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Dear Parents/Carers,

The last academic year at Foulsham Primary School was a year of many successes with pupils making great progress across their studies, growing as thoughtful and kind members of our school community whilst enjoying a wealth of experiences to broaden their understanding of the world and excitement about learning. Our skilled staff are constantly evaluating teaching and learning, which includes assessing what the next steps are for each pupil in their learning. Further to this, the Government uses a range of measures to see how well pupils at each school are achieving and progressing. The results section of our website has recently been updated should you wish to look at this in more detail.

To summarise, on average, our Reception children achieve more highly than Reception children do nationally, as do our Year 1 pupils in the phonics screening. Our Year 2 pupils have consistently over the last three years either matched or exceeded national figures in reading, writing and maths. However, the picture for our Year 6 results is slightly more mixed: although maths is showing an improving trend, reading is not comparing favourably with national figures over the past two years, neither is writing in the last year. As a result of the Key Stage 2 (Year 6) reading progress score last year, the Department for Education has categorised our school as falling 'below floor standards.'

We would like to reassure parents that we are also concerned about these results and we are taking actions to address them. Whilst we believe that Foulsham Primary School offers so much more than just academic results in core subjects, we also believe that achieving highly in reading, writing and maths will set our pupils up to be successful in their next stage of education and on into adulthood.

Reading was recognised as an area requiring attention last year, as a result of which actions were taken. We are taking further actions this year to strengthen both reading and writing across the school. You may have already noticed some changes: all classes now have reading records to encourage and give value to more reading; assemblies are being used to strengthen this area of the curriculum; each class has a daily reading lesson in addition to a daily time exploring a class novel.

Please look out for a letter in the new year letting you know about a second parent information evening which will have a focus on reading.

If this raises questions and you would like to discuss this in more detail, please contact the school office who will arrange an appointment.

Your Faithfully

Dr Geoff Frost

Mrs Jacqui Lound