



OUR REF : .....

TRN No. 100483609200003

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**To: The Parents of Students in Years 1 - 13**  
**WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE WEEK FOUR**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings from Saint Mary's.** We trust that this update finds you and your families safe and healthy. It has been a wonderful week back to school with the children and we are grateful for your high level of collaboration and support.

- **ALL PARENTS PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO FILL OUT IMPORTANT INFORMATION SO WE CAN SAVE THIS DIGITALLY. THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY DONE SO.**
- **DECLARATION FORM -Parents who have not returned these are strongly urged not to delay this any further.**
- **CLINIC CONSENT FORM - Parents who have not returned these are strongly urged not to delay this any further.**
- **Please note that our school office is closed on the first and third Saturdays of every month and the administrative staff work on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.**

**1) DROP OFF AND PICK UP FOR YEAR 1 CHILDREN : A CHANGE FROM MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023.**

Parents of Year One children are respectfully requested not to access the primary classrooms. Own transport students must be dropped off at GATE 5. Teachers will take them to their classrooms. For Pick up, please meet your children in the designated waiting area near GATE 5. **Please visit the Primary Reception if you have any urgent concerns.**

**2) PICK UP FOR YEAR 2 CHILDREN :** Parents are requested to meet your children in the designated waiting area in the Girls' Quadrangle. Parents are respectfully requested not to access the primary classrooms. **Please visit the Primary Reception if you have any urgent concerns.**

**3) NGRT YEARS 2-10 TEST DATES :** Please note that results will go towards part of the English Language assessment for the **FIRST REPORT IN NOVEMBER 2023** and students must undertake the tests seriously as this will count towards attainment in English.

Students of years 2, 3 and 4 will do the NGRT tests in the IT LABS. For **YEARS 5-10, parents are reminded to kindly send A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE (LAPTOP OR TABLET) with your child on the date scheduled for your child's test.** Please consult the table below for test dates and the separate circular for all other information.

YEAR 2	25 <sup>TH</sup> September 2023	In the Computer labs
YEAR 3	26 <sup>TH</sup> September 2023	In the Computer labs
YEAR 4	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	In the Computer labs
YEAR 5	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
YEAR 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2023	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
YEAR 7	2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2023	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
YEAR 8	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
YEAR 9	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only
YEAR 10	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	ON THEIR OWN DEVICES tablet or laptop only

**4) SHORTER BREAK ON FRIDAYS:** Parents of older children are advised to please have children bring a snack from home on Fridays as the break is shorter owing to the very short school day. Perhaps this is a good opportunity for older children to focus more on healthy eating and an independent preparation of their own snack.

**5) PASSWORDS FOR ACTIVE LEARN (YEARS 1-6) & ACTIVE TEACH (YEARS 7-13) :** Parents please note that LOGIN ID'S for ACTIVE LEARN and ACTIVE TEACH have been sent to students' school emails , only for those parents who have paid for the same. ***Formative assessments and marked homework assignments for the November 2023 report in English, Maths and Science will be mostly done via these platforms.***

Steps for logging in can be found in the Parent Info section of the school website and were also sent with the LOGIN ID'S to your child's school email.

**6) INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR AT OUR SCHOOL ON 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER FROM 3:00 TO 4:00 PM- PARENTS and STUDENTS IN YEARS 10, 11, 12 and 13:**

This is a very important opportunity for parents and students to meet with representatives from key universities from across the world. Please read the separate circular attached.

**7) AUTHOR DR. SANDRA PIESIK VISIT TO OUR SCHOOL, 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 - YEARS 10, 11 AND 12:**

We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the Emirates Literature Foundation for providing our students of Years 10, 11 and 12 to meet with world renowned author Dr. Sandra Piesik. The students enjoyed an engaging session with the author and understood the true meaning of Sustainability. Parents are encouraged to have a conversation with your children about this event.

**8) MOBILE PHONE POLICY YEARS 12 AND 13 :** Parents of students in Years 12 and 13 are reminded to carefully go through the Mobile Phone Policy and please sign the last page if you have not already done so.

