

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Sarah Beard

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Telephone: 020 7274 2520

Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

Dates for your Diary

Friday 16th May 2025

Term Dates 2024-25

September 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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30	31					

January 2025						
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27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025						
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March 2025						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2025						
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28	29	30				

May 2025						
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June 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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July 2025						
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28	29	30	31			

August 2025						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

School Holidays

INSET Days

Tutorial Day

Bank Holidays

This Year's Class Assembly Dates

Class assemblies take place at 9.15 am on Thursday mornings and last for about 15 minutes. Parents and carers are invited to come along and watch their children present their learning from their half termly topic.

Years 1,2 and 3		Years 4,5 and 6	
Thursday 21 st November	1NS	Thursday 28 th November	5FM
Thursday 30 th January	3/4BW	Thursday 6 th February	6LM
Thursday 13 th February	2SD	Thursday 13 th March	6KL
Thursday 20 th March	2LT	Thursday 27 th March	4BG
Thursday 3 rd April	3LS	Thursday 8 th May	5RS
Thursday 15 th May		Thursday 22 nd May	4GS
Thursday 5 th June	1ST	Thursday 12 th June	6SB
Thursday 19 th June	3CB	Thursday 26 th June	5OF
Thursday 3 rd July	1JM		

Dates for your Diary

Summer Term Diary Dates:

23.05.25 – Author visit for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, book stall after school
04.06.25 – Author visit for Years 3 and 4, book signing after school
10.06.25 – Year 4 cricket festival at Ruskin Park
17.06.25 – Inclusion drop in coffee morning, 9am
18.06.25 – Reception Dinosaurs and fossils workshop in school
18.06.25 – Years 1 and 2 trip to The Barbican
19.06.25 – Year 1 trip to the Science Museum
24.06.25 – New Reception parents' meeting, 9.15am
03.07.25 – Year 6 violin concerts for parents / carers
08.07.25 – Nursery sports day, 9-10am
09.07.25 – Reception and KS1 sports day, Reception am only, KS1 all day
10.07.25 – KS2 sports day, all day
11.07.25 – New Reception starters' picnic for children and parents / carers, 12-1 in the nature garden
16.07.25 – Year 6 production, 6pm
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 (non-uniform day except Year 6)
22.07.25 – Last day of term, 2pm finish (no After School Club)

Summer Term Library Visits

Each term every class has the opportunity to visit Grove Vale library. Children spend some time exploring the library, younger children often have a story session and then all children borrow a book to bring back to school with them. Library visits take place between 10.20 and 11.00 am, if you are able to accompany your child's class on their library visit please speak to their class teacher.

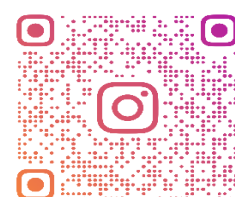
Thursday 24 th April	4GS	Thursday 5 th June	6LM
Friday 25 th April	4BG	Friday 6 th June	6KL
Thursday 1 st May	3/4 BW	Thursday 12 th June	6SB
Friday 2 nd May	5RS	Friday 13 th June	1JM
Thursday 8 th May	5FM	Thursday 19 th June	Moonbeam
Friday 9 th May	5OF	Friday 20 th June	1ST
Thursday 15 th May	3LS	Thursday 26 th June	1NS
Friday 16 th May	2LT	Friday 27 th June	Sunshine
Thursday 22 nd May	2SD	Thursday 3 rd July	Ladybird
Friday 23 rd May	3CB (3NI)	Friday 4 th July	Butterfly

News and Reminders

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

Inclusion

We are aware that there are questions about inclusion and SEND provision which are being discussed on some of the year group Whats App groups. We would like the opportunity to answer questions, explain changes and discuss any concerns so we are introducing drop-in inclusion coffee mornings to provide a forum for this.

These coffee mornings are open to all parents and carers, whether you have a child with additional needs or not, so please come along to have a chat and a coffee, meet other parents and have your questions answered. Coffee mornings will be attended by members of the inclusion team and leadership team and will take place straight after school drop off in the lower hall. The first coffee morning is on **Tuesday 17th June** – please come and join us!

There is a letter from Southwark at the end of the newsletter regarding dyslexia support in the borough.

