

Dear parents, carers and children,

Welcome to Class 4! I hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays! As usual, Autumn term is going to be a busy one, especially for Class 4 as this is the third year in a row that Staveley has been invited back to perform as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival. Our work with the festival is added, and where appropriate linked to, our curricular coverage available on the other sheet.

The Festival (an incredibly enriching and valuable experience), takes place on October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Joseph Rowntree Theatre. Tickets are now available for purchase on the theatre website or by phone (see number on the curriculum sheet. Evidently this is not a lot of time, especially considering the children will be visiting the Theatre for a cast workshop on 27<sup>th</sup> September. It is therefore very important that every member of our cast team takes responsibility for their role in the play and works hard at learning their lines and stage direction since it was this dedication that has led our young actors to such great successes in the past.

The responsibility the children are taking for their roles in the play is a great starter for the general theme of their growing responsibility throughout the year and as they get older. Indeed, this will be a running theme in PSHE and throughout the year as children are expected, in years 5 and 6 en route to high school, to be increasingly responsible for themselves, their actions and their belongings. They will be encouraged to be responsible for their personal belongings and their whereabouts, including jumpers, school letters, homework books, planners and PE kits and the classroom learning environment among other things. Moreover, this increasing responsibility should reflect in their behaviour as an example to younger pupils throughout the school, for example during social times and exhibiting good table manners at lunch time.

Maths homework will be given out weekly (though there may be a couple of exceptions as we get closer to the play and line-learning time will be given in lieu) on Thursdays. It is to be handed in by the following Wednesday where the class splits into discussion groups and works through the questions, addressing any misconceptions. Spellings are of great importance to writing development and tests will take place every Tuesday. Furthermore, when Reading Circles begins, the sessions for each group will run every two to three weeks to allow for a higher quality understanding of the section of text read and therefore work produced.

Of course, this coming Wednesday you are invited to our 'Meet the Teacher' session where the classroom environment will be available to see. This is also an opportunity to discuss or clarify any of the above points or curricular expectations of the year groups.

Regards

Mr. Howson