

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

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Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

Dates for your Diary

Friday 11th July 2025

Term Dates 2024-25

September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024
Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su	Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su	Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su	Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su
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January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
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		31	
May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025
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	30		

School Holidays

INSET Days

Tutorial Day

Bank Holidays

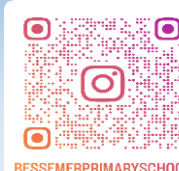
Summer Term Diary Dates:

- 13.07.25 – F@B raffle prize draw (see F@B update for details)
- 14.07.25 – Children meet their new teacher
- 15.07.25 – House winners' trips
- 16.07.25 – Year 6 production, 6pm
- 17.07.25 – Reception to Year 1 transition meeting for parents / carers, 9.15am
- 17.07.25 – Carnival, 2pm
- 18.07.25 – Year 6 Airthrill trip
- 19.07.25 – Summer Fair 12-3pm
- 21.07.25 – Year 6 graduation. 2pm
- 21.07.25 – Year 6 disco, 5.30 – 7pm
- 21.07.25 – Class parties, pm (non-uniform day except Year 6)
- 22.07.25 – Last day of term, 2pm finish (no After School Club)

Instagram

For more updates about what's going on at Bessemer and insights into our creative and practical curriculum, follow us on Instagram!

@[bessemerprimaryschool](https://www.instagram.com/bessemerprimaryschool)



BESSEMERPRIMARYSCHOOL

News and Reminders

School Data

While we assess children's progress and attainment continuously throughout their time at school, there are various points at which data is collected and shared beyond the school. These include the GLD (Good Level of Development) at the end of Reception, the phonics check in Year 1, the times table check in Year 4 and the Year 6 SATs. As a proudly inclusive school with children with a wide range of starting points and diverse needs, we know that these assessments do not reflect every child's achievements and we celebrate every child's individual progress against their own targets. However, we are also very proud of the outcomes we have achieved and are pleased to be able to share all of Bessemer's data for this year, with our data from last year and the national levels for comparison. As this year's national data is not all available yet we are using some 2024 and 2023 data for comparison, however this tends not to vary by more than around 1% each year. You will see that Bessemer data is significantly above national averages in all areas and above our own data from last year in nearly all areas. This is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of all of our wonderful teaching and support staff, and of course the hard work of the children – well done Bessemer!

	% of children achieving the expected standard		
	Bessemer 2025	Bessemer 2024	National Average 2024
GLD (end of Reception)	75%	77%	67.7%
Phonics Check (Year 1)	92%	89%	80%

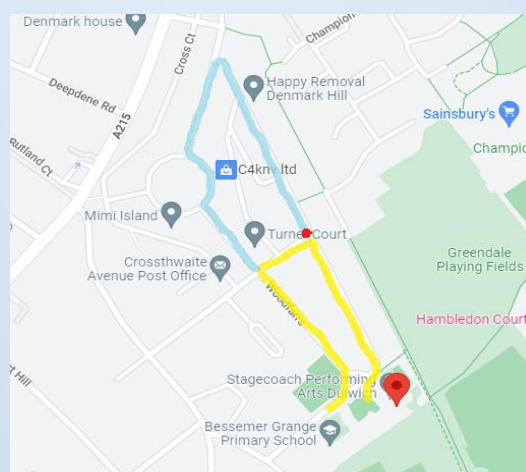
Times Table Check (Year 4)	Average Score out of 25		
	Bessemer 2025	Bessemer 2024	National Average 2024
	23.1	21.7	20.6

KS2 SATs	% of children achieving the expected standard			% of children achieving the higher standard		
	Bessemer 2025	Bessemer 2024	National 2025	Bessemer 2025	Bessemer 2024	National 2023
Reading	90%	82%	75%	68%	54%	29%
Writing	81%	77%	72%	29%	25%	13%
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar	91%	86%	73%	59%	56%	30%
Maths	88%	86%	74%	55%	48%	24%
Reading, Writing and Maths	78%	75%	62%	29%		
Science	92%	89%	82%			

Carnival

Next Thursday is our Bessemer Carnival! Children have been hard at work making props and costumes and practising their Carnival songs.

We will be setting off from the road outside the school gates at 2pm, we will parade up Woodfarrs to the circle and then back down Dylways to school. Children in Early Years will take a shorter route as shown in yellow on the map. We will then head to the field where children will perform their Carnival songs. Please come and join us on our parade and on the field and help create a Carnival atmosphere!



