



## Coates Lane Primary School

*"Happiness at the heart, shaping children of the future."*



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Headteacher: Mrs. S White  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I write to you today with a heavy heart; sharing some information that has not only been upsetting, but infuriating, for our pupils and staff.

As you are aware, your child sat his/her SATS tests in May, tests which the children and staff worked tirelessly for this year. We have to ensure the tests are administered and completed with the utmost integrity and security, making sure that every test paper is accounted for and sent away to be externally marked.

This week, the Standards and Testing Agency have contacted school to inform me that they have lost 29 of the children's maths tests (paper 3). They have completed a thorough investigation and have confirmed that they received all of the SATS papers via courier, but between scanning them and filing them, they have been mislaid. **There has been no error on school's part and the STA have accepted complete responsibility for the loss of the papers.**

As you can imagine, we are devastated by this news as it means that the children will not receive a confirmed result for their Maths SATS test. Although they have the results of Paper 1 and Paper 2, without Paper 3 they cannot calculate a total score. After much discussion with the STA, and my school advisor, we can clarify that this year we will be reporting Teacher Assessment to you for your child's mathematics result.

I'm sure that you are feeling as disappointed and angry as we are; your children have worked incredibly hard this year. They deserved to know how well they did on the test papers and we feel very let down by the STA. We work hard to support our pupils through the challenges of year 6 and the SATS tests are stressful enough without now finding out that they will not have a score for the Maths Papers.

At this point, we want to reassure you that Mrs Green's Teacher Assessment will be shared with you and your child's high school. The most important thing is that the high quality teaching that they have received has meant that although they won't have a confirmed result from the actual tests, the knowledge and



experiences that they have learned this year is instilled in them, in readiness for their transition to High School. We recognise that our duty of educating our pupils to their full potential has been fulfilled; it is just a terrible shame that the STA has not fulfilled their responsibility to mark and provide us with the results of the tests.

I do appreciate that you may have questions or concerns with regards to this so please do not hesitate to contact me or arrange an appointment to see me; I am more than happy to discuss this further.

Thank you again for all of your support this year; we truly appreciate your open communication and understanding.

Warm Regards,

Sarah White

Headteacher

