

2 May 2017

Dear Parents/carers

Your child will complete their Key Stage 1 national curriculum tests (SATs) for reading and maths during May. The Department for Education (DfE) states that all Year 2 children across the country must complete these SATs during this time period. The results of the tests are used by the class teacher to inform their assessment of each child's attainment at the end of the academic year; these teacher assessment results are then reported to the DfE. Writing is not assessed through a test, just through teacher assessment.

At Branfil, we aim to keep the SATs very low key and we ensure that the children are well prepared through practicing questions of a similar format throughout the year. We therefore hope that the children will not be worried about the tests; many may not even be aware that they are completing them! Please do let the class teacher know if your child appears worried by the tests so they can offer reassurance.

With regard to administering the tests, schools are provided with clear guidance about what we are allowed to do to support pupils during the tests. We ensure that all adults involved are trained and I oversee the administration of the tests. The Local Authority may choose to monitor how the tests are administered at some point during this period.

During the tests children are able to take a break if necessary and the test can be stopped at the teacher's discretion and continued at another time. Children with specific needs may need additional arrangements so that they can take part in the tests e.g. adult readers for papers other than the reading test. Access arrangements may also be needed; these are adjustments that can be made to support pupils and they must be based primarily on normal classroom practice.

In order to aid our planning, please let your child's class teacher know if you have any planned absences during May. If you have any questions about SATs then please ask your child's class teacher or Miss O'Toole (Year Leader); alternatively you can speak to me or Mrs Fisk in the playground before or after school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs N Sansom

Headteacher