**9) GL CAT-4 TEST FOR YEARS FOUR, SIX, EIGHT AND TEN ONLY:** Parents of students in Years Four, Six, Eight and Ten are requested to kindly check the separate attachment to this circular regarding the GL CAT4 examination. Please email the skiply receipt indicating payment for the same to your child's class teacher. **CHILDREN MUST BRING A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE – ONLY A TABLET OR LAPTOP ( THE TEST WILL NOT RUN ON A MOBILE PHONE ) ON THE DAY THE TEST HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THEIR CLASS.**

**10) ADMISSION TO A-LEVELS ( PARENTS OF CURRENT YEAR 11 STUDENTS ):** Parents of Year 11 students are requested to kindly go through the separate circular on A-Level admissions attached to this weekly notice.

**11) SOCIAL MEDIA FREQUENT CHECKS BY PARENTS FOR SECONDARY & UPPER PRIMARY CHILDREN:** Parents of secondary and upper primary children are strongly encouraged to kindly make frequent checks of your child's use of Social Media. We have seen in many cases that minor children are being sought out on Instagram, Snapchat and other platforms by much older individuals for chats and conversations. It is important for parents to know who their children are conversing with to protect them from any potential safeguarding issues. We would also like to remind parents about your children's use of inappropriate content

and language on Social Media Platforms which you will be aware of only if you make frequent checks of the same. Please have your child remove himself/herself from private social media groups that are not encouraged or recommended by us at St. Mary's. The school cannot take responsibility for private groups started by students and we strongly discourage the formation of these groups as well as discourage student participation in them. It is once again important here that ALL PARENTS check your children's digital activity frequently including group activity if your child is part of private groups created by students.

**12) UNIFORM INFRACTIONS** : Parents are hereby notified that we have been very disappointed with the large number of uniform infractions , especially among senior students. *These include very long and unruly hair of boys ( kindly ensure that proper haircuts are undertaken this weekend ) , long hair of girls untied, coloured and highlighted hair of girls ( we have specifically reminded parents at the end of last year that this is strictly not allowed ) , multiple ear piercings for girls, shorter than acceptable skirt lengths , long fingernails of both boys and girls, heavy make -up on girls.* What is even more disappointing is the lack of collaboration from parents when we correct students for the same. We are constantly having to correct students for things that could be overseen by parents before they arrive at school and this wastes precious teaching time. Parents are requested to please check on your children before they leave home in the morning. Please refer to the uniform policy .

**13) CLASS GROUP EMAIL** : **The CLASS GROUP EMAIL** using the students 'official email ID for every class went into operation from 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023. . This is for the dissemination of information daily from the class teacher to the parents of this class and we request parents not to write back to this address. We recommend that every parent checks this email after 6:00 pm everyday for important updates.

**14) PAYMENT OF TERM FEES** :

**All FIRST TERM FEES MUST be paid via the SKIPLY APP or a direct Bank Transfer between the 20<sup>th</sup> of August and the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. First Term fees that are not paid by the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 will then be considered as OUTSTANDING. Please respect the fee payment deadlines. Second Term fees must be paid between the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2023 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The new FEE STRUCTURE for the next academic year 2023-2024 has been uploaded to the school website.**

The school's RAK Bank account details ( refer to circular dated 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 )

**15) BOARD EXAMINATION FEES:** We would like you to be informed well in advance that EDEXCEL LONDON BOARD EXAMINATION FEES will be collected in the month of NOVEMBER 2023 for students in years ELEVEN and THIRTEEN. We trust that this will help you to budget accordingly. You can check your KHDA Parent-School contract when released by KHDA for the BOARD EXAM FEE AMOUNT for each year group.

**16) FINANCE-RELATED EMAILS:** ( Details in circular dated 1<sup>st</sup> September )

**17) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024:** Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2023-2024 that has been attached to this circular for your easy reference. This will help you plan ahead. If the regulators make any changes to the same we will inform you immediately. Please note that only emergency medical leave will be approved during school days. Leave for family holidays and celebrations must coincide with the school holidays as per the KHDA calendar. Leave for events like graduations, weddings, parties etc will not be granted during school days and if absences like this occur during exams, there will be no re-exams in that case. We expect parents to respect these dates and not request leave during school days.

