

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

**Outline of our work for the Autumn term 2<sup>nd</sup> half – Year 6**

**What will we be learning?**

**Numeracy:**

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

Mental methods of addition and subtraction, revising number facts (number bonds to 100). Properties of numbers and number sequences, including square and triangular numbers. Standard metric units of measure. Calculating the perimeter of rectangles and area of simple compound shapes. Co-ordinates in all four quadrants and translations. Solving word problems involving numbers and quantities, calculator skills.

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

Support your child with their homework as appropriate, asking them to explain their reasoning or justify their answers, even when they are correct! Encourage them to approximate before calculating and to check afterwards by doing the inverse operation. They should practice number bonds to 20 ( $13+7=20$  etc), moving on quickly to number bonds to 100 ( $45+55=100$ ). This can be done by creating a set of number cards 1-100 with their number bond on the reverse, shuffling them and then your child can then test themselves or be tested in a game, where the person with the most correct answers wins. Continue to familiarize them with the use of small amounts of money, getting them to save and budget.

Continue to test them on their multiplication tables. Your child really needs to know all of these table facts by heart. Playing board games involving the use of maths such as Monopoly, dominoes, snakes and ladders, strategy games and draughts.

Another important use of maths is weight, measure and capacity, which are easily practiced at home. Involve your child in measuring out quantities for cooking, estimating the weight or capacity of a container and even the measuring in DIY tasks.

Encourage your child to make maths games using a spinner or calculator and encourage them to think about how they can make them more mathematical and of increasing difficulty.

**Language and Literacy:**

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

Play Scripts, Poetry, Journalistic and Report Writing, Biography and Autobiography, origins of words and names, simple and compound sentence revision, complex sentences, main and subordinate clauses, connecting words and phrases, the uses of colons and semicolons. We will look at texts by established authors, including Shakespeare.

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

Reading is still one of the most important ways in which your child will learn Literacy skills, so it is important that they not only read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, but that they can share in this with a parent. Reading to your child, a book slightly beyond the level of your child's ability, allows them to discuss with you unfamiliar words and more complicated plots, but also with non-fiction it allows them a point of discussion to express their thoughts and ideas about a new concept or idea. Guided use of the internet to access news reports for major news stories, searches for information about an area of the curriculum they are studying and accessing educational sites is a fun way to link their skills in ICT and Literacy. Children should be reading for at least 20 minutes per day.

Children will have writing and spelling homework weekly; spellings can be tested aloud and written. Encourage them to check spellings of common words in their written work as each piece is completed. Allow them to read their work aloud and discuss the development of their ideas, encourage them to reword sentences that do not make sense.

Visits to libraries and bookshops along with 'book-swapping' is a good way of allowing children to have access to as wide a range of literature as possible.

Access to a dictionary and children's thesaurus is essential.

**Science:**

*We will be covering these topics:*

Micro-organisms

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

That micro-organisms are living things too small to be seen. That micro-organisms can be beneficial or harmful.

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

You can help in this area of the curriculum by discussing with your child the basics of food and personal hygiene. Talk to them about where, how and why food is stored in different places. Read the storage instructions for different products and talk about why products would need to be stored where the manufacturers recommend. Use the internet to access sites such as [www.foodlink.org.uk](http://www.foodlink.org.uk), which gives details about basic food hygiene facts.

Discuss with your child the foods they eat which use micro-organisms in the production process e.g. cheeses, yoghurts, bread etc. Explain to them how micro-organisms can be beneficial and not just harmful. Even have a go at using yeast to make bread, or try making some of your own yoghurt together!

Allow your child to look at the different cleaning products that you use in the kitchen. Talk about how they might help reduce the risk of a build up of harmful bacteria.

Finally take some time talk with your child about their immunisations and childhood illnesses.

Perhaps even tell them about some of your own childhood illnesses!!!

### **History:**

*We will be continuing our study of Victorian Britain:*

We will focus on the differences in how children from different social classes lived; the changes and improvements brought about by legislation and a growing sense of social responsibility.

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

Discuss differences in children's lives today, around the world. Help them understand that the idea of helping children and the less fortunate on a large scale is a relatively modern concept. Help your child to have access to information about the period, through books and encyclopaedias, as well as the internet.

### **Geography:**

*We will be continuing our study of rivers.*

Pupils will be looking at specific rivers, their geography and how they are used. We will investigate how human activity affects rivers. Pupils will complete a research project about a river and produce a paper record of their work, as well as a group power point presentation. Pupils will develop map-reading skills: projections, longitude and latitude and contour lines.

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

Visits to different river sites around Geneva would enable your child to see variation in land use along a river's course. Pupils may need some guidance while they are researching their river project, particularly if they are using the internet. Encourage them to be selective about the information they might download or print out. Hand drawn/traced maps and illustrations give children an opportunity to focus on and internalise the information shown, whereas a computer printout does not. Pupils have been given a worksheet to help them organise their research.

### **Useful Educational Websites**

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/4\\_11/literacy.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/4_11/literacy.shtml)

<http://www.channel4.com/learning/main/primary/>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/>

<http://www.learningalive.co.uk/>