

# Welcome back to HBM : Spring 2016

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year to you all and a warm welcome back to your children after the Christmas break. First of all, many thanks from both of us for all the good wishes, cards and presents we received from you and your lovely children at the end of term, we were quite overwhelmed by them all and much appreciate your thoughtfulness and support.

The children have responded really well to getting straight into our new topics to make the most of this relatively short term and they seem very enthusiastic about our new literacy theme. In all aspects of learning we will be encouraging children to check and improve their own work before it is reviewed by an adult and we have discussed a '3B4ME' (try three things before asking me) attitude to asking for help - ask your child if they can remember the 3Bs! We have agreed targets for this term with your children. They will be put into homework diaries and your child will also have copies on hand in class.

Please note the exciting Viking morning on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January when we'd love children to come dressed in Viking costume. Please don't feel the need to buy outfits, ideas for a quick, cheap, relatively authentic outfit are at the end of this newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or concerns. Find me on the playground after school, jot down a note in the homework diary or send an email via the school office to make an appointment or arrange a phone call.

Thank you for all your support. We're looking forward to another great term!

**Mrs May - HBM Class Teacher      Mrs Russell - HBM Teaching Assistant**

## Curriculum at a glance - Spring term

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>HBM Literacy</b>	Stories in historical settings, diaries and play scripts. Theme – children's experiences of evacuation in Britain during the Second World War, referencing books including <i>Carrie's War</i> & <i>The Lion and The Unicorn</i> . Spelling and grammar, guided reading.		
<b>HBM Maths</b>	Measurement (area, perimeter, length, weight, capacity, money), geometry, mental strategies and written methods for addition/ subtraction/ multiplication/ division, fractions and decimals, statistics/data handling, problem-solving.		
<b>Science</b>	Animals inc. humans Light	Sound Living things & habitats	Animals inc. humans Living things & habitats
<b>History/Geog</b>	Vikings & Local study		
<b>RE</b>	How do religious beliefs affect the way people live?		Rites of passage
<b>Art</b>	Saxon Art	Saxon Mosaics	
<b>Music / DT</b>	Creating music with GarageBand Making musical instruments		
<b>ICT</b>	Coding & Databases		Coding & Spreadsheets
<b>PE</b>	Hockey, Netball/Tennis, Gymnastics Swimming for Years 3 & 4 (Fridays)		

## Home learning

SPELLINGS: Set Monday, due in the following Monday	<p>Practise at least 3 times a week, make sure your child understands the meaning of the words.</p> <p>By the end of Year 4, the new curriculum states that children should be able to spell a list of Year 3 and Year 4 words. Our weekly spelling tests include words from the list. The children will be tested on the Year 3 list later this term and on the Year 4 list next term. The full lists are attached for your information / should you wish to practise them at home with your child.</p>
LITERACY: Set Wednesday, due in Monday, sign and add any comments to the homework diary.	30 minutes approx. We do our best to make this open-ended and encourage creativity. Finished quickly? Check and improve – proof-read, add detail, illustrate, extend...
MATHS: Set Wednesday, due in Monday, sign and add any comments to the homework diary.	30 minutes approx. This will sometimes be a refresher of work covered previously, sometimes a look ahead to a new topic to assess current skills, sometimes a challenge aimed at developing problem-solving skills. Finished quickly? Check it! Have a go at the extension activity. Still keen for more? See below for times tables. Please help encourage enthusiasm for maths by showing an interest and enthusiasm for it yourself.
READING: At LEAST three times a week with an adult noting comments in Reading Records.	Reading Records should be in school every day and are checked on MONDAYS. Please keep reading to your child. Looking for reading inspiration? Ask a friend or teacher for recommendations, browse the classroom shelves or school library, look at book recommendation websites such as <a href="http://booksforkeeps.co.uk">booksforkeeps.co.uk</a> As Walt Disney put it, there is more treasure in books than in all the pirates' loot on Treasure Island...
TIMES TABLES: Several times a week as required.	Fast recall of times tables facts is key to accessing so many areas of the maths curriculum. Please help your child learn their tables and derive / recall division facts too. (e.g. $3 \times 4 = 12$ , $12 \div 4 = 3$ , $12 \div 3 = 4$ ). Tips: find out what they already know, help ensure they understand and can demonstrate fast recall, use a chart, make it practical, play games, set challenges (e.g. beat your best time in answering the same 30 times tables questions).

## Viking costume ideas for Wednesday 27 January

### Viking male

- A long sleeved, oversize plain T-shirt, any colour but muted ones are best.
- A thin belt, leather or fabric. A plain tie-belt from a dressing gown will do.
- A pair of plain dark leggings or jogging bottoms
- Plain dark shoes or short boots

### Viking female

- A plain coloured long dress or top and skirt
- A plain long tabard-style apron (this can just be a rectangle of fabric with a hole cut in it for the head or even a plain kitchen apron).
- A thin belt
- A pair of round or oval badges or brooches, one to be worn on each side of the chest just below the collar bone
- A string of beads to hang between the two brooches
- Plain dark shoes or short boots
- Hair plaited in a single plait at the back

### Word List for Year 3

address	answer	appear	arrive
believe	bicycle	calendar	centre
century	certain	complete	continue
decide	describe	early	earth
eight/eighth	experience	experiment	extreme
famous	favourite	February	forward(s)
fruit	grammar	group	history
important	learn	length	library
minute	natural	notice	often
perhaps	popular	probably	promise
quarter	question	regular	remember
sentence	special	strange	strength
therefore	woman	women	

### Word List for Year 4

accident(ally)	actual(ly)	breath	breathe
build	busy/business	caught	circle
consider	different	difficult	disappear
enough	exercise	guard	guide
heard	heart	height	imagine
increase	interest	island	knowledge
material	medicine	mention	naughty
occasion(ally)	opposite	ordinary	particular
peculiar	position	possess(ion)	possible
potatoes	pressure	purpose	recent
reign	separate	straight	suppose
surprise	though/although	thought	through
various	weight		