

The background features abstract green geometric shapes, including a large triangle on the left and a complex shape on the right, set against a white background.

Year 6 SATs 2026 presentation for parents, carers & guardians

What are the SATs?

- SATs [Standard Assessment Tests] is a term people use to refer to End of Key Stage 2 Assessments;
- Writing is assessed using evidence collected by your child's teacher throughout Year 6, so **there is no Year 6 SATs writing test**. We will look at a collection of writing which your child has completed independently in school and make a judgement based on the objectives given to us by the government.
- This writing may be moderated by the Local authority.
- *The key stage 2 tests will be taken on set dates unless your child is absent, in which case they may be able to take them up to 5 school days afterwards.*
- **Science sampling has not taken place over the past couple of years. We have not been notified if this will happen this year.**

Key stage 2 tests

The statutory [key stage 2 tests](#) are timetabled from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026:

Date	Activity
Monday 11 May 2026	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 12 May 2026	English reading
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 14 May 2026	Mathematics Paper 3

When and how are the SATs carried out?

- On the morning of each test, we will host a breakfast club for all year 6 pupils. This will give them a chance to relax, talk to their friends and be mentally prepared to sit their tests.
- The tests will take place during normal school hours, under exam conditions.
- Children are not allowed to talk to each other from the moment the assessments are handed out until they are collected after the test has ended. Pupils will have a break after each test.
- Afterwards, the completed papers are sent away to be marked externally.
- The children's results are sent back to school at some point in July.
- The standard timings of tests differ but last no more than 60 minutes.

Specific arrangements for SATs

Children with additional needs, who have similar provision in their day-to-day learning at school, may be allotted specific arrangements:

- ▶ additional (extra) time,
- ▶ tests being opened early to be modified,
- ▶ an adult to read for them,
- ▶ an adult to scribe (write) for them,
- ▶ written or spoken translations of the mathematics reasoning papers,
- ▶ use of prompts or rest breaks
- ▶ arrangements for children who are ill or injured at the time of the tests.

You will be notified if this applies to your child.

**Pupils with an EHC plan are automatically allowed up to 25% additional time (except for the spelling paper, which is not strictly timed). Pupils who use the modified large print or braille versions of the tests are automatically allowed up to 100% additional time*

What sort of results are reported?

- ▶ Once marked, the tests will be given the following scores:
 - A raw score (the total number of marks achieved for each paper)
 - A scaled score (which is explained below)
 - A judgement of whether the National Standard has been met.
- ▶ After marking each test, the external markers will convert each raw score into a scaled score to show whether each child is working below, at or above the national standard.
- ▶ When the scaled score is given, it is given in a range from 80 to 120.
- ▶ **A scaled score of 100 or more is meeting the national standard.**
- ▶ There are no separate tests for higher achieving pupils, however **a scaled score over 110 (based on historical reporting) would show that a child is working above the national standard** or Greater Depth.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

- ▶ Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling is made up of two papers which will take place on **Monday 11th May 2026**:
- Paper 1 is the longer paper lasting 45 minutes. **This tests the children using a range of grammar, punctuation and spelling tasks.**
- Paper 2 is a shorter paper lasting 20 minutes, where **children will be tested on spelling only.** They are asked to fill in a blank within a sentence, attempting to spell out the spelling word in context correctly.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 1)

- ▶ Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 1) is the longer paper lasting 45 minutes, which takes place on **Monday 11th May 2026**.
- ▶ The children will be prepared by their class teacher so they are equipped with a good knowledge of the technical vocabulary needed to identify and describe various aspects of grammar and punctuation marks.
- ▶ Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 1) focuses on the following areas:
 - Grammatical terms/word classes;
 - Functions of sentences;
 - Combining words, phrases and clauses;
 - Verb forms, tenses and consistency;
 - Punctuation;
 - Vocabulary;
 - Standard English and formality.
- ▶ Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 1) requires a range of answer types such as circling missing capital letters, multiple choice questions and one-word answers. There may occasionally be a question which requires the children to explain the difference in meaning between two sentences.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 1)

Example questions:

1

Tick the sentence that must end with a **question mark**.

Tick **one**.

What I wanted had already sold out

☐

Ask Ryan what he thinks about it

☐

What time will the film start

☐

I didn't know what to say

☐

6

Circle one verb in each underlined pair to complete the sentences using **Standard English**.