News and Reminders

Eid celebration

Last Friday we enjoyed a wonderful Eid celebration after school. Once again F@B and our Bessemer community brought everyone together for a really lovely event. The food was fantastic and everyone enjoyed relaxing and eating in the sunshine. Huge thanks to everyone involved!



Class Parties

All children except Year 6 will be having their class parties on Monday 21st. Children can wear their own clothes to school on this day. Please ask your child or their teacher about donations of food and drink for the parties. Please remember we do not serve pork products, anything containing nuts, un-cut grapes or fizzy drinks.

As Year 6 have their graduation on Monday 21st they will not be having class parties and still need to wear their uniform to school that day. However, they have their disco that evening, so they still have the chance to get dressed up!

Year 6 Fun!

As they approach the end of their time at Bessemer, the Year 6 children have been hard at work making memories! This week they made s'mores in the nature garden:



News and Reminders

House Winners

This term's Gem House winners are **Diamonds!** All the children in Diamonds will be celebrating with a trip to the park on Tuesday. If your child is in Diamonds, please give permission for this on Parentmail.

Inclusion Hub Website Update

We're pleased to let you know that the Inclusion Hub on our website has recently been updated. We encourage all parents and carers to take a moment to explore the site and share any feedback - email lknight@gemfed.co.uk If there is anything you feel should be added or information you'd find helpful; we'd love to hear from you.

As part of the update, we've added two new tabs: **Transition** and **Social Stories/Scripts**. Each of the original sections has also been refreshed, with new resources and attachments – particularly in the **FAQs** section. Your input is incredibly valuable in helping us ensure the Inclusion Hub remains a helpful and relevant resource for our school community.



Access the inclusion hub here: <https://www.thegemfederation.co.uk/bessemer-primary/learning-hub/our-curriculum/send/>

Family Support

Please use this link to see the Mental Health Support Team's Summer newsletter, containing details of activities for children and support for teenagers and adults:

<https://www.thegemfederation.co.uk/bessemer-primary/learning-hub/our-curriculum/send/social-emotional-and-mental-health?stage=Stage>

Use this link to find out more about Southwark's Summer of Food and Fun, providing free meals and childcare over the summer to eligible families:

https://www.eequ.org/southwarkfoodandfun?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

Find out about grants to help buy secondary school uniform here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/financial-support-school-age-children/school-uniform-grants>

There are also some new flyers at the end of the newsletter, please have a look.

Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core value of being *Connected to the Community* and *Creative and Practical*

This week children from Nursery to Year 6 took part in sports days. Everyone had a great time, taking part in a range of activities and enjoying a picnic lunch on the field with family and friends. Thank you to everyone who came to join us and a huge well done to Jack and Fiona for organising brilliant events! The names of the Key Stage One event winners are on the celebrations page of this newsletter. As the Key Stage Two event was cut very slightly short due to the high temperature and lack of shade on the field we will be running the final event, the relay race, in school next week and will then share the list of all the KS2 event winners in next week's newsletter. For now, here are some photos of the three sports days:



Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core value of being *Connected to the Community* and *Creative and Practical*



Word of the Week

Word of the Week is all about developing children's vocabularies by increasing the number of words they know and use. Making these challenging words part of their vocabulary improves children's speaking and listening, reading and writing skills.

The Word of the Week next week is **explode**. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and try using it in different ways in sentences.

Try to use the word of the week as much as possible so that it becomes part of your child's vocabulary. Children will receive gems in school for using the word in their speech and writing and for explaining its meaning and origin.

F@B update - very BIG thank yous!

So many people in our community give their time to support the school and to bring us all together and celebrate the wider Bessemer family.

THANK YOU ALL!

Eid Celebration

We want to thank the amazing Eid celebration volunteers and cooks. They put in hours of work, cooked huge pans of biryani, daal, curry, jollof, puff-puff and jerk chicken! And it all sold in about an hour 😊 Thank you Amie, Luba, Marzya, Yandire, Amina, Elizabeth, Kerefah, Nafisah, Nikki and Nicola!

And thank you to our bake sale stall volunteers Anna and Beth, plus the bakers of some very delicious Eid celebration cakes.

We raised an amazing £600!

Sports day treats!

A massive thanks also to Anna B for her amazing salad fundraiser for the school and thank you to all the bakers again. Those cakes were delicious!

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Online Gaming and Neurodivergence:

In April, Internet Matters, in partnership with Roblox, published a report of their study about neurodivergent young people's relationships to online gaming.

