



St Edmund's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools



Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds,
IP33 1QG. 01284 755141
office@st-edmunds.suffolk.sch.uk
www.st-edmunds.suffolk.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Maria Kemble
Chair of Governors: Mr I Cameron

Beaconsfield Road, Sudbury,
CO10 1JP. 01787 373365
admin@st-josephs.suffolk.sch.uk
www.st-josephs.suffolk.sch.uk

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20th April 2026

Dear Parents (Year 6)

The Key Stage 2 statutory assessments begin on 11th May. To help prepare the children and make the week go as smoothly as possible I thought it would be useful to let you have some details and offer some advice. You can also read the guidance from the government
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67693e8dcd5e64b69e309d0/2025_key_stage_2_national_curriculum_tests_-_information_for_parents.pdf

All the tests will take place in the morning and will generally be completed by around 11.30am. The timetable is as follows:

11/05/26	English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling
12/05/26	English Reading Test
13/05/26	Maths Paper 1 Arithmetic Maths Paper 2 Reasoning
14/05/26	Maths Paper 3 Reasoning

The children have worked hard since September to prepare. Since returning from the Easter holidays the main focus of their work has been practising questions from past papers, so they are familiar with the layout and style; revising and consolidating the work they have covered to make sure it is fresh in their memory and they feel confident in their knowledge; and focused teaching of specific aspects that often cause errors.

I am sure the children are beginning to feel anxious about the tests, however we are keen to reduce the pressure as much as possible. Whilst the tests are significant and we want them to do well, we do not want the children to feel they are the only measure of their achievements this year or whilst at primary school, so it is important to keep the tests in perspective. They are not the only indication of your child's success.

Please help your child by making sure they have plenty of exercise and fresh air over the next couple of weeks. Spending all their time working or worrying will not help them to perform well. They also need to have a regular bedtime routine so they can relax and sleep well. It is useful to have time without the TV or computer/Ipad screen for at least half an hour before they go to bed so the brain can gradually wind down. Children of this age still need around 10 hours sleep each night.

Before they come to school make sure they have a healthy breakfast - porridge, fruit and yoghurt, muesli, boiled eggs and toast - so they have plenty of energy to think and concentrate during the tests. They should bring a water bottle (water only) to take into the tests as well. We will also provide a light breakfast in school.

The Year 6 classrooms will be open at 8.30am each day so there will be plenty of time for the children to come into school without rushing. If you are going to be late or they are ill, please contact the school immediately so special arrangements can be made for them to take the test later.

"We learn together in God's love by encouraging and supporting one another."



During the week of the tests, Year 6 will have a slightly amended timetable in the afternoons. We hope this will provide some light relief from the tests and reduce the tension.

Although the tests finish on 14th May, the assessments are not completed. Over the weeks that follow the tests, until the end of June, the children will be focused on tasks which will be assessed by their class teachers. These also have to be reported to the government.

I know your children will do their best and whatever the final results, they can be proud of all they have achieved whilst at St Joseph's. Once the assessments are completed, we will begin activities to support their transition to high school. If you have any questions or specific concerns related to your child and the tests, please contact the office for an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria kemble". The signature is written in a cursive style with a lowercase 'k' and 'e'.

Maria Kemble
Executive Headteacher