We was / were planning to hold a cake sale at school.

I was / were chosen to design the posters.

1 mark

23

Draw a line to match each word to its correct **antonym**.

Word

meandering

sympathetic

evade

plausible

Antonym

confront

unfeeling

unbelievable

straight

1 mark

1

Tick the sentence that must end with a **question mark**.

What I wanted had already sold out

☐

Ask Ryan what he thinks about it

☐

What time will the film start

☒

I didn't know what to say

☐Tick **one**.

6

Circle one verb in each underlined pair to complete the sentences using **Standard English**.We was / were planning to hold a cake sale at school.I was / were chosen to design the posters.

1 mark

1 mark

23

Draw a line to match each word to its correct **antonym**.

Word

Antonym

meandering

confront

sympathetic

unfeeling

evade

unbelievable

plausible

straight

1 mark

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 2)

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Paper 2) is the shorter paper lasting 20 minutes, which takes place on **Monday 11th May 2026**.

Example questions:

19. Omar put the cutlery back in the _____.

20. Ellen's gold bracelet was her most treasured _____.

Spelling 19: The word is **drawer**.

Omar put the cutlery back in the **drawer**.

The word is **drawer**.

Spelling 20: The word is **possession**.

Ellen's gold bracelet was her most treasured **possession**.

The word is **possession**.

Reading

- ▶ The Year 6 Reading SATs paper will be sat on **Tuesday 12th May 2026**.
The assessment has been designed to measure whether children's comprehension of age-appropriate reading material meets the national standard.
- ▶ The test lasts **60 minutes**, including reading the texts and answering questions.
There are three different set texts for the children to read, which could be any combination of **non-fiction, fiction and/or poetry**.
- ▶ The Reading paper focuses on the following areas known as Content Domains:
 - 2a) give/explain the meaning of words in context;*
 - 2b) retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction;*
 - 2c) summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph;*
 - 2d) make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text;*
 - 2e) predict what might happen from details stated and implied;*
 - 2f) identify/explain how information/content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole;*
 - 2g) identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases;*
 - 2h) make comparisons within the text.*
- ▶ The Year 6 Reading SATs paper requires a range of answering styles, including responding to **multiple choice questions, one-word answers**, and multiple-mark questions which require **more formal paragraph-length answers**.

Reading

Example question, based on Text 1 – *Space Tourism*:

How would you get to your space hotel?

In the future there may be hotels in space for all the tourists. It wouldn't take long for the space shuttle to get out of the Earth's atmosphere. Then, without Earth's gravity, you would become weightless. Arrival at the hotel would be like an aeroplane parking at an airport, but you would leave the cabin floating along the access tube, holding on to a cable.

2

How would you get from the spacecraft to the space hotel?

1 mark

2b) retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

Reading

Example question, based on Text 1 – *Space Tourism*:

How would you get to your space hotel?

In the future there may be hotels in space for all the tourists. It wouldn't take long for the space shuttle to get out of the Earth's atmosphere. Then, without Earth's gravity, you would become weightless. Arrival at the hotel would be like an aeroplane parking at an airport, but you would leave the cabin floating along the access tube, holding on to a cable.

2 How would you get from the spacecraft to the space hotel?

Award 1 mark for answers that refer to floating down the tube (holding the cable).

1 mark

2b) retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

Reading

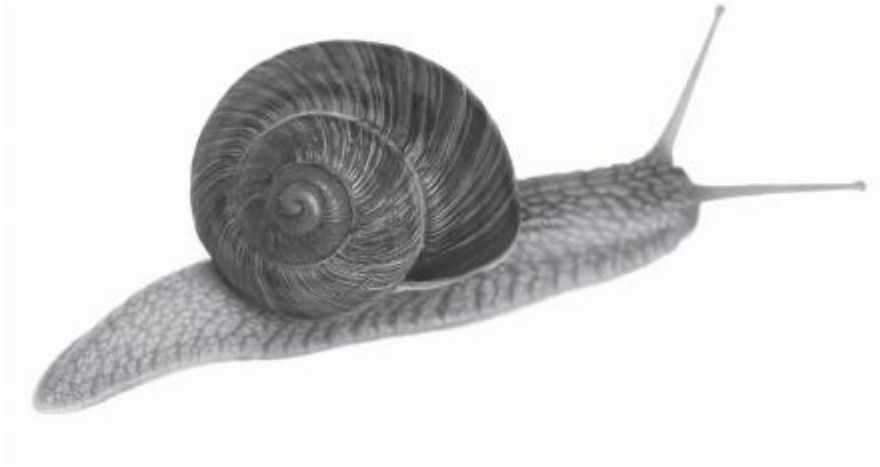
Example question, based on
Text 2 – *Giants*:

17

Gentle, and small, and frail

Which part of the snail do these words describe?

