

LEARNING MATTERS

Dear Parent/Carer

As Learning Manager of Year 9, I am writing to you to remind you of some key dates for the Year 9 students and their parents and carers.

The Key Stage 3 National Curriculum tests (SATs) will take place during the week beginning **Monday 5 May 2008** i.e. the first day back after the May Day Bank holiday. We hope you will encourage your child to prepare properly and to set aside some revision time even over the next few weeks. The actual timetable is published below:

	Tuesday 6 May 2008	Wednesday 7 May 2008	Thursday 8 May 2008	Friday 9 May 2008
a.m.	Mathematics paper 1 1 hour Mental mathematics test Test A (higher) and test C (lower) 20 minutes	English writing paper Longer task (45 minutes) Shorter task (30 minutes)	English reading paper 15 minutes reading time plus 1 hour to answer questions	Science paper 1 1 hour
p.m.	Mathematics paper 1	Mental mathematics test B (higher tiers) <u>20 minutes</u>	English Shakespeare paper <u>45 minutes</u>	Science paper 2 1 hour

This newsletter also contains information on the provision that the English, Mathematics and Science departments are making to enable all Year 9 to maximise their chances of success at Key Stage 3.

If you would like to speak to me about any issues concerning progress at Key Stage 3, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school on 01223 200400 ext 252.

Yours sincerely

Phil Stanton
Learning Manager of Year 9

Countdown to the National Curriculum tests—what's on offer?

Mathematics

Booster materials have already been provided to students.
On-line materials have been issued to students (see details below)
Revision guides are available to buy for all students .
All Year 9 lessons now have a sharp SATs focus.

Science:

The Science team has devised a thorough revision programme for all Year 9 students that will take them up to the test.

The homework will include the '10410' programme of study intended to give 10 minutes revision for 10 days. To access this go to the school website and find the scheme under the Science Department area.

Also on the school website are sample questions and mark schemes for SATs type questions.

All Year 9 students have also been given a CD Rom which allows the students to test themselves. Students are reminded to bring calculators to both Science tests.

English

Students working at level 4 or 5 have been invited by letter to a 'Reach for 6' Booster class after school on Wednesday.

Miss Eddy runs The Tempest revision classes every Thursday at 1.10 in her room.

All English lessons now have a SATs focus.

Published booklist and useful websites

Mathematics—no recommended text books but the following websites should help:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

www.mymaths.co.uk -log in: impington password: million

www.homeworkhigh.co.uk

www.learn.co.uk

www.mathsnet.net

www.wowmathsforum.org.uk

Science

Textbooks—Hodder books A, B and C—available from the science department

Websites:

bbc.co.uk/bitesize

scibermonkey.co.uk

English

The English department recommends the following website: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

The English Shakespeare text is either: The Tempest or Much Ado About Nothing. Your child's English teacher will know which text they have followed. There are many useful guides for these, and something that simplifies 'the story' will be of particular value.

Shakespeare revision guides are available at a cost of £2 from the English office.

Question and Answer notebooks: Tesco sell very useful question and answer mini-flipcharts that can be used to compile revision notes . They cost £2