## KEY DATES IN THE APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR

**Parents are strongly reminded not to plan holidays/ celebrations and other events outside the approved holiday slots in the calendar as these will be not be approved.**

28 <sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2023	School re-opens for ALL STUDENTS
29 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023	Prophet's ( P.B.U.H ) Birthday
30 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023	Holiday for all students
10 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023	Holiday for all students
1 <sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023	Martyr's Day
11 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023 – 1 <sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2024 ( Inclusive )	Winter Break
2 <sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2024	School re-opens after the Winter Break
16 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY – 1 <sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2024	First Term Examinations in the morning. Regular lessons after break. Students will not be allowed to go home after the morning's exam.

2 <sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2024	Term break for all students
15 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024	Sports Day Years 5-13 ( subject to change )
23 <sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2024	Sports Day Years 1-4
11 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2024 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024	Mock Examinations years 11 and 13
25 <sup>th</sup> MARCH – 5 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 ( inclusive )	Spring Break
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024	Eid Al Fitr ( subject to government declaration )
15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2024	Final exams in parallel with regular lessons
17 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2024	Study Holiday
20 <sup>th</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> MAY 2024	Final Exams and students go home at 11:00 am
17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024	Eid Al Adha ( subject to government declaration )
28 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024	Report Day & Last working day for students and teachers

**Please note that the GL EXAMS usually take place during the month of May and June.**

**18) GOOGLE CLASSROOM:** Class teachers and subject teachers already added students to their respective Google Classrooms over the week. Reference material, homework assignments, teaching and learning material will be posted in Google Classroom and this will continue to be of critical importance .

**19) SIMS PARENT APP/ LEARNING LADDERS:** Please note that these are still in process and our IT Support will be sending out the invitation and credentials for the same in some time. We will let you know via a circular when that process gets rolled out. Kindly do not email IT Support for this at the moment.

**Please note that the SIMS PARENT APP must be checked on a regular basis and not just at the time of report cards as when it is inactive for more than a month , APP access automatically gets disabled.**

**20) INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024 AND APPLICABLE PAYMENTS :** Parents are requested to kindly go through this table carefully so that you will be aware of which International Benchmark tests are applicable to your child. Payments will be via Skippy and will be advised in September 2023 or closer to the time of the test.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR GROUP	NGRT	CAT-4 Amended	GL	IBT ARABIC A	IBT ARABIC B
YEAR 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 2	YES	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 3	YES	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 4	YES	YES	YES	NA	NA
YEAR 5	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 6	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA

## SECONDARY SCHOOL

YEAR GROUP	NGRT	CAT-4 Amended	GL	IBT ARABIC A	IBT ARABIC B
YEAR 7	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 8	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 9	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 10	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 11	NA	NA	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**New students admitted in years 4, 6, 8 and 10 for the new Academic Year 2023-2024 will have to appear for the CAT-4 examination.**

**21) PREDICTED GRADES POLICY FOR YEARS 12 & 13 :** We would like to remind all parents and students to carefully go through this Policy that is available on our school website. The situation that unfolded over the last few years made many children realise, albeit too late the true value of being consistent with their study habits and not waiting until the last minute before exams to prepare and study. It is always best for every child to be **CONSISTENT AND HIGHLY REGULAR** with their study and ensure that they maintain a good level of attainment across all their assessment opportunities and prepare as well as they can for their Board Examinations. This will also help them to achieve better predicted grades as every assessment and examination counts towards the calculation of the same.

**22) SUBJECT CHANGE POLICY , YEARS 9 TO 13:** We would like to request all parents of children in these year groups to please go through the Subject Change Policy which is available in the Parents' Info section of the school website.