The report found that neurodivergent young people spend a lot of time playing online games: 93% play Roblox, over 9 in 10 are playing video games with other people online, over 9 in 10 are playing video games by themselves offline and more than 4 in 5 are making their own content online, e.g. livestreaming themselves as they game.

They found that there were lots of benefits for young people from gaming online (it makes them happy, improves communication and they make friends online), and that most young people had an awareness of online safety and how to get help. The findings helped Internet Matters and Roblox find better ways to support young people and their carers to stay safe while gaming online.

Here are some short videos, aimed at young people who are neurodivergent, to help understand how to stay safe online:

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/AOXJJN-m4Yg>

A more detailed summary, and the full report, can be found at:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/research/neurodivergent-young-peoples-experience-video-games/>





Celebrations!



KS1 Sports Day Event Winners

	Javelin	Long distance run	Target throw	Standing long jump	Sprint	Speed Bounce	Best Effort (throughout The day)
1ST	Safiyatu	James	Samuel	Alden		Rudy	Atreen Maya
1JM	Isaac	Nickell	Gabriel	Isaac		Ben	Abigail Olivia
1NS	T'mari	Marlow	Ava	Liam	Arlo S (yr 1 winner)	Louie	Dylan Ava
2SD	Fred	Arabella	Jolyon	Jeremiah		Jolyon	Georgios Jennyfer
2LT	Teo	Eve	Jasper	Ruona	Josiah (yr 2 winner)	Josiah	Lucy Edward

Look out for the KS2 winners next week!



Have a great weekend!

Elizabeth



Sports Focus Camps at Bessemer

We are excited to announce that Sports Focus will be running summer camp at Bessemer for 5 weeks!

Our camps are designed to engage, entertain, and inspire - providing children with a variety of fun, active, and inclusive experiences throughout the day.

With a mix of sports, games, and creative activities, there's something for every child to enjoy ✨

To book spaces please click the link below;

<https://sports-focus-coaching.classforkids.io/camp/160>

If you have any questions or would like more information, please get in touch.

Email: bookings@sportsfocusuk.co.uk

Phone: 07946 007 937

Website: www.sportsfocusuk.co.uk

We can't wait to welcome your child/children to camp this summer, where they'll stay active, build confidence, and make great memories.

Here are some quotes from Bessemer pupils and parents who have attended before



"Best camp ever, lots of fun stuff every day and sometimes we get ice lollies to take home"

"My children have loved their time spent at your holiday camp. They were made to feel very welcome by all the lovely staff. They loved the activities- the Olympic games and seed planting especially.

Thank you once again, we will be back in the future!"

*"Hi Sports Focus Coaching Team,
My son had a great week with your team at camp. He loved playing a lot of games and sport activities, such as dodgeball, football, bench ball, nerf guns, and infinity tag. He liked Coach Noah and Coach Max. He made many friends from the camp.
The Coaching Team is highly professional and motivated. I would be very grateful to book this camp for my son next time."*

Camp is subject to us achieving a minimum number of children signing up each day (18) If this number is not achieved for more than 3 consecutive days, we won't be able to run and will provide families with 5-7 days' notice and offer full refunds/credit. Our intention is to run for every day we advertise and provide as much notice as possible if a camp can't go ahead to not inconvenience those families who have signed up.

From SSFA, providers of Bessemer's after school football clubs:



SSFA

SOCCER CAMP

with BESSEMER GRANGE
PRIMARY AFTERSCHOOL
COACHES

FOR BOYS & GIRLS
AGES 5-11

CAMP 1
Week 1
Jul 28-Aug 1
Week 2
Aug 4-Aug 8

CAMP 2
Week 1
Aug 26-Aug 29
Week 2
(Inset Days)
Sep 1-Sep 2

£30
Per Child
Per Day

FROM
9 AM TO 3 PM

REGISTER NOW!

Msg or WhatsApp
07522425931
Peckham Rye Park
(Colyton/Homestall Road
entrance).

• BIRTHDAY PARTIES
• SATURDAY FOOTBALL
SESSIONS



From Lighthouse, the company that runs the popular Drama and LAMDA after school club providers at Bessemer:

A photograph of four children (two boys and two girls) in a dance studio, striking a playful pose. They are wearing casual clothing: a blue t-shirt and black shorts for the boy on the far left, a yellow tank top and black shorts for the girl next to him, a pink tank top and black shorts for the girl next to her, and a teal tank top and black shorts for the girl on the far right. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**Summer
Camp
2025**

Book Now!

