

WALMSLEY C.E. SCHOOL

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To Our Sparky Year 6

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Over the past few weeks, years even, you have put in lots of effort in preparation for your SAT's. You will nail them, we know you will.

And now in Year 6 you have been doing a lot of English and Maths, but you've got so many other skills and talents. Not every skill is taught in school and even less are tested. You might be a great skateboarder, fantastic at fashion design or have green fingers. You might be a people person, a problem solver or a poet and SAT's are never going to show off these amazing skills.

SAT's don't test whether you are a creative person, can write code, or whether you are good at teaching IT skills to your Grandad or have a rapport with animals. They don't test your speaking skills or whether you can mend anything put in front of you. They don't measure whether you're arty, sporty, musical or love science. Although subjects like Maths and English are important, never forget you've been given talents in plenty of other areas too and these are equally important to see you through your life.

Please try your best to see these tests as "something I've got to do, but not the most important thing in the world." The problem is that sometimes we teachers can make them seem really important, without noticing what we're doing. We have school targets we hope to meet and our school has Government targets it hopes to meet. It's like one big chain and there's only one person at the end of it...YOU!

But remember this: When you were born, no one said "What I want most for this child is 'an exceeding' in Maths when they hit Year 6!" (that would have been slightly weird!) The big things, the most important things are things like your personality, what you believe and think, your ideas and that spark inside that makes you YOU!

You are sparky and wonderful. Your parents know it and as a school we have seen it constantly during your time here.

There is a video on the internet that asks you to count the number of passes a basketball team make. These passes come quick and fast and you really have to focus on the ball to count them all. At the end of the video it says, "Well done on counting the passes, but did you notice the moonwalking bear?" You see you were so focused on counting the passes you missed a moonwalking bear on the screen!

SAT's can be like that video challenge. We promise as a school not to be so busy on focusing on your SAT's that we don't notice the amazing Year 6's you are.

Keep moonwalking, stay sparky and 'show off' next week.

You are amazing, gorgeous, special people,

From Mrs Carr and everyone at Walmsley xo