Circle the part of the snail in the picture below.



1 mark

How would you like it –
Supposing that you were a snail,
And your eyes grew out on threads,
Gentle, and small, and frail –
If an enormous creature,
Reaching almost up to the distant skies,
Leaned down, and with his great finger touched
Your eyes
Just for the fun

2b) retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

Reading

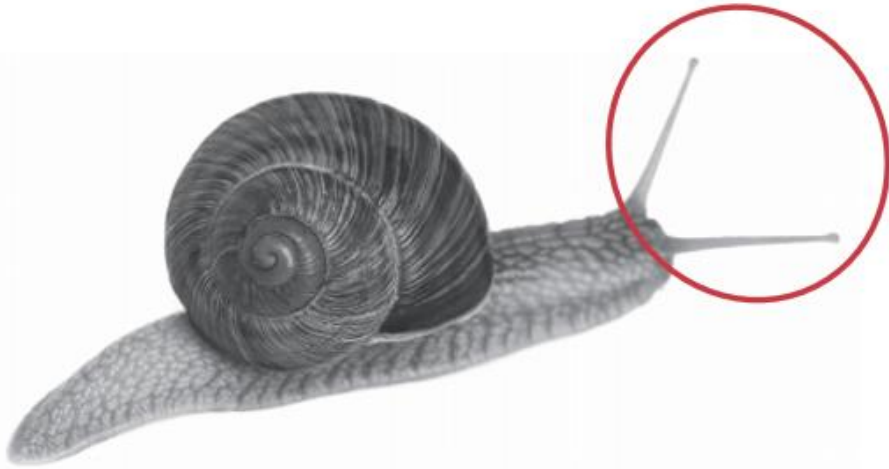
Example question, based on
Text 2 – *Giants*:

17

Gentle, and small, and frail

Which part of the snail do these words describe?

Circle the part of the snail in the picture below.



1 mark

How would you like it –
Supposing that you were a snail,
And your eyes grew out on threads,
Gentle, and small, and frail –
If an enormous creature,
Reaching almost up to the distant skies,
Leaned down, and with his great finger touched
Your eyes
Just for the fun

2b) retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

Reading

Example question, based on Text 3 – *The Lost World*:

I had the same feeling of mystery and danger around us. In the gloom of the trees there seemed a constant menace and as we looked up into their shady foliage, vague terrors crept into one's heart. The iguanodons we had seen were lumbering, inoffensive brutes which were unlikely to hurt anyone, but what other creatures might there not be – ready to pounce upon us from their lair among the rocks or brushwood?

36

Based on what you have read, what does the last paragraph suggest might happen to the explorers next?

Use evidence from this paragraph to support your prediction.

2 marks

2e) predict what might happen from details stated and implied

Reading

Example question, based on Text 3 – *The Lost World*:

Examples of 2 mark responses:

- *A vicious beast is going to eat them later on because it says there is a constant menace therefore they may not get to confirm to England that they were real dinosaurs.*
- *I think they will journey on to try to locate some more creatures, for in the text it says 'what other creatures might there not be ready to pounce upon us from their lair among the rocks and brushwood'*

36

Based on what you have read, what does the last paragraph suggest might happen to the explorers next?

Use evidence from this paragraph to support your prediction.

2 marks

2e) predict what might happen from details stated and implied

Reading

Since the current testing format for the Year 6 SATs began in 2016, reading papers have consistently focused heavily on a small group of **content domains**, particularly **vocabulary in context (2a)**, **retrieval (2b)** and **inference (2d)**. This trend has continued in the most recent SATs papers.

