



# Ryecroft C.E. (C) Middle School

Ashbourne Road, Rocester, Staffordshire, ST14 5NW

Telephone: 01889 590394 Fax: 01889 591483

**Executive Headteacher: Mr P. Slack**

**Headteacher: Miss R. Baramuszcak**

19<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you of some developments that have taken place over the Christmas break and start of this term.

As you are aware, our SATs results last year in Maths were significantly below the national standard and consequently Ryecroft was categorised by the Local Authority as a 'Category 3' School. This academic category meant that we are of high concern to the Local Authority. Categorisation is reviewed annually and can be amended up or down where there is significant evidence to support a change.

I can assure you, we are working incredibly hard to address our shortfalls and we receive regular monitoring visits from the Local Authority to track our progress against a set of key targets.

It is my intention to update you after each Local Authority visit, so that you are aware of the changes that are taking place to improve the education and provision for your child.

Our most recent visit was in the last week of the Autumn Term and the follow up report has recognised many areas of strength. I would like to share the headline statements with you.

- The Senior Leadership Team has been positively highlighted for introducing a number of initiatives to track pupils effectively and monitor their progress.
- We are credited for identifying best practice within the school.
- Pupils in Year 6 have completed a range of sample SATs papers and the results show that 85% of pupils in Reading are on track to attain the national standard.
- In terms of progress in Reading, there has been an improvement from 56% in September to 75%.
- In the Spelling Punctuation and Grammar test, we have seen progress increase rapidly. At the start of the year, 5% of pupils were at the national standard this has now risen to 59%.

At the time of the Local Authority visit, the Maths department were about to conduct their second SATs mock paper and therefore the data was not scrutinised in the report. This will however be shared when they next visit. The department works in close partnership with the other local Middle Schools and each test is carefully moderated across the three schools to ensure accuracy and consistency. Results show that 53% of pupils are currently working at or above the national standard. This result is encouraging at this stage in the year and is stronger than at the same point last year.

On my learning walks around the school, it is clear that the children and staff are working incredibly hard in all year groups and are enjoying their learning. It is lovely to see the work being produced in our variety of subject areas and I'm looking forward to seeing this work displayed around the school. I am delighted with the progress and improvements that have been made so far and we are all committed to delivering the highest standard of teaching and learning.

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I would like to take this opportunity to advise you of forthcoming parents' evenings and events.

All Year 6 parents are invited to attend a SATs Information Evening on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 5pm. We will ask the lead teachers of Maths and English to share department specific information and advise you on how best to support and help your child through the next few months.

The dates for this term's parents evening are also fast approaching and are as follows:

Year 6 – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Year 8 – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April

The Year 5 and Year 7 parents' evenings will take place in the Summer Term.

Letters will be sent out in due course.

Thanking you for your continued support

Yours sincerely,



**Miss R. Baramuszcak**  
**Headteacher**

Email: [headteacher@ryecroft.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@ryecroft.staffs.sch.uk)

[office@ryecroft.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@ryecroft.staffs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.ryecroft.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.ryecroft.staffs.sch.uk)

