

## An Invite to Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening provides you with a valuable opportunity to speak to your son/daughter's teachers about their academic progress and forthcoming tests.

During Year 9 Parents' Evening on 10th March and Year 8 Parents' Evening on 14th April, we are providing you with an additional opportunity to gather information about the **Literacy and Numeracy Framework in Wales, the National Tests** and what it means for your child

### What is the Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF)?

The LNF is used by teachers to **increase emphasis on the teaching of literacy and numeracy skills** in classrooms as directed by the Welsh Assembly Government from September 2013.



### What does this mean for my child?

The LNF has been developed to help achieve the National Educational aim that the children of Wales are able to develop **excellent literacy and numeracy skills** during their time in school.

From May 2013, all children in Wales from Year 2 to Year 9 have taken **tests** in reading and numeracy at the **end of each school year**.

**We are offering more information on these tests in the Sixth Form Common Room from 3.30pm prior to Parents' Evening.**

### What are the purposes of the tests?

1. Give schools an accurate gauge of individual children's skills and abilities
2. Help drive up literacy and numeracy standards in children throughout Wales
3. Paint a clearer picture of how children are performing nationally (until now, individual schools have carried out their own tests in literacy and numeracy)

**From now on, the Welsh Assembly Government plans that these will be the only end-of-year reading and numeracy tests schools in Wales carry out from Year 2 to Year 9 and the results will be reported on the parents at the end of each year.**

### What form do these tests take?

The tests are **paper-based**, and will take between **30 and 60 minutes** each (although children who need longer because of additional needs will be given extra time).

### What happens in the reading test?

Children **read a passage** before answering a mixture of **multiple choice questions** and **questions needing short, closed responses** like ordering, pairing and underlining. They'll have **up to an hour** to finish, plus there's time at the beginning to do practice questions.

### What happens in the numeracy test?

The numeracy tests have **two parts**. One part, **lasting 30 minutes will test addition, subtraction, multiplication and division**. The second part will have a **30-minute reasoning test** to assess how well students can apply calculation skills to everyday problems.



## Are the tests compulsory?

Yes, for all pupils from Year 2 to Year 9. Most children will be able to take the tests without special arrangements, but if your child needs extra support the school will modify test papers, access and so on.

## When will my child take the test?

Tests will take place between Wednesday 27th April and Thursday 5th May 2016.

## When will we get the results?

Teachers will mark the tests, and you'll get a report back by the end of the summer term on how your child did. This will include their standardised score and a score of how your child performed compared to others the same age in Wales. From 2014 onwards, there was also a progress score to show improvement from tests in the previous academic year. Pupils that fall below an average standardised score will receive targeted 'catch-up' intervention designed to ensure that they can reach their full potential in accessing reading and numeracy material across subjects.

**For more information on school intervention and any other questions you may have about the LNF, please attend one of our Information presentations in the Sixth Form Common Room prior to Parents' Evening.**

## How do I find out more?

**Information** on the Literacy and Numeracy Framework, the national tests and catch-up intervention will take place in **the Sixth Form Common Room** prior to Parents' Evenings between

**3.30 and 4.30 pm**

The workshop will be led by our Director of Learning for Literacy and Numeracy (Ms Lucy Nicholson)

***All parents are very welcome!***

***Refreshments will be provided.***

## How can I help my child prepare for the tests?

Talk to your child about the tests, but play them down as a fun challenge everyone will be doing instead of something to be scared of. It's a good idea to download sample tests at home to try together (see Learning Wales website). But the main thing is to make your child's learning at home fun – play games and use favourite activities to help them learn.



**Bishop Vaughan Catholic  
School**



## Parents' Evening and Information Evening



**National Reading and  
Numeracy Tests**