

Supporting Our Professionals

No Holiday? No Problem...

... just “fake it ‘til you make it” and do a bit of pretend travelling, guilt- and carbon-free.

Last week’s half term should have seen our Deputy Lead, Dr Steph, sightseeing in Rome with her family. Instead, **Horrible Histories** has educated them about all things Roman, without the stress of travel or any of the tedious walking around. She’s put together some suggestions so that you too can enjoy a pretend and hassle-free ‘getaway’. Just pick your ideal destination and immerse yourself!

Cook and eat “local” food: Why not have a go at preparing **something from your destination** that you’ve never tried before? If you can also pair it with a “local” drink, so much the better!



Walk the streets: Thanks to **Google Earth**, you can actually go to your destination and look around - without the crowds and pickpockets - safe in the knowledge that you’re never far from a working toilet. Some of the world’s top museums offer **virtual online tours** – and your feet won’t hurt at the end of them!

Learn the lingo: A family “rule” is that we all learn to say at least “please” and “thank you” in the language of wherever we are going, but why not aim a little higher? **DuoLingo** is a good place to start. Up the ante by changing your phone settings to your destination language...



Get your groove on: Find some **music from your destination** country, and REALLY listen to it. What could be more lovely than hearing opera and imagining Italy, or flamenco and imagining Spain? You could take this one “step” further (and why wouldn’t you?) by learning a dance from your destination too.

Become a culture vulture: Take time to learn the **history of your destination**. What have its people been through? How has it become the place it is now? Would you have wanted to visit at other historical times or wouldn’t you have touched it with a barge pole? Understanding a place’s past can really help you appreciate its present and future.



Read all about it: Do a bit of Googling and **choose a book** set in your destination country or city. For Amsterdam, try Albert Camus’ “The Fall”; for Berlin, try John Le Carre’s “The Spy Who Came in From the Cold”, and so on. Wonderfully evocative writing can transport you to your destination effortlessly, and you may “see” it in a totally different light.

Enjoy the views: Change your screensaver/wallpaper to a lovely view of your destination, or even change the view from a window by printing a scene and sticking it to the glass so it looks like it’s just outside. Why not channel your own inner artist and draw or paint some pictures of your destination to hang on your wall?



Embrace the positives: You’re not going anywhere for a while, so it doesn’t matter how daft you look trying to do the Viennese waltz or cooking your quesadillas in a giant hat – nobody will see you. In other good news, ‘pretend’ travel avoids a whole raft of issues... packing, airports, delays, currency, bugs, language, and unpacking, to name but a few!

Look the part: Throw open your wardrobe doors and have a good old rummage. Do you have any clothes which would help you blend in with the native population of your destination? A kimono for Japan, Wild West cowboy boots, or a Mexican sombrero? Strike a pose and take a selfie! For a fully immersive ski experience, wear your thermals, gloves and goggles at home... or in this heat, maybe not!!



FINALLY... if you’re **home-schooling** and do all this, you’ve covered **food tech, languages, geography history, music, art, PE, and literature**, maybe more! (You’re welcome).

..... **BON VOYAGE!**