Author Visits

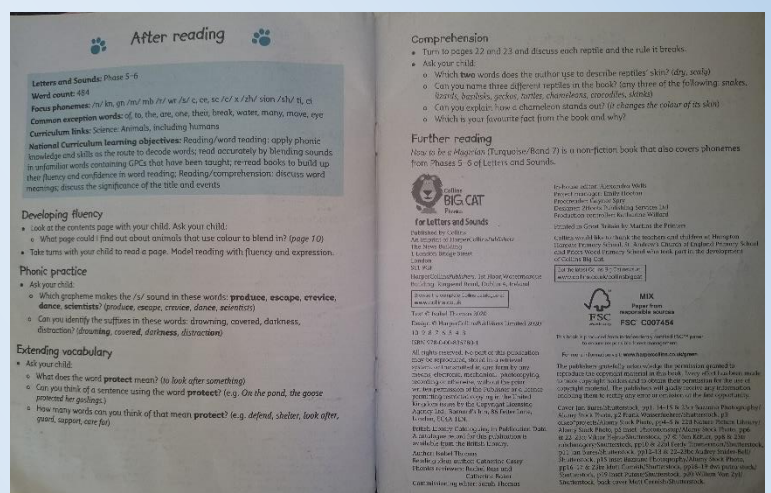
We have two author visits coming up (see the diary dates for details) and each visit will be followed by a book stall after school where you can meet the author, buy a book and get your book signed.

Home Reading

At Bessemer we expect every child to read at home with an adult every day. For younger children or early readers it is important to read aloud to an adult so that the adult can check for accuracy and fluency.

Older, more fluent readers might read in their heads, but it is still important that they talk to an adult about what they have been reading, making predictions and inferences and discussing themes and story lines.

For children reading our Big Cat scheme books, there are discussion points and questions in the back of the books – please use these to support your child's home reading.



Year 6

A huge well done goes to all of our Year 6 children for their fantastic performance in the SATs this week. Everyone did their best and demonstrated maturity and resilience throughout – great work Year 6! The SATs ended yesterday so all of year 6 enjoyed a well-deserved trip to the park today for some rest and relaxation!



Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core values of being *Academically Ambitious* and *Creative and Practical*

As always, there has been lots of creative and practical learning taking place across the school over the last week!

In Reception, children have been reading 'Oliver's Vegetables'. They tasted a variety of fruit and vegetables (including beetroot and mango) and made a list of adjectives to describe the different flavours. They then wrote orders for what sort of fruit they would like on fruit kebabs.



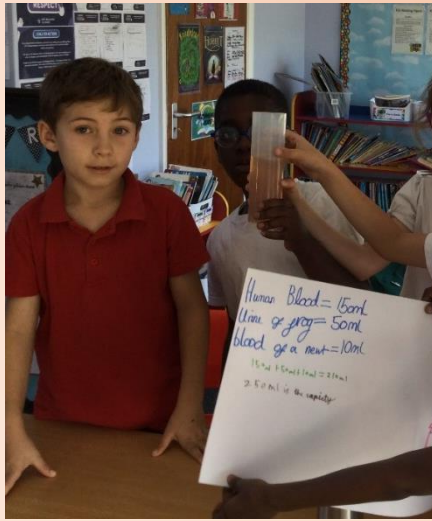
Children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 had Zoolab workshops where they met some interesting creatures:



