



2nd December 2016

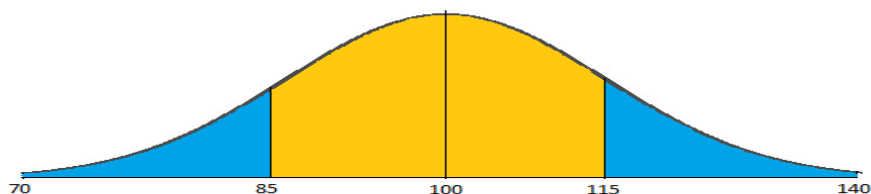
Dear Parents

Year 4 and 5 Exam Results

The recently revised National Curriculum is a result of the Government's drive to raise standards in maths and English by the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6). Our current Year 3 and Year 7 were the first to take the new, much harder, SATs now taken at the end of Key Stage 1 and 2. The new Year 4 and Year 5 exams in these subjects also reflect these increased expectations and some pupils found the recent assessments predictably challenging.

Just as with end of Key Stage SATs, these Year 4 and Year 5 tests are meant to result in standardised scores, rather than the percentages we have traditionally used at Town Close. Standardised scores are worked out on a normalised distribution (see diagram below) and are centred around a score of 100, which sampling has shown to be the exact expected average for their age group. In terms of percentages it wasn't necessary to score very highly in order to get a standardised score of 100. For example, in the very difficult Year 5 spelling test, a score of 9 out of 24 was sufficient to obtain a standardised score of 100, but as a percentage this is only 37.5%.

The standardised score scale for these tests runs from 70 to 140. Approximately two thirds of children are expected to obtain standardised scores between 85 and 115 (see diagram below) and performance in this range can, broadly speaking, be described as average, with scores outside this range being described as 'exceptional'.



We have, therefore, decided, at the risk of parental confusion, to report these standardised scores instead of percentages for the results in maths and English in Years 4 & 5. Results in other subjects (Year 5) will continue to be reported as percentages.

For technical reasons it is not possible to alter the computer generated reporting system for this term, so marks will still state 'Exam Result %' even though they are actually standardised scores. We hope to solve this issue for any future standardised tests.

Please feel free to contact me, or seek me out to talk to, regarding any of the above or assessment in general.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Hall'.

David Hall
Director of Studies