

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

Address: Dylways, London, SE5 8HP

Telephone: 020 7274 2520

Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

Friday 27th June 2025

September 2024						
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October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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February 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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July 2025						
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August 2025						
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Bank Holidays

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:

03.07.25 – Year 6 violin concerts for parents / carers
04.07.25 – Eid celebration after school
07.07.25-11.07.25 – End of year reports shared with parents and carers
08.07.25 – Nursery sports day, 9-10am
09.07.25 – Reception and KS1 sports day, Reception am only, KS1 all day from 9.30am
10.07.25 – KS2 sports day, all day from 9.30am
11.07.25 – New Reception starters' picnic for children and parents / carers, 12-1 in the nature garden
11.07.25 – Rug sale after school – children can buy / sell second hand toys (contact F@B for details)
13.07.25 – F@B raffle prize draw (see F@B update for details)
14.07.25 – Children meet their new teacher
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 (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.

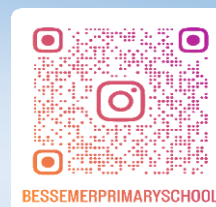
Thursday 24 th April	4GS	Thursday 5 th June	6LM
Friday 25 th April	4BG	Friday 6 th June	6KL
Thursday 1 st May	3/4 BW	Thursday 12 th June	6SB
Friday 2 nd May	5RS	Friday 13 th June	1JM
Thursday 8 th May	5FM	Thursday 19 th June	Moonbeam
Friday 9 th May	5OF	Friday 20 th June	1ST
Thursday 15 th May	3LS	Thursday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

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)



News and Reminders

Thank you!

A huge thank you goes out to Bessemer parent and Grammy award-winning pianist Bill Laurance for once again giving up his time to perform in a fantastic fundraising concert to raise money for Bessemer's music provision. This year Bill was accompanied by Oscar Ogden on drums and Menelik Claffey on bass, so a big thank you to them as well! Events like this cannot take place without hours of organisation time, so another heartfelt thank you to Father Nick at St Faith's and Alan Foster and all the other F@B members involved, and of course many thanks to all of the parents and family members who bought tickets, securing specialist music teaching for Bessemer children for another year. This is yet another example of our wonderful Bessemer community coming together to provide the best opportunities for our children.



The results of the music teaching at Bessemer were showcased in another concert earlier in the day, when the choir, samba band and some of the Year 6 violinists performed, along with individual children with amazing musical talents. Again, there are lots of people to thank for this concert, Lauren Todd for the hours of hard work it took to put it together, Bill Laurance and Elspeth Wylie for accompanying the children, Father Nick and Marco for hosting us at St Faith's and all of the Bessemer music teachers. There are photos of the children's concert later in the newsletter.

Sports Day

Our Bessemer sports days are taking place the week after next – see the diary dates for the day of each event. Parents and carers are invited to join us for the sports days and for a picnic lunch on the field. If you are joining us for lunch and providing a picnic for your child, please select 'home lunch' on Parentmail. If you would like us to provide a packed lunch for your child you must book this on Parentmail by the end of next week. All children need either a home or school packed lunch, no hot school meals will be served on sports days.

Connected to the Community – Dulwich College Service Day

Once again we welcomed some Dulwich College students on their annual service day. The students spent the day helping the premises team with some gardening tasks – thanks to everyone who took part!



Mental Health 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>

News and Reminders

Sporting Success!

Bessemer Sports teams have been out and about over the last two weeks and have come home victorious! The girls' football team took on two local teams in friendly matches last Friday and not only won their matches but demonstrated brilliant sportspersonship, well done girls!



A team of cricketers from Years 5 and 6 took part in the Bobby Abel Cup this week, playing against several local schools and were very proud to return to Bessemer with the cup, another big well done!



Home Reading

We have noticed a decline in home reading recently. Please keep up daily reads with your child right up to the end of term and throughout the school holidays, it really does make a huge difference to children's academic attainment and children's progress drops very quickly when they are not reading regularly.

Smart Watches

Please do not allow children to wear smart watches, or any kind of watch that children can communicate through or play games on to school.

Crocs

Please note that crocs are not acceptable footwear on PE days and are also not suitable for playing football or using the climbing frames at playtime. If your child has other summer footwear, please avoid crocs for school.

Sharing Children's Learning

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

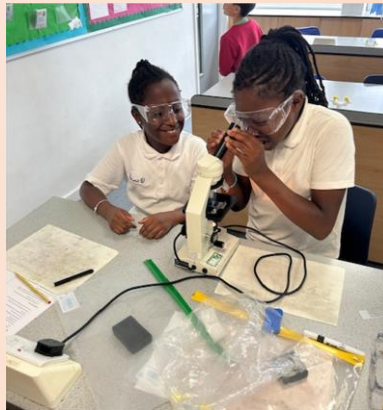
Here are the photos of our incredibly brave and talented children who performed at the concert at St Faith's last Friday:



Sharing Children's Learning

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

This week has been a wonderful week for demonstrating our core value of being *Connected to the Community* as we made good use of our links with local schools! Children in Years 2 and 5 went to Alleyn's for science lessons and children in Year 4 spent a morning there having PE lessons.



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 **ignite**. 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

⚡ There was an absolutely electric atmosphere at the Bill Laurance gig last week! 🎵

🎵🎹 And the kids' concert in the afternoon was amazing - so much talent and joy and a preview of the samba band that everyone will get to hear at the Bessemer Carnival on Thursday 17 July! 🎵



July events update

We have a busy few weeks coming up - we hope to see lots of families at our fundraising and community events 😊

Dates for your diaries:

- Friday 4 July, 3.30-5.30 **Eid Celebration** after school
- 9 and 10 July **F@B sports day lunches** and snacks to buy! More details to follow
- Friday 11 July, **Rug sale** - kids get to sell on any toys and games they have outgrown
- Sunday 13 July, **raffle prize draw**. Tickets available here: https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/bessemer-summer-raffle-2025?utm_source=perplexity
- Saturday 19 July, 12-3pm **Bessemer Summer Fair**

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
Sunshine	Dylan P	Ricardo	Rory		
Moonbeam	Ayub	Catalina	Fox		
1JM	Olivia	Nickell	Luna	Maseyr	
1NS	Dylan	Felix	Tobi	Henry	Louie
1ST	Scarlett	Alden	Samuel	Arlo	
2SD	Georgios	Leila	Florence	Tilly	
2LT	Sadie	Leon	Sorrel	Teo	Jhane
3LS	Alexis	Yaseerah	Theo	Adam	
3CB	Taylan	Nyeela	Margot	Humaira	
3/4BW	Agibu	Rebecca	Jake	Evie	Y3 – Ava Y4 - Shafi
4BG	Idris	Sarah	Donatas	Alex	
4GS	Hari	Agnes	Wilfred	Ezra	
5RS	Noah	Lucien	Cavalli	Jadon	
5OF	Whole Class	Amelia	Billy	Runaah	Olivia
5FM	Amelia	Mariatu	Esther	Daniel	
6LM	Hameed			Rehana	
6SB	Kelvin			Emily	
6KL	Paul			Ruby	Aimenya

Individual Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Leonard	Teddy	Genny	Kebreab	Suraya	Kelvin

Timestable Rockstars Winning Classes

Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
2SD	3LS	5FM

House
Winners

Emeralds!



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.

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

 **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