

# Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

[www.thegemfederation.co.uk](http://www.thegemfederation.co.uk)

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## Dates for your Diary

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

### 2023-24 Term Dates

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023								
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
			1	2	3		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		4	5	6	7	8	9	
5	6	7	8	9	10		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		11	12	13	14	15	16	
12	13	14	15	16	17		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	3	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		18	19	20	21	22	23	
19	20	21	22	23	24		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	4	27	28	29	30					25	26	27	28	29	30	
26	27	28	29	30			30	31						5															

January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024								
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
2	3	4	5	6	7		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		1	2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	14		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		8	9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	21		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		15	16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	28		26	27	28	29				4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		22	23	24	25	26	27	
30	31													5									29	30					

May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024								
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
7	8	9	10	11	12		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		5	6	7	8	9	10	
14	15	16	17	18	19		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		12	13	14	15	16	17	
21	22	23	24	25	26		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	3	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		19	20	21	22	23	24	
28	29	30	31				24	25	26	27	28	29	30	4	29	30	31						26	27	28	29	30	31	

School Holidays	INSET Days	Tutorial Day	Bank Holidays
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### 2023-24 Class Assembly Dates

19/10/23	1AM	16/11/23	5FM
23/11/23	3/4CB	30/11/23	4BC
7/12/23		25/1/24	2JW
1/2/24	6AC	8/2/24	6LM
7/3/24	2LT	14/3/24	1NS
21/3/24	6SB	28/3/24	3KL
2/5/24	5RS	9/5/24	2LS
16/5/24	3NI	23/5/24	5OF
20/6/24		27/6/24	4YH

Class assemblies are on Thursdays at 9.15 and last for approximately 15 minutes. Parents and carers are invited to come along and find out more about their children's learning across the curriculum.

## Dates for your Diary

### **This Term's Events**

- 26.09.23 – 3/4CB additional parents' meetings  
27.09.23 – 3/4CB additional parents' meetings  
27.09.23 – Year 2 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
27.09.23 – 6AC and 6SB trip to The British Museum  
28.09.23 – 6LM trip to The British Museum  
28.09.23 – Reception phonics workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
29.09.23 – Year 1 phonics workshop for parents and carers, 9.10 – 9.40am  
04.10.23 – Years 5 and 6 English workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
05.10.23 – National Poetry Day  
06.10.23 – Year 2 trip to The National Maritime Museum  
11.10.23 – Years 3 and 4 English workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
12.10.23 – Nursery and Reception celebration day, 9.15am  
17.10.23 – Year 1 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.10 – 9.40am  
17.10.23 – Parents' evening  
18.10.23 – Parents' evening  
20.10.23 – Last day of half term  
30.10.23 – Children return to school  
31.10.23 – Deadline for secondary school applications  
01.11.23 – Year 2 English workshop for parents and carers  
02.11.23 – Years 5 and 6 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
07.11.23 – Year 1 celebration day, 9.10 – 10.10am (parents/carers of half of each class to attend on each day)  
08.11.23 – Year 1 celebration day, 9.10 – 10.10am (parents/carers of half of each class to attend on each day)  
09.11.23 – Years 3 and 4 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
16.11.23 – Reception maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am  
13.12.23 – Years 3 and 4 carol concert  
14.12.23 – Years 5 and 6 carol concert  
16.12.23 – Winter fair  
20.12.23 – Last day of term
- 29.01.24 – Year 5 Young Voices concert at The O2

### **Autumn Term Library Visits**

	<b>10:00- 10:40</b>	<b>11:00 – 11:40</b>
<b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	2JW	6AC
<b>Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	1AM	5FM
<b>Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	1NS	5OF
<b>Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	3NI	4BC
<b>Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	3/4CB	3KL
<b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	2LT	5RS
<b>Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	4YH	6LM
<b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	2LS	6SB

## News and Reminders

### Home Learning

Children learn best when home and school work together, so at Bessemer we provide lots of opportunities for parents and carers to get involved in their children's learning. The only elements of home learning that we consider compulsory are home reading and homework in Year 6 (in preparation for the expectations in secondary school) however we do encourage you to complete some home learning tasks and children will receive rewards in school for doing so. Paper copies of homework are usually provided, however all homework tasks can also be found on Google Classroom.