Sharing Children's Learning

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

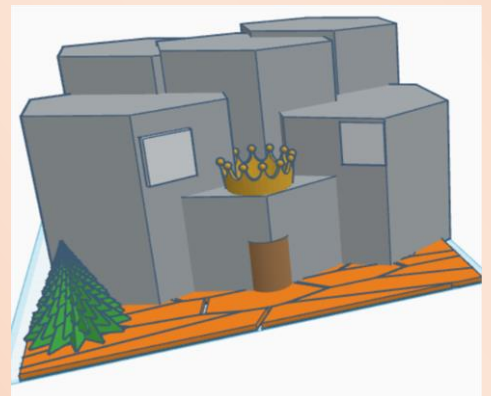
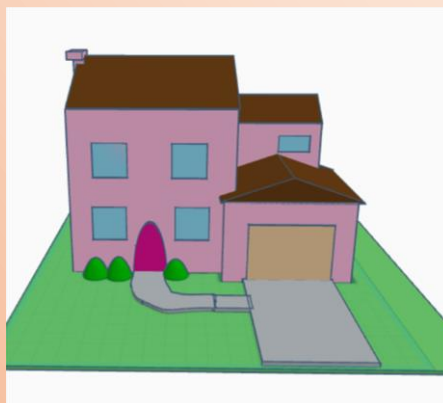
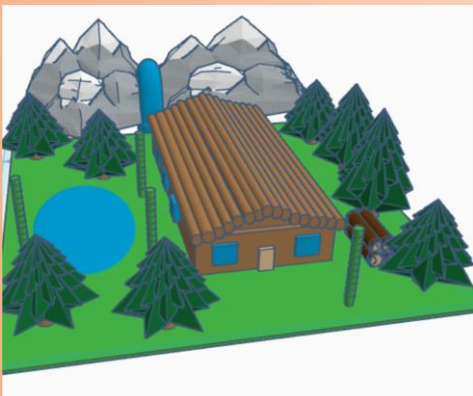
In Year 3 this week, children have been designing and making potions to consolidate their learning about capacity.



Children in Year 5 have been using torches and balls to recreate the phases of the moon in science:



Children in Year 6 have been doing 3D modelling in computing. They used Tinkercad to design and build their own houses, learning how to use basic shapes, resize them, change the colour and make them hollow.




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 **segment**. 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

 **June concert tickets special offer:** £5 off discount tickets still available! Get in quick! 😊

On Friday June 20th at 8pm we're having a very special **fundraising concert with Bill Laurance**: composer, pianist, jazz musician and five-time Grammy award winner. Last year's concert was AMAZING!

This year Bill will be performing in St Faith's again while sharing exclusive new material. He'll be joined by fellow musicians Menelek Claffey on bass and Oscar Ogden on drums.

Tickets are on sale now (For £5 off enter Promo code BESSEMER for the first 40 tickets then £30).

If you would like to volunteer (complimentary ticket) please get in touch (Alan: 07899 043150)

We hope you can join us!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bill-laurance-on-piano-featuring-exclusive-new-material-tickets-1307029342949?aff=oddtcreator>

Online Safety Tip of the Week

How to talk to your child about 'Fake News':



Young people in the UK increasingly rely on online sources, such as social media, for news. According to an Ofcom report, the Internet is rapidly becoming the primary platform for news consumption among 16-24 year olds.

So that parents and carers can help their children understand about the reliability of news sources and improve their digital literacy, Internet Matters and the BBC have created some tools and resources, including videos and quizzes you can do with your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tackling-fake-news-misinformation-advice-for-parents/>

Top Tips from BBC 'Full Fact'

Here are the things that kids should look out for when they see a piece of news online:

Story – what is it trying to say? Can this piece of news be found elsewhere and is it reported in the same way?

Emotions – how does the story make them feel? Fake news tries to manipulate people's feelings to make them click. Beware of the "woah" feeling and pause before sharing. It might even be a joke!

Picture – is it fake or out of context? Check with a reverse image search to find where it's from originally

Author – what's the URL? Check the address bar at the top – most trusted URLs end with ".com", ".co.uk", ".net", ".gov", ".org", ".mil" and ".edu". If not, it might be fake. Are there any experts named or quoted?

Shares – even if it's shared by a friend or famous person, it doesn't mean it's correct.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmvdd6f>





Celebrations!

Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
Rainbow					
Sunshine	William	Micah-James	Ruby		
Moonbeam	Milo	Ayah	Allegra		
1JM	Nickell	Luna	Isaac	Benjamin	Theo
1NS	Cormac	Hadley	ernie	Felix	
1ST	Yoni	Rudy	Jude	Samuel	Maya
2SD	Ben	Jago	Nia	Troy	Arthur
2LT	Lydia	Sadie	Teo	Lucy	
3LS	Adam	Abdulai	Harris	Zak	
3NI	Humaira	Maceo	Ivor	Gwen	
3/4BW	Ava	Evie	Zahra	Shafi	
4BG	Ismay	Alex	Maia	Micah	Wolfe
4GS	Ezra	Matilda	Elliott	Wilfred	
5RS	Harley	Elijah	Lucien	Elena	
5OF	Johnny	Olivia	Suraya	Callum	
5FM	Remy	Salima	Riccardo	Aishah	
6LM	6LM				
6SB	6SB				
6KL	6KL				

Individual Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Rex	Eleanore	Jose	Salome	Lucie	Florence

Timestable Rockstars Winning Classes

Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
1JM	4BG	6LM

**House
Winners**

Diamonds!





