

Dear Parents/Carers

FYI

The Report Card you are receiving from class teachers this Friday is a conversation starter only; it is not a ‘report’ in any conventional sense of the word. Our annual reports, written with the children, come out in the Spring term and then we give you a brief update again in the summer. We like to give the main report in the Spring term so that we all have time to act on them. This term’s ‘Report Cards’ are there to support conversations during the Parents Evenings happening next week.

Class teachers will share attainment data with you at these meetings because it can be helpful when making decisions at home about where to provide your child with extra support or encouragement. We will try to draw on standardized tests for the data we will give you. These tests have been tried and ‘tested’ and produce data as reliable as data can get.

We take the decision not to share attainment data with the children themselves because we find it neither necessary nor useful to do so. We would very much like them to appreciate, or be beginning to appreciate, their many strengths and then what their next steps might be but we think giving them the means to compare themselves with others is, more often than not, counter-productive. For us this is the same whether the comparison to themselves is a favourable one or an unfavourable one. We feel there is a time and a place for being competitive and life is inevitably full of competition but it need not find its way into the heart of a classroom.

If you have any questions concerning this way of working or anything else for that matter, please feel free to come and chat to me during the Parents Evening.

Kind regards

Mr Moss