



Through God, We
Love, Laugh and
Learn.

ST. MICHAEL'S CE (VC) FIRST SCHOOL

Weavers Lane
Stone
Staffordshire
ST15 8QB

T: 01785 334930

email: office@st-michaels-stone.staffs.sch.uk

Twitter: @StMichaelsStone

Headteacher: Mrs J Wass BA (Hons) NPQH

9th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Year 4

Welcome to Year 4. We want to make sure that you have all of the relevant information that you need to know, so that your child can have a smooth start to the academic year. This is a very important year for the children as it is their final year at First School, and part of our work will be to prepare them for the transition to the middle school stage of their education.

Teaching Team:

We have one class in Year 4:

4W - Miss A Whitney (All day Monday Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday morning)

- Mrs A Burgess (Thursday afternoon and all day Friday)

- Mrs S Cunningham will be the teaching assistant supporting Year 4 each morning

- Mrs C Cann and Mrs S Cunningham will both be working with groups in Key Stage 2 (Years 3&4) during the afternoons.

What to Bring to School Each Day:

All children should come to school in school uniform and with a school bag. Pupils should pack a drink bottle (containing water only) and their reading folder, containing their reading book and diaries, every day. Please make sure all personal items and uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Reminder: Jewellery (apart from a single stud earring in each ear) should not be worn, although I would encourage the children to wear a wrist watch, as this helps with the teaching of time and is good preparation for middle school. Hair must be tied back at all times and any hair accessories need to be school colours (blue/black or white).

Arriving/Leaving School:

Classrooms open at 08:50 and the children will be completing Start of Day Activities (SODA) during the registration period. Children must be in the classroom by 09:00 when registers are taken.

The school day ends at 15:30 and all children should be collected from the playground during the autumn term.

Topics:

I would be grateful if you could support your child's learning by discussing with them what they have learnt in school. If your child has any items or books that are linked to our topics that they



children wish to share with the class, these can be bought in to show. These are the only items that should be brought into school to 'show and tell'.

Our first topic is 'The Vikings'. We will be studying the text 'How to Train your Dragon' as part of this unit, as well as examining the history of this time period. I have arranged for an educational workshop to take place in October. Further details will be sent home.

In science, the children will be learning all about States of matter and changes to materials.

In RE, we will be studying 'The Fall' – which entails looking at the story of Adam and Eve and also looking at global issues.

In computing, the children will continue to have further education in coding, building on last year's learning and in music this term, we will be learning to play the recorder. Please ensure your child has their recorder in school every Monday.

Physical Education:

Our PE days are as follows:

- Tuesday Afternoon - Outdoor PE
- Thursday Morning - Indoor PE

Laches Wood Residential:

Undoubtedly, the highlight of our year (in January) is the residential visit to Laches Wood. This is an experience that the children enjoy and where they will make many life-long memories. By now, you should have returned the booking form to secure a place for your child. Places will be finalised shortly, therefore if you have not returned the form please do so as soon as possible if you wish for your child to attend.

There will be further information regarding the residential to follow. If you are unsure about your child attending the residential for any reason, please do get in touch.

Home Learning:

As a school, we believe that family time is extremely important and that onerous amounts of homework impact negatively upon this time. We do however recognise that it is important to prepare the pupils for the move to Middle School, where there is an expectation for them to complete homework on a regular basis.

Reading – Daily reading with your child is vital for them to make the expected level of progress, both with their reading fluency and comprehension skills. Reading diaries should be completed each time you read with your child and should be sent into school daily.

Multiplication Tables – The government expect all children to be able to recall their multiplication tables up to 12x12 by the end of their time in Year 4. These will be tested through the Year 4 National Multiplication check during the summer term.

TT Rockstars website – online platform where children complete multiplication challenges to earn digital rewards. The site provides an excellent platform to prepare for the multiplication check and can be used at home.

Spelling – Please help your child to learn their spellings over each half-term. These will be sent home and tested half-termly.



Communication:

If you have any queries or concerns about your child, then please speak to us in the first instance. Feel free to catch Miss Whitney if it is one of her duty days on the gate. However, when in class we cannot hold discussions with parents at the start of the school day as we are usually supervising the class. It is possible to arrange a telephone call during the day for urgent issues and also to leave messages via the school office.

We are so looking forward to working with our wonderful Year 4 pupils. Please do contact us if you have any further questions regarding your child's time in Year 4.

Yours sincerely

The Year 4 team

