

Headteacher
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25th April 2023

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 8th May 2023**. These tests give a rough outline to what your child can achieve on the day the test is taken. It is **not** 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 and broader as we will discuss the whole child and the whole curriculum 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 we will put needless pressure on your child. 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. However, we only start revision for these tests after the Easter break as it is vital we do not narrow the curriculum we offer your child. We will discuss with our 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
- 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:

- **Tuesday 9th May 2023:** SPaG Test- Grammar/Punctuation- *45 minutes*
- **Tuesday 9th May 2023:** SPaG Test- Spelling- *20 minutes*
- **Wednesday 10th May 2023:** Reading Test- *60 minutes*
- **Thursday 11th May 2023:** Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)- *30 minutes*
- **Thursday 11th May 2023:** Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)- *40 minutes*
- **Friday 12th May 2023:** 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 Miss Pennicotte-Henri 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