

Happy New Year to all our Hanham Abbots families! This is going to be an exciting term for our children, and we hope that they all have returned rested and ready to learn. We have a fun few weeks planned, including the final few Forrest School sessions.



Terms 3 and 4

Sticks and Stones:

We will continue our study of Ancient Britain, moving onto learning about the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Egyptians: Before half term, we will start our topic all about the Ancient Egyptians. The children will compare what they have already learned about life in Ancient England with life in Egypt at the time of the Pharaohs.



Our main channel of communication to you alongside the Partnership Book is **The School Website** - www.hanhamabbotsjunior.org.uk which contains all letters, details of events and a school calendar to keep you up to date. Copies of this newsletter, trip information and school letters can be downloaded from the website.

Curriculum for the Spring Terms:



Term 3 and 4: In history, we will be moving from the Stone Age to the Bronze and Iron Ages and the children will find out about the changes in Ancient Britain during that period of our history. They will learn about how the discovery of smelting metals affected different aspects of their lives, and how developments in early farming led to growing crops and keeping animals for food. The topic will also include geography work on settlements and ancient and modern maps of the UK.

Following this, the children will study life in Ancient Egypt at Pharaohs, and compare this with what they have already learned about Ancient Britain. They will study different aspects of life in from the lives of the ordinary people, to the Pharaohs and include important events such as the building of the Great Pyramids. In geography they will look at world maps, locating Egypt. The children will share their work in the **Egyptian Extravaganza performance** - to which all parents are invited. The children will be asked to dress up in Egyptian costume for this performance and more details about this will be available soon. Please note - it is not necessary to buy a costume for your child (unless you wish to). We will give lots of information and help with costume ideas nearer the time.



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English: We are starting with writing funny stories and we will look at *The Twits* by Roald Dahl before the children have a go at writing some of their own. After that the children will learn how to write explanation texts. They will write an explanation of a process or a machine, starting with explaining how a marble run works. After the half term break, the children will write information texts about the Egyptians and they could include any facts that they have researched at home. We will finish with poetry, both reading and writing their own.

Maths: In term 3, we will be starting with work recapping place value then moving onto fractions and then addition and subtraction problem solving. In term 4, we will extend the children's multiplication and



division skills before finishing with measure work - which will include perimeter and time.

Times tables challenge: the children have all made a great start to learning their tables. Their progress is tracked in their partnership books so you can see which ones they need to work on.

Science: In term 3 the children will be investigating different soils and in term 4, we will be starting a new topic all about the skeleton, the body and keeping teeth healthy.

Home Learning and How You Can Help...

Following the homework policy (which can be found on our website) - **Maths and English homework is set weekly, on a Thursday, and is expected back on a Tuesday.** Tasks are set to support the learning in school and will be explained to children fully. We will also be setting an extended homework task about Egyptians later in term 3.

Children are expected to **read with an adult at least three times a week** although in Year 3, we encourage you to hear your child read more often than this. Regular practise is the key to improving! Ask your child lots of questions and have fun predicting what will come next in their books. Please can you sign your child's Partnership book every time you hear them read. We will be rewarding the children who have read three times or more each week!



Mathletics homework will be set **every other week.** The tasks we set are also now I-Pad compatible so the Mathletics can be accessed this way as well. If you do not have internet access at home, Hanham library have computers available and Mathletics club will run at school one lunch time each week. We always encourage all children to complete homework tasks and we will be running a lunchtime homework club for any children who have been unable to complete homework or reading at home. Here they will receive support if they need it to complete the tasks.

Other weekly practise: the children need to practise their times tables each week but this could be in several short sessions (e.g. when walking or driving to school) as well as writing them out. See our website for handy hints on how to practise times tables. It would be also useful to practise telling the time both on analogue and digital clocks with your child.

Trips and Activities...



Swimming for Year 3 will be in the Summer term (after Easter), and more details about this will be available nearer the time. To support our curriculum we are also planning a trip in term 5 that will support work on our topic about plants.

HELP WANTED! We will be looking for volunteers to help us with swimming, and on our trip. If you might be available to help, please pop into the school office to ask for a '**volunteer pack**' or talk to your child's teacher. If you felt able to help on a more regular basis, you could be just the person we need to listen to children read or help out in the classroom! Again, please talk to your child's teacher if you can help.

School Uniform... Most of our children arrive every day looking smart, wearing the correct uniform and shoes. Please can we remind everyone that children should have a coat in school so that they can play outside in the cold weather. Gloves and a hat are also a good idea and all belongings should be clearly named. Please note that jewellery and coloured nail varnish are not part of our school uniform.

PE and Games kits should be in school at all times. Children must have warm clothing and trainers, as outdoor games takes place on a Wednesday afternoon in all weathers!

In games this term, children will be doing **netball in term 3** and **rounders in term 4** – please ensure children have **trainers to change into.** They also need to bring a plastic bag to put their muddy trainers straight into when they finish the lesson each week. Indoor PE lessons take place on Thursdays and are usually in the hall. Kits should be labelled and in 2 separate bags. Please check our school website for full details about uniform and sports kits.

Dates for your diary:

Remaining Forest School sessions: 3W - 6.1.17, 27.1.17 3B – 13.1.17, 3.2.17 3C - 20.1.17

Half Term: Monday 13th – Friday 16th February

Thursday 6th April – Y3 Egyptian Extravaganza performance (2:00pm in hall)

Thursday 7th April – start of Easter Holiday.

Your child's **Partnership Book** is used daily for communication, to monitor reading and for your child to write in forthcoming events. Also, the Year 3 page on the school website will help to keep you up to date!

A full copy of the **school prospectus** is available on the school website www.hanhamabbotsjunior.org.uk

This document can be translated into different languages using Google Translate <http://translate.google.com/#>