

Standardised Assessments, May 2021.
Creagh NS

DEAR PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

As the school is required to do by the DES, Standardised Assessments will be administered in the weeks starting Monday, May 17th.

Standardised Assessment Information is useful for a number of purposes:

- Looked at nationally the results give an indication of Literacy and Numeracy standards across the country.
- They form part of the suite of Assessments to compare Irish children's competencies with other countries.
- Within each school the results can be used to compare average class scores with previous years and more importantly inform future teaching strategies and target support for pupils in need of additional teaching and help teachers to ensure that programmes of learning in Literacy and Numeracy are tailored to meet the needs of individual pupils/class groups
- As schools did not gather data from testing in 2020, the data from 2021 will be particularly helpful for decision making about teaching and learning for the coming year at class and whole-school level

This year –**more than ever**- it is important to realize that these assessments are just a snapshot in time of a child's performance. Ongoing observation, classwork and homework, project work/portfolios are equally as important in informing parents and teachers of a child's progress and they better represent all aspects of development.

Finally the Department of Education '***acknowledges that the school closures have had a significant impact on teaching and learning, which may be reflected in the standardised test results for primary schools this year***'