BUGSY MALONE
Monday 4th – Friday 8th
August 2025
Email: info@lighthousessc.org
Address: Hatcham House
(opposite the fire station)
367 Queens Road, London, SE14 5HD

LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOL OF SPEECH, DRAMA AND COMMUNICATION



45 mins of
non stop fun!



1 - 7 Years

Summer athletics track sessions: running,
jumping & throwing fun & games!

JULY

Thurs 24th & Fri 25th

AUGUST

Wed 27th - Fri 29th

Dulwich College Sports Club, Athletics Track,
London, SE21 7LE



SMCDERMOTT@MINIATHLETICS.COM



07811787153



£22 per
day



7 - 10 Years

9:30am - 12:30pm

Summer athletics workshops: activities,
technique training & games!

JULY

Thurs 24th & Fri 25th

AUGUST

Wed 27th - Fri 29th

Dulwich College Sports Club, Athletics Track,
London, SE21 7LE



SMCDERMOTT@MINIATHLETICS.COM



07811787153

Book now for
Holiday Kids Club

Available from
7th July –
24th August
2025



Call 020 8613 6500

Swimming
Diving
Day Camp
Basketball



Scan QR code to book



jaggsportsclub.co.uk

7th July –
24th August

A family membership
extends to two adults
and all children under
18 years old, living in
one household.

Four weeks: £125
Seven weeks: £195
No joining fee!



Summer Family
Membership

is back!

Call us today on

020 8613 6500

to join.



jagssportsclub.co.uk



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Surrey Cricket Foundation, England Cricket Board and Southwark Council would like to offer your Child an opportunity to be a part of a regular cricket programme this summer at Burgess Park - All Stars & Dynamos offers children the chance to learn new skills, make new friends, connect communities and is **fully funded** by Surrey Cricket Foundation & supported by Southwark Council and as such will be **FREE** to all participants.

Important – Use the DISCOUNT PROMO CODE from the table below.

The All Stars Cricket is an entry level national programme aimed at 5–8 year olds. The sessions run every Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am at Burgess Park, SE5 0RJ for 4 weeks from 31st July -21st August.

Each child signed up for All Stars will receive a personalised t-shirt

The Dynamos Cricket is aimed at 9–11 year olds. The sessions run every Thursday 11:15am-12:15pm at Burgess Park, SE5 0RJ for 4 weeks from 31st July -21st August.

Each child signed up for Dynamos will receive a personalised t-shirt.

To register click one of the links below and use the DISCOUNT PROMO CODE when booking your place.

It is important you do not share this link as there are only a select number of places available.

All Stars Burgess Park 31 st July -21 st August 10:00am-11:00am	Dynamos Burgess Park 31 st July -21 st August 11:15am-12:15pm
Sign up link	Sign up link
All Stars PROMO CODE: 7RW6T	Dynamos PROMO CODE: 8SBYZ

Yours Sincerely,

Alex Hughes - ajhughes@surreyccricket.com / 07756 269946
Surrey Cricket Foundation,
Kia Oval, London, SE11 5SS



SURREY
CRICKET
FOUNDATION





**FREE
YEAR 6**



LITTLE FISH THEATRE SUMMER PROGRAMME

FOR SOUTHWARK CHILDREN

28TH JULY - 8TH AUG

2025 (MON-FRI)

AT RYE OAK PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO
BOOK A PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD
EMAIL: INFO@LITTLEFISHTHEATRE.CO.UK



TO FILL IN A BOOKING FORM
CLICK THE LINK BELOW OR
SCAN THE QR CODE

<https://bit.ly/413nERW>



DRAMA:

Music



FREE SUMMER CREATIVE PROGRAMME

ARE YOU AGED 11-16?

LOVE ARTS AND MUSIC?

LIVE IN SOUTHWARK?

**JOIN US THIS SUMMER TO MEET
ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS, GET
CREATIVE, AND CONNECT WITH
OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE!**

Bold Tendencies, a not for profit arts organisation, is working with **The Nest**, mental health and wellbeing hub, for the third year; to deliver a series of seven, free creative and wellbeing sessions.

