

# Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

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

Executive Headteacher: Sarah Beard

Address: Dylways, London, SE5 8HP

Email: [office@bessemergrange.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@bessemergrange.southwark.sch.uk)

Telephone: 020 7 274 2520

Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

## Dates for your Diary

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024

### Term Dates 2023-2024

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

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

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

School Holidays	INSET Days	Tutorial Day	Bank Holidays
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## 2024 Class Assembly Dates

		<b>25/1/24</b>	<b>2JW</b>
<b>1/2/24</b>	6AC	<b>8/2/24</b>	<b>6LM</b>
<b>7/3/24</b>	2LT	<b>14/3/24</b>	<b>1NS</b>
<b>21/3/24</b>	6SB	<b>28/3/24</b>	<b>3KL</b>
<b>2/5/24</b>	5RS	<b>9/5/24</b>	<b>2LS</b>
<b>16/5/24</b>	3NI	<b>23/5/24</b>	<b>5OF</b>
<b>20/6/24</b>		<b>27/6/24</b>	<b>4VG</b>

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

29.04.24 – 03.05.24 Science Week  
30.04.24 – Moonbeam Class trip to the garden centre  
01.05.24 – Rainbow Class trip to the garden centre  
~~01.05.24~~ – Royal Institute science shows - to be rescheduled  
01.05.24 – 3KL trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery  
02.05.24 – Sunshine Class trip to the garden centre  
02.05.24 – 3NI trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery  
06.05.24 – Bank Holiday, school closed  
07.05.24 – Year 5 fire safety talk in school  
07.05.24 – Year 3 trip to Pizza Express  
08.05.24 – Year 1 to JAGS music festival  
08.05.24 – Year 3 trip to Pizza Express  
08.05.24 – 4BC trip to Vauxhall City Farm  
09.05.24 – 3/4CB trip to Vauxhall City Farm  
13.05.24 - 16.05.24 – Year 6 SATs  
14.05.24 – 3NI trip to Vauxhall City Farm  
15.05.24 – 4VG trip to Vauxhall City Farm  
16.05.24 – 3/4CB trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery  
17.05.24 – Fundraising concerts at St Faith's  
23.05.24 – 3KL trip to Vauxhall City Farm  
27.05.24 – 31.05.24 Half term break  
03.06.24 – 14.06.24 – Year 4 multiplication check  
03.06.24 – 15.06.24 Fieldwork Fortnight  
03.06.24 – Year 6 trip to The Old Operating Theatre  
10.06.24 – 14.06.24 Year 1 phonics screening  
10.06.24 – Year 6 *Take the Lead* workshop in school  
11.06.24 - Year 6 *Take the Lead* workshop in school  
11.06.24 – Years 3 and 4 trip to The Science Museum  
12.06.24 - Year 6 *Take the Lead* workshop in school  
14.06.24 – Year 1 trip to The Science Museum  
17.06.24 - 19.06.24 – Year 6 residential trip  
20.06.24 – Spanish Day  
01.07.24 – New Reception parents' meeting  
12.07.24 – Reception to Year 1 transition meeting 9.15am  
16.07.24 – Year 6 performance 6pm  
19.07.24 – Carnival 2.30pm  
23.07.24 – Year 6 graduation 2.15pm  
23.07.24 – Year 6 disco  
24.07.24 – Class parties  
25.07.24 – Last day of term, 2pm finish

### **Summer Term Library Visit Dates**

Coming soon!

## News and Reminders

### **Science Week**

Next week is Science Week! In school we will all be completing the Egg-Drop Challenge throughout the week, look out for photos on X and in next week's newsletter. The Science Week flyer at the end of the newsletter has details of the home challenges that children are invited to try, we look forward to seeing your entries!

Unfortunately The Royal Institute Science Shows have been postponed by The Royal Institute, we are awaiting new dates and will let you know as soon as possible when they will be taking place.

