



**January 2016**

Dear HBR/Year3 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had an enjoyable break over Christmas and the New Year. Thank you for the many good wishes, cards and gifts which Mr Salmon and I received at the end of last term, all of which were greatly appreciated.

**Areas of Study, Spring Term 2016**

Science	Animals (including humans): skeletons and nutrition; Plants
ICT	Coding; introduction to databases
History	Anglo-Saxons and Vikings (till 1/2 term); Local Study
Geography	Local study
RE	What does God say about how we should live our lives?
Art	Art inspired by the Saxons
Music	Musical elements; Introduction to Garageband; making simple instruments
PE	Hockey; netball; tennis
English	Myths and legends
Maths	Column addition and subtraction; grid method for multiplication; division; measurement; properties of shape; simple equivalent fractions; telling time to the nearest minute; mental maths

**Timetable**

There are some changes to the afternoon timetable this term. A copy is appended.

**A Plea - volunteers to listen to children reading**

We have had no parents supporting reading so far this year. This type of support normally happens between 9.00 and 9.30am, but could take place at lunchtime, if that suited you better. Volunteers don't need to be free to help every day - once a week is good, too. If you are able to help this term (on a fairly regular basis) please let me know as it really does make a difference.

**Equipment**

Please check that your child has everything they need for school. Whiteboard pens are available from the office and cost 40p. Please label everything!

Bookbag
Transparent Pencil Case containing 2 or 3 HB pencils 30cm ruler Whiteboard (dry wipe) pen Rubber Pencil sharpener (metal)
Separate pencil case if required, to be kept in drawer: Pritt stick, felt pens/coloured pencils

**Swimming**

This term the children will be having swimming lessons at Amersham Pool on Friday afternoons. Swimming kit should be brought in every week in a plastic bag, not a back pack or holdall. Please

ensure that everything is labelled. The greatest problems the children have are keeping all their belongings together when they get changed and then getting dressed quickly afterwards, so anything you can do to ensure that neither possessions, nor time, are lost (for example, encouraging them to put their socks inside their shoes, or making sure they can do up buttons and tie their shoe laces) would be an enormous help.

### **Homework**

Following requests from a large number of parents, this will now go out on Wednesday for return by the following Tuesday. Any exceptions to this should be made clear on the work. In line with the school policy there will be numeracy, literacy and spelling every week and the children should spend about 20 minutes on each subject. Children who attend homework club should take their books back home with them so that you can see what your child is doing.

### **Times tables**

Please continue to work on the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 6 times tables along with the corresponding division facts. If your child struggles with times tables, just take them one table at a time (in the order listed) and revise them at least three times a week. Should your child already be fluent in the times tables listed, please start them on the 7,8,9, times tables. Homework for other subjects might be set occasionally. When this is the case, children will receive less homework for numeracy and literacy. Please sign the homework diary every week and also use it to send messages or ask any questions.

### **Spelling**

There will be weekly spelling lists for the children to learn. Sometimes these will link to work on spelling patterns, and other times they will link to vocabulary from the subjects they are studying, but in the first half of term, the children in my spelling group will be learning most of the 200 highest frequency words. The method I suggest for learning new words has two stages: 1 Look – say - copy; 2 cover- write – check.

### **Reading**

Children should be reading daily. Please listen to your child reading at least three times a week. They will receive a housepoint if you record that you have listened to them and you sign their reading record. When listening to them read, let them try to work out new or unfamiliar words first. Also, encourage them to read a range of books. Do discuss what they are reading and ask them to make predictions about what will happen in stories.

Either you or your child should make a note of each day's reading in their reading record. This could be simply the page numbers, or could be more elaborate (eg a summary, or a new word, or what they liked/disliked). Please ask me if you would like any advice on how to support your child when they are reading.

Please let me know if you come across any good books or websites so that these can be shared with the rest of the class.

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and speak to me when I am on the playground (though not when I am on duty on Monday morning) or make an appointment through the office.

Mr M Robson (Year 3/HBR Teacher)

### HBR/YEAR 3 TIMETABLE, SPRING 2016

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Hymn Practice	Assembly	Assembly	Class Assembly	Assembly
Literacy (Grammar)	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy
Break				
Spelling/phonics	Spelling/phonics	Guided reading	Guided reading	Times tables
Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy
Lunch				
PSHCE	Handwriting	Mental Maths	French	RE
History (till 1/2 term) Local Study (after 1/2 term)	Music (till 1/2 term) Art (after 1/2 term)	ICT	Science	Swimming
		PE		RE