



Optional Activities

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SPRING 2019

to support your child's learning

English

Our ICC (International Creative Curriculum) topic this half-term is based on the history of Norwich as a place of sanctuary.

At home it would be great if you could research the history of Norwich as a city. How has the city grown throughout the years? Why was Norwich a place of sanctuary? Who came here and why? How did these migrants help to change and shape the city? What lasting effects can we see nowadays from some of the changes in the past?

There are also many other examples of mass migration around the world. Some of these examples are due to natural disasters such as famine or flooding, whilst others may be due to war or prejudice. Could you find out about some of these other examples around the world? Are there any famous refugees or migrants? What are their stories?

English

In English this half term we are going to be focussing on play scripts, their different features and drama. As part of this we will be examining some Shakespearian plays as well as a few more modern examples.

Why not have a look at a few different Shakespearian stories? There are loads of excellent children's versions to read as well as some nice cartoons too! The stories may be old, but they are still interesting and fun!

Some modern stories draw very close comparisons to Shakespearian plays. The Lion King for example has many similarities to Hamlet. Can you work out in which ways they are similar?

Some of the language used by Shakespeare sounds rather and strange and complicated, but if you examine it closely, it is possible to work out the meaning. Could you try and create a modern day translation of a piece of Shakespearean text?

At Avenue Junior School, we no longer set any formal homework. We believe the most important thing you can do with your child is to spend enjoyable time with them. We ask that you read with your child for 10 minutes per day – your child reading to you, you reading to them, or sharing the reading together.

If you do any other additional activities related to the curriculum that is not suggested below. Please do encourage your child to share it with us in class.

Maths Skills

All children are expected to know their times tables by the end of Year 4. One of the best things you can do to support your child is regular practice of their times tables!

Telling the time is such a complex thing to master. If your child is not completely confident with the many different ways of talking about time, make time in every day to give opportunities for them to practice. Little and often is the key! Think about the 12 and 24 hour clock as well as language like half past and quarter to/past.

Science

In Science we are learning about sound, the way sound travels and how we are able to hear sound. There are lots of great experiments that can be tried at home.

The Exploratorium website has a great selection of activities and projects to try. Why not have a go and then bring your creations into school?

<https://www.exploratorium.edu/snacks/subject/sound>

Shoe Laces

It might sound obvious, but learning to tie your shoe laces is a vital skill! There are still many children in Year 4 that will ask adults to tie their laces for them. Whilst we are happy to help, it does take up quite a bit of time; especially if they are all getting changed for PE. Please practice this skill with them at home...

If you try out any of these activities, please let us know how it goes! You can share your learning in the reading record book, write or post photos on Class Dojo, or bring things in to show in class.