**23) NO DISTRIBUTION OF ANY ITEMS ( cakes/ candies/ chocolate/ and even non-edible items ) FOR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS:** Parents are reminded that while the class would be happy to sing for your child on his/her birthday , there should be STRICTLY NO DISTRIBUTION of any food/ sweets or even non-edible items like small toys etc on your child's birthday.

**24) STUDENT ABSENCES MUST BE INFORMED BY PARENTS:** All parents are requested to kindly inform the class teacher via email whenever a child is absent , even if it is just for one day. A simple email with the reason for the absence will suffice but is mandatory. Unaccounted for absences will be marked as unjustified and will be reflected on students' progress reports.

**25 ) PARENTS' WHATSAPP GROUPS :** While a whatsapp group maybe very useful for *sharing important information that can be very helpful – sometimes essential – for busy parents, it has increasingly been noticed that these groups seem to have become breeding grounds for gossip, Chinese whispers and criticism. We are noticing more and more that a personal experience of a child or a staff member has become fodder for public comment and this has extended to even the very private medical information of children being openly discussed on parent groups.* There's a broader societal issue here. This is all very new to us adults. We must reflect on the example we're setting. We talk about what our children are doing online, but we don't reflect on our own behaviour; we don't have an agreed etiquette. We would like all parents , especially those in primary school to do some reflection on the unchecked chatter and quite often the vilifying of staff members in the parents' whatsapp groups over the past year and ask yourself if that is truly helping you or rather creating unwanted stress. As a school, we would like you to reach out to the teachers or to Ms. Lise-Ann ( in more urgent cases ) rather than allow what could be one parent's opinion or perspective or misinterpretation in many cases, cloud the perspectives of all the rest. Let us try not to micromanage the children but have more faith in their capacity for resilience and courage.

**While we continue to encourage you to use emails and school diary as the official channels for communication, we would like to offer some useful guidelines for the ethical use of whatsapp groups should parents still feel the need for them.**



Groups can be used to share :

- Reminders about deadlines, school activities, and events.
- Questions about school activities or special events e.g. what date the science project is due in, uniform or non-uniform day, when the deadline to pay for something is, etc.
- Sharing important information already posted in a circular to help reach more parents e.g. alerts about sickness, school policies, etc.
- Sharing information which can be useful to the other parents in the group e.g. where to buy costumes for dressing up days, ideas for projects, etc.
- Foster a sense of community
- Sharing relevant community notices e.g. road closures or new traffic lights in the local area, etc.
- We **STRONGLY discourage** the use of the groups to:
  - Gossip.
  - Voice grievances.
  - Share personal problems.
  - Point out another child's behaviour.
  - Discuss the work of teachers: if a parent has a concern regarding the teacher, that parent should speak with him or her directly.
  - Raise individual concerns or complaints: if a parent has a particular concern or complaint regarding the School or any member of the Staff, that issue should be raised directly with the School .
  - Share political or religious posts or discussions.

**26) URGENT QUERIES AND CONCERNS:** If you have any urgent queries and concerns, kindly send an email to our Vice Principal , Ms. Lise-Ann on [l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org](mailto:l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org) and she will get back to you. Please include your telephone number in case she needs to call you.

We take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a safe and happy weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
( Principal )



# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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# مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

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OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE : Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## To : The Parents of students in YEARS 10, 11, 12 AND 13 : **INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings to you from St. Mary's Catholic High School!**

It is a pleasure to be able to once again invite you to join us in the Main Hall for **THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR** on **Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. We have several top quality universities from the UK, US, Ireland, Canada and Australia attending the Fair. We strongly encourage you to come and take advantage of this unique opportunity to meet with all the top universities and speak to their representatives personally.

