15th July 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Attached to this letter you will find your child’s end of year report. We have made some important changes to the format of our reports this year, and this letter is to explain these.

One of our main aims was to make the reports more personalised to each individual and more meaningful to you as a parent. The report starts with a photo of your child and their own comments about their learning this year.

The ‘core subjects’ section tells you about your child’s progress in Maths, Literacy and Science. We have tried to make this more helpful for parents by clearly identifying each child’s ‘secure skills’ (i.e. key things they can do at the end of the year) and ‘next steps’. These are based on the expectations from the new national curriculum, which was introduced in September.

You will notice that there are no levels or grades for attainment, only for effort. This also reflects changes to the national curriculum this year. For each of the core subjects there is a statement based on the new national curriculum, which tells you how your child is doing compared to the new expectations for their year group. Most children will be either:

* **‘working towards** the expected standard’
* have **met** the expected standard for their age, or
* **‘working at greater depth** within the expected standard’

If your child is assessed as ‘working **below** the expected standard’, this will mean that they are receiving some level of individualised support for their specific learning needs.

It is very important to note that this is the first year that pupils have been working to the new curriculum. This has brought significantly changed and raised expectations, and the children have only been working toward these for one year. The DfE’s guidance for parents of Y6 pupils states:

“*As the new standard is higher than the old one, fewer children have met the new expected standard than the previous standard*.”

The next section of the report covers the other ‘foundation’ subjects of the curriculum, with an effort grade for each subject. In the comments section you will find any specific comments from the appropriate teacher about your child’s performance in these subjects.

The final ‘Teacher Comments’ section is where the class teacher has made any more general comments about your child’s progress, attitude etc. This year as a school we have begun working with the children to develop their ‘super-learner’ skills of Confidence, Concentration, Curiosity, Collaboration and Creativity - skills which we believe are the essential foundation for independent learning and future success. Some of the teacher’s comments will relate to these specific skills.

Finally, as always I have had the pleasure of reading all the reports and adding my own comments!

**At the end of the report you will find a slip. We would be very grateful if you could return this, with any comments you may have about your child’s report, or about the new report format, to your child’s teacher.**

If you would like to discuss the report with your child’s teacher, please make an appointment to do so.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF PUPILS IN Y2 AND Y6**

If your child is in Y6 or Y2 you will also receive information about the SATs tests. For pupils in Y6, this includes the ‘scaled score’ which is used by the DfE to decide whether the pupil has achieved the expected standard. As this is a ‘pass mark’ system based **only** on the tests they have taken, you may notice that in some cases the teacher’s own assessment of a child’s attainment, which is based on their knowledge of the child’s work over the whole year, will be different from the SATs result.

Attached to the report is a printout of your child’s attendance at school this academic year.

Pupils in Y1 and some pupils in Y2 will also receive the results of the Phonics Screening Check which was carried out this term.

Yours sincerely,

Rupert Griffiths