

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

**Outline of our work for the second half of the spring term – Year 6/7**

**What will we be learning?**

**Numeracy:**

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

Ordering fractions by converting to a common denominator. Finding fractions of numbers, rounding decimals. Finding percentages of whole numbers and decimal numbers. Investigating number properties, solving number problems, identifying square and prime numbers. Reading and writing coordinates, coordinates of reflected shapes, drawing reflections, and translations.

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

Encourage your child to find simple percentages of items in the shops e.g. How much would this item cost with a 10% reduction. What would 50% of this weight be? It can be made increasingly difficult by asking for 5% or 25% and 30%. If your child can confidently complete these sums mentally, continue their development in this area by asking them the question from the opposite perspective e.g. to give the full price when a 50% reduction costs CHF40 or the normal size if 25% percent more is 1250ml.

**Language and Literacy:**

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

Spelling: maths and science words, homophones, plurals and mnemonics.  
Grammar: active and passive verbs, conjunctions, main and subordinate clauses.  
Constructing effective arguments. Formal and explanation writing.

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

In non-fiction work, as we look at the construction of balanced arguments, it would be beneficial if these ideas could be practiced at home orally, with up-to-date moral and social issues as they appear in the news and day-to-day conversation. This will allow your child to formulate ideas and views verbally and will contribute to their ability to present these types of issues coherently in their written work. The features of a balanced argument are Summarising the different sides of an argument, clarifying the strengths and weaknesses of different positions, signaling personal opinion clearly.

Children will also need to become more familiar with the more formal forms of writing seen in application forms, wedding invitations, letters of complaint and investigative reports.

**Science:**

*We will be covering these topics:*

Reversible and Irreversible changes

*We will be developing these skills and concepts:*

Children will be looking at examples of reversible and irreversible changes. They will be looking at the processes of burning and finding out which new materials are made during burning. Children will identify the risk associated with burning materials in the classroom and how to make the activities as safe as possible.

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

Talk with your child about the reversible reactions such as freezing water and boiling water. Discuss how these reactions do not change the material and that it can be returned to its original state. Then look at the irreversible reactions such as frying an egg, cooking a cake and burning wood. Discuss that the reactions are irreversible and how the materials used cannot be returned to their original state.

**Geography:**

*We will be covering this topic:*

What's in the news?

Atlas skills – latitude, longitude, northern, southern hemisphere, tropics and polar circles, cities, countries – land locked, poor, high population density, receive most aid, greatest life expectancy, population increase.

Food and us – too much of a good thing, hunger. How does hunger affect people? - malnourishment, famines. Why do famines occur? - floods, droughts. Famine caused by people - how does war cause famine? - desertification, international aid

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

Encourage your child to watch the televised news, bring international news items from newspapers or the internet to school. Help them to locate the countries on a world map. Ask them and help them to explain what is happening there and why. Encourage your child to watch the televised weather reports and find world weather reports in newspapers and bring them to school.

**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.planet-science.com>

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