Dyslexia and Literacy Difficulties Advice and Support
Southwark Special Educational Needs

dyslexiaandliteracy@southwark.gov.uk

Date: 12 May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Southwark Dyslexia Support 2025

The London Borough of Southwark recognises dyslexia alongside other special educational needs. However, the approach taken by Southwark is to develop good practice within our schools – focussing the financing on delivering high quality training and supporting our schools to develop their staff so that all learners with literacy needs can be supported. Southwark will no longer routinely offer one-off dyslexia assessments, as there was little evidence that this was improving the outcomes for learners.

Schools should be provided with the training so that they feel confident to assess literacy difficulties themselves (and should utilise educational psychology support where there are stronger concerns). Southwark is providing training and resources so that teachers can identify and put in appropriate support for all literacy difficulties as soon as a potential issue is identified rather than wait for a formal dyslexia diagnosis. The British Dyslexia Association note, "A school doesn't need a formal diagnosis to put support in place for your child and shouldn't delay in providing appropriate support and/or interventions." Most children with literacy difficulties, including those with dyslexia, do not require a formal diagnosis in order to make progress – they require staff who are able to assess the difficulties and put in appropriate support.

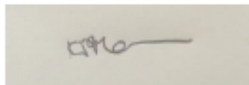
Professor Julian Elliott, who lectures at Durham University as well as being an educational psychologist and researcher, points to the need to focus on the difficulties that a student has and to support those – there are many cases where a student has a diagnosis of dyslexia but no support is being provided. Schools need to have staff who are well trained in identifying literacy needs and then in applying strategies which work. He noted that many parents were paying for a diagnostic report which often did not involve the school. The school would then receive the report but there may be no change in the provision being offered.

He also said: "If you're testing for dyslexia, small numbers of kids get identified and prioritised but massive numbers with similar sorts of problems do not get helped. What a lot of services are trying to do are to find ways that would identify - rather than having a small number of children identified as dyslexic under very spurious criteria, they're trying to find ways to identify all children who are struggling to read in local authorities."

In 2024-25, the Southwark dyslexia offer is focussed on developing the practise within Southwark schools. Training sessions are being provided: 'Identifying dyslexia in the classroom'; 'Classroom strategies for supporting pupils with dyslexia'; 'Using school-based assessment tools for literacy (reading, spelling, handwriting)'. There will be also sets of the school-based assessment tools which SENCos can borrow and use in their school. There will be further training in the next school year, with the aim of developing the practise of teachers and support staff across the borough so that learners with literacy difficulties are quickly identified and supported effectively.

Please continue to liaise with the school SENCo if you have concerns and they will be able to confirm the processes that are being used by the school to identify difficulties and what support is in place.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kate Hannam', on a light-colored rectangular background.

Kate Hannam
Inclusion and Monitoring Team

MADE FOR
This Game

ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Starling Bank

SOUTHWARK JAGUARS

Scan QR code to register your interest or contact wilson@pessn.org.uk for more information.

Scan QR code to register your interest or contact wilson@pessn.org.uk for more information.

SOUTHWARK JAGUARS

OPEN TRIALS

MONDAY 19TH MAY 2025

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Starling Bank



PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK

FREE GIRLS FOOTBALL

EVERY MONDAY (17:00-18:00)

@BURGESS PARK ASTRO TURF



OPEN TO ALL
GIRLS AGED 5-11
YEARS OLD

OPEN TO ALL
GIRLS AGED 12-14
YEARS OLD



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER





SOUNDSTEPS
MUSIC SCHOOL



Free Children Piano/Keyboard Taster Available Now

- Weekly 1 hour lessons available Monday to Sunday for children aged 5-13
- Children learn to read, write and play music in every lesson. we also provide keyboard at every lesson
- Termly Exams and certificate along with opportunities to sit at internationally recognised exams and perform at live events