### **After School and Saturday Sessions for Children with SEND**

Southwark's Targeted Short Break Service offers after school and Saturday activity sessions for children who meet the following criteria:

- Aged 5-19
- Southwark resident
- Has an Education Health and Care Plan
- Child is unable to access universal play/ leisure services due to level of need and/or requires additional support to access

If your child meets these criteria, please use the following link to find out more:

<https://eequ.org/southwarkshortbreaks>

### **Activity Clubs**

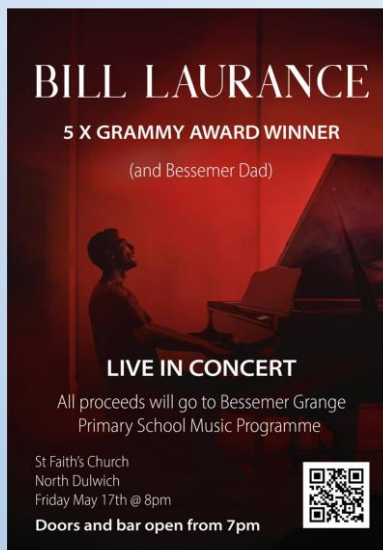
There are still a few places available in some of our after-school activity clubs. If you would like to book a place please contact the school office staff who will let you know which clubs are available and ensure you are only charged for the remaining sessions.

### **Fundraising Concerts**

Don't forget to book your tickets for our upcoming fundraising concerts led by Bessemer parent and member of 5-time Grammy Award-winning group Snarky Puppy, Bill Laurance. Tickets for the afternoon event, which includes performances by children as well as Bill, are free (with voluntary donation).

Tickets for the evening performance can be purchased here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bill-laurance-in-concert-tickets-865633241327>

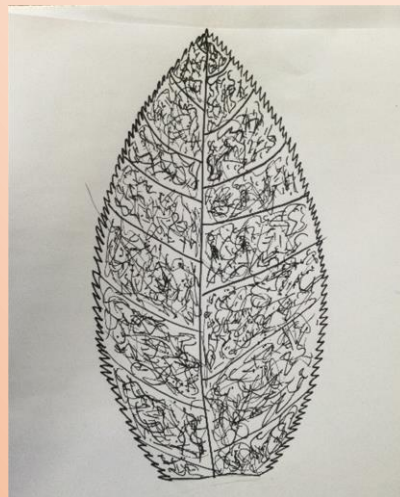
If you would like to volunteer for either event please drop F@B an email at [fab@friendsatbessemer.co.uk](mailto:fab@friendsatbessemer.co.uk) or message Alan at 07899 043150.





## Sharing Children's Learning

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April was Earth Day, so we spent the day trying to be as Earth-friendly as possible. All lessons were taught without the use of Interactive whiteboards or other technology and throughout the day children took part in environmentally friendly activities such as litter picking and planting seeds as well as Earth themed creative activities.





## Sharing Children's Learning

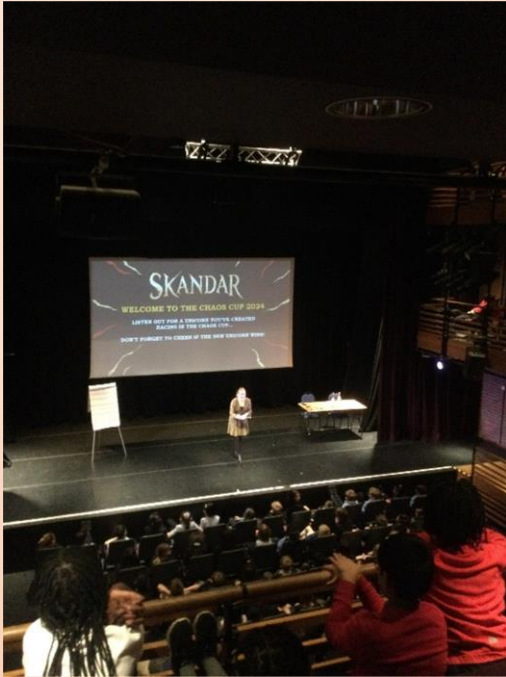
Children in Years 3 and 4 went to The Bait-ul-Aziz Islamic Cultural Centre this week to learn more about Islam. The children had a tour of the Mosque, learnt about some of the rituals that take place there, found out more about Ramadan and about the connections between the Mosque and the local community.





