



Dear Parents:

Each spring, St. John's third through eighth graders take the CTP (Comprehensive Testing Program), a standardized assessment published by Education Records Bureau (ERB). **Middle School students will take the CTP Online tests Tuesday, March 24 – Thursday, March 26.** Please avoid scheduling appointments for your child on testing days. If your child is ill, make-up testing will be held Friday, March 27, or on another date scheduled by the school. Students who arrive after a test administration has begun are not permitted to interrupt the test setting and must take the missed subtest(s) in a make-up setting.

### **Preparation**

This week, your child will participate in CTP preparation during Community or Flex periods, and there are two tasks to complete at home. (Eighth graders completed their preparation last week.)

**AT HOME – iOS update:** Update your child's iPad to the most recent version possible.

- Connect the iPad to a charger.
- Back up the iPad.
- Go to Settings > General > Software Update.
- If you see the message, "Your software is up to date," no action is required.
- If an update is listed as available, select *Download and Install* and follow the instructions.

**AT HOME – ERB CTP Online app:** Each student must confirm he or she has an updated version of the ERB CTP Online app on the iPad.

- Students who took CTP online last year will check the app store to confirm they have the latest version.
- Students who are new to St. John's this year will download the app. If you have "Ask to Buy" turned on, it may be necessary for you to temporarily turn it off to download the app.

**AT SCHOOL – Practice testing:** In class, we will review testing procedures and app functions with students. They will complete practice tests and familiarize themselves with navigating the ERB CTP Online app.

## **Perspective**

Help your child place the standardized testing experience in perspective by sharing the reasons we test:

- to assess how we're doing as a school
- to monitor students' growth in achievement over time
- to measure the achievement of our students as compared to students at similar schools

During testing, we recommend:

- getting a good night's sleep each night
- eating a healthy breakfast that includes protein and complex carbohydrates
- remaining positive about the testing experience and practicing relaxation techniques
- arriving at school on time
- taking a book to school to read in the testing room upon completion of tests

## **Accommodations**

If we have documentation on file for your child that recommends the accommodation of test administration in an extended-time setting, you should have received an email from me asking for your preference for accommodations for your child. Please reply to that email to express your preference for your child.

If you have questions about our standardized testing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Amy Fulmer

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