What is the CCAT?

- The Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT) is a test of learning potential.
• The CCAT assesses factors that are associated with learning in school.
The CCAT does not test the curriculum taught in the classroom. Rather, it measures reasoning skills and problem-solving abilities which are common to a number of subject areas.
• The CCAT is divided into three separate sections.

• Each section measures a student’s ability to reason using a particular type of abilities.
These abilities include:

• Verbal (words)
• Quantitative (numerical)
• Nonverbal (spatial)
The **verbal** section assesses a student’s understanding of the structure of language and relationships between words. It measures the ability to use language for reasoning tasks.
• The **quantitative** area measures the student’s abilities for reasoning and problem solving using numbers and mathematical concepts.
Questions in the nonverbal section contain diagrams and pictures. This section assesses a student’s ability to reason and problem solve independent of language.
• Results of the CCAT also contain a composite score, combining verbal, quantitative and non-verbal abilities. This score indicates the scope and strength of a student’s overall cognitive ability for learning.
When will my child participate in the CCAT testing?

- Students in the Peel District School Board are administered the CCAT in November of their grade four year.
How much time will it take?

- The CCAT is a timed group test and is administered by the classroom teacher. It takes a total of 90 minutes to complete and is usually conducted over three separate sessions.
Will I be informed of my child’s results?

• Yes, you will receive written communication of your child’s results. The summary profile will also include an explanation of the scores and what they suggest regarding your child’s learning profile.
How are the CCAT results used?

- As part of the overall learning profile of students to understand and respond to individual strengths and needs.
- As an initial screening for students who may have needs requiring enhancements to the curriculum.
- As additional information for parents, teachers and students that may help in making future educational choices and decisions.
How can I help my child prepare for the CCAT?

• Students do not need to prepare for the CCAT. Teachers will be encouraging students to do their best and parents can reinforce that at home.

• As always, you can help by ensuring your child is well rested and has had a healthy breakfast.