

Stanford 10 Achievement Test Series

Dear Saint Francis of Assisi families,

This year all the schools in the Archdiocese of Boston will be assessing students in grades 1-8 using an Achievement test called the Stanford Achievement test. During the week of March 15th students will be taking multiple choice practice tests for 15 minutes per day in the classrooms to prepare for these assessments. During the week of March 22nd the students will be completing the assessments for about 90 minutes of each class day.

What is the Purpose of taking the Stanford Achievement Test?

The Stanford Achievement Test Series is used to measure students' school achievement in reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. This 10th Edition of the test is aligned with current curriculum trends and will provide information for parents, teachers, and administrators about the concepts and skills that students have achieved. This will help teachers and administrators make important decisions about curriculum and teaching practices.

What are some of the Special Features of the Stanford Achievement Test?

- Full color- friendly test layout
- Emphasis on thinking skills
- Alignment with National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) for assessing reading
- Reading selections commissioned by published authors
- Emphasis on the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards and principles for assessing math

What can families do to help students during assessment week?

First, be aware that your child's classroom routine will be slightly different than usual. Some children react differently to a change in routine. Classroom teachers will be working hard to make sure that all students feel at ease and relaxed about taking the assessments. Students often enjoy taking these assessments to "show what they know." Please make sure that your child is well rested, arrives to school on time, and has a nutritious breakfast. Statistics have shown that students who are well fed perform better in school. Thank you for your cooperation!

If you have any questions about the Stanford Achievement test you may find more information on the following websites:

<http://www.docstoc.com/docs/16498827/Archdiocese-of-Boston-Schools-Turns-to-Pearson-for-Powerful-Assessments-to-Support-Tradition-of-Academic-Excellence>

<http://thejournal.com/Articles/2009/11/20/Boston-Catholic-Schools-Introduce-2-Comprehensive-Assessments.aspx>

