



**January 2019**

Dear Year 3 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope your break over Christmas and the New Year was enjoyable. Thank you for the many good wishes, cards and gifts which Mrs Mussell and I received before the Christmas holidays, all of which were much appreciated.

**Areas of Study, Spring Term 2019**

Science	Rocks; plants
ICT	Coding; e-safety
Geography	Rainforests
RE	Christianity (Salvation) Hinduism
Art	Art inspired by rainforests
Music	Musical elements; ocarinas
PE	Hockey; netball; swimming
English	Stories inspired by rainforests
Maths	Column addition and subtraction; multiplication; division; measurement; simple equivalent fractions; telling time to the nearest minute; mental maths

**Timetable**

Please note there are some minor changes to the afternoon timetable this term. A copy can be found at the end of this letter.

**Equipment**

Please ensure that your child has everything they need for school and that it is **all labelled clearly**. Please don't overlook a whiteboard pen (available from the office) or a glue stick.

**Swimming**

This term the children will be having swimming lessons at Woodrow House on Wednesday afternoons. Swimming kit should be brought in every week in a plastic bag, **not** a back pack or holdall as there is not enough room on the pegs for these bulkier items. **Please ensure that everything, including the bag, is labelled. Please also ensure that all items of school uniform are labelled.** The greatest problems the children have are keeping all their belongings together when they get changed, and getting dressed quickly afterwards. Anything you can do to ensure that neither possessions nor time are lost would be an enormous help, for example, encouraging them to put their socks inside their shoes, or making sure they can do up buttons and tie their shoe laces!

In order to protect the office staff's time, and to teach the children increased levels of independence, resilience and responsibility, the school will not be phoning or texting parents to request any forgotten kit. If you discover kit has been left in the car at drop off, it can be delivered during the morning and left in the Howe Lobby drop-box. It will be your child's responsibility to check if it has been left there. The school has some spare unisex swimming kits and small towels which will be lent to anyone who forgets their kit. Please wash and return these in time for the next swimming lesson.

## Homework

Maths and English homework is usually set on Wednesday and is due in the following Tuesday (though it can be handed in earlier). Children who attend homework club should take their books home afterwards so that you can see what your child is doing. Homework for other subjects might be set occasionally. When this is the case, children will receive less homework for Maths and English. Please sign the homework diary every week and also use it to send messages or ask any questions.

## Times tables

Please continue to work on times tables along with the corresponding division facts. Focus on the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 tables. If your child struggles with times tables, just take them one table at a time and revise them at least three times a week. Also, help them to think of strategies to work out answers which do not come readily, e.g. if they know  $10 \times 5 = 60$ , then they can work out  $9 \times 5$  by working out  $10 \times 5$  and then subtracting 5. Should your child already be fluent in the times tables listed, please start them on the 6, 7, 8 and 9 times tables.

## Spelling

Homework includes 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. 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. 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 (e.g. a summary, a new word or what they liked/disliked). **They will receive a housepoint if they record that they have read three times in a week and you have signed their reading record**, with extra housepoints available for extra reading. When listening to your child read, do let them try to work out new or unfamiliar words first using their phonics from KS1. 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. Please ask me if you would like any more advice on how to support your child with reading.

## Volunteers to Listen to Children Reading

This type of support normally happens between 9.00 and 9.30am. You don't need to be free to help every day - once a week would be enough. If you are able to help this term (on a fairly regular basis), please contact me. It really does make a difference.

## School Newsletter

Do please read the school newsletter each week - if you don't already - and please encourage your child to read it too. The new format is very flexible and makes it easier to include photos. There will also be short articles and challenges for the children to respond to from time to time.

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) or make an appointment through the office.

Mr M Robson (Year 3 Teacher)

**YEAR 3 TIMETABLE SPRING 2019**

<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	Maths
Break				
Spelling	Spelling	Times tables	Guided Reading	Guided Reading
Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Literacy
Lunch				
Handwriting	French	Swimming Music	PE	PSHCE
ICT	Science		RE	Geography