**YEAR 6 NATIONAL CURRICULUM TESTS 2016**

The tests are over 4 days and will be held each morning in the classroom and a group room.

**Please help your child by**:

* **continuing to be encouraging and supportive;**
* **keeping to normal routines during the test week, though avoid late nights;**
* **making sure they have breakfast and drinks lots of water;**
* **making sure they are in school every day, as far as possible.**

**Timetable 8th-11th May**

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| --- | --- |
| Monday 8th May | **English reading test**: reading booklet and associated answer booklet |
| Tuesday 9th May | **English grammar, punctuation and spelling test**:  Paper 1 short answer questions  **English grammar, punctuation and spelling test**:  Paper 2 spelling |
| Wednesday 10th May | **Mathematics**: Paper 1 arithmetic test  **Mathematics**: Paper 2 reasoning |
| Thursday 11th May | **Mathematics**: Paper 3 reasoning |

**KS2 English reading test**

The English reading test has a greater focus on fictional texts. There is also more emphasis on the comprehension elements of the new curriculum.

The test consists of a reading booklet and a separate answer booklet.

Pupils will have a total of 1 hour to read the 3 texts in the reading booklet and complete the questions at their own pace. There will be a mixture of genres of text. The least-demanding text will come first with the following texts increasing in level of difficulty.

Pupils can approach the test as they choose: eg working through one text and answering the questions before moving on to the next. The questions are worth a total of 50 marks.

**KS2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test**

The grammar, punctuation and spelling test has a greater focus on knowing and applying grammatical terminology with the full range of punctuation tested.

The national curriculum sets out clearly which technical terms in grammar are to be learnt by pupils and these are explicitly included in the test and detailed in the new test framework. It also defines precise spelling patterns and methodologies to be taught, and these are the basis of spellings in the test. There will be no contextual items in the test.

As in previous years, there are two papers, Paper 1: questions and Paper 2: spelling.

Paper 1: questions - consist of a single test paper. Pupils will have 45 minutes to complete the test, answering the questions in the test paper. The questions are worth 50 marks in total.

Paper 2: spelling - consists of an answer booklet for pupils to complete and a test transcript to be read by the test administrator. Pupils will have approximately 15 minutes to complete the test, but it is not strictly timed, by writing the 20 missing words in the answer booklet. The questions are worth 20 marks in total.

**KS2 mathematics test**

There are 3 papers; Paper 1: arithmetic; Paper 2: reasoning; and Paper 3: reasoning.

Paper 1: arithmetic replaces the mental mathematics test. The arithmetic test assesses basic mathematical calculations.

The test consists of a single test paper. Pupils will have 30 minutes to complete the test, answering the questions in the test paper. The paper consists of 36 questions which are worth a total of 40 marks.

The questions will cover straightforward addition and subtraction and more complex calculations with fractions worth 1 mark each, and long divisions and long multiplications worth 2 marks each.

Papers 2 and 3 each consist of a single test paper. Pupils will have 40 minutes to complete each test, answering the questions in the test paper. Each paper will have questions worth a total of 35 marks.

In some answer spaces, where pupils need to show their method, square grids are provided for the questions on the arithmetic paper and some of the questions on Paper 2.

**Results**

The outcomes of the tests will be given as scaled scores in early July.

For the KS2 tests a scaled score of 100 will represent the ‘expected standard’.

A pupil’s scaled score will be based on their raw score. The raw score is the total number of marks a pupil receives in a test. The pupil’s raw score will be translated into a scaled score using a conversion table.

We will not know the raw score to scaled score conversion until July.

**KS2 Writing assessment**

Writing is assessed by the teacher using a checklist of criteria that the pupils need to be seen to be using in a range of pieces of writing.

The pupils have to meet all the criteria and there is more emphasis on spelling than before.

The checklist (called the interim framework) contains 3 standards:

• working towards the expected standard

• working at the expected standard

• working at greater depth within the expected standard

Pupils will be assessed to be within one of 4 categories; the 3 categories above plus an

additional category for those pupils that do not meet the ‘working towards’ standard.

**These assessments need to be submitted by the end of June so the work continues!**

**Teacher assessment**

A teacher assessment is also made in reading, maths and science.

Again this is a checklist of criteria though this time it contains one standard: working at the expected standard.

Pupils will be grouped into 2 categories; the ‘working at the expected standard’ category plus an additional category for those pupils that do not meet that standard.

Please do contact us if you have any worries or queries.

Mrs Kenny and Mr Pitt