St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School

***Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe***

Y4 Class Handbook

2023 -2024

**You will find the following information in the Y4 handbook:**

* Details of the adults that will be working with your child this year
* Information about homework
* Information about reading in this year group
* Details about PE days and swimming (if applicable to the year group)
* Times of the school day
* Dates of class worships and family learning sessions
* Long Term Plan for the year
* Details of any Statutory Testing (Y1, Y4 and Y6 only)
* Maths and English Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
* A copy of the Home – School agreement to sign

Staff working in Y4 this year:

Class teacher: Miss Sutton

KS2 Leader: Mrs Worrall

Teaching Assistant: Miss Lucas

**Homework**

Homework will be sent on each **Thursday** and will be collected in each **Tuesday**.

Weekly homework will consist of:

* Reading 5x a week
* Spellings – These can be practised via the games on Spelling Shed
* X Tables – These can be practised via the games on TT RockStars
* KS2 pupils – Reading Plus at least 2x a week

Spellings and times tables (in KS2) will be tested on a Tuesday or Wednesday and the scores recorded in the back of the child’s homework books.

Each half term, every class will have a homework challenge mat with a range of different activities on. We ask that all children complete **at least 2 activities from the mat per half term.**

All log ins and passwords are on stickers in your child’s reading diary.

**Reading**

We ask that all children read at least 5 times each week at home. This is to support them with:

* Becoming more fluent with their reading
* Developing reading stamina, allowing them to read longer and more challenging texts
* Developing the speed in which they are able to read and comprehend at
* Developing Vocabulary
* Developing a love of books



**Reading in Early Years and KS1**

In Reception and KS1, pupils are no longer reading by ‘Book Band’. Instead, children will have a reading book that is matched to the phonics sounds that they are learning in their groups. This is to ensure that they have time to practise and rehearse the learning taking place in the classroom. Children will be reassessed in their phonics groups each half term. These books are to be read often as children build fluency through reading known texts. They will be changed twice a week.

Children will also bring home a second book, which is a sharing book. This book is for adults to read with their child to build a love of books, enjoying the story, discussing the language, characters and plot. This book is not for adults to try and make children read, as this will contain sounds that they have not yet been taught through phonics. These books will be changed twice a week, but children can also change these books whenever they are ready to from the class library.

**Reading in KS2**

Once children have finished the Read Write Inc Phonics programme at the end of KS1, they will be assessed in their reading using the KS2 book bands. Children will be given a book that matches their reading level to read each night at home. Pupils will still be expected to read at least 5 times each week, although as they get older, they may read independently at some points throughout the week. All children who meet this home reading target, will receive Dojo points and an extra break time as a reward.

Studies have shown that reading progress in KS2 often slows, as parents believe that now pupils can read competently, there is less need for them to read aloud with an adult. This is a misconception and it is essential that pupils still have time to read aloud and to discuss texts with someone, especially as the books they are reading are becoming more and more challenging. Please support your child by listening to them read regularly and discussing the text with them.

Pupils in KS2 will be assessed each term and the book band that they are reading at may change. However, this is based on more than just the ability to read the words, and the pupil’s comprehension of the text is equally important. Pupils who read widely and from a variety of different types of texts, will develop their reading and comprehension skills far more efficiently.

In addition to their home reading books, pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 have access to Reading Plus which is an online school subscription to improve pupils’ reading speed, comprehension and understanding of vocabulary. Pupils will complete an initial assessment in school and will then receive their log in details. Pupils are expected to complete 3 Reading lessons via Reading Plus each week. This, coupled with reading at least five times per week at home, would mean that the child had met their home reading target for the week. A four-week trial period in May 2021 proved to be very effective (as shown in the anonymised data of a cross-section of pupils below) with the pupils who regularly accessed the online lessons seeing great improvement in their reading speed, comprehension accuracy and progression through the reading levels.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reading lessons** | **Reading lessons 80%+** | **Total words read** | **Average comprehension** | **Rate gain (words per minute)** | **Level Gain** |
| 31 | 29 | 26,694 | 92.1% | 50 | 2.4 |
| 20 | 20 | 15,271 | 96.9% | 30 | 1.6 |
| 19 | 18 | 9,970 | 94.4% | 25 | 1.2 |
| 4 | 1 | 5,590 | 63% | 0 | 0 |

**PE in Y4**

This year our PE days will be Monday and Wednesday.

We are asking that pupils come into school in their PE kits on their PE days – this should be a plain white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers.