When: Every Friday, 11 - 3pm
Friday 25 July - Friday 29 August

Where: Bold Tendencies, Multi-storey Car
Park, Rye Lane, Peckham, SE15 4ST

The programme is free.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

**BOLD
TENDENCIES**

**SCAN FOR
MORE INFO**



community@boldtendencies.com

THE NEST



SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITY CAMPS 2025! IN SOUTHWARK

**FREE FOR
AGES 4-16***

* Subject to eligibility.
Families with younger
siblings welcome



**SPRING
HOLIDAY CLUB**

**JUL 28th - AUG 21st
MON-THURS, 10am-2pm**

Each centre will focus on a
unique theme, such as

- ♥ Sewing
- ♥ Music
- ♥ Dancing
- ♥ Sports
- ♥ Drama
- ♥ Poetry
- ♥ Creative Writing
- ♥ Arts and crafts
- ♥ Day trips

Every day
brings
something
new and
exciting!

**MEAL &
SNACKS
PROVIDED**

Please bring a
water bottle



**STAY AND
PLAY**

Parents must remain
with children at all
times

LOCATIONS

- St Giles Parish Hall - 161 Benhill Rd, London SE5 7LL
- Lettsom Hall - Vestry Road SE58PQ
- St Paul's Church - Lorrimore Square, London SE17 3QU
- St. George's CofE Primary School - Coleman Road, SE57TF
- Samuel Lewis - Samuel Lewis Trust Estate, Warner Rd, SE5 9LX
- Dawsons's Heights - SE22 0PN
- United Reformed Church, Lovewalk (11-16s only) - SE5 8AE



ELIGIBILITY:

SPACES AVAILABLE FOR ALL!

FREE for HAF eligible children aged 4-16. Other children may be able to access a free place at our discretion, depending on circumstances.

A small charge of £10 per day may apply for those who do not fall into our eligibility criteria

REGISTRATION

We use a central booking system for all our Holiday activity bookings. This gives you the option of booking for all or some of the dates that you want to attend.



Scan QR Code or visit
eequ.org/spring to
register your
child/children.

Funded by:



Please contact us if you have any challenges completing your registration. 07901617189 holidayclub@springcommunityhub.org.uk

Boppin' bunnies
Live Music for Little Ones



SUMMER SHOW



**FRIDAY
22ND AUGUST**

Bermondsey Village Hall, Kirby Grove,
London SE1 3TD

Live Music, Instruments, Dancing &
Singing for families with babies & toddlers!

Showtime: 10:30am

Tickets: £11 per child - £5.50 for siblings

Book in advance: www.boppinbunnies.co.uk/shows



@BoppinBunnies



@boppinbunnies



@Boppinbunnies

Denmark Hill Mobile Recycling Centre



Saturday 12 July, 10:00am - 1:00pm
Basingdon Way, SE5 8HT

We're bringing a recycling centre to your doorstep!

Drop swap or take unwanted items to give them a new lease of life.

Household items we accept:

- Books
- Household batteries and vapes
- CD's and DVDs
- Clothes and shoes
- Light bulbs
- Paint
- Small electricals
- Toys



SCAN ME

Bring only what you can carry, no cars will be allowed

Find out what you can bring by scanning the QR code or at
<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/southwark-presents/denmark-hill-mobile-recycling-centre>



AutismSupportTeam@
Southwark.gov.uk

AUTISM SUPPORT TEAM TRAINING: FOR PARENT/CARER

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR AUTISTIC CHILD TO DEVELOP TOILETING SKILLS

In partnership with the Autism Education Trust (AET) we are offering Developing Toileting in the Early Years Training for Parent + Carers of autistic children.

Aims:

- To develop knowledge of how to support autistic children to achieve toileting independence.
- To understand the importance of working with others to support autistic children to develop independent toileting skills

Learning objectives:

- Understand how autism can impact on children developing independent toileting skills.
- Understand the importance of all adults working together to support the development of **independent** toileting skills.
- Consider how to remove barriers to developing toileting skills and how to make reasonable adjustments to support further toileting independence.

Free Training

In Person Dates:

- **25th July 10 – 12 pm In Person** Training Address: 1st Place Children + Family Hub 12 Chumleigh Street SE5 0RN
Please check in at the Reception Desk.

Online Dates:

- **28th July 2pm – 4pm**
- **6th August 1pm – 3pm**
- **14th August 3pm – 5pm**

Register [here](#)

 **FREE EVENT**



DYSLEXIA FAIR 2025

UNDERSTANDING
TODAY
~

SHAPING
TOMORROW

www.bellhouse.co.uk



REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER 1157339

SUPPORT

**DYSLEXIA
FAIR**

RESOURCES

**27th September
10am - 4pm**

AWARENESS