



# ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

637 Orange Center Road • Orange, CT 06477

October 18, 2023

Dear Parents of 3rd, 5th, and Newly Enrolled 4th and 6th Graders,

During the week of October 23rd, your child will take the Cognitive Ability Test (CogAT)- an assessment that measures three areas of learned reasoning and problem-solving skills: verbal reasoning (vocabulary and word usage), quantitative reasoning (mathematical concepts), and nonverbal reasoning (visual and spatial shapes and figures). Each of the three CogAT sub-tests will take approximately 45-60 minutes to assess.

While the CogAT cannot measure factors such as effort, attention, motivation, or work habits (all of which contribute to school achievement), it can provide a rich source of information about the best way to support your child's learning.

Students will take a practice test prior to the administration of the actual assessment to familiarize themselves with the testing format. These practice tests will be sent home so you can see what they are like. Please know that ***there is no formal preparation necessary for students prior to testing.***

Finally, you will receive your child's test results approximately 8-10 weeks after test administration along with a [CogAT Guide for Parents](#) to assist you to better understand the assessment and to help you interpret your child's scores.

As always, if you have any questions about any portion of the CogAT and/or your child's test results when you receive them, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's principal.

Sincerely,

*Evelyn Russo*

Evelyn Russo, Ph.D.  
Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Personnel  
Orange Public Schools