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Learning Together for Life

Thursday 5th February 2015

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you about the changes to assessment in school as a result of the changes to the National Curriculum that came into force September 2014.

The old national curriculum measured children's performance against level descriptors. We compared what a child was able to do to these level descriptors and assigned them a level e.g 4B. The systems of levels have been removed and schools have been empowered to design their own assessment systems.

In our school we will be recording if a child can do what is expected, in the new national curriculum, for their age. Therefore the information we will record will be they are either

Below expectations for their age
Meeting expectations for their age
Above expectations for their age

As you will have probably have seen in the news the new national curriculum is much more challenging than the old one. Therefore as we move from one assessment system to the new one some children may fall behind where they were; for example a child may have been above expectations for their age but now they may be meeting expectations for their age. Similarly a child who under the old National Curriculum may have been meeting expectations for their age may be below expectations for their age. If this happens it is important to remember that your child and their ability has not changed; the national expectation has changed. Schools across the country are expecting this drop.

We will of course work hard to ensure that all children fulfil their potential and close any gap between below expected and expected that might occur as a result of the new curriculum. If you would like to see what children are now expected to do in each year group please follow this link.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-primary-curriculum>

With these changes we will not be in a position to send out our usual Term 3 reports however teachers will discuss where your child is in line with the new National Curriculum in our parents evenings that are being held on the 17th and 18th of March.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's learning, attainment or progress please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,
Andrew Smith
Executive Headteacher

Our Key Values: Caring, Honesty, Commitment to Achieve, Fairness, Co-operation, Respect



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