

# 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

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 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>4YH</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

### **Next Term's Events**

15.04.24 – Inset day  
16.04.24 – Children return to school  
17.04.24 – 4BC and 4VG trips to Sainsbury's  
18.04.24 – 3NI, 3KL and 3/4BC trips to Sainsbury's  
22.04.24 – Earth Day  
23.04.24 – 3NI and 3KL trip to the Islamic Centre  
24.04.24 – 4BC and 4VG trip to the Islamic Centre  
25.04.24 – 3/4CB trip to the Islamic Centre  
24.04.24 – Year 5 to author talk at Alleyn's  
29.04.24 – 03.05.24 Science Week  
01.05.24 – Royal Institute science shows for Reception – Year 6  
01.05.24 – 3KL trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery  
02.05.24 – 3NI trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery  
06.05.24 – Bank Holiday, school closed  
07.05.24 – Year 3 trip to Pizza Express  
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  
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  
26.05.24 – Year 1 to JAGS music festival  
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  
11.06.24 – Years 3 and 4 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

### **Fundraising Concerts**

We feel incredibly lucky to announce that Bessemer parent and award-winning pianist Bill Laurance has very kindly offered to perform in two concerts to raise money through F@B to pay for our music provision across the school. Music lessons at Bessemer are taught by specialist music teachers which would not be possible without the hard work of F@B and the generosity of parents and carers. In this case we are particularly grateful to Bill Laurance for coming up with this great fundraising event.

F@B are working with Bill to organize two events, an afternoon concert which will include performances by children as well as by Bill himself, and an evening event at which Bill will perform again. As an original member of 5-time Grammy Award-winning group Snarky Puppy, Bill Laurance has toured the world countless times, playing hundreds of concerts to tens of thousands of fans worldwide, so this event promises to be one not to miss! There will be a bar available before the concert, so join us for drinks in the evening sunshine and a night of music, fun and community.

Tickets for the afternoon event will be 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.

Please have a look at the poster at the end of the newsletter and save the date for May 17<sup>th</sup>!

### **Science Week – resources needed!**

During science week at the end of April the children will be competing in an egg drop challenge in school. In preparation for this we are welcoming any donations of materials such as toilet rolls, straws, disposable cups, balloons, egg boxes, bubble wrap, plastic bags, cardboard boxes and string. Please ask your child to take any donations to their class teacher.

During science week we will also be enjoying the brilliant science shows from the Royal Institute and we will be sharing ideas for science experiments that you can carry out at home and details of a fun science competition.

### **Earth Day**

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be recognising Earth Day 2024 across the school. Earth Day is an annual event to demonstrate support for environmental protection; the theme this year is Planet vs. Plastics. We will be having a screen-free day across the school, with all lessons being taught without technology and outside where possible. Children will be spending time in the nature garden, learning about how we can do more for our environment and creating some environment-related art.

### **TimesTable Rockstars**

There is a poster at the end of the newsletter detailing a Timestable Rockstars competition taking place over the holiday.

Timestable Rockstars is a great way for all children to improve their times tables knowledge (which is really important for building confidence in lots of areas of maths), but is particularly important for children in Year 4 at the moment, as they have the national times table check next term. A few minutes a day on Timestable Rockstars can improve children's recall of multiplication facts very quickly, so this is the perfect time to get practising!

### **Word of the Week Competition**

Please see the Word of the Week section for details of another fun competition to keep you busy over the holiday!



## Sharing Children's Learning



A message from Alison Clark and the Computing Ambassadors:

We are happy to be able to announce the winners of the first Bessemer Scratch competition!

We were so pleased to see the amazing projects children had been working on, and the Computing Ambassadors had the best time getting to test out the games that had been made. It was difficult deciding who the final winners would be. We debated which we thought were the worthiest winners and held a vote which was very tight in many cases.

Overall, we hope that everyone has as much fun making their projects as we have had playing them. And, even if you didn't submit a project to the competition, we hope that some of you got to try out Scratch at home for the first time and show parents and carers something about what you have been learning to do at school and the cool things you can do with it.

The winners all received a BBC Micro:Bit, which is a programmable device that is able to sense sound, movement and light. The software can be accessed free online and can be used by anyone - even if you do not have a Micro:Bit. <https://makecode.microbit.org/>

Here are the winners with their prizes and the links to their games:



<u>YEAR 1</u>	<b>Georgios</b> we thought the workmanship was great – showed good control and motor skills. 
<u>YEAR 2</u>	<b>Ellie Mae</b> <a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/978961335/editor">https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/978961335/editor</a>
<u>Year 3</u>	<b>Maia</b> <a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/962084309/">https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/962084309/</a>
<u>YEAR 4</u>	<b>Esther</b> <a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/987681563">https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/987681563</a>
<u>YEAR 5</u>	<b>Lucy</b> <a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/962245724/">https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/962245724/</a>
<u>YEAR 6</u>	<b>Toren</b> <a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/964307312/">https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/964307312/</a>

## Sharing Children's Learning

Some of our Year 4 girls took part in a Girls United football competition against other schools this week:



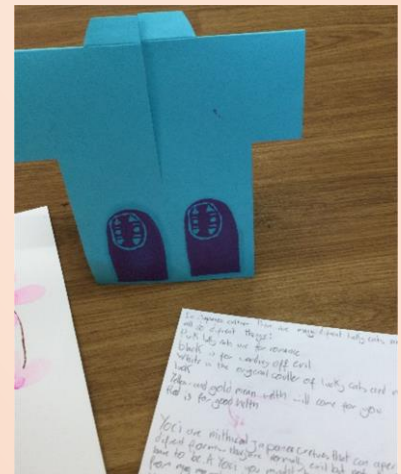
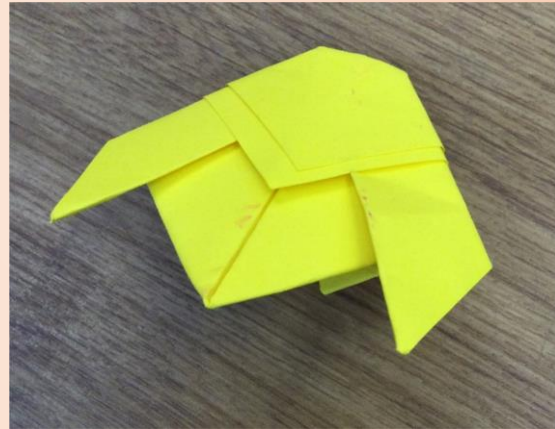