## Sharing Children's Learning

On Wednesday children in Year 5 went to Alleyn's school for a talk by A.F. Steadman, the author of *Skandar and the Unicorn Thief*, *Skandar and the Phantom Rider* and the newest book in the series, *Skandar and the Chaos Trials*. The children had a great time learning more about being an author and about this exciting series of books.



Children in Year 3 and 4 have been learning about *Sound* in science this term. In their *Creative and Practical* science lessons last week they explored how the size of a musical instrument affects the pitch of the sound it makes.



## Word of the Week

Well done to everyone who entered the Word of the Week competition, we really enjoyed reading all of your riddles! We have chosen some of our favourites to share each week. Read the riddle and try to work out the Word of the Week from the clues. Tell your teacher what you think the word is on Monday, if you're right you'll get a gem! We'll announce the answer in assembly on Tuesday. Remember to use the Word of the Week as much as you can in your speech and writing to earn more gems and to make the word a permanent part of your vocabulary!

### **This week's riddle is from Felix Evans:**

It starts with "S".  
It has something a dog does with its tail in it.  
You do it when you feel confident.  
A synonym for it is strut or stride.

Can you use these clues to guess the Word of the Week?

## F@B Update

### **Eid celebration: Friday 3 May**

On Friday 3 May please join us for our annual Bessemer Eid event.

Every year this event offers us a wonderful community celebration, bringing together Bessemer families to enjoy delicious home cooked treats. Join us for this celebration marking the end of Ramadan and raising much needed funds for the school.

We are planning to run a cake stall and a food stall selling delicious curry, jollof rice and other foods and snacks which you can enjoy right away or fill a box and take it home for dinner!

**Please help!** We need more volunteers to help with making food for this very popular event. If you can lend a hand with cooking – e.g. curries, rice, snacks or cakes - please contact Yandire on 07949 720039. Thank you!

## Online Safety Tip of the Week

Child Friendly Search Engines:

When children are searching on the internet, there are times when they may be exposed to inappropriate content. It is important to remind children what to do if they see something that makes them worried, upset or scared. Let them know that if they see something that makes them feel like this, they should close the page down or turn the device over, then let an adult know what they have seen.

Alternatively, if there is a device that your child uses often, you can get them to use a child-friendly search engine. There are several different ones, but here are two you could try:

<https://swiggle.org.uk/>

<https://www.kiddle.co/>





# Celebrations!

## Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
Rainbow	Avisha	Godwill	Tobi		
Sunshine	Ethan	Leo I	Archer		
Moonbeam	Ben	Joe	Lenny		
1AM	Eimi	Ruona	Kiyoko	Mason	Hamilton
1NS	Djene	Adonai	Florence	Ella	
2JW	Athena	Albie	Abdulai	Dougie	
2LS	Lucas	Rayha	Louie	Humaira	Zahra
2LT	Henry	Margot CG	Harris	Olivia	Tasnim
3KL	Isaiah	Micah	Grace	Fred	
3NI	Martha	Jacob	Jake	Rene	Alex
3/4CB	Daniel	Nikolas	Elena	Ismay	Idris Kyanna
4BC	Eve	Olha	Ramadan	Lacey	
4VG	Tariq	Radin	Luciano	Aishah	George
5RS	Tofarati	Francesco	Elisa	Jacob	
5OF	Sami	Azariah	Kelvin	Max M	Ozgur
5FM	Ali	Molly	Rayanne	Fayo	
6LM	Alex	Rocco	Killian	Yousuf	Freya
6SB	Pearl	Rufus	Eddie	Hasiba	
6AC	Tate	Zadie	Silas	Adam	

## Individual Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Hamilton	Kenza	Ezra	Fred	Eve	Pearl

## Timestable Rockstars Winning Classes

Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
1AM	3KL	6SB

House  
Winners

**Sapphires!**



Have a great weekend!

