

BALLYBANE N.S. PREDICTION

- 1 Write the five years: **180, 188, 196, 204, 212**.
- 2 Add them: **$180 + 188 + 196 + 204 + 212 = 980$** .
- 3 Mean prediction: **980** divided by 5 = **196**.
- 4 Yearly step is **+8**, so step prediction is **$212 + 8 = 220$** .
- 5 The steady rise means next year should be higher than **212**.

WARM-UP

Complete the symmetrical prediction grid using the enrolment sets below.

1. Write 210, 216, 220, 226, 230 along the top row and add the step prediction 234 in the next-year cell
2. Write 180, 188, 196, 204, 212 along the middle row and add the mean prediction 196 in its next-year cell
3. Write 250, 245, 240, 235, 230 along the bottom row and add the step prediction 225 in its next-year cell

PRACTICE

- 1 Our school enrolments for five years were **163**, **169**, **175**, **181** and **187**. Use the yearly step to predict next year's number.
- 2 Ballybane N.S. recorded **264**, **272**, **280**, **288** and **296** pupils. What does the mean method predict for next year?
- 3 A small classroom school had **150**, **160**, **170**, **180** and **190** on roll. Predict next year using the steady yearly step.
- 4 Riverside N.S. numbers wobbled **300**, **310**, **305**, **315**, **320**. Find the mean prediction for the following year.

? ALWAYS, SOMETIMES, NEVER

Always, sometimes or never true? Write A, S or N.

- a. A steadily rising enrolment trend means next year's number will be higher than this year's.
- b. The mean of the past five years is the best prediction of a school's next enrolment.
- c. If enrolments rise by the same amount each year the step method gives a confident prediction.
- d. A wobbling up-and-down pattern still lets the year-to-year step give a sure next-year figure.