



Abbots Avenue
Hanham
Bristol
BS15 3PN

Tel: 01454 862510
samuelwhites@hanhamprimaryfederation.org
www.samuelwhitesinfantschool.org

Headteacher:
Mrs Sue Leyden

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Dear Y2 parents and carers,

You will be aware that all Y2 and Y6 children have to take part in national tests (SATs). For Y6 children, these tests take place on a set day right across the country, for children in Y2 the timing is more flexible and means that the tests can be administered any time during May.

Y2 and Y6 SATs have been carried out for many years in schools although this year is the first year that children in these year groups will be tested against the new curriculum which is more demanding.

Although these tests are statutory, for children in Y2 the tests are used only to **support** teacher judgement, and it is teacher assessment that carries the greater weight.

This year, Y2 children will do two tests in maths and two in reading. A Spelling and Grammar test was also due to take place but the Government has decided this test will not now take place as they mistakenly published the test on line several months ago. There are no set tests for writing and this is levelled by teacher on going assessment.

I would like to reassure parents that the administration of the tests is planned very carefully at Samuel White's to minimise stress to the children. They will not be called 'tests' and are referred to as 'booklets' and children in Y2 will do these tests, as far as possible, in the same way that they do their normal classroom routines. The children have already done the 'practise papers' for 2016 (these are widely available on line) and will be doing the actual papers during the last two weeks of May.

Please speak to the child's class teacher if you have any questions regarding the SATs at Y2.

Sue Leyden
Headteacher