### Reading

We expect every child to read at home every day, whether from their school reading book or a book, newspaper or magazine of their choice. When your child reads at home please sign their reading diary. For every five home reads children get a sticker, and every time they reach 50 reads they receive a certificate.

### Spelling

We teach spelling lessons throughout the week in school and the children take part in a collaborative spelling test at the end of the week, when they work together to recall spelling patterns and spell words. The week's spelling words are given out for children to practise at home as well as in school.

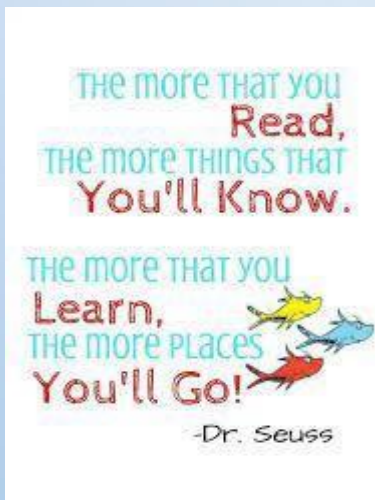
### Maths

Children in KS2 get a piece of maths homework each week. Children are encouraged to complete this for additional practice of the skills being taught in school. Our maths homework is designed to support children in meeting the maths rocket targets for their year group.

All children should have a Timestable Rockstars login, please ask your child's teacher if you don't have one. Timestable Rockstars is very a very effective way of learning multiplication and division facts, which is key to becoming a confident mathematician. When children use Timestable Rockstars for a few minutes a day they make very noticeable progress. We are currently relaunching Timestable Rockstars as explained in the poster at the end of the newsletter.

### Topic Homework

Each half term we send home a Knowledge Organiser for your child's half termly topic, which includes their topic homework. Topic homework is made up of fun, creative tasks and suggestions for visits or activities which will give children a better understanding of their topic. Topic homework can be completed in the scrap books we provide, or uploaded to Google Classroom.



<b>CLASSES 6LM, 6AC and 6SB</b> <small>Key-mental homework to be reviewed by Friday 20th October 2023</small>	<small>Dear Parents and Carers, This term, we are going to be learning about the Ancient Greeks and the influences of Ancient Greeks on modern day society. Please see the knowledge organiser overleaf for support with key knowledge and chronological context.</small>
<b>Ancient Greeks – Homework Tasks</b> <b>Writing:</b> 1. Write a Greek newspaper article based on a Greek Myth 2. Write or a fact file about Zeus, Aphrodite or Apollo 3. Write your own story in the style of Greek Myth 4. Make a travel brochure about Ancient Greece Where would you travel to? Where would you stay? What could you do while you were there? Who would you recommend to visit? Use pictures with lots of facts and information. 5. Make a video presentation about an aspect of Greek history that interests you! (You can upload to Google Classroom)	<b>Places to Visit</b> • The British Museum: <a href="https://www.britishmuseum.org/whats-on/whats-on">https://www.britishmuseum.org/whats-on/whats-on</a> • Parliament: <a href="https://www.parliament.uk/visit/">https://www.parliament.uk/visit/</a>
<b>History/Art:</b> 1. Make a Spartan helmet or design a shield 2. Create a Greek temple like the Parthenon, using a range of materials 3. Design your own labyrinth (from string or even lego!) 4. Turn a myth into a cartoon, for example Theseus and the Minotaur. Use lots of speech bubbles!	<b>Reading</b> Remember to read each day and get an adult to reading record. Don't forget to collect your rewards for reading!
<b>Recommended Books:</b> Learn about the Greeks	<b>Spelling</b> Don't forget spelling rules for your Spelling words go home with you Friday to prepare for your spelling work tomorrow work.
	<b>Maths</b> Remember to revise your times tables! Practice the number facts you are working on each week. You will be tested on these! And please don't forget to log onto Times Table Rock Stars!
	<b>Historical Fiction</b> 

## News and Reminders

### **National Poetry Day, Thursday 5th October**

This year's theme: Refuge

To celebrate National Poetry Day, we are encouraging children to make, experience and share poetry with family and friends.

