Topic home learning tasks:

* Monday:

Outcome: To learn to use Gmail (ICT)

Task: Hopefully, with your child having access to their school Gmail account now, they will be able to learn how to use it and find it easier to communicate and keep in touch with their friends and the teacher. Have your child log in to their Gmail account (first initial of their first name and their family name followed by “@chenies.bucks.sch.uk” e.g. Jblogs@chenies.bucks.sch.uk). Show your child that to write an email to someone, they click on the “Compose” button. Then show them that in the “to” bar, they have to write the email address that they wish to send to. Remind them that they can only use these accounts to message the school or their class mates. Explain that the bar underneath (the Subject bar) is like the title of their email. Encourage them to write a message to the school or one of their class mates about their day. Show them the formatting tools below, and remind them what some of them do (as they have hopefully learned in previous ICT home learning tasks).

Next, explain that they can either click on “Send” to send their email straight away, or click on the arrow next to it to schedule it to send at a later time.

Remind your child that when emailing they should be careful what they write, as the school will always be able to check. I recommend you supervise their first few emails, as getting used to email conversations and writing them appropriately may take some time and practice.

* Tuesday:

Outcome: To learn about Nikola Tesla and Thomas Edison (Science/History/English)

Task: Explain to your child that they will be learning about electricity and how it works. Before they learn about two famous scientists that are known for their work in studying electricity. Ask your child to look up Nikola Tesla and Thomas Edison and what made them famous. Once they create a small fact-file on each person, ask them to think about and write what life would be like without electricity. They can present this alternate world however they choose (story, diary, stating facts, etc…)

* Wednesday:

Outcome: To research Viking longhouses and write a property advertisement. (History/English)

Task: Have your child research what Viking longhouses were, what they looked like (in and out) and what they were made of. They can then compare how their house and a Viking longhouse are similar and different. Once they have done that, give your child the Viking Estate Agency planning sheet, to help them plan an advertisement for a Viking longhouse.

* Thursday:

Outcome: To build a Viking longhouse (DT)

Task: Using the research they have made on Viking longhouses, task your child with creating a Viking longhouse model. It is dependent on the resources you may or may not have access to as to how “accurate” you may aim for the house to be, but encourage your child to try and decorate it in such a way that it would look representative of the materials that would have been used. A shoebox would be a great start for the frame of the house, for example.

* Friday:

Outcome: To experiment with colour, using fruit and vegetables as models

Task: Show your child some colourful fruit and vegetables. Real examples are always preferable to pictures (specially as you can eat them later!). Help lead some discussions about the shapes, patterns and colours that they see (vein patterns, where the seeds may be, and what colour, how the light reflects off the object, what shapes do they see etc). Ask your child if they can they what they could use to replicate the colours and details that they see (encourage the use of materials that mix, such as watercolour paints, or pastels, but it is of course down to what you have available).

Ask your child to create two observational drawings of the fruit or vegetables they want to use as their models. I would suggest that one is done with just pencil so that they focus on the details that they see, then the other using colours too. Encourage your child to make the drawing the size of the paper (or as close to as they can) to allow for detail.