

**Numeracy:**

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

We will be commencing with a unit of 2-d shapes, looking at their properties and learning their names, including regular and irregular polygons. We will be looking at the properties of various triangles and moving on to a section on symmetry. We will then be starting a unit on measurement, focusing primarily on length and weight. The children will be reading and writing standard units of length and converting larger units to smaller units, and vice versa (mm, cm, m, km, g, kg). We will complete the section on shapes, space and measures with a short unit on data handling, focusing on bar-line graphs. Our final unit of the term will be based on addition and subtraction, practicing addition pairs up to 1000.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

You can help your child by carrying out a small survey at home with them, and transferring the data collected into bar-line graph. Have a look around your home or when you are out and about for various polygons and other shapes that may have lines of symmetry. When cooking allow your child to measure out ingredients. Carry out a height survey of friends and family (good opportunity to create a bar-line graph from the data collected). Measure various rooms in you house. Ask your children to tell you the dimensions of their bedrooms in both centimetres and metres. Also measure how many kilometres it is from you house to various locations, such as school, supermarket, etc.

**Language and Literacy:**

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

We will be working through a fairly lengthy unit on poetry, looking at both narrative and performance poetry. We will complete a unit on note-taking, looking at its main purpose, as well as introducing the children to various abbreviations, which can be used when note-taking (e.g. w/ for with). For our final unit of the term we will be investigating recounts and reports, focusing on the features of recounted texts such as sports reports, diaries, police-reports.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

You can help your child by reading various articles in magazines and assessing whether they are first or second hand accounts. Browse children's poetry books (or search online). Discuss what kind of story the poem tells. Interview a friend or family member who may have an interesting story to tell and have your child take notes as responses are given, then translate them into an article. Read various biographies (children's editions); check the newspapers for sports articles. Look at how they are structured and recounted.

**Science:**

We will be covering this topic: All about gases.

We will be developing these skills and concepts

Grouping solids and liquids; understanding air; finding out how much there is in soil; important gases; evaporation and the properties of gases.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Have a look around your home identifying various solids and liquids. If you are skiing or visiting mountain areas, ask your child if the air feels different in the mountains. Take a household sponge (solid) and ask your child if there is any air in the sponge, then place it under water and squeeze it. Talk about the different gases we come across in everyday life, such as helium for balloons, oxygen fro breathing, carbonated drinks, etc.

**History:**

We will be covering this topic: Famous Tudor explorer, pirates, and the Spanish Armada.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Mapping skills for the navigational courses taken by Tudor explorers, in particular Sir Francis Drake. We will be examining what life was like on a Tudor ship and looking at the events surrounding the Spanish Armada.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Search local libraries for any books on Tudor life or exploration. Select a famous Tudor explorer and map the many courses and routes they may have travelled during their lifetime. See if you can find out the many problems Tudor sailors faced on long voyages, such as illness and starvation.

**INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE LANCY**  
**ENGLISH SECTION**

**Geography:**

*We will be continuing last half-term's topic: Water everywhere*

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

Mapping skills, reading coordinates, looking at the processes water goes through to be cleaned. Investigating various locations around the world where water may be found in abundance (e.g. rainforests) or in short supply (e.g. deserts). We will also be looking at how water affects people in these regions.

*How you can help at home and during the holidays:*

Using an atlas or the internet, see if you can map where some of the world's major rainforests and deserts occur. Do the children perhaps see a pattern in the distribution of these features. Take a trip to the Jardin Botanique in Geneva so the children can experience the humidity of a real rainforest in one of the large greenhouses.