Students from years 10, 11, 12 and 13 are strongly advised to stay back in school and attend the fair that will be highly beneficial to them. The details of the fair are as follows:

**Date: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Venue: Main Hall, SMCHS**

**Time: 3:00 – 4:00 pm**

Yours sincerely

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
( Principal )



The following universities have confirmed their attendance

<b>UK</b>	<b>Ireland</b>
Aberystwyth University	University of Galway
Anglia Ruskin University	Trinity College Dublin
Aston University	<b>USA</b>
Brunel University London	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Coventry University	Green River College
De Montfort University	Kaplan US
Glasgow Caledonian University	Oklahoma State University
St. George's University	University of Cincinnati
Heriot-Watt University	<b>Australia</b>
INTO	Australian Catholic University
Kaplan International Pathways	Curtin University
Keele University	Flinders University
Manchester Metropolitan University	James Cook University
Newcastle University	Monash University
Northumbria University	RMIT University
Nottingham Trent University	The Australian National University
ONCAMPUS	The University of Queensland
Oxford Brookes University	The University of Sydney
Queen Mary, University of London	University of Wollongong
Study Group UK - (booth sharing US)	<b>Canada</b>
Swansea University	Bow Valley College
The University of Manchester	Brock University
Ulster University	Carleton University
University of Stirling	Dalhousie University
University for the Creative Arts	Durham College
University of Aberdeen	George Brown College
University of Bath	King's University College at Western University
University of Birmingham	Navitas US & Canada
University of Dundee	Ontario Tech University
University of Essex	Queen's University
University of Exeter	St. Clair College
University of Leeds	St. Francis Xavier University
University of Leicester	Trent University
University of Liverpool	University of Guelph- Humber
University of Nottingham	University of Manitoba
University of Sheffield	University of Prince Edward Island
University of St Andrews	University of Regina
University of Surrey	University of Saskatchewan
University of the West of England	University of the Fraser Valley
University of Warwick	University of Waterloo
University of Westminster	University of Windsor
University of Wolverhampton	Wilfrid Laurier University
	University of Guelph

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OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE: Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

**To Parents of students in Years TWO to TEN :**

## **NGRT – NEW GROUP READING TEST YEARS TWO TO TEN**

Dear Parents,

Warm greetings. Our school as mandated by KHDA has to undertake the NGRT for students in Years Two to Ten . The government of Dubai has mandated that all students from ages 6-16 undertake a standardized reading literacy test thrice a year. This year we have to undertake the test thrice . We invite you to read on for further information.

**NGRT** is a fully adaptive, standardised, termly reading assessment. As it's adaptive, it offers a personalised experience for each student, ensuring it's accessible for those who are struggling and challenging for those who need to be stretched, so you can get to the root of any problems identified precisely and quickly.

There is no more crucial skill for success in any subject than reading, so being able to accurately assess and monitor this is essential. NGRT is proven to deliver a reliable assessment of reading comprehension, set against national benchmarks. Using it regularly helps to quickly spot problems that will hold back a child's progress, with customised practical classroom solutions for each student and the ability to demonstrate the impact of the interventions you put in place.

The amount to be paid for the NGRT is **AED 105/- ONLY**. This amount must be paid only via the **SKIPLY APP** and a soft copy of the receipt must be emailed to the class teacher. **The deadline for payment is 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023.**

**The schedule for the tests will be sent with the next weekend circular but will tentatively be in September 2023.**

**Please note that results will go towards part of the English Language assessment for the FIRST REPORT IN NOVEMBER 2023 and students must undertake the tests seriously as this will count towards attainment in English.**

Yours sincerely



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
(Principal)



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OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE : Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

**To: Parents of students in Years FOUR, SIX EIGHT & TEN ONLY  
GL CAT4 EXAMINATION-SEPTEMBER 2023 (Revised year group  
cohorts as advised by KHDA and will differ from the year groups we  
indicated in our end of year and welcome back circular )**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai.** It is that time of the year for our students to complete the GL Cognitive Ability Test CAT4 which is mandated by KHDA for the year groups mentioned above. As part of our commitment to the National Agenda targets, and with a view to tracking progress and identify gaps in learning, our school will participate compulsorily in the GL-CAT4 exams. GL Education, one of the leading research organizations in the world , develops this test and provides a range of Assessment services in many countries and works in close tandem with the KHDA here in Dubai. These are mandatory assessments by KHDA and feature in your Parent-School Contract as well.