In the winter, pupils can wear a plain, black tracksuit over their PE kits to keep them warm.

The only thing that pupils need to bring into school and leave there is a small PE bag with their indoor pumps in.

*Please ensure that tracksuits and shorts are plain black, with no stripes or logos down the sides.*

 ***No football/rugby kits will be allowed.***

We will also be starting swimming lessons this year – further information will follow.

**Times of the School Day:**

**Rec - Y3**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 8.40am | School gates open |
| 8.45am | School starts |
| 9 – 10am | Lesson 1 |
| 10am | Worship |
| 10.20am | Break time |
| 10.40 - 11:30am | Lesson 2 |
| 11:30am – 12pm | Phonics |
| 12pm – 12.45pm | Lunch  |
| 12.45 -1pm | Wellbeing activities  |
| 12.45/1.20pm – 3.15pm | Lesson 3, Lesson 4 and Lesson 5 |
| 3.15pm | Home time |

**Y4 - Y6**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 8.40am | School gates open  |
| 8.45am | School starts |
| 9 – 10am | Lesson 1 |
| 10am | Worship |
| 10.20am | Break time |
| 10.40 – 11.45am | Lesson 2 |
| 11.45am – 12.15pm | Lesson 3 |
| 12.15 – 1.00pm | Lunch  |
| 1 – 1.15pm | Wellbeing activities  |
| 1.15pm – 3.15pm | Lesson 4 and Lesson 5 |
| 3.15pm | Home time |

**Class Worship and Family Learning Dates:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Venue** | **Time** |
| **Class Worship** | School Hall | Wednesday 8th November 2023, 9am |
| **Church Worship****Easter Service** | St Michael with StThomas Church | Thursday 28th Match 2024,9:30am  |
| **Family Learning sessions** | Year 4 Classroom | Reading – Thursday 12th October @ 2:15pmTimes table focus – Thursday 25th January @ 2:15pm |

**St Michael with St Thomas**

**Church of England**

**Primary School**

**HOME AND SCHOOL AGREEMENT**



***Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe***

As a pupil at St Michael with St Thomas, I will try to –

* Come to school each day and on time
* Come to school prepared for learning with my PE kit and book bag
* Be helpful and caring to everyone in school
* To follow the school rules Ready, Respectful, Safe by making good behaviour choices and respecting all adults in school
* To be a good ambassador for our school in the wider community
* Always tell the truth
* Be friendly to everyone in school
* Listen carefully to adults and follow their instructions
* Take care of any equipment sent home eg instruments and books
* Work hard and do my best
* Enjoy school and make the most of all opportunities
* To live out our school vision – Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe – everyday

Child’s signature……………………………………………………

PARENTS ARE EXPECTED TO-

* Deliver children to school on time, dressed in appropriate school uniform and appropriate to the weather
* Ensure children are alert and ready to work
* Be supportive of the school rules – Ready, Respectful, Safe
* Respect adults and children on the school premises
* Support school policies and guidelines outlined in the school prospectus, including the use of reasonable force as stated in the school policy
* Attend meetings with staff to discuss their child’s progress
* Read communication sent from school and respond appropriately
* Be supportive of the school and all members of the school family in social media use
* Sign and follow the school Acceptable User Policy
* Provide school with information for emergency contact and any changes to their emergency contact
* Inform school of any changes in circumstances which may influence child’s learning or behaviour
* I give permission for my child’s name to appear in the class handbook
* Provide appropriate PE and swimming kit
* Encourage children to respect school property, including books and instruments sent home
* Support their children with homework, including instrument practise
* Collect children on time at the end of the school day

Signed

Parent/Carer

Date

SCHOOL WILL-

* Provide a Christian Education with daily acts of worships and visits to Church
* Ensure that parents and children are treated with respect
* Ensure each child is cared for and kept safe
* Provide a friendly, caring environment
* Encourage and motivate children to learn
* Provide a bright stimulating environment
* Develop each child’s full potential
* Provide a rich and varied curriculum
* Cater for individual needs
* Promote respect, tolerance and good manners
* Assess pupils’ progress and inform parents
* Encourage and reward good behaviour
* Deal appropriately with children who make the wrong choices in line with our Relationships and Behaviour policy
* Respond appropriately to parental concerns
* Set firm, fair and consistent school rules – Ready, Respectful, Safe
* Have high expectations of all children
* Ensure that staff are available to speak to parents at the end of the school day or by appointment
* Keep parents informed with information related to school

Signed

Miss M Slingsby

Head teacher