



March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you that your child's class has been selected to participate in the **Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)**. This letter provides you with information about the study and what's involved. There is also a letter and Privacy Notice on our website from Pearson Education, which informs you about the data protection arrangements for the pupil data that will be collected as part of this study: <https://tinyurl.com/mrx8ar6m>. Any data sharing will be subject to the usual data protection procedures that are in place in school already, and will be collected in accordance with the terms set out in the Privacy Notice.

### What is TIMSS?

TIMSS is an international study that takes place every four years and gathers data from over 60 countries, including England. England is administering the Year 5 study in April-June 2023. TIMSS looks at how well pupils in Years 5 and 9 can apply knowledge and skills in mathematics and science. The results are used by our government and governments around the world to improve their education systems, so it's vitally important that English schools participate. Further information about the study is available at [www.pearson.com/uk/web/timss.html](http://www.pearson.com/uk/web/timss.html).

### How many schools in England are participating in TIMSS and what is involved?

Appleton Academy is one of 300 schools in England that have been selected to participate and we are delighted to be involved in helping provide a representative picture of achievement in England.

The study involves answering questions on mathematics and science, as well as a short questionnaire. Your child doesn't need to do anything to prepare and nor will it affect your child's results or progress in school.

Please be assured that your child or your child's results will not be identified in any reporting. This is because it is the education system, not your child, that is being reviewed and all data collected will be anonymised.

Your child's participation in this important international study is greatly appreciated and is vital to the success of the study. To thank them for their participation your child will receive a certificate from the Department for Education. If you have any questions about your child's participation or you would prefer that they did not take part, please can you contact school via [info@ppletonacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@ppletonacademy.co.uk) in the first instance.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. L. Clayton".

J Clayton  
Head of Primary