

INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE LANCY
ENGLISH SECTION

Outline of Our Work for the Second Half of the Autumn Term – Year 4

What will we be learning?

What the Ancient Egyptians believed and left behind (pyramids, embalming, tombs and treasures, hieroglyphics).

How to write reports, play scripts, instructions and poetry.

What's in the news: Earthquakes and volcanoes.

The difference between solids and liquids, how to classify and separate them.

How to find Co-ordinates and perimeter, problem solving, multiplication, division, recognising fractions, time, data using tables and charts.

Understand why Christians celebrate Christmas and the example of different religions.

Numeracy:

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Co-ordinates and perimeter, solving problems, properties of numbers, number sequences, reasoning about numbers, multiplication and division (TUxU and TU/U), money and real life problems, choosing the correct operation, fractions and decimals, recognising fractions that are several parts of a whole, reading time to the nearest minute from analogue and 12h digital clock, handling data: tally charts, pictograms, frequency tables, bar charts.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Involve your child when using a map by asking them to give you co-ordinates of a location or by asking them to find a place with the co-ordinates you give. Ask your child to help you solve real life problems (help you with a sum at the supermarket, help you work out how many eggs you will need for double the recipe...). Show your child how you use Maths by talking through your thinking when you work something out. Help your child learn their timetables including the division facts. Quiz them frequently in the car/on the bus... Support your child with their homework, play maths games with them. Ask them to explain their reasoning or justify their answers (not only when they are incorrect!). Let your child pay and check the change when you go shopping. Ask your child what the time is in both formats (analogue and digital) and how long you have left to do something or until the next programme.

Language and Literacy:

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Non-chronological reports, factual writing, instructions, play scripts, poetry, coherence and agreement, the imperative tense, adverbs and various uses of capital letters.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Make your child read 4 lots of 20 minutes per week and record it in their reading record, read at least once a week out loud with them and write a comment about their reading in their reading record. Ask them to predict what will happen next/ to explain why something happened using the text to justify their views. Ask them questions to check their understanding, include inferential questions. Beware of reading that sounds very confident! Children this age can read very well but not understand what they are reading. Check with shorter and longer answer questions. Discuss how the plot develops and the characters' and author's motivations. Read a variety of texts together: stories, comics, fact books, factual pages on the internet, recipes, instructions, signs and advertisements, plays... Help your child with research: To summarise or put it into their own words, to improve presentation... Help your child distinguish between fiction and non-fiction texts by reading and talking about a number of each. Ask your child to help you follow instructions when cooking or making things around the home, follow directions given by a friend... Read plays scripts and act them out together to show the need for stage directions. Read and compose poetry together (show your children that you too are a writer, show them your thinking process). Play rhyming games when on a walk. Ask your children to spot all the imperative verbs that they/you use and when. Discuss how things are done using adverbs. Learn and rehearse weekly spelling patterns until they are known confidently. Challenge your child to spell longer words that are derived from the root word they know. Help your child complete longer assignments by re-reading their work with them and helping them spot mistakes, missing punctuation (capital letters in titles, for names and at the beginning of sentences in particular, speech marks, question marks), missing words, sentences that don't agree or are incoherent.

Science:

We will be covering this topic:

Solids and Liquids.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Making predictions based on previous knowledge, designing and carrying out experiments safely and sensibly, choosing the correct equipment, identifying patterns and making generalisations to be tested, beginning to learn what a fair test is and how tests can be more or less fair, using scientific vocabulary to write simple conclusions to experiments.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Play spot the liquid/solid. Discuss various types of liquids and solids and their behaviour (the kitchen is the best place for this). Experiment together with melting, mixing and separating. How long does butter take to melt in the microwave? Which melts faster, butter or lard and why? Let your child mix cake dough for you and find out how flour behaves when mixed with water. Could your child choose the correct equipment for you to mix or separate solids and/or liquids? Let your child measure amounts in grams and litres/millilitres. Discuss how plastic things around the house are made.

History:

We will be covering this topic:

Pyramids, embalming, tombs and treasures and Ancient Egyptian beliefs.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Using information books to find out historical facts. Understanding the importance of what the Ancient Egyptians left behind to Egyptology. Deductive skills using pictures and artefacts. How beliefs shaped the Ancient Egyptian civilisation and landscape.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Support your child with research set as homework. Take your child to museums and exhibitions related to Ancient Egypt (Art and History museum, Geneva). Read non-fiction books and articles about Ancient Egypt. There are a number of excellent child-oriented websites about Ancient Egypt. Here are a few:

<http://home.freeuk.net/elloughton13/egypt.htm> (Snaith Primary School's website is a fantastic resource for KS2 children)

<http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk> (British Museum site)

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/egypt/index.htm> (advertising can be irritating)

Geography:

We will be covering this topic:

What's in the news: Earthquakes and volcanoes.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Using an atlas and maps. Placing names on maps using an atlas. Beginning to find out data and interpret it. Drawing and labelling volcanoes and earthquakes accurately.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Watch the news together and discuss the consequences of volcanoes and earthquakes. On holidays, collect various rocks and compare location and weight. Use information books and the internet to find out more about volcanoes and earthquakes.

A good children's news site is: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/default.stm>

RE: (Religious Education)

We will be covering this topic:

Celebrations: The Christmas Journey

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Students will be looking at ways in which Christians today find meaning in the accounts and stories of Jesus' birth. Through the theme of journeys, using a variety of visual and written sources and music, children learn about the develop their understanding of some of the ways in which Christians celebrate Jesus' birth. They examine and reflect upon concepts of pilgrimage. They encounter biblical stories at first hand, and develop their understanding of the use of symbolic language. They develop their understanding of how religious beliefs and ideas can be conveyed through the expressive arts.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Support your child with research set as homework. Read and do research on different religions around the world.

A good children's site is: <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/christianity/nativity/>