

Archbishop Courtenay Governors' News

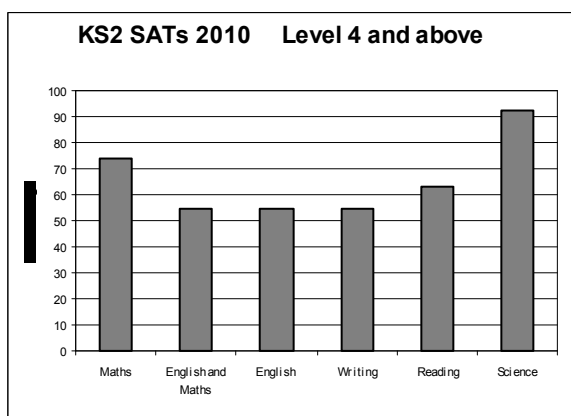
July 2010

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted

We hope that you have looked at the school's recent Ofsted report. Both Ofsted and the school, in its own self-evaluation, recognised the need to improve attainment in writing and science. Both these areas were already being targeted by the school for improvement. Ofsted can only report on children's attainment using published data from SATs which came too late for consideration in the recent report. We would like to share with you the success of this year's SATs which show the school's continuing improvement.

Attainment for children is divided into levels. The highest level in primary school is level 5. Nationally 55% of children are expected to reach level 4 or above in English and maths. We met this target again this year. We continue to do well in maths and have raised standards significantly in writing and science this year. This represents a huge achievement since 45% of our Year 6 children have special educational needs, compared with just 19% nationally.



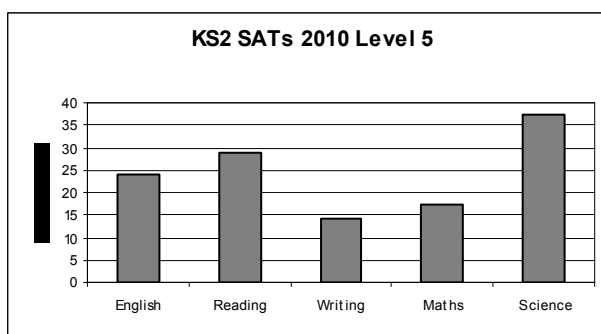
Science standards are now higher than the national standards reported last year (data for the current year is not yet available).

The school has also been working hard to

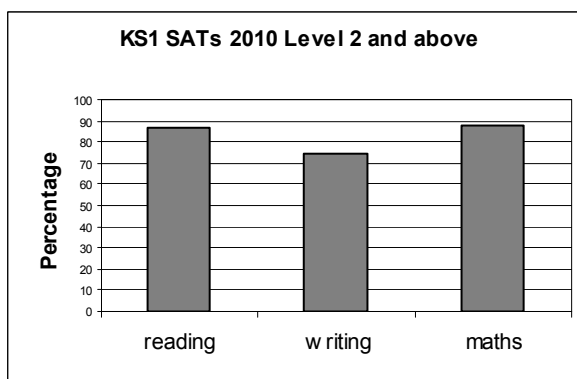
improve the attainment for more able pupils.

For the first time, we have children attaining level 5 in writing, maintaining the high achievement in maths and have matched the percentage of children achieving Level 5 in science nationally too.

This represents significant progress and learning value added to children's achievements, since none of these children were above average (level 3) at the end of KS1.



Our KS1 children have also had good results from their SATs too, with more children achieving the higher levels, especially in reading and maths.



All these results represent a lot of hard work from the children and the staff and show that we are committed to achieving the best that we can. The Governing body can report from their monitoring at the end of this year, that children make the progress expected of them in all year groups and that our more able pupils are achieving highly, exceeding their targets.

Church of England Inspection Report

The Governing body is pleased with the outcomes of our Church of England School Inspection. The inspectors recognised many strengths in our school, especially the high level of teamwork displayed by staff, who work as ‘one body’ to realise a shared Christian vision for the school. Teaching, leadership and links with the church were all judged to be good.

Achievements in school

Reading Recovery and Better Reading Partnerships have helped many children catch up with their reading skills this year. Children enjoy the individual tuition and support which gives them confidence to succeed.

Children take part in many extra-curricular activities and inter-school events, musical, academic and sporting. For example:

Musical Events

- Instrumental lessons (violin, djembe drumming, recorder, ocarina)
- Sing Around Christmas
- Carol singing in the community
- KS1 musical ‘Humph’
- Ocarina festival
- Spring Sing-along
- Recorder festival
- Boys on Broadway
- ‘The Selfish Giant’ (Year 3 and 4)
- ‘Olivia’ (Year 6)

Academic Events

- Maths workshops for more able pupils in KS2
- Maths Quiz
- Environmental project with Medway Wildlife
- Living Land event at Detling
- Rare Breeds Centre visit
- Art competitions
- Shakespeare workshops with Invicta Grammar School

Sporting Events

- KS1 multi-skills events
- Tri-golf
- Mini-world cup football tournament
- Tag rugby
- Athletics
- Outdoor and adventurous activities competition
- Year 6 residential activities week
- Tennis
- Wii-fit

Children have also taken part in enrichment weeks where they have the opportunity to explore topics in greater depth. These have included:

- Health and safety
- World of work
- Science and art
- Dragons (book week)
- Geography field skills

The school council also has an important role in school. This year they have visited the Thursday Fellowship at the Baptist Church and led our school’s fundraising for charity. They have also worked with staff to suggest ways to reward good attendance. Thank you to all the council members for all their hard work.

Special Educational Needs

Our school has a higher than national percentage of children with Special Educational Needs. The Governors ensure that there is value for money from the dedicated budget, which provides additional staffing, special resources and training. The Governing Body monitors closely the progress of pupils, support and training.

New School

We expect to give you good news about the new school in September. In the meantime, we would like to thank all parents for their support.

Mollie Neaves

Chair of Governors