



April 2016

Dear parent/carer

We hope you have had a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

The summer term for Year 6 is a busy one with National Curriculum tests (SATs), our residential trip, end of term musical and secondary transfer. We will do our best as a team to ensure that all pupils feel prepared and relaxed for the busy weeks ahead.

As always, high standards are expected in all areas, as we continue to embrace and embed our school values of respect, responsibility and friendship. We want every child to develop and maintain high self-esteem. School uniform is an important aspect of gaining this sense of pride and we do ask parents to ensure that all pupils are correctly dressed and equipped for school.

#### National Curriculum tests (SATs)

The National Curriculum tests begin on Monday 9 May and continue throughout that week. It is extremely important that your child is **present** for the tests. Children will be tested in both English and Maths. For preparation lessons and examinations, it is vital that your child has the following equipment:

- **two HB pencils**
- **two handwriting pens**
- **30cm ruler**
- **protractor**
- **eraser**
- **pencil sharpener**
- **clear pencil case/plastic wallet for storage of these**

Please check carefully with your child that they have all these items. If you are available during the week beginning Monday 9 May to support individual children during the tests, please read the attached reply slip and return it to school as soon as possible. It is a busy time for the Year 6 team and any help is greatly appreciated.

#### National Curriculum tests timetable

<b>Day</b>	<b>Test</b>
Monday 9 May	English reading test
Tuesday 10 May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling test
Wednesday 11 May	Maths paper 1 arithmetic test and Maths paper 2 reasoning
Thursday 12 May	Maths paper 3 reasoning
Friday 13 May	No tests

Every morning during the National Curriculum tests week, there will be a free breakfast club for Year 6 from 8.30–8.55am. This is a fantastic way for your child to relax with friends before the tests. They can come along each morning for toast, fruit and juice. The breakfast club is held in the dining room and pupils must enter through the dining room doors.

#### Summer Term Topic

This term our topic is Early Islamic Civilisation.

In History, we'll be finding out:

- about characteristics of past non-European societies
- how to understand historical concepts such as continuity and change
- about achievements of past societies which have influenced modern life
- about the origins of democracy.



In PSHE, we'll be finding out:

- about systems of government in England and the rest of the world
- what makes a good leader
- about the European Union referendum
- about global issues that should concern governments around the world.

In Art, we'll be finding out:

- how Impressionists saw the world
- about the life and work of Van Gogh and Seurat
- about styles of Islamic art.

In Technology, we'll be finding out:

- how to make a savoury Islamic dish
- how to design and make a hand puppet.

Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you. If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of these themes, please take it.

We look forward to Sports Day on Thursday 23 June (Friday 24 June reserve day).

You will receive your child's annual report in July and it will be followed by an opportunity to discuss the report with the class teacher.

Should you have any concerns or wish to discuss any particular needs, please do not hesitate in contacting the school or finding one of the Year 6 team at the end of the school day.

Yours sincerely

Miss Bonilha 6VB

Mrs Briscoe 6BT

Mrs Thomson 6BT



**Offer of help to administer the National Curriculum tests (SATs)**

The National Curriculum tests (SATs) are fast approaching for our Year 6 pupils and we are writing to ask for volunteers to help individual pupils with their tests during the week commencing Monday 9 May. As a volunteer, you will work alongside Mrs Cutler to ensure that children are prompted when they need it.

If you can offer assistance at any of the times listed, we would be most grateful. Please fill in the form below or reply by email to [admin@thomascoram.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thomascoram.herts.sch.uk)

Thank you in advance for your help.

Name.....

Child's name..... Class.....

I can help with the Year 6 National Curriculum tests on the following days (please tick as applicable)

Monday 9 May	9.00am – 10.30am	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Tuesday 10 May	9.00am – 10.30am	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wednesday 11 May	9.00am – 10.30am	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.45am – 11.45am <input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday 12 May	9.00am – 10.30am	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please note that we endeavour to start the tests at 9.00am.

Signed.....