



Established 1883

# Whitney Institute Middle School

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Dear Parents:

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, all students will sit exams in language arts and mathematics. M1 and M2 students will sit Progression Tests, and M3 students Checkpoint tests. These exams will help to identify strengths and weaknesses, provide information for areas of concentration, and assist in our transition to the Cambridge curriculum in September 2010. Identified items will be used for Quarter 3 grading. These items are those which have been taught from Primary 2 until the current grade level.

The formats of the exams are as follows:

## Mathematics

The papers comprise multiple and constructed responses totaling 100 marks overall. Questions demand a variety of skills, including recall of information of mathematical knowledge from Primary 2 to Middle Level 3. The tested objectives are attached.

- Parents please ensure your child has a calculator. In preparation for the exams, mathematics teachers will collect all calculators on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

M1 & M2 – Progression Tests

- Paper 1 (45): **NO** calculators
- Paper 2 (45): Calculators allowed
- Paper 3 (15): Mental Math; **NO** calculators

M3 – Checkpoint Test

- Paper 1 (45): **NO** calculators
- Paper 2 (45): Calculators allowed

## English Language Arts

M1 – M3 students will sit a formative assessment using the format for the Cambridge Progression and Checkpoint tests. The format for all year levels is as below:

*Paper 1 (60 Minutes)*

*Section 1: Comprehension*

Short answers

100 word summary of a passage

*Section 2: Writing*

Plan

Formal report of an accident, following specific criteria

Points awarded for text structure, sentence structure, audience and purpose

*Paper 2 (60 Minutes)*

*Section 1: Reading Comprehension*

Long answer comprehension questions

*Section 2: Writing*

Write a story.

Consider setting, plot, character,