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Monday 11th May 2020

Dear Year Six,

This morning I should be greeting you at the door and welcoming you into breakfast club, calming any pre-test nerves and giving some last encouraging words. Instead, I'm writing to you in your homes, from mine, on what should have been the morning of your first SATS exam. I know for many there were cheers of joy and shouts of celebration when the government announced that there were to be no SATS tests this year due to Covid-19. I also know that, for some of you, there were tears of frustration and sighs of disappointment.

Many of you entered Year Six nervous about the SATS and since your first day, I've told you that this year wasn't about SATS: it was about making the most of your last year in primary school, taking on roles of responsibility and enjoying your learning. But – as the year has progressed – I've seen you all grow in confidence, celebrated in your excitement when fractions finally clicked, and smiled as I've seen how proud you've been of your own progress. I know you were ready to take your SATS and I'm confident that you would have done brilliantly.

However, the tests wouldn't have told me or your future secondary schools everything we should know about you. They wouldn't have told us how creative you are; what wonderful athletes, gymnasts and dancers you are; what great role models you've been for your Reception class buddies; how caring you are to each other; how funny your jokes are; how well you bake or how good you are at working with computers and technology.

You've shown me lots of amazing things throughout Year 6 and I am immensely proud of each and every one of you. This isn't how we thought we'd be spending this week but let's make the most of it! My challenge for you for this week is to complete a project all about you.

This can take any form you like. Show me something that wouldn't have been shown by the SATS tests: show off your best sports skills; choreograph a dance; bake up a storm; write a book; record a speech you would make when you finally become Prime Minister; use technology to create an animation or mini-film Your focus could be you now or you in the future. What would your dream career be? Could you find out more about it? What would it entail? How will you get there?

I can't wait to see what you come up with. We'll celebrate all of your success, together, at some point in the future when it is safe to do so. For now, know that I am thinking of you and missing you all lots. Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay happy. Stay you.

Love,

Mrs Boon x