In the 2025 KS2 Reading SATs:

- ▶ Inference questions (Content Domain **2d**) accounted for **the largest share** of marks, with around **48% of marks** focusing on making inferences from a text or explaining and justifying them with evidence. This was the highest proportion of inference marks seen in recent years and continues the trend of inference being the dominant focus. (primary.lbq.org)
- ▶ Retrieval questions (Content Domain **2b**) still formed a significant portion of the paper, contributing approximately **30% of marks**. (primary.lbq.org)
- ▶ Vocabulary in context (Content Domain **2a**) questions made up around **12% of the marks**, showing they remain an important part of the paper. (primary.lbq.org)
- ▶ Taken together, **2a (vocabulary)**, **2b (retrieval)** and **2d (inference)** consistently make up around **90% or more of the marks** on the reading paper, emphasising the need for pupils to be secure in these skills. (hfl.education.org)

So, when reading with your child at home, try asking questions like:

- ▶ Find a word in this paragraph that is closest in meaning to ‘___’ e.g. *annoyed* (Content Domain **2a**) ([GOV.UK](https://gov.uk))
- ▶ In what year did ‘___’ happen? e.g. *when did the French authorities make it illegal for people to swim from France to England?* (Content Domain **2b**) ([GOV.UK](https://gov.uk))
- ▶ In the last paragraph, X does not want to Y. Give two reasons why X does not want to Y. (Content Domain **2d**) ([GOV.UK](https://gov.uk))

Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) will take place on **Wednesday 13th May 2026.**

It has a standard timing of **30 minutes** and is worth a total of **40 marks**.

It covers the **four operations** (division, multiplication, addition, subtraction and mixed operation calculations requiring **BIDMAS**), as well as **number properties**, calculating **percentages of amounts**, calculations using **decimals**, and calculations using **fractions**.

Example question:

[illegible]

Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

25

13 | 3016

2600

- 416

- 390

26

- 26

0

13 x 200

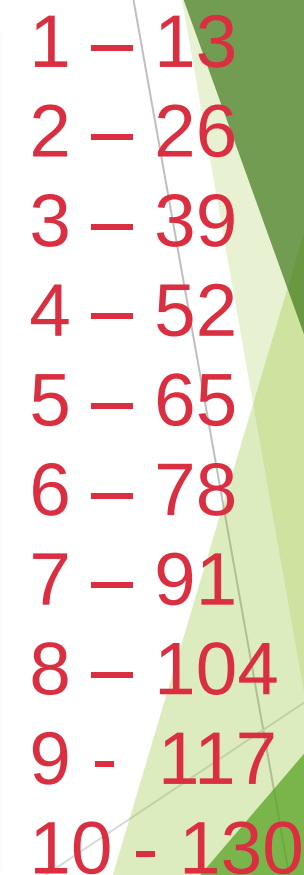
13 x 30

13 x 2

+ 232

Show your method

2 marks

- 
- 1 – 13
2 – 26
3 – 39
4 – 52
5 – 65
6 – 78
7 – 91
8 – 104
9 – 117
10 – 130

Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

29	$\begin{array}{r} 678 \\ \times 54 \\ \hline \end{array}$	
Show your method		
		2 marks

29	$\begin{array}{r} 678 \\ \times 54 \\ \hline 2712 \\ 33900 \\ \hline 36612 \end{array}$	
Show your method		
		2 marks

1

$$979 + 100 =$$

☐

1 mark

1

$$979 + 100 =$$

1,079

☐

1 mark

27

95% of 240 =

1 mark

27

95% of 240 =

$$10\% = 240 \div 10$$

$$10\% = 24$$

$$5\% = 24 \div 2$$

$$5\% = 12$$

$$95\% = 240 - 12 = 228$$

228

1 mark

Maths Papers 2 & 3 (Reasoning)

Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning) will take place on **Wednesday 13th May 2026**

Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning) is scheduled for **Thursday 14th May 2026**

Both have standard timings of **40 minutes** and are worth **35 marks** each.

Paper 2 requires children to demonstrate their mathematical knowledge and skills, as well as their ability to solve problems and their mathematical reasoning.

Questions focus on the following mathematical topic areas:

- Number and place value– including Roman Numerals;
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (calculations);
- Geometry – properties of shapes;
- Geometry – position and direction;
- Statistics;
- Measurement – including length, perimeter, mass (weight), volume, time and money;
- Algebra;
- Ratio and proportion;
- Fractions, decimals and percentages.

