



*In the Light of Jesus  
we Learn to Shine*

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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*St. Alban*

*Catholic Schools' Partnership*

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## Year 6 SATs Preparation January 2024

### How to support your children during SATs preparation

- First and foremost, support and reassure your child that there is nothing to worry about and that they should always just try their best. **Praise and encourage!**
- Ensure your child has the **best possible attendance** at school.
- Support your child with any **homework tasks** – it is homework not tests so support is crucial.
- Reading, spelling and arithmetic (e.g. times tables) are always good to **practise regularly**.
- **Talk to your child** about what they have learnt at school and what book(s) they are reading (the character, the plot, their opinion).
- Make sure your child has a **good sleep and healthy breakfast** every day!

### How to support your children with reading

Listening to your child read can take many forms:

- First and foremost, focus on developing an enjoyment and love of reading.
- Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child is equally as important as listening to your child read.
- Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!
- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.
- Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the Internet or an app on a phone or tablet.
- Ask a range of questions, not just recall.
- All reading is valuable – it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.

### How to support your children with writing

- Practise and learn weekly spelling lists – make it fun!
- Encourage opportunities for writing such as letters to family or friends, shopping lists, notes or reminders, stories and poems.
- Write together – be a good role model for writing.
- Encourage use of a dictionary to check spelling and a thesaurus to find synonyms and expand vocabulary.
- Allow your child to use a computer for word processing, which will allow for editing and correcting of errors without lots of crossing out.
- Remember that good readers become good writers! Identify good writing features when reading (e.g. vocabulary, sentence structure and punctuation).
- Show your appreciation: praise and encourage, even for small successes!

### How to support your children with maths

- Play times tables games.
- Play mental maths games including counting in different amounts, forwards and backwards.
- Encourage opportunities for telling the time, converting time.
- Encourage opportunities for counting coins and money; finding amounts or calculating change when shopping.
- Look for examples of 2D and 3D shapes around the home and discuss properties.
- Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts in the kitchen or in recipes and convert between units.
- Play games involving numbers or logic, such as dominoes, card games, darts, draughts and chess.

