

3 May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

### **SATs and Ramadan**

You may be aware that this year the beginning of Ramadan coincides with SATs, which run from Monday 13 – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The following advice from the Deputy Secretary General, Dr Omer El-Hamdoon, on behalf of the Muslim Council of Britain, has been passed to primary schools and may be helpful:

*“The Month of Ramadan is a great spiritual month for Muslims. It is an opportunity to achieve piety and to become more conscious of God, ourselves and others.*

*Muslims throughout the world fast the days of this month. They fast from dawn to sunset. The fast is obligatory on those who have passed puberty. However, as a form of practice, children under puberty are encouraged to fast to get into the habit of fasting and also to share in the communal dimension that is apparent as the whole family fasts together and breaks fast together.*

*As Islam is also a pragmatic religion, it recognises that there are instances or circumstances in which people cannot fast. One such circumstance is when one is undertaking important examinations or tests. If one feels that they are unable to concentrate well to carry out the test, then they have the religious dispensation to break the fast.*

*The decision to do this should remain that of the individual child directed and guided by the parent(s).*

*When one doesn't fast for this reason, they can make up their fast after Ramadan and they will be rewarded equally for doing so, as their intention was to fast, but they had a valid reason not to do so.”*

We would ask you to consider carefully whether your child fasts or not. Thank you for your consideration and of course we will respect your wishes. If your child is going to fast please could you notify the office in writing by completing the slip attached. If we have no written record we will consider that they are not fasting.

Thank you for your co-operation

Yours sincerely

Tony Head  
Principal

## Year 6 Fasting Slip 2019

My child (name) \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Is fasting and will continue to do so up to (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent)

Date \_\_\_\_\_