

Good afternoon everyone

If you have been watching the news today you will have heard that the Government have decided to suspend the Key Stage 1 Tests which were due to take place for year 2 children in the summer of 2021. In previous years children have taken tests in reading, writing and maths and the results were used to inform the final assessment of a child which was made by the class teacher. Next year the teacher will assess the children, in the same way that they always have, but the children will not sit any formal tests.

We are very happy to hear this news - in our experience the children never minded taking the tests, but the tests took at least three weeks to deliver and created a lot of extra work for staff. We feel that our current year 2 children have missed enough of their education already and could not afford to lose another three weeks. Year 6 children will still be taking their tests, but the results will not be published nationally.

Year 1 children are still required to take the phonics assessment in June next year, but we have been given an extra week to deliver these. Our current year 2 children are due to take the assessment that they missed last year - this must happen before the end of this term.

On another note could I just thank all of you who have taken the time to send in cards for my mother in law Marion's 80th birthday. I know she will be thrilled to receive them. Her birthday is on the 15th December in case you would still like to send one in. You may like to know that she raised £230 through selling the toys that she had been busy making - a much needed contribution to CHIPs funds!

We continue to hope that all children will be in school for the last week of term, when Christmas will well and truly arrive in school. The children have loved seeing the decorations around school this week - almost as much as we have enjoyed seeing their faces! We promise to do all that we can to make this an extra special time for them.

With love from

Jacky