

Churchfield Lane
Darton Barnsley
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Headteacher:
Mr Simon J Hill BSc PGCE MA NPQH

30th April 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians of Year 9 students,

As you will already be aware on Tuesday 6th May the SATs examinations begin and last until Friday 9th May. I am writing to you to let you know of the plans we are putting into place to help your child through the very important exam period ahead and request your full support with it. At this late stage, the most important factor in achieving success is ensuring that your child attends school for every single examination. The levels achieved in the SATs provide us with vital information that we use to decide which groups and sets your child will be in for their GCSE courses. They also enable us, and you, to measure the progress your child has made in Key Stage 3.

We will be rewarding students for full attendance during the 4 days. Every student will be issued with a raffle ticket at the start of every examination and after the last one on Friday there will be a draw for numerous prizes. Your son/daughter will be able to tell you more about these as they voted on which prizes they wanted in today's assembly – please note that if money (maximum £10) is given as a prize it is necessary for you to sign and return the receipt slip. Every student with full attendance will also receive a reward at this time. We will also be ringing home as soon as an absence is registered in order to check the reason for absence. Except in extreme circumstances, or where a Doctor's note is received, all absences will be recorded as unauthorised – please re-arrange any appointments your child may have that will affect their attendance to school.

In order that every student is in the right frame of mind for the examinations we will be issuing a cereal bar and a bottle of water every morning, and a bottle of water every afternoon. It is important that your son/daughter eats a wholesome breakfast and lunch on these days as it is believed to aid concentration.

It is not at all too late for last minute practice and revision. All students have been issued with revision guides and practice papers, and in addition to this there are two recommended websites that support learning and revision. An excellent resource is www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize which has SAT's practice questions and tests as well as some more light hearted revision practice for fun. The school has also subscribed to www.samlearning.com which contains lots of level appropriate practice questions and gives instant feedback on progress.

I hope we can count on your support, not just for additional academic help, but in maximising the attendance of your son/daughter to school during this time. Please find on the reverse of this letter the actual examination timetable which it will be useful to keep for your reference. Please do not hesitate to contact me in school if you require further support or guidance.

Yours sincerely

Karine Jasper
Assistant Headteacher
Teaching for Learning



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Summer 2008 SATs Timetable			
Date	Exam	Start	Finish
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths Mental Paper C	9:15am	9:35am
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths Mental Paper A	9:15am	9:35am
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 3-5 Paper 1	9:45am	10:45am
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 4-6 Paper 1	9:45am	10:45am
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 5-7 Paper 1	9:45am	10:45am
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 6-8 Paper 1	9:45am	10:45am
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 3-5 Paper 2	1:30pm	2:30pm
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 4-6 Paper 2	1:30pm	2:30pm
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 5-7 Paper 2	1:30pm	2:30pm
Tuesday 06 May	KS3 SAT Maths 6-8 Paper 2	1:30pm	2:30pm
Wednesday 07 May	KS3 SAT English Writing	9:15am	10:30am
Thursday 08 May	KS3 SAT English Reading	9:15am	10:30am
Thursday 08 May	KS3 SAT English Shakespeare	1:30pm	2:15pm
Friday 09 May	KS3 SAT Science 3-6 Paper1	9:15am	10:15am
Friday 09 May	KS3 SAT Science 5-7 Paper1	9:15am	10:15am
Friday 09 May	KS3 SAT Science 3-6 Paper 2	1:30pm	2:30pm

