sort them using Venn diagrams, with the introduction of the 'universal set' (ie the circles contained within a rectangle).



We had an 'Art afternoon' on Thursday, dedicated to making the collage animals for our 'Here We Are' display – it was a very busy, very messy, but very enjoyable session, and although not all the animals are quite finished yet, we will soon have some very impressive creations on the wall. There are some photos on the school website - <http://www.bisb.org/project/year-3-october-2020/>.

Online Maths homework for next week will be Hedgehog Hurry 3.5 – using the inequality signs with 3-digit numbers.

Talk Topic: How can we help to make playtime more fun for everyone, including the teachers?

Wishing you a safe and pleasant weekend,

Patrick Tranter and Cristina Salgado year3teacher@telenet.be

KS2 Year 4

Dear Parents,

This week has seen the climax of 3 weeks of intensive learning under the Write Stuff scheme. We have been working on different grammatical aspects of language such as the passive voice, pronouns, conjunctions and adverbial phrases. Our first complete online module with Mrs C (Jane Considine) culminated in a happy ending for our small furry hero. Moreover, Diya was mentioned on the lesson siter for her fantastic piece of writing!

However, the most exciting is yet to come: we will now venture out in writing our own version of the story, through the eyes of the dog's owner. What will he be feeling? How will he feel towards this little dog? Will the story change when seen through the human eyes of Winston's owner?



In Topic we have changed from environmental advocates to artists. After the excitement of writing letters to the Prime Minister of India, Norendra Modi, we experimented with art inspired by our nature and the animals that we must preserve. The children worked on skills such as sketching, perspective and mixing different materials – with some great results!

We continued to explore sound in Science by looking into how different materials reverberate differently. We built our own telephones and came to the conclusion that there is no single material that is the most effective, but rather a combination of them. So, have you tried looking into loudspeakers and phones and seen the combination of materials inside? We are considering why paper, combined with plastic, foam and metal may be the most effective.



In PE, we returned to Basketball and worked on team organisation as well as ball control. We started using strategies and positioning to understand how teams organise themselves on the court and how effectively different teams work. The key idea was - working collaboratively! It was fun and challenging with autumn showing its glory in the playground!

In mathematics we have continued to learn more about place value and how to exchange properly. We also applied the knowledge by experimenting with multiplication using the grid method. The children demonstrated fantastic mental skills and also used the inverse operation to check their answers. Year 4 have shown great understanding and independence throughout the week. Fantastic!

Talk topic: What other materials can you think of when making telephones and other sound-enhancing equipment? In the classroom we used paper and plastic. Can you think of at least 3 different materials and explain their use?

Have a good weekend,

Arturo Viola year4teacher@telenet.be



KS2 Year 5

Dear Parents,

What a lot of rain we had this week! Monday felt like the days when I was 9 in the 70s when it used to rain all day. Autumn is upon us! And the theme suited our movements in class.

In Topic, once we had recorded our Ocean Earth documentaries, we moved outside (between the rain) and gazed at the autumnal sky. This mindfulness will help us write poetry next week. The plan was to paint that Belgium sky with watercolours, but we just didn't get lucky with a 'dry window' between the rainfalls.

The playground is currently a very busy place and, if you are not fighting for a break in the rain, there are the bubble playtimes to consider too. Still, PE was secured as usual and the children were thrilled to learn about 'lay ups' in basketball but also to make their human, moving solar systems in Science which I'm sure you have seen on Edmodo.

By the time you read this, the children and Oak department will also have enjoyed Josaphat, designing an autumn-themed orienteering course for Y2 and playing in amongst the trees and paths and apparatus of the Park.

In Literacy, we read The Just So Stories and analysed Kipling's writing style in depth, but the main event was the completion of Mrs C's online writing extravaganza. We have finished her 'Feast' and now we are going to tuck into our own creation. The children have got together the ingredients and planned the recipe; now, they just need to prepare it. They will write their own dish next week!! It's very exciting.

Meanwhile in Numeracy, we learnt tricks to multiply BIG and visited Time. Specifically, we looked at timetables and time intervals. Of particular note were the group who elected for the hardest of challenges in Thursday's lesson. Initially things didn't go well and errors were made, but they rallied, looked hard at the task in hand and really turned it around, solving the problem with timely efficiency. It was immensely satisfying.

Talk Topic: How would you choose to burst through the clouds? Explain your answer

And that was our week.

