



Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is intended to help you understand your child's CAT-4 results.

VJM uses the *Canadian Achievement Tests* (4th edition) for students in grade 7 in the following basic skill areas; reading, language, spelling, and mathematics. In addition to other measures, the CAT-4 allows the school to track the student's progress over time. Individual students or groups of students can be compared to other students in the same school, school district, across the western provinces, and nationally.

The Parent Report provides detailed information on your child's individual strengths and needs in specific components of reading, writing and mathematics, as well as comparisons to a sample of other students across Canada. Your child's strengths and needs are categorized into areas where they have met the curricular expectations (Strengths) and areas where they have not met expectations (Needs) at the time the test was administered (September-October). The bottom section of the Parent Report provides comparisons to other students from across Canada. These comparisons are expressed as stanines. Stanines are a ranking system from 1–9 where higher scores mean better performance, with the majority of children ranking between 3 and 7. More detailed information on the meaning of these scores may be obtained on the Canadian Test Centre website:

<http://www.canadiantestcentre.com/Parents/InformationForParents.asp>

It is important to be aware that a child might meet many of the expectations in some or all of these areas while being at or below average in comparison to other students across Canada. Comparisons with students from other provinces can be impacted by many factors including differences in what is being taught. From an instructional perspective, the description of your child's Strengths and Needs provides us with the richest and most relevant information.

The CAT-4 is one of many sources of information we use to improve the quality of your child's instruction. Please contact the school if you have any questions about the results included in the Parent Report.

Thank You