***The entry fee is AED 65/- for the test , the exact amount of which must be paid ONLY VIA THE SKIPLY APP NO LATER THAN 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023. Please email a copy of the SKIPLY receipt to your child's class teacher. This amount has been included in the Parent Contract as well.***

*CAT4* is designed to assess the four main abilities that underpin intellectual development and influence attainment. It measures four areas of reasoning:

- Quantitative
- Verbal
- Non-verbal and
- Spatial, a skill important for success in STEM subjects and an ability that is not measured by any other reasoning test for schools.

**CAT4 is an assessment of reasoning that helps identify pupils' developed abilities and likely academic potential.** *CAT4* is not about knowledge recall and requires no preparation, offering all students the same opportunity to show their underlying ability.

## What is CAT4?

The Cognitive Abilities Test (*CAT4*) is a diagnostic assessment that is designed to help students and their teachers understand how they learn and what their academic potential might be. It assesses how students think in areas that are known to make a difference to learning.

While many tests focus on a child's attainment in core subjects, *CAT4* is designed to give schools a much broader, more rounded view of each child, their potential and how they learn. Results help teachers decide about the pace of learning that is right for a student and whether additional support or challenge is needed.

Tasks involve thinking about shapes and patterns (Non-Verbal Reasoning), words (Verbal Reasoning), numbers (Quantitative Reasoning) and some questions are answered by mentally generating and transforming visual images (Spatial Ability).

*CAT4* is based on years of research and development. The current edition took five years to develop and the involvement of 25,000 students across the UK. It is a well-known assessment in schools; teachers value its ability to provide an understanding of what a child is capable of rather than defining them by their understanding of a body of knowledge in particular subjects.

## **How are CAT4 Results used?**

CAT4 provides teachers with information that can form the basis for discussions about how best a student can learn and reach his or her potential in school.

Teachers are provided with an individual profile of learning preference along with a range of indicators of likely future performance. Used with other information (such as results from Key Stage 2 SATs, for example), these data can support teaching and learning for all children.

## **Can students practice for CAT4?**

GL strongly advises against any kind of practice ahead of a CAT4 test as this will alter the reliability of test scores. The point of CAT4 is that it is not a test of learnt knowledge and it needs to be as unaffected as possible by any external factors, such as practice. Think of it like an eye test; if you practice ahead of an eye test and memorise the card, your diagnosis may not be correct and valuable information may be missed.

CAT4 is a timed assessment and is administered under formal conditions. However, each section of the assessment includes introductory information with practice examples, and these will familiarise the children with the style and format of the questions. These sections are not timed and may be repeated.

## **Is additional time allowed for children with SEND ?**

CAT4 is a timed assessment and additional time is not permitted as this will affect the reliability of the results. CAT4 is not just about what and how it tests but how the questions are answered within a set timeframe. The timed element makes it diagnostically very powerful.

CAT4 subtests are generously timed and most children reach the final questions, however there may have been a minority of students during the standardisation process who would have obtained higher scores if they had been given more time. Therefore, giving extra time to a particular student could give an inflated view of their relative ability when comparing their results with the CAT4 norms.



## **SAMPLE QUESTIONS TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF QUESTION TYPES**

<https://www.tests.com/practice/cognitive-abilities-practice-test>

**ALL NEW ADMISSIONS TO THE SCHOOL THIS YEAR in years 4, 6 8 and 10 will also be required to do the GL CAT-4 EXAMINATION.**

### **SCHEDULE FOR CAT-4 EXAMINATIONS**

1 <sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER	YEAR 4 A B C D E & F
2 <sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER	YEAR 6 A B C D E & F
6 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER	YEAR 8 A B C D E & F
7 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER	YEAR 10 A B C D E & F

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. Paul Asir Joseph  
( Principal )**





OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE: Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

**To: Parents of Year Eleven Students –  
ADMISSION TO TWO YEAR A-LEVEL GCE PROGRAMME**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School Dubai.** We invite you to read this circular very carefully as it has important information for parents regarding admission to the two year A-Level GCE Programme.