You will have seen a letter addressed to Parents and Carers, inviting children and families to create and share a video of themselves performing a poem. This can either be related to the the theme of 'Refuge' or can simply be one of your children's favourite poems or something that the children have created.

In order for you to get involved, Parents and Carers have been asked to create a video of their child/children performing their poem (adults are welcome to join in too!) and upload this to their year group's Google Classroom page by Monday 2nd October. There will be an assignment entitled National Poetry Day.

Teachers will then, on that day, share these videos with their class. We would also love to put some of these performances on the school website.

We look forward to celebrating poetry day with you!

### **Gem Captains**

Every term some of our Year 6 children are elected as house captains for our gem houses. They have a number of responsibilities, including collecting up and counting the whole school's gems every week. Congratulations to this term's captains Cyra, Othniel, Una and Joe.



### **Secondary School Applications**

The deadline for applying for a place at secondary school for your Year 6 child is October 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have not yet chosen your preferred schools, many of the open days are taking place in the next week or two, please check the school websites for dates. If you need any help with your secondary school application please come and talk to our office staff.

### **SEND Support**

SIAS (Southwark Information Advice Support) is a support service for parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities. Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for details of their drop-in sessions. There is also a flyer for an upcoming dyslexia fair which all parents and carers are welcome to attend.

### **After School Club Booking**

Bookings for after school club should be made in advance on Parentmail whenever possible. We need advance notification of numbers to ensure that we have appropriate staffing levels and catering. We do understand that occasionally you will need childcare at the last minute, so on the day bookings are accepted, however it is not possible to make same day bookings on Parentmail. If you need to book a last-minute place you can do so by emailing or calling the school office. However, because this leads to additional admin and catering, there is a £5 extra charge for on the day bookings. If the reason for your last-minute booking is an unavoidable emergency, please explain this when you contact us and the £5 extra charge may be waived.

## Sharing Children's Learning

Last Friday children in Year 2 launched their *Pirates* topic with an immersion day during which they dressed up as pirates, spoke like pirates, chose their own pirate names, ate pirate biscuits and hunted for treasure. Everyone had a fantastic day!



### Word of the Week

The Word of the Week next week is **impromptu**. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and try using it in different ways in sentences. You could also research the origins of the word and see if you can think of any related words with the same origin.

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 for using the word in their speech and writing and for explaining its meaning and origin.

### F@B Update

Thank you everyone who supported the Ice Cream Friday and uniform sales last week - we've already raised nearly £500 from our after-school events this term!

We're hoping to raise lots more this year to support music, trips, books, food for our much-loved school chickens among other things.

Read on to find out more about events this term.

#### **Bessemer Fun Run: Saturday 14 October**

Next month we're holding a fundraising fun run for all the family at the JAGs sports field (just 5 minutes' walk from Bessemer on Red Post Hill). 1km, 2km and 5km races are planned, with the event starting at 1.15pm.

This community event is free for children to enter, while adult entries are £3.50. Sponsorship from family and friends is encouraged. We'll share links for registration, and donations very soon. We hope to see you there!

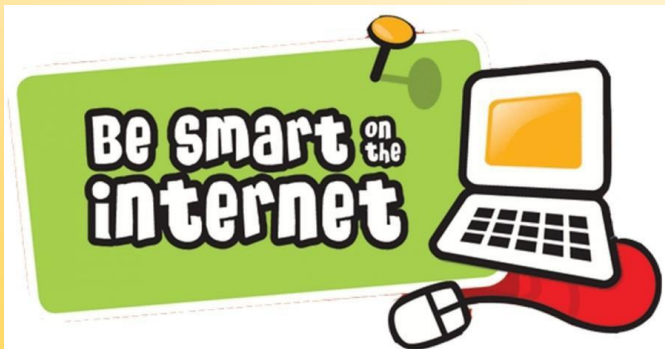
#### **Winter Fair: Saturday 16 December**

Towards the end of term it's our Winter Fair with delicious food, fun, crafts, games and a bouncy castle. More details to follow!

### Online Safety Tip of the Week

Why is 'Critical Thinking' important when looking at online content? The Internet can be a great source of information on a huge range of topics. However, there is such a large amount of content available, being able to sift through it and decide what is useful and accurate can be a challenge. So, what is Critical Thinking, and what are the issues that people face when searching the web?

