

West Moors Middle School Heathfield Way, West Moors Ferndown, Dorset, BH22 0DA Telephone: 01202 872474 Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

6th May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week, our children will sit their Year 6 SATs in Mathematics, Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. I know how incredibly hard they have all worked, but there is something very important I would like to share:

SATs results do not assess all the qualities that make each child special and unique. The people who create and mark these tests do not know our pupils the way I do and certainly not the way you do, as their parents and carers.

They do not know that some of our children speak more than one language, or that they love to act, sing, paint, and draw. They have not seen their natural flair for football, netball or gymnastics. They are unaware that their friends rely on them for support, that their laughter can lift the gloomiest day, or that their spontaneous acts of kindness bring smiles to others. They do not know that our children participate in a wide range of activities, wonder about the future, or help to care for younger siblings after school. They do not see how kind, trustworthy and thoughtful they are – or how hard they try every single day to be the best they can be.

The SATs results will tell you something but they will not tell you everything. There are many ways to be intelligent. Our children *are* intelligent. They are talented. They are enough. They are the light that brightens my day, and I am immensely proud of each and every one of them.

So, as our children prepare for their SATs, and throughout the week itself, let us all remember: there is no test for the remarkable, wonderful, and unique qualities that make our children who they are.

Warmest wishes,

20

Dr Deborah Craddock

Head Teacher