Best wishes,

Tim Stedman year5teacher@telenet.be

KS2 Year 6

Dear Parents,

Cornimont is now top of the conversation chart in Oak building! There is huge excitement with Year 6 pupils having now been given their responsibilities and having had their first management meeting on Friday morning - they will post information to the Year 6 Cornimont folder on BISB Internet Café:

Talent Show and Evening Entertainment: Hithaishi, Anoushka and Suhaavi

Catering and Housekeeping: Anjali, Pranaya and Lavanya

Sports Monitors: Rishi and Ravi

Quiz Masters: Rohan and Abheer

It was great meeting you all on Zoom and thank you so much for such a patient and well-behaved audience! I can assure you that Zooming with Year 6 is like being in a technical tornado: screen takeovers, strange annotations appearing, pupils turning off the video function, and, I am absolutely convinced that some bright sparks have managed to change their backgrounds to images of themselves listening attentively, whilst I carry on talking! The wonders of technology.

When analysing all the lenses from the Writing Rainbow, which we worked with during our fantastic Feast project, the children were delighted to see how many they had used. Their next task was to identify and highlight examples of these in preparation for the independent write next week.

As we extend our science topic, we are now studying plant and animal cells. The children have been drawing diagrams of plant cells and are investigating the roles played by ribosomes, the nucleus, Golgi apparatus, chloroplast and mitochondrion, to name a few.

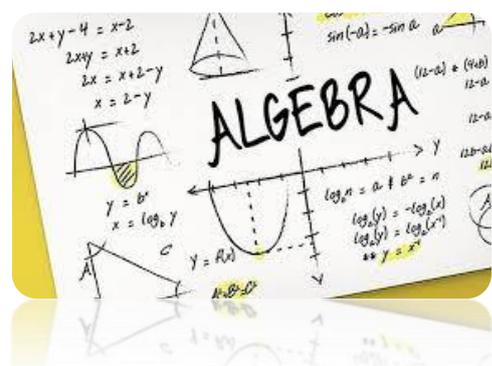
It was time to attack Algebra on Monday! We began by looking at some fundamental algebraic skills by examining codes and how to use formulae. Quickly progressing to substitution, collecting like terms and forming expressions, we finished this introduction by working through an equation and witnessing the magic of Algebra – to be continued...

It's non-stop zing in Year 6, and, in Excel this week, using their previously created online rental shops, the Year 6 programmers learnt how to divide, multiply, add and subtract. They will be able to use these skills when organising different aspects of our residential trip.

Talk Topic: What is autism?

The weeks fly by and we wish you another happy weekend,

Beverley Tranter, Ena Tolentino and Cristina Salgado year6teacher@telenet.be



Music - Oak Building : Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

On top of our weekly recorder practise, here is what we have achieved in the Oak building:



Year 3 and Year 4

This week, we talked about Vivaldi's Autumn from the Four Seasons. We focused on the first movement and created a rhythmical accompaniment with lyrics that we perform at the same time as the original music.

Year 5

This week, we continued with the creation of our body percussion to Brahms's Hungarian Dance no.5.

Year 6

This week, we worked on polyrhythmic music and were faced with the challenge of having to keep a steady rhythm and beat at the same time as another group, who were playing something totally different.

French - Oak Building: Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Year 3 & 4: In French with Madame Halvorsen, We talked about **les fournitures scolaires** (school supplies) and everything we could find in **our cartable** (school bag) **and trousse** (pencil case). We also went over the auxiliary **Avoir** (to have) and then we had a team quiz.



In Year 3 with Madame Scharf, we organised an activity around 'les fournitures scolaires' using 'il y a' (there is/there are).

In Year 4 with Madame Scharf, we organised an activity to ask questions: *Qu'est-ce que tu as dans ta trousse?* (What do you have in your pencil case?)

Years 5 & 6: In French with Madame Halvorsen, we talked about 'Les fournitures scolaires' (School supplies), the auxiliary Avoir, and we came with up with questions and answers using Avoir with vocabulary *Qu'est-ce que tu as dans ton cartable* (What do you have in your school bag?) we also learned how to ask and tell 'the time'- 'Dire & lire l'heure'.

In year 5, we finished presenting in front of the class - 'je me présente' (I introduce myself)

In year 6, we learned how to talk about 'Les matières scolaires' (school subjects) and we played: *Quelles sont tes matières préférées?*

Years 3 & 4 : In French with Madame Scharf, we have continued to practise how we meet someone and how we introduce ourselves. We also included our nationality and we made a presentation of ourselves in front of the class. We keep revising/learning counting up to ten. Together with Madame Halvorsen, we revised the vocabulary pertaining to school by asking the question : "Dans ton cartable, est-ce qu'il y a une règle, une trousse, des crayons, etc ... ?" We answered by saying : "Oui, dans ma trousse, il y a" or "Non, dans ma trousse, il n'y a pas de".

Year 5 & 6: In French with Madame Scharf, we revised the vocabulary pertaining to school material by playing a game. We also revised the correct use of "le, la, les" for the school material vocabulary. We filled in a document with information and observed another document and answered questions.

In Year 5, we had a test on reading the time and school organisation and started revising être et avoir.

In Year 6, we worked on pronominal verbs.