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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you rather unexpectedly as you will, by now, be aware that the Key Stage 1 (year 2) Spelling test for 2016 appeared by mistake on the internet well in advance of the date for the tests to be taken. Due to this, we have today received confirmation that pupils in year 2 are NOT required to complete the grammar, punctuation and spelling test for this academic year. Can I take this opportunity to also make you aware that in year 2 ANY test undertaken is used purely to confirm teacher assessment judgements and that it is not test scores alone that provide the information of where your child/ren are academically. Please rest assured that teachers are able to make accurate well-formed judgements of where children are in their learning and on what they need to learn next to ensure progress, without having to test children to find this out, regardless of year group. For children in year 2, you will still receive judgements on where your child is in the all areas when you receive their end of year school reports.

Staffing

Mrs Dickinson has shared the exciting news that she is expecting her second child and will be taking maternity leave from the end of August. We currently have a part-time maternity post advertised to start in September to job share with Mrs Kidd. I will keep you informed of any changes following the close of advert, shortlisting and interviewing.

Nursery

We also have our own exciting news here – that we will be opening a nursery in September. Please could parents spread the word and let anyone who may be interested know that they are more than welcome to come and have a look around the school anytime; all we need is a phone call to arrange the visit. We already have our first nursery children registered for a September start.

Finally let's hope this strange weather settles down and we can have some sense of summer approaching as we settle into SATs time for our year 6 children. I have to say I've never seen such a confident bunch – they're so well prepared they seem unconcerned about the approaching SATs - and rightly so. As I always say, they can only do their best.

Yours sincerely,
Andrea Norman
Head teacher

Working Together for a Successful Future

St Andrew's Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

