

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School



KS2 SATs Newsletter 2024-2025

Term 5

SATs Timetable

Monday 12 th May	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (45 minutes + Spelling Test)
Tuesday 13 th May	Reading Comprehension (1 hour)
Wednesday 14 th May	Maths Paper 1: Arithmetic test. (30 minutes) Maths Paper 2: Reasoning. (40 Minutes)
Thursday 15 th May	Maths Paper 3: Reasoning (40 minutes)

What are the SATs?

The SATs are Standard Assessment Tests, which are used to test children's knowledge and understanding of the work they have completed in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. All Year 6 children in England do the tests during the same week in May. The tests will provide information about how your child is progressing, compared to children the same age nationally.

Two subjects are tested as part of the statutory tests: English and Mathematics, although some elements are purely assessed through teacher assessment or through internal marking.

When the tests are complete, the externally marked papers will be sent away to be marked. Where in previous years, the scores were used to give a level for each subject; there will be a completely new marking scheme to replace the existing national curriculum levels.

The teachers will also give assessments based on school work.

Information

The tests will run from Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May. The children have already experienced two assessment weeks which followed the SATs format and, on both occasions, really impressed us. We have reminded the children that this will support them with assessments in secondary school and their future educational journeys.

Working Together at Home

As a team, we have been so impressed with all the children in Year 6. For them to get the best experience of the SATS, a key measure in secondary schools initial assessments, children need to continue to:

- Listen carefully in lessons;
- Work hard and do their best at all times;
- Keep active and fit;
- Complete all their homework;
- Practise their handwriting and presentation;
- Do some form of reading every day to practise comprehension;
- Revisit spellings/spelling rules to avoid mistakes in key spellings;
- Learn and practise multiplication and division tables;
- Talk to the relevant teacher if they do not understand something;
- Remember it is about showing what they know/what they can do;
- Look through notes from school in relation to test subjects to learn key information.

Being Prepared

During SATs week and the weekend before children need to:

- Get plenty of sleep;
- Eat food that helps them concentrate and stay calm;
- Have a good 'brain-food' breakfast on SATs days;
- Drink lots of water;
- Read through Maths Meander and GPS books;
- Avoid stress;
- Stay safe;
- Be in school each day – if they are absent they can sit the tests on their return but attending school each day would be preferable;
- Be prompt for the start of school – a late start may mean sitting the test in a room they are not used to as once tests are started they cannot be interrupted.

Frequently Asked Questions

What equipment will my child need?

No special equipment is required. Your child will be provided with all the equipment that they will need for the tests.

What if my child is ill?

Children who are ill are able to take the test on a different day within SATs week. This is revised statutory guidance for test administration. Please contact the school if there is a problem.

What if my child is worried about the exams?

Good preparation helps children feel confident. The important thing is that your child has a positive attitude and does their best.

Will children with special needs be supported?

In some cases, children with special needs may be allowed extra time to complete tests or have help with reading during certain tests.

An Overview of the SATs

English is separated into different aspects as follows:

- Speaking and Listening (teacher assessment only)
- Reading Comprehension
- Writing (teacher assessment only)
- Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Maths is tested by 3 papers:

- Paper 1 tests arithmetic skills and the ability to apply knowledge at speed.
- Papers 2 and 3 test the various areas of Maths; number, properties of number, shape, space and measures, and data handling alongside the children's ability to use and apply Maths in different contexts.

A Note to Parents and Carers

The Year 6 team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. We hope you have found this information useful. Your child is our primary concern during their time in school and we hope their time in school is a happy one.

We look forward to welcoming the children into school at 8.30am throughout the duration of the SATs to share a healthy breakfast prior to the assessment tests themselves. If you do have any concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to come and speak to one of us or Diane Mulley.

Emma Weatherhill, Amelia Siddall and Kim Bird
Year 6 Teachers