

Headteacher
John Galvin

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1st May 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Year Six National Curriculum Assessments (sometimes referred to as SATs)

As you may be aware it is statutory for every child in Year Six to sit tests in reading, mathematics and GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) during the week beginning **Monday 12th May 2025**. These tests give a rough outline to what your child can achieve on the day the test is taken. It is not necessarily a true representation of what your child can achieve, as like all tests, it does depend on many other variables. Therefore, the information and discussions we have with your child's next school is much more important as we will discuss the whole child and the whole curriculum rather than what your child can do on a given day.

With this in mind, it is imperative that no pressure at all is placed on our children. As a school, we expect the children to challenge themselves and do their best, but under no circumstances will we put needless pressure on your child. Nobody, and I mean nobody, looks back when they are twelve, thirteen, fourteen etc. thinking about their SATs scores. However, we do tell the children that this is their chance to '*show off*' their knowledge.

To prepare the children for this week, they have already explored some SATs papers and questions. We will discuss with the children how to approach test questions as taking tests is a skill in itself. Some people thrive in these circumstances, whereas some people do not. What we must do is ensure our children enjoy the process as much as possible as they will be tested for many years to come, be it academic, driving test etc.

We will not be having a parent 'SATs' meeting as there are only three differences to the week that the children will notice:

- The children will be invited to a breakfast, which has proved fun in the past
- The children will be silent for set periods as they complete the statutory tests, which will be the most challenging aspect of the week for some 😊
- In true academic tradition, the children will have a party on the Friday to celebrate their achievements

Many parents ask what they can do to help. Keep ensuring your child has plenty of sleep, opportunities to relax and do some revision with them, but not too much.

The timetable for the week is:

- **Monday 12th May 2025:** SPaG Test- Grammar/Punctuation- *45 minutes*
- **Monday 12th May 2025:** SPaG Test- Spelling- *20 minutes*
- **Tuesday 13th May 2025:** Reading Test- *60 minutes*
- **Wednesday 14th May 2025:** Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)- *30 minutes*
- **Wednesday 14th May 2025:** Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)- *40 minutes*
- **Thursday 15th May 2025:** Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)- *40 minutes*

Should your child be ill during this week it is vital you contact the school as soon as possible. I will call you back and we will discuss arrangements for your child to complete this test at the earliest convenience.

If you have any questions please discuss with either Mr Neary or myself.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Galvin', written in a cursive style.

John Galvin
Headteacher