

*St Levan Primary School*  
*where all children SHINE...for life*

**The Bottoms, St. Levan, Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 6HD**  
**Tel: 01736 810486**



14<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**Year Three / Four: Dyslexia Screening Test - Junior (DST-J)**

Dear Parents

I am writing to you about an assessment known as the Dyslexia Screening Test - Junior (DST-J). Your child may have completed the DST-J with me at the end of Year Two. However, it can be useful to do this assessment again and we are sending you this letter because we think it would be helpful in identifying how best to support your child with reading/writing.

The DST-J is a method of checking whether a child is displaying signs of having dyslexia or related problems in reading. The DST-J is not a formal test, and each part of the DST-J is designed to be fun and not at all stressful. It takes about half an hour per child and has four sections, which cover a range of early skills, including the child's knowledge, language skills, speed, balance and hand-eye skills. By looking at a range of skills, we find strengths as well as areas of weakness, and this can be very helpful when considering how to help your child learn as well as possible. From the results of the DST-J, we can also check whether or not your child might have subtle hearing problems or memory problems. These difficulties can make it harder for children to learn to read. It is not a means of labelling children but of identifying ways of supporting them more appropriately.

The short tests also allow us to check whether your child is likely to show signs of dyslexia. If there is any history of difficulties with learning to read in your immediate family (yourself, your spouse, your child's brothers or sisters), it would be useful if you could note this down at the bottom of the form.

Please complete the attached permission form and return it to school. This is particularly important if you would prefer your child not to take part because, if we do not hear from you, we shall assume that you are happy for us to proceed.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Jessica Ferguson

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Name of child \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child to take part OR I would prefer if my child did not take part

If there is any history of reading problems in the family, please give details below:

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