



LUCKWELL
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 6 SATS

2015

We have compiled this booklet to give you information about the upcoming Year 6 SATs. It will cover:

- Timetable of tests
- What do the tests look like?
- What can you do as parents?

SATs timetable - 11th – 14th May 2015

Date	Level 3-5 Test (all children)	Level 6 Tests
Monday 11 th May	Reading test (1 hour)	English Reading test
Tuesday 12 th May	Grammar and Punctuation (45 mins) Spelling test (15 mins)	Grammar and Punctuation Spelling test
Wednesday 13 th May	Mental mathematics test Mathematics Test A (45 mins)	
Thursday 14 th May	Mathematics Test B (45 mins)	Mathematics Paper 1 Mathematics Paper 2

Standardised Attainment Tests (SATs) are taken by pupils during their final year in Key Stage 2. They provide a snapshot of your child's progress at that moment in time. They cannot be 'passed' or 'failed'; they simply provide a guide, or a 'level' for your child's attainment. Your child has already taken part in SATs tests if they attended school in England in Year 2. However, the tests in Year 2 were internally marked, whereas the Year 6 tests are sent away to be marked externally.

English Reading Test Levels 3-5

This year the texts in the levels 3-5 English reading booklet will not be linked by a theme. The booklet will contain three or four texts. The least demanding text will come first, with the following texts increasing in level of difficulty.

Instead of being given 15 minutes reading time and 45 minutes to answer the questions, children will have a total of one hour to read the texts and complete the questions at their own pace. The reading answer booklet will comprise approximately 35 to 40 questions (totalling 50 marks). The questions are: shorter, closed response items (such as multiple choice and matching questions); shorter, open response items; and longer, open response

items that require children to explain and comment on the texts in order to demonstrate a full understanding. Questions are worth 1, 2 or 3 marks.

Ways to help at home - Reading

- ✓ **Read** a range of non-fiction and fiction texts – identify the features of the texts.
- ✓ • **Listen** to your child read – use the reading records. Ask questions about their reading.
- ✓ • Find different types of texts in your home. **Talk** about WHO they are written for / WHY they have been written / WHAT style has been used / WHEN the text style is used / WHERE these texts are found / HOW the texts have been organised.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test Levels 3-5

The English grammar, punctuation and spelling test at levels 3-5 has two components, worth a total of 70 marks:

Paper 1, the short-answer questions, consists of between 40 and 50 questions assessing grammar, punctuation and vocabulary. Each question is worth one or two marks with a total for the paper of 50 marks. The questions are: selected response items (such as multiple choice questions) or short, open response items, in which children may have to write a word, a few words or a sentence.

Paper 2, the spelling task, consists of 20 sentences, which are read aloud by the test administrator. Each sentence has a word missing which the child must complete. The task is worth a total of 20 marks. Please click on the file below to see a sample of the Level 3-5 Grammar, punctuation and Spelling test.

Ways to help at home – Spelling



Post-its

Spelling rules

Point out spellings around the house / in shops / on outings

When listening to your child read, point out certain spellings

Reading records – write down spellings of new words / learn the meaning of these words

Note words and their spellings in the context of the sentences

Mathematics Test Levels 3-5

The levels 3-5 mathematics test consists of: two non-calculator papers, Paper 1 and Paper 2, each lasting 45 minutes mental mathematics test, lasting 20 minutes Children's marks from all three tests are combined to calculate their overall mathematics level.

Ways to help at home - Maths

Many questions involve **solving a problem** and working in context.

Ask questions about the world around them, involving:

- ✓ telling the time, differences in time, reading bus and train timetables, T.V schedules, cooking times, 12 and 24hr clock etc.
- ✓ measuring, estimating, checking – length, area, capacity/volume, mass/weight, temperature (positive/negative), angles etc.
- ✓ money, shopping bills, change, tickets etc.
- ✓ working out fractions and percentage of quantities

How we will help your child?

As you would expect from us, we will be supporting your child to achieve all that they can. We will be revising key points in lessons, and the children will be learning from previous tests so that they understand the format of the tests. After Easter, we will be working hard on test practice, using past

papers. Although we do expect the children to work hard and do their best, we will be consistently reminding the pupils that they can only do their best. Remember, this is just a marker at one point in time, aged 10 and 11 years of age.

- Prepare the children for the tests.
- Familiarise children with question types.
- Teach children strategies to use.
- Support children in smaller 'booster' groups.
- Provide revision materials and suggest useful websites

How to help your child

Don't get carried away - the tests are not an eleven-plus. A child does not fail SATs. Encourage children to be confident about their ability to do well. Playing is important - children should not be stopped from living their lives as normal during test week. Support your child in working through the revision guides and the on-line learning resources - see good website list.

- Make sure they get enough sleep.
- Make sure they eat breakfast.
- Don't try and frighten them into revising.
- Encourage them to ask the teacher if they are unsure about anything.
- Explain that the SATs are a way of showing what they know.
- **THEY CAN'T FAIL!**

Some Useful Websites

- MyMaths (all of the children have been issued with their login details)
- BBC Bitesize
- Woodlands Junior School
- www.parkfieldict.co.uk/sats/

Frequently Asked Questions:

What happens if my child is working consistently below the level of the tests?

If your child is working consistently below the level of the tests, they will not be entered for the tests, and will complete separate assessments instead.

Does my child have to take the tests?

In short - yes. If the school believes that your child is working within the range of the tests (i.e. levels 3-5) then the DfE state that the assessments are statutory.

What happens if my child is ill on the day of the test?

If it is something minor, we would suggest for your child to come in and sit the test, before returning home. It can be arranged for your child to take the tests away from other pupils if this is required. For more serious cases where it is clear the child cannot attend school, we apply to the DfE for your child to sit the test on a different day to their peers.

What information will I receive afterwards?

Later in the summer term, you will receive your child's test results in reading and maths, alongside their result from the English grammar, punctuation and spelling test. You will also receive your child's teacher assessment levels in reading, writing, maths, and science.

What do the levels actually mean?

By the end of Year 6, the majority of children nationally will achieve a Level 4. Some children may not be quite at this level yet, and may be working at Level 3 or below. Others may be working beyond the nationally expected level of attainment and may achieve a Level 5. For some pupils, a level 3 may be a real achievement. It is worth bearing in mind that achievement is relative based upon the pupils' starting points.

I hope that this information booklet has been helpful. If there is anything that you would like to discuss further, do not hesitate to ask me.

Mrs Dickinson