**We would like to point out very clearly, that admission to A-Level is not automatic and is a completely new process.**

**We would also like to bring to your attention that under the British system, a student completes high school with the completion of his/her O-Level. Hence the admission to A-Level is then a process of a 'NEW ADMISSION'.**

**YEAR 11 students cannot re-register for the next Academic year when this comes up for other year groups.**

The conditions for a student to be considered for a place in A-Levels are as follows.

- **SHOULD HAVE AN EXCELLENT BEHAVIOUR RECORD**
- **4 SUBJECTS TO BE OPTED FOR**
- **Admissions will be MERIT-BASED.**
- Hold a high grade **average** in all subjects ( Internal Exams ) in Year Eleven.

- Should have not had any serious or repeated disciplinary issues over Years Nine through Eleven.
- Should not have engaged in activities, in or out of school, which tarnish the reputation of the school.
- **Hold a minimum attendance record of 95%**
- **Be prepared for an entrance exam in the subject opted for that has not been taken at O-Level**

**Those students who take Arabic as a First language and Islamic Studies in A-Level will have to maintain a minimum aggregate attendance percentage of 95% for Arabic and / or Islamic Studies lessons, FAILING WHICH STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ISSUED A SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE/ATTESTED CERTIFICATES OR RECOMMENDATION LETTERS. Students who do not reflect this 95% aggregate attendance after the first month of enrollment might not be allowed to continue the A-Level programme.**

Please note that St. Mary's Catholic High School offers the GCE Advanced Levels Linear Programme which means that we DO NOT OFFER **AS LEVEL CERTIFICATION** at the end of Year 12. This is a standalone qualification and results are declared only at the end of Year 13.

The whole two year Programme has to be completed for any equivalency certification.

Please consider all the criteria above while planning ahead with the next phase in your child's educational journey. Parents should also be aware that even if all criteria are met, **competition for places remains very stiff as seats are limited** and therefore, **we strongly recommend that all parents should ensure that their children have a back-up plan. This would include applying to other institutions besides St. Mary's well in advance.**

Thank you for your kind co-operation.

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. Paul Asir Joseph**  
( Principal )





# ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

## DECLARATION FORM

Please provide us with the information requested below and return to the Class teacher.

### **STUDENT INFORMATION:**

Student Name			
Year Group / Section		Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	
Religion (please specify)		Nationality	

### **MEDICAL CONDITIONS:**

Known Medical Conditions including allergies (if any). Please provide details of regular medication	
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

### **PARENT CONTACT DETAILS:**

	Father / Guardian	Mother / Guardian
Name		
Company		
Occupation		
Mobile Number		
Office Number		
House Number		
Email Address		
Primary Contact (Please tick)		

The aforementioned information will be used to contact primary contact in case of emergency, if he/she is unable to answer the second contact will be called.

The information I have provided above is correct and if it were to change after the child has enrolled at St. Mary's, I accept to inform the administration.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

P.O. Box: 52232, DUBAI - U.A.E.

Tel. : +(971) 4 3370252

Fax : +(971) 4 3368119

E-mail : maryscol@emirates.net.ae

website : www.stmarysdubai.com

**مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية**

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

maryscol@emirates.net.ae : بريد إلكتروني

www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ ٤ ٩٧١ +

فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ ٤ ٩٧١ +

OUR REF : .....

TRN : 10025995510003

**1. CONSENT FOR FIRST-AID TREATMENT**

Student Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Class : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Contact No. : \_\_\_\_\_

The following medications are available in the school clinic and are given to students according to their need after informing parents. However there are times that parents can't answer the call immediately due to work constraints etc. This form will help us in giving urgent medical care to the students while waiting for your response.

Please tick the medications that we can give if we are not able to speak to you.