The questions get harder throughout the paper.

It is not unusual for a child to be unable to complete the entire paper in time.

Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

- 6 Stefan's watch shows five minutes past nine.
The watch is twelve minutes fast.



What is the correct time?

7 minutes to 9 or
8:53

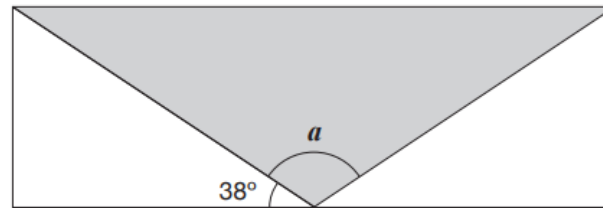
1 mark

Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

15

A shaded **isosceles** triangle is drawn inside a rectangle.



Not
to
scale

Calculate the size of angle a .

Show
your
method

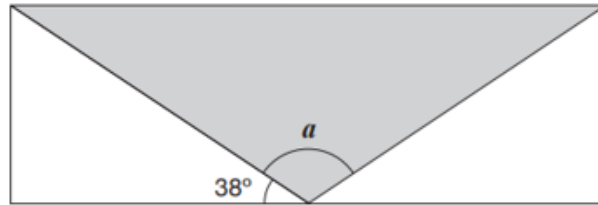
a is

°

2 marks

15

A shaded **isosceles** triangle is drawn inside a rectangle.



Not
to
scale

Calculate the size of angle a .

Show
your
method

$$38 \times 2 = 76$$

$$180 - 76 = 104$$

$$a \text{ is } 104^\circ$$

2 marks

Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

7

Write the number 53,148 in **words**.

Fifty-three thousand, one hundred and forty-eight

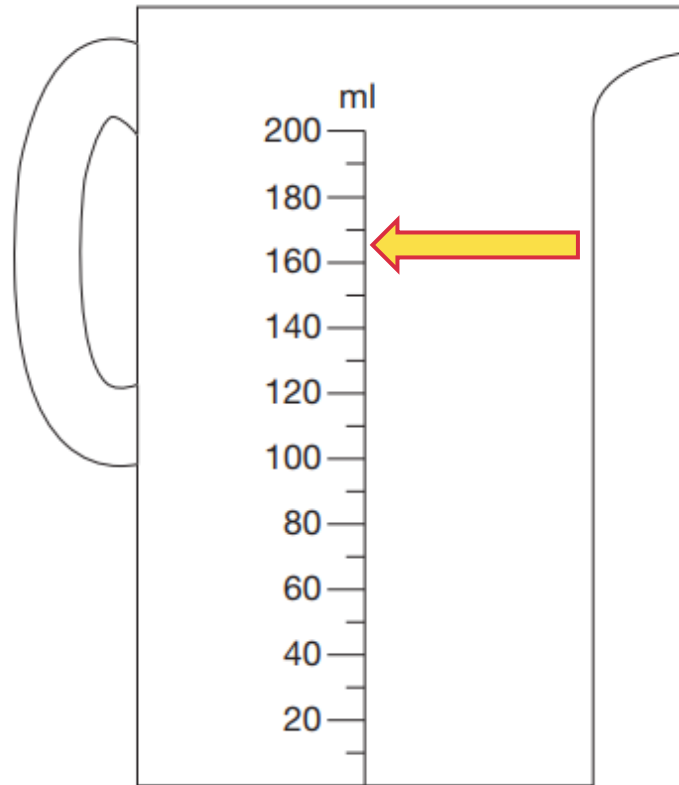
1 mark

Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

5

Chen pours 165 millilitres of milk into a measuring jug.

Draw an arrow on the jug to show the level of the milk.



1 mark

Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

10

A bag of 5 lemons costs £1

A bag of 4 oranges costs £1.80



How much **more** does one orange cost than one lemon?

