# Y4 Welcome Meeting

2023 - 2024

### Who are we...

Teachers: Bryn Shelley
Brendon Fallows

Teaching Assistants: Vanessa Horner Nazma Ahmed

# Curriculum

Our Topics for this term are:

- William The Conqueror and The Normans
- States Of Matter
- Electricity
- Early Lawmakers

\*Rest of the year can be found on our website

# Trips and Enrichment

**Conisbrough Castle** (Normans) 17<sup>th</sup> October (Letter to come out very soon if not already)

**PGL Residential** (April)

**Southwell Minster** (RE Pilgrimages)

**Roman Visitors** 

**Parent Showcase** 

Mosque

**All Hallows Church** 

# Reading

All the children have been given new reading diaries. Please listen to your children read at least 4 times a week and record it in the diaries. Regular reading is one of the most important things you can do with your child at home.

#### Reasons to read regularly:

It improves your creativity and imagination

#### It helps you learn

Research show that "avid readers" had 50% more fact-based knowledge than people who didn't read much.

#### It increases your vocabulary

Regular readers can have a 50% larger vocabulary than those who don't read often.

#### It improves memory

It increases your concentration and attention span

#### It improves your writing skills

- It can improve spelling
- It improves use of punctuation
- It encourages a more adventurous use of language

It reduces stress

It boosts your empathy

#### Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" Student "B" Student "C" reads 5 minutes reads 20 minutes reads 1 minute each day each day each day 3600 minutes in 900 minutes in 180 minutes in -- a school year a school year a school year 1,800,000 words 282,000 words 8,000 words 90th percentile 50th percentile 10th percentile

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

### Homework

The children will have a homework book. Homework will be set on **Friday** with the expectation that it is handed in by the following Friday.

Generally marked together for instant feedback.

Generally alternating English and maths.

Occasional topic research project.

Timestables.

Reading.

# Spellings

Weekly spelling lesson either Thursday or Friday (will be clear)

Test previous week's – Learn a new spelling pattern or rule – New spellings given

50 Y4 statutory words to be learned alongside spelling rules

New spelling scheme to be rolled out this year, things may look different all of a sudden!

### P.E.

Our P.E. days this half term are:

Tuesday (Tag Rugby)

Wednesday (Gymnastics)

Please send children to school in PE kit on these days

## Rewards

- Dragon's Gold
- Class Dojo (not too much though)
- Reading certificates (for those who read 4+ times a week)
- Times Table certificates

### Residential

This year will be our 3rd year doing a PGL led residential at Caythorpe. We'd encourage everyone to come, as going on a residential with school is a fantastic experience (and they missed out on Beaumanor in Year 2). There will be a parents evening about this in January.

Dates: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April

Caythorpe

We will choose the activities later in the year.

Lots of information and photos on our website, and PGL website (Kit list, virtual tour etc)

### Times Tables

The expectation for Year 4 is that, by the end, all the children know all the times tables (up to 12x12).

Times tables test in June

Weekly times table test.

Autumn 1 – baseline and check tables learned in Y2 and Y3 (2x, 5x, 10x, 3x, 4x, 8x).

Then each half term learn and practise a new table.

Bronze / Silver / Gold certificate each half term

Embedded throughout, and Friday practise session