NAME OF MEDICATION	INDICATION	AGREE (YES / NO)
<b>Paracetamol Syrup / Tablets</b>	Fever / Headache / Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Ibuprofen Syrup / Tablets</b>	Fever / Headache / Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Medenamic Acid Tablets</b>	Menstrual Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Buscopan / Scopinal Syrup / Tablets</b>	Abdominal Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Meroclopramide Syrup / Tablets</b>	Vomitting	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Prospan Syrup</b>	Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Anti Allergy Syrup / Tablets</b>	Allergies	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Lozenges</b>	Sore Throat / Throat Infection	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Moov Gel</b>	Joint / Muscle Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Fenistil Gel</b>	Insect Bites / Skin Allergies	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Fusidin Ointment</b>	Wound Dressing	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Betadine Solution</b>	Wound Dressing	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Flammazine Ointment</b>	Burns	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Gaviscon Syrup</b>	Acidity	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

If the child has personal medicine and needs to be taken during school hours, the parent should inform the clinic and send the prescription from the prescribing doctor and parents consent for medication (DHA) form (in school website) together with the medicine directly to the clinic.

Parents / Guardian Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

P.O. Box: 52232, DUBAI - U.A.E.

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## مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

maryscol@emirates.net.ae : بريد إلكتروني

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ ٤ ٩٧١ +

www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ ٤ ٩٧١ +

OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

## 2. CONSENT FOR EMERGENCY FIRST-AID TREATMENT

In the event that your child requires emergency treatment, your child will be given first aid and taken directly to the hospital for treatment and management.

Does your child have any valid Health Card (YES / NO)

YES

NO

Does your child have any valid Health Insurance Card (YES / NO)

YES

NO

I give my consent for my child to be transferred to hospital in case of emergency and that I take the full responsibility to bear any costs incurred.

Parents / Guardian Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

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## مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

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+٩٧١ ٤ ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ : هاتف

www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

+٩٧١ ٤ ٣٣٦٨١١٩ : فاكس

OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

### 3. **CONSENT FOR ROUTINE MEDICAL EXAMINATION**

As per DHA school health guidelines, medical examinations will be done for new students, year 5, year 8 and year 11 students.

The medical examination includes measurement of height, weight, BMI, examination of Eyes, ears, lungs, abdomen and skeletal system. Parents are to be notified if there's any noted abnormal findings.

I give my consent for my child to be examined in the school by the school doctor and the nurse.

**YES**

**NO**

(IF YOU DO NOT GIVE CONSENT, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A MEDICAL REPORT AS PER THE REQUIREMENT BY YOUR OWN DOCTOR, SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE THE BLANK TEMPLATE.)

Parents / Guardian Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

August 2023						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	.	.	.

School Days: 4

September 2023						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	.

School Days: 20

October 2023						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: 21

November 2023						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	.	.	.

School Days: 21

December 2023						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

School Days: 5

January 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	.	.	.	.

School Days: 22

February 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	.	.	.

School Days: 20

March 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

School Days: 16

April 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	.	.	.	.	.

School Days: 13

May 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	.	.

School Days: 22

June 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

School Days: 18

July 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	.	.	.	.

School Days: 0

**Academic Year (Total School Days)** (Minimum days required to submit the calendar is 182 )  
The total number of days that students formally attend school and includes instructional days, examinations, academic and non-academic activities.

**Total days**  
**182**



# Chevron Reader's Cup – 2024

Calling all bookworms of St. Mary's! If you love to read and isn't afraid of a little bit of healthy competition, this opportunity is for you!

The Emirates airline Festival of Literature is here again. And with it comes the prestigious “**Chevron Reader's Cup**” competition. This is a team quiz competition in which students read and study a selection of books, and then answer a range of questions from those books.

If you think you have what it takes, register for the preliminary round by joining the Google classroom given below. Material for the preliminary test is uploaded in the materials section. **Please make sure you prepare with the material that is relevant to your year group.**

## Age requirements:

**Primary:** Upto 11 years (**Less than 12 as of 2/10/23**)

**Secondary:** 12-16 years (**Less than 17 as of 2/10/23**)

## GC Link:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/NjlyMjE5MTQwMzcx?cjc=ql6hxha>

**GC code:** ql6hxha

For further details on competition procedures please check:

<https://www.elfdubai.org/en/readers-cup-competition>



## Preliminary Round

## 20th September 2023