



# BUILDWAS ACADEMY

Head of School: Mr J Millington

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Executive Principal: Mr S Tilley

## Message from the Head of School:

Dear Families,

Wow, our first full week on the new term, I do not know what has hit me 😊. As we turn our attention away from the Year 6's, our focus is now on Y2 who have started their SATs. The approach to doing those SATs papers is a little different to how the Y6's tackled the papers. We have a longer window to do the papers in, so we have made sure that they are spread out as wide as possible to help minimize anxieties that children have. Miss Lockley has carefully developed the timetable to reflect this, thank you 😊. This year is technically the last year for Y2 SATs (but they said that last year 😊) so I am hoping that next year will see a move away from formal testing for the younger children which is something I would be pleased about.

## In other news:

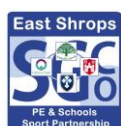
Some of our Year 6 children were off on their residential this week and the sun has shone for them, speaking to Mrs Sherratt, the children had a little bit of a late night on the first night so all were a little tired on Thursday morning. Signal is bad but Mrs Sherratt has managed to find a little spot to upload some photos to our Facebook site which really show how much the children were enjoying themselves. I think you will all have a quiet weekend as they will be shattered from their adventure.

On another note, I am getting requests from families to meet about operational things happening in the classes and progress of children. In the first instance, please can I ask you to contact your class teacher and arrange a discussion with them as they will know those answers in much better detail than me. Obviously if you then need to arrange an appointment with me then I would be happy to talk to you 😊

## Buildwas Rocks:

This week has been very busy in **Beech** Class. The Year 2s have really impressed Miss Lockley with their amazing resilience with their very tricky reading SATs. Every single child in Year 2 has tried their hardest and not given up. As a result, the Year 2s have had some fabulous – and well earned – reward times where they have enjoyed art, playing outside and even baking! While the Year 2s were busy with their reward time, the Year 1s enjoyed their science lesson. We looked closely at the differences in each season and how this changes the weather and the length of the days. Then we used our fantastic observational skills and went into Forest School to create a 'signs of spring' picture using the watercolours. On Wednesday, we were lucky enough to get invited to a cross-country event in Brockton. Miss Lockley was incredibly proud of everybody for running because we tried our best. We were also the best (and loudest) cheerers when our friends were running and did not stop cheering until the last person crossed the line.

**Oak** class worked impressively hard on their assessments this week. Even more impressively, when we analysed our answers, many children were able to identify and learn from their misconceptions and know what they need to do to improve. Some children learnt from Assessment 1 that they





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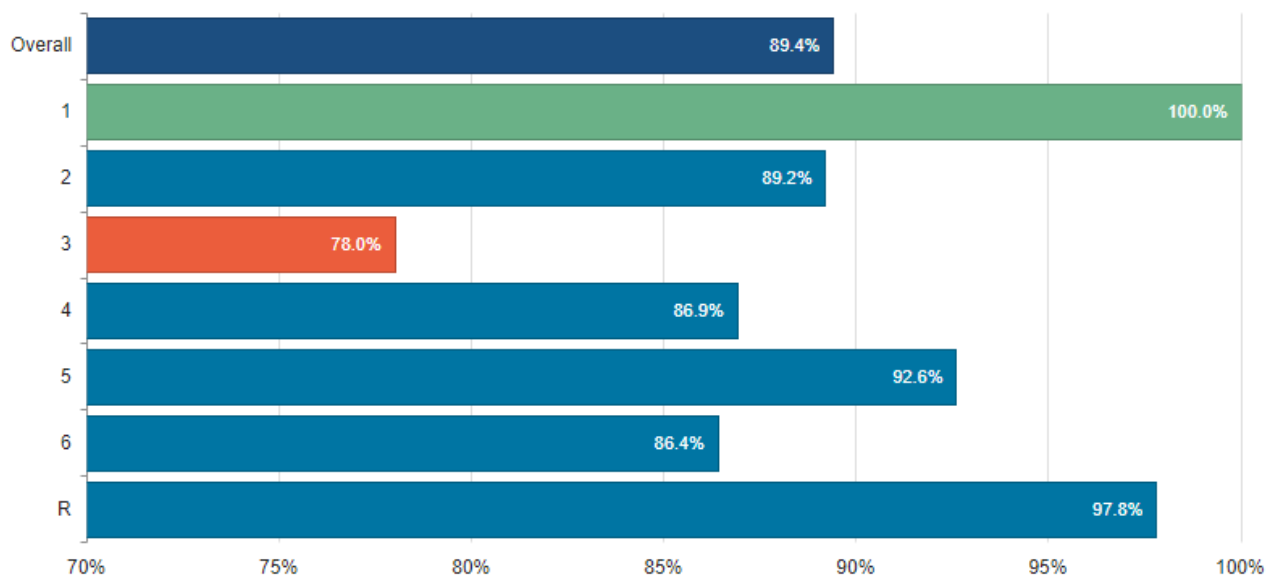
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needed to check their answers more carefully, looking out for ways that the test might have "tricked" them. They then did this effectively on their second assessment, which was wonderful to see. The Thousands maths group demonstrated their understanding of decimals with a mid-topic assessment. They have also been practising for their maths multiplication check with Mr Read and will really benefit from practising their times tables as much as possible at home. They need instant recall of the multiplication facts to be able to answer each question in 6 seconds or less. The hundreds group have been working with fractions on a number line this week. They know all about intervals and dividing lines and can count forwards and backwards in fractions, we are now working on identifying equivalent fractions. In RE we looked at the importance that Christians place on Baptism in their life's journey. We are learning more about effective searching in computing, and we have been using musical notation to write our own rhythms and perform them to the rest of the class in our music lessons.

This week our class attendance is:



Please remember to check this week's class diary sheets as there are some changes to PE days.

I hope the sun stays out so we can really enjoy the weekend 😊

Take care,

Mr Millington

