

4th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

S3 Assessments

As per the school calendar, the S3 end of year assessments will take place during the fortnight beginning the 8th May.

Pupils have been preparing for these in classes and staff from each department will have ensured that pupils have the required revision materials and exam timetables.

These assessments will be used to measure attainment at the end of BGE and will contribute towards a certificate of achievement for your child. Whilst elements of the assessments may be used to inform progression into the senior phase, this is not their primary function.

We have decided to make use of the exam hall for S3 English, Maths and French exams. This will provide pupils with formal exam experience in preparation for their move into senior phase. A timetable for this has been provided below. All other exams will take place during class time.

Exams will last no longer than a single period and pupils who receive alternative assessment arrangements will be supported as per their learning profile. All pupils will sit a paper appropriate to their level.

If you wish to discuss assessments in a particular subject area, please contact the Principal Teacher of that subject. General enquires should be directed to Pastoral Support staff.

Subject	Date	Time	Pupils Involved
English	Tuesday 9 th May	P6	Pupils with surname beginning A - L
English	Tuesday 9 th May	P7	Pupils with surname beginning M – Z
Maths	Wednesday 10 th May	P5	Pupil in the following classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs McKay • Mr Dickie
Maths	Wednesday 10 th May	P6	Pupil in the following classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Shepherd • Miss McCarthy • Mr McDonald • Mr Duncan
French	Tuesday 16 th May	P6	Pupils in the following classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3G1 French (Mrs Campbell) • 3G2 French (Miss Gallacher) • 3G3 French (Ms Kilgour)
French	Tuesday 16 th May	P7	Pupils in the following classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3C1 French (Miss Gallacher) • 3C2 French (Mrs Campbell) • 3C3 French (Ms Kilgour)

National Standardised Assessments

As part of the S3 assessment period, pupils will also take part in National Standardised Assessments during the week beginning the 15th May. These assessments are carried out throughout schools in Scotland in Primary 1, Primary 4, Primary 7 and S3. Pupils are assessed on reading, writing and numeracy.

These assessments are completed online, and pupils will have the opportunity to complete these over three periods. A timetable will be shared with pupils nearer the time.

Pupils do not have to revise or prepare for standardised assessments. The system is designed so that if a learner is experiencing difficulty, the questions will get easier, and if a learner is doing well, the questions will become more challenging. In this way, the assessments establish a learner's ability without them having to face lots of questions that are too easy or too hard for them to answer. There is no standard which must be achieved through the assessments. There is no pass or fail.

Data generated by these assessments will be shared with staff so that bespoke teaching and learning approaches can be planned for each pupil. Using data from prior assessments, we can also measure the rate of progression and implement appropriate interventions where necessary.

Thank you for supporting your child through these assessments.

If you require any further information regarding the S3 assessment period, please contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'g. m. davidson', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Gemma Davidson

Depute Head Teacher