Contacts us Now by Email, Phone, Whats App or via our Website/QR Code to Book Your "FREE TASTER SESSION"



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London Borough Centres

Limited
Spaces
Available
For Next
Term



Kent Centres



Contacts us Now by Email, Phone, Whats App or
via our Website/QR Code to Book Your “FREE
TASTER SESSION”



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FUND RAISING EVENT

TUESDAY 27TH- THURSDAY 29TH
MAY 2025

Activities include:

Bouncy Castle, games,
arts & crafts, food, stalls and lots more

Venue :

The Green community centre
Nunhead SE 15 3QQ

For more details
please do get in contact with us on;

02035369609
07394662602

**DONATE WHEN YOU
SHOP ONLINE!**

COMPLETELY FREE!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

MY CHILD & ME

INTERGENERATIONAL WORKSHOP (ONLINE)

- Do you find out that your children or grandchildren don't understand you or your generation?
- Do you want to understand why mental health affects us and our children in the United Kingdom?

Join us on line for interactive sessions



EVERY FRIDAY
MAY 16TH 13TH JUNE 2025
TIME: 10:00AM-11:30AM

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER
02035369609, 07394662602
✉ **Admin@parentskills2go.com**
🌐 **parentskills2go.org**

Supported by

Impact
on Urban
Health



Parent
Skills^{2Go}



PRESENTS

NOT JUST
SPORTS!

FREE 12+ SPORT SESSIONS
KICK, EAT & TALK

TUESDAYS | 4 - 7 PM
STARTS 24TH JUNE 2025
LEYTON SQUARE SE15 6TR



Scan me
to register:



**MENTAL
HEALTH**
FOUNDATION



Family Zone Southwark

A fun, safe space for
families to come together.





A fun, safe space for families to come together.






Family Zone workshops offer an opportunity for all family members to learn more about **mental health** through psycho education, games and creative activities and to diminish the **shame** and **stigma** attached to mental illness.

Trained staff from the **Mental Health Foundation** will deliver these workshops alongside our partner, **London Borough of Southwark**.

The next groups will run from

June 2025 – July 2025



-  Our group will consist of **8 weekly workshops** after school from **4-6pm**.
-  They are a fusion of **online** and **in person**, 4 in person and 4 online. Every family will be **offered a tablet** to help access the online sessions
-  Parents are invited to attend a **peer support** group in person or online.
-  Food is provided at every workshop.
-  For more information contact Joanna Alcide-Edwards joanna.alcide-edwards@southwark.gov.uk Stavroula Marifi Stavroula.Marifi@southwark.gov.uk or Nadine Rose nrose@mentalhealth.org.uk



GIRLS UNITED

OPEN TRIALS 25/26

Join Girls United's match-playing teams!

FREE!
 Age groups: U9-U16
 Location: Burgess Park Football Pitches
 Dates: 4, 11, 18, 25 June (by age)
 Time: 18:00-19:30

SIGN UP NOW!



girlsunitedfa.org/opentrials25



WHY GIRLS UNITED?

- Dedicated coaching team receiving regular up-skilling
- 2 training sessions per week + match day
- Player review nights
- Nurturing environment
- Onward player pathway opportunities
- Extra experiences such as WSL ticket giveaways

WEAR THE BADGE



follow us @girlsunitedfa



GIRLS UNITED


WHITSUN FOOTBALL CAMPS

IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS ON AND OFF THE PITCH IN A FUN AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

DULWICH SPORTS GROUND
 Turney Road
 SE21 7JH

29TH & 30TH MAY
 0900 -1500

SIGN UP & PLAY!



girlsunitedfa.org/londoncamps



GIRLS UNITED

You're Invited!

SUMMER CELEBRATION

Sunday 22nd June
Doors: 2pm
Ceremony: 3pm

AN EVENING OF COMMUNITY, MEMORIES, AND THE GIRLS UNITED VALUES CHAMPION AWARDS!

Peckham Arches, Unit 6
 Dovedale Business Centre
 London, SE15 4QN

GET YOUR TICKETS!



girlsunitedfa.org/summercelebration25