



July 2016

Dear parent/carer

Key Stage 2 national curriculum statutory test results 2016

There have been huge changes to primary school tests. The tests have been made harder this year (you may have read about many pupils over the country being reduced to tears after some of the tests) and the way that the changes have been made has been quite disruptive.

This could mean that, despite their hard work and talent, some children may not have reached the standards that they were expecting in the key stage tests. This is not the fault of your child or their teacher: rather, it is the outcome of changes to the national curriculum and a resetting of the expected standard.

When the results were made available to schools on Tuesday 5 July, there was a lot of confusion and disappointment nationally about how well each school thought they'd done! Later that day the Department for Education (DfE) released provisional headline information; the Hertfordshire provisional figures followed.

Pupils reaching the new expected standard in 2016

	Thomas Coram	National	Hertfordshire
Reading, writing and mathematics	73%	53%	59%
Reading	82%	66%	72%
Grammar, punctuation and spelling	91%	72%	76%
Mathematics	84%	70%	73%
Writing (teacher assessment, not a test)	84%	74%	79%

Given all the uncertainty around the 'raised bar' and being tested on a new curriculum that began in September 2014, this year's Year 6 pupils and their teachers have done remarkably well. And they should be strongly congratulated.

At Thomas Coram we firmly believe in children not being numbers on a page, judged to have passed or failed primary school: they are humorous, inquisitive and curious; they have interests and talents ranging from music to sports; they have acquired many life skills, which will stand them in good stead for the future.

Having already sent these results to Year 6 children and parents, I wanted us all to have an opportunity to congratulate them, and their current and past teachers, on their achievements.

I am immensely proud of them all and it has been a privilege to watch them grow at Thomas Coram over the last three years.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Halls
Headteacher