To read more on this topic and for tips on how to support young people understand the issues, you can visit this webpage from Childnet: <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/reliability-online/>





# Celebrations!

## Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
1AM	Eve	Arthur	Jhane	Rosa	
1NS	Ella	Nia	Mylah - Monae	Troy	Leila
2JW	Albie	Kenza	Casper	Grace	
2LS	Maya	Zahra	Elliot	Dylan	
2LT	Aidan	Helene	Margot P	Stephany	Isobel
3KL	Fred	Sophie	Agibu	Wolfie	
3NI	Henry	Ezra	Jake	Maia	
3/4CB	Idris	Donatas	Lucie	Joel	Leila
4BC	Billy	Lacey	Abass	Adam	
4YH	Matthew	Callum M	Holly	Suraya	
5OF	Sophie	Akila	Ozgur	Alexis	AJ
5RS	Bailey	Jacob	Issac	Kitty	
5FM	Aimenya	Neron	Einas	Ruby	
6LM	Montana	Jayden	Nathaniel	Freya	
6SB	Yabai	Tom	Otis	Haven	
6AC	Ramatulai	Rose	Othniel	William	Cyra

## Individual Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Eve	Kenza	Ezra	Olivia	Johanna	Grace

## Timestable Rockstars Winning Classes

Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
2LT	3KL	5FM

House Winners	<b>Emeralds!</b>
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Have a great weekend!

*Elizabeth*



## Times Tables Rockstars Re-launch

Each week:

- Year group winner will get 3 gems
- Winning class per phase will get 2 treasure chests
- We will be looking at where Bessemer are as a school in comparison to other local schools

At the end of each half term:

- Year group winner for the half term will get 5 gems
- Winning class per phase for the half term will get 10 minutes extra play

During the holidays...

- A tournament will be set up. The winning class will get a trophy and 10 minutes extra play



# SPORTS FOCUS COACHING

## October Camp



Football, Floor is Lava, Water Games, Arts & Crafts., Tennis, Lego Club

Where: Bessemer Grange Primary School Dylways

Ages: Reception - Year 6

Monday, 23rd October - Friday, 27th October

Times & Prices:

9:00 - 12:00 £20

12:00 - 15:00 £20

9:00 - 15:00 £30

Early drop off 8:30 additional £3

Late Pick up 15:00 - 17:00 additional £5

Dodge Ball, Cricket, Nerf Battles, Athletics, Cooking & More!

Spaces are limited

To book

[www.sportsfocusuk.co.uk](http://www.sportsfocusuk.co.uk)

For further info

Email: [bookings@sportsfocusuk.co.uk](mailto:bookings@sportsfocusuk.co.uk)

or Call: 07946 007937

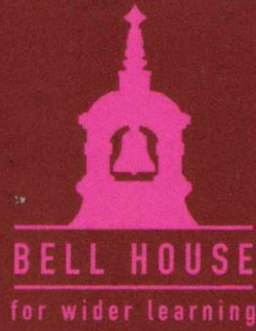


[Sportsfocuscoaching\\_](https://www.instagram.com/sportsfocuscoaching_)



Sports Focus Coaching Limited

 FREE EVENT



[www.bellhouse.co.uk](http://www.bellhouse.co.uk)

# DYSLEXIA FAIR 2023

## CELEBRATING STRENGTHS

SUPPORT

DYSLEXIA  
FAIR

RESOURCES

30th September  
10am - 4pm

AWARENESS



REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1157339



Southwark  
Information  
Advice &  
Support

## Drop-in

**Day: Thursdays (*term-time only*)**

**Time: 2-5pm**

**Location: Sunshine House,  
27 Peckham Road, SE5 8UH**

Or, book an online appointment here  
[www.calendly.com/southwarkias](http://www.calendly.com/southwarkias)

**SIAS provide families with impartial  
information, advice & support  
about issues related to  
special educational needs and disabilities  
(SEND)**

For more information please contact  
**SIAS (Southwark Information Advice Support) Team**



[sias@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:sias@southwark.gov.uk)



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