



Dear VBA Family,

Beginning Tuesday, April 2, VBA students in Kindergarten through Grade 11 will be taking the Iowa Assessments and the Cognitive Abilities Test. It is very important that students be here on time each morning. The Iowa Assessments help determine how students are performing on nationwide standards. These assessments measure achievement in several important content areas including Reading, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The CogAt measures students' verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning abilities and assists educators and parents in determining effective instructional strategies.

There are several things that you can do to help your child prepare for testing week. You can help your student do his or her best by considering these tips.

- Make sure that your student is in school and on time on test days. Reschedule dentist appointments and other out-of-school time on non-testing days. School begins at 8:05.
- Testing schedule:
 - Kindergarten: Tuesday-Friday
 - Grades 1-6: Tuesday-Friday
 - Grades 7-11: Tuesday-Thursday
- Make sure your student gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast before each day of testing.
- Your student may come home with a practice test. Review the test with your child and answer any questions.
- Remind your student that these tests are only one measure of what he or she has learned. Emphasize that you have confidence in his or her ability to do the best job possible.
- Remind your student to listen to the directions and read each question carefully during testing. Encourage your student to ask the teacher for help if he or she does not understand the directions.
- Make sure your student has an ample supply of No. 2 pencils. This type of pencil is required for the answer documents in standardized testing.
- Make sure your student brings a water bottle and has a healthy snack each day. Breaks are built into the testing schedule.

Once again, I would like to emphasize the importance of having all students on time and present for testing next week. Administration has been using test results to address learning gaps due to the COVID gap. The results of this assessment will help us determine where deficiencies may be present and how we can continue to close that gap.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. It is a joy and privilege to serve our VBA families.

Chris Jones
Head of School
Victory Baptist Academy