



21st April 2017

Dear Parents

You will have noticed from the online diary that Year 6 pupils are due to sit the KS2 SATs (Key Stage 2 Standard Assessment Tasks) during the week beginning 8th May 2017.

The maths and reading tests are marked and moderated on a national basis, which means that each pupil will receive results, easily understood and accepted by any school they happen to attend in the future. The results are also useful to Town Close with regard to monitoring the effectiveness of the School, at least in terms of attainment in mathematics and English. For this year we have decided not to enter the official Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling test; the pupils will sit an internally marked version of this test but will receive comparable results.

The tests are nothing for the children to be unduly concerned about, although, as with all exams, they will obviously want to do their best. They will no doubt be pleased to hear that they will not also be required to sit internal school exams in mathematics in the week before half-term and will only have to do the writing part of the English exam during that week! The timetable below should enable you to see what is involved:

Key Stage 2 SATs Timetable (Year 6) 2017

Monday 8th May	Reading Test	9am - 10am
Tuesday 9th May	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test	9.00am – 10.15am
Wednesday 10th May	Maths 1 Arithmetic	9.00am - 9.30am
	Maths 2 Reasoning	9.35am - 10.25am
Thursday 11th May	Maths 3 Reasoning	9am - 9.40am

The tests have to be taken on the dates listed above and, unlike other exams, the pupils are not allowed to sit them at a later date if they are away. Since absence is counted as a failure in official statistics, I would ask you to ensure that your child attends school on these days if at all possible.

Finally, in order to take part officially in the tests, it is necessary for us to send you what is known as a 'Privacy Notice'. This is concerned with the legal implications of the Data Protection Act 1998. While it reads somewhat seriously, in practice it relates to the passing of a name, a date of birth and the gender of each pupil to NCA (National Curriculum Assessment) in order that they can administer the tests.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

David Hall
Director of Studies