

20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers



## Year 6 Science Investigation Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017

You may be aware that our school is taking part in BBC Terrific Scientific. This is an exciting new science project aimed at 9-11 year olds, encouraging them to take part in a series of accessible mass-participation investigations at schools across the UK.

### Investigation 1 – The Super Taste Test.

The first investigation is planned for Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 around the topic of Animals including Humans / My Body. We are going to be finding out if children are Supertasters! It is thought that 1 in 4 people are Supertasters, meaning they have a more intense reaction to bitter tastes. Some more information about Supertasting can be found here: [bbc.co.uk/guides/zsc2xsg](http://bbc.co.uk/guides/zsc2xsg).



To find out if your child is a Supertaster, we will be smearing a drop of **natural** blue food dye on end of their tongue and counting the bumps in an area the size of a hole punch. These are called fungiform papillae, and hold their taste buds.

A detailed description of the method can be found on the Terrific Scientific website in the classroom resources: [bbc.co.uk/guides/z97fb82](http://bbc.co.uk/guides/z97fb82)

The BBC has partnered with Coventry University for this investigation and we will be incorporating the activity into a classroom lesson. The activity has been thoroughly risk assessed by BBC Health and Safety and will be supervised by classroom teachers at all times.

Due to the nature of this investigation, we will need your **consent** for your child to use food dye. If your child has any **food allergy or sensitivity to any food dye**, please inform teachers or facilitators at the school using the form below.

We would like to assure you that this investigation will not be using any personal information. The BBC will only receive the class percentage of Supertasters.

*Cont.*

We encourage you and your child to explore the Terrific Scientific website [bbc.co.uk/terrificscientific](http://bbc.co.uk/terrificscientific) where you will find extension activities for this investigation. We hope that you and your child have an enjoyable experience and are inspired to learn more about science together.  
We wish your child many hours of challenging fun learning about science with BBC Terrific Scientific.

Best wishes on behalf of the BBC Terrific Scientific Team

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Callaway  
Headteacher



**Year 6 Science Investigation**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 6

\*Please tick those that apply\*

*I acknowledge that my child's participation in the 'Terrific Scientific' Super Taster has been fully explained to me. To the best of my knowledge my child does not suffer from any food allergy or other condition that would prohibit them from taking part. I hereby consent to my child taking part in the Super Taster investigation"*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_