



# Birches First School

## Believe, Grow, Succeed



1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers (Y1/Y2/Y4)

### Assessments

Following government announcements I would like to inform you of the changes within Y1/Y2/Y4 assessments.

#### Y1 Phonics

The Year 1 phonics check has been cancelled for 2021. Phonics will continue to be taught daily throughout school as a vital tool to assist with reading and writing. Please note our current Y2 cohort completed the screening check in the Autumn Term 2020 with Miss Hulme due to missing their screening check last year when they were in Year 1 (June 2020).

#### Y2 SATs

At this time of the year, we would usually be preparing to deliver our annual Year 2 SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) workshops for parents in readiness for the annual Y2 statutory assessments in May. The Department for Education have announced in recognition of the challenges posed by the pandemic to cancel the KS1 SATs tests for 2021. The aim is that with the pressures of KS1 SATs lifted, schools will have some space to address the urgent issues of educational recovery.

#### Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

The multiplication tables check (MTC) is a digital assessment intended to support teachers in ensuring that all pupils are fluent in their multiplication tables.

It enables schools to identify those pupils who may need more support with their times tables.

The MTC **will** be administered to Y4 pupils between Monday 7th June and Friday 25th June and will take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

This is an opportunity for the children to showcase their times tables skills and will be used to identify children requiring additional support. Please click on the link to access the DFE leaflet for parents for further details:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

If you would like any further information regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Miss Varricchione

Headteacher