*Elizabeth*





# Bessemer Primary School's Science Week 29<sup>th</sup> April - 3<sup>rd</sup> May

## Royal Institution Science Shows

With support from FAB, children from reception to year six will be taking part in 'energy live' science shows from the Royal Institution of Science. These shows are jam-packed with experiments, explosions and hands-on participation by the children.

Through lively, fire-based demonstrations the instructors will take the intimidation out of the terminology around energy and show you just how simple this subject can be.



## Whole school science competition - Egg drop challenge

Each class in the school will be taking part in this EGGciting challenge. The children will select their own materials and create a structure that will protect an egg when dropped from a height.

The children will be thinking about how

they can maximise air resistance to slow the fall and what materials will best protect the egg. The best structure from each class will then be tested out by being dropped onto a teacher's head! The winning class from each Key Stage will win a prize. **Please keep sending in junk materials that will support this activity.**

## EYFS and KSI Home Competition - Mouse rockets

This activity is to get you thinking about air resistance and gravity, going up and coming back down. Watch the video below and create your very own mouse rocket. You could talk about:

- What makes your rocket fly?
- What makes it come down again?
- How do you think a real rocket works?

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/rocket-mice/>

Bring your mouse rockets into school, clearly labelled with your name and class. You can test out your rockets with your class and a winning rocket will be chosen and revealed in assembly.



## KS2 Home Competition - Pinball machine

This activity is designed to explore the science of forces and motion. Watch the video below to give you an idea of how you could make your pinball machine. You could talk about:

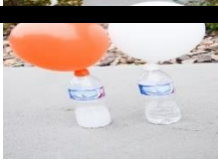
- What forces change the motion of the ball in your pinball machine?
- What do you think would happen if the box didn't slope?
- Which parts of the pinball board are hardest to reach?

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/pinball-machine/>

Bring your pinball machines (or designs) into school, clearly named. You can show your class and the winner will receive a prize in assembly.







## Science week home experiment ideas

### Wizard's brew

**You will need:** Containers, vinegar, food colouring, glitter, washing-up liquid, bicarbonate of soda.

**How to do it:** Add all the ingredients together and watch the results!

### Zooming Balloons

**You will need:** String, plastic straws, two fixed points (chairs), balloons, tape, bulldog clip.

**How to do it:** Thread the straw onto the string and secure the string between two fixed points. Blow up the balloon and close the end with the clip. Tape the balloon to the straw and remove the clip. Watch the balloon zoom along!

### Nice Ice!

**You will need:** Ice cubes, table salt, large bowl, spoon, glass, orange juice.

**How to do it:** Fill a glass  $\frac{3}{4}$  full with your juice, and place in centre of the bowl. Pack ice cubes evenly around the glass. Sprinkle salt into the ice cubes, stir juice every 10 minutes. Watch the results.

### Rockets

**You will need:** Film canisters, stomach seltzer, bi-carbonate of soda, water.

**How to do it:** Crumble a little of the stomach-seltzer into the canister, add the water to the top of the canister, put the lid on and stand back. The time this experiment takes depends on the ratios of ingredients; you must be patient and stand well back until the reaction has taken place.

### Bouncing Raisins

**You will need:** Fizzy lemonade, raisins, tall containers, food colouring.

**How to do it:** Combine ingredients and watch the raisins bounce up and down. Watch until the raisins become too saturated and too heavy for the bubbles to carry them to the surface.

### Flubber/Goo

**You will need:** Cornflour, PVA glue, food colouring, water, tray, spoon.

**How to do it:** Mix water, food colouring and PVA in the tray. Next, mix warm water and cornflour. Then combine altogether and watch the mixture transform.

### Fish Bowl Spinners

**You will need:** Card and colouring pencils, tape, string.

**How to do it:** Draw a fish on one side of a circular piece of card and a bowl on the other. Hang the card using string and spin. The fish appears to be in the bowl, as an optical illusion!

## Crest Award Home Challenges

Check out the home learning activities on the crest award website below. Key stage one can try some of the 'star home challenges' and key stage two can try 'super star home challenges.'

<https://primarylibrary.crestawards.org/>

