

Dear Parents/Carers

I chatted to some Year 6 students yesterday afternoon and gathered their thoughts about the SATs that they had just completed. After a year of hard work (and some uncertainty), did they feel that these tests allowed them the opportunity to show how well they could do?

The fiction text – ‘Golden Dreams’ was based around a myth, the non-fiction text was ‘The Canadian Gold Rush’ – the students felt that these were rather dull, but quite manageable.

The writing tasks – persuasive writing about a ‘school hero’ and instructional writing about a fictional creature called a ‘Miptor’, was actually quite enjoyable and ‘a lot better/easier than other Big Writing tasks set by Mr Staddon’ (I quote!).

Mental maths seemed better than expected, Maths Paper A was tricky, Paper B – better!

Overall they said they thought it was quite a good week and nowhere near as bad as they’d expected. Interestingly, the staff plus KS2 support staff attended a twilight training session on Wednesday night at Hambridge Village Hall. The subject was the assessment process that we have introduced across the School with a focus on maths at this particular session. This process looks more thoroughly at the levels of understanding and ability than the tests and it is hoped that they will eventually replace them. A child leaving in Year 6 will still be expected to achieve a secure Level 4 or above, but in order to achieve that 4, they must have shown clear evidence that they have understood those concepts. In this time of political change, it is uncertain how things will proceed, but this assessment process – whilst demanding in time, is a very accurate tool by which to judge progress. Whatever the future, our current Year 6 have worked hard this year and deserve their trip out today to Burton Pynsent for some sketching and a picnic.

Year 4 are also offsite, visiting Lulworth Cove as part of their topic on ‘Holidays’ – let’s hope the weather stays fine for them all.

Well done to our Year 4 netball team who were joint runners up at the Huish Festival. Their success this year bodes well for the future!

We have a busy time ahead for the PTA with the end of SATs disco tonight 6.30pm – 7.30pm (KS1 and Pre-School) and KS2 at 7.45pm – 9.00pm; and the Summer Fayre tomorrow – 1.00pm to 4.00pm.

I look forward to seeing you all (quite a lot) this weekend!

Best wishes,

Amanda Russell

## **CLASS CUPS**

**Red Class:** Hannah for continued hard work and best effort all the time. The rocket has taken off and Hannah is on it! Fantastic!

**Orange Class:** Kara for always trying her best and coming to School with a smile

**Yellow:** Bailey for always putting his hand up to participate in class discussions and having a fantastic attitude towards school

**Green:** Jodie for trying really hard in maths

**Blue:** Owen for his dedication to his writing, using similies, connectives and adverbs

**Indigo:** Emily for her continued progress, confidence and hard work in the core subjects

### **Merit Awards**

Congratulations to Maddy for achieving her yellow chart, Kieran and Emma F for achieving their blue charts, George S for obtaining his bronze chart and Madeleine for obtaining her silver chart.

**Lunchtime Good Behaviour Awards:** Congratulations to James, Daisy, Amberley and Alice from Mrs Moore for their good behaviour.

### **Letters etc sent out this week:**

Pupil and Parent Questionnaire  
Wells Leavers Day Indigo Class (last Friday!)  
Swimming Letter Indigo Class  
Athletics Slip  
Wildlife Watch Club

**Uniform for the new School year. Last date for orders 11 June**

### **REMINDER:**

**STUD EARRINGS ONLY – NO HOOPS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY REASONS!**

### **SPORTS RESULTS:**

Huish Netball Festival: Year 4s – Well done for being joint runners up. Mrs Haines said that it was a good experience for them all and they played very well.

### **Dates for your Diary**

Friday 14 May 2010

Saturday 15 May

Friday 21 May

Thursday 27 May

Saturday 29 May to Sunday 6 June inc

Monday 7 June

End of SATs disco 6.30pm KS1& Pre School 7.45pm KS2

PTA May Fayre – 1.00pm to 4.0pm

County Attendance Officer visit

Stoke St Gregory Football and Netball Tournaments

Half term

Pupils return to School