Show
your
method

$$100 \div 5 = 20p$$

$$180 \div 4 = 45p$$

$$45p - 20p = 25p$$

$$25p / £0.25$$

2 marks

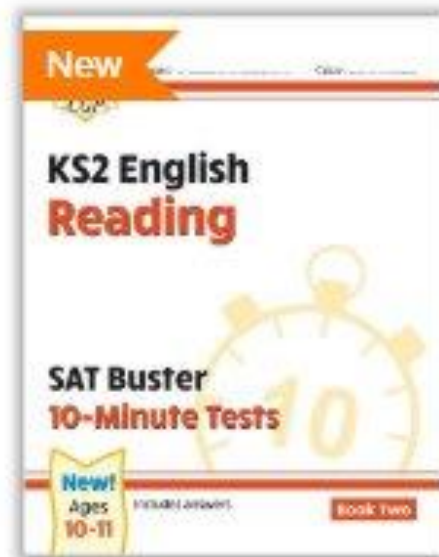
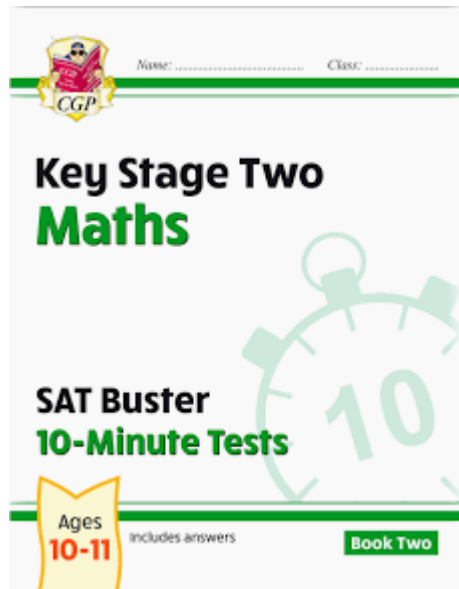
How can I support my child in preparing for their SATs?

- ▶ Firstly, a positive attitude goes a long way – so please give them as much encouragement and support as possible (but we don't need to tell you that)!

DO NOT USE PAST PAPERS. If your child has a tutor, please insist they do not use them!

- ▶ Some further tips:
- ▶ Direct any questions or concerns you have about SATs to your child's teacher, rather than worry your child with them;
- ▶ Give your child opportunities to go outside and avoid overuse of screens - this can apply to leisure pursuits as well as how they study;
- ▶ Try to provide a quiet corner of the house for homework and study, that's as free from distractions as possible;
- ▶ Encourage your child to talk to their teacher or another adult they trust if they express persisting anxieties about SATs. Remember that a small amount of anxiety is normal and not harmful;
- ▶ If your child is unwilling to talk to their teacher, please contact us via email

CGP Books - we recommend the SAT Buster 10-minute tests.



These three books are available from CGP at a cost of £15.

This week, we will be sending a letter offering a **special discounted price** if purchased through school:

- **Reading and SPAG books:** £7.35
- **Maths book bundle:** £8.00

Please look out for the ParentMail that was sent before the Autumn break.

CGP also have some free online tests which can be accessed via the link below.

Free online 10-minute tests for maths and SPaG

Remember this about SATs:

SATs focus on what they know about Maths and English

- ▶ They won't reflect how talented they are at Science, Geography, Art or PE, and they certainly won't highlight positive personal characteristics such as kindness and integrity.

SATs results don't always tell the whole story

- ▶ The results will say they DID or DIDN'T meet a certain standard, but not necessarily by what margin. Additionally, the thresholds tend to change each year according to overall national performance, so what was classed as 'did meet the expected standard' in 2017 may have been considered a 'did not' in 2016. Your school may be able to provide you with more detailed feedback, so don't let your child see SATs as a simple case of 'pass' or 'fail'.

SATs last for one week (actually 4 days!)

- ▶ In reality it's just one or two papers lasting 30-60 minutes each day. You can't emphasise enough the importance of keeping that in perspective.

A final message to you....

- ▶ Your child's wellbeing is what is most important and that should be at the forefront of all our minds as the SATs approach.
- ▶ Leading up to the week of SATs, your child(ren) will be working hard to revise all that they have learnt during their time at Loughton School.
- ▶ Ensure that they take this time to relax and remind them that they are AMAZING! Remind them of how far they have come and that whatever the outcome, we are all so proud of what they have achieved.
- ▶ Have fun, allow them to play and ensure they have enough sleep. Tests are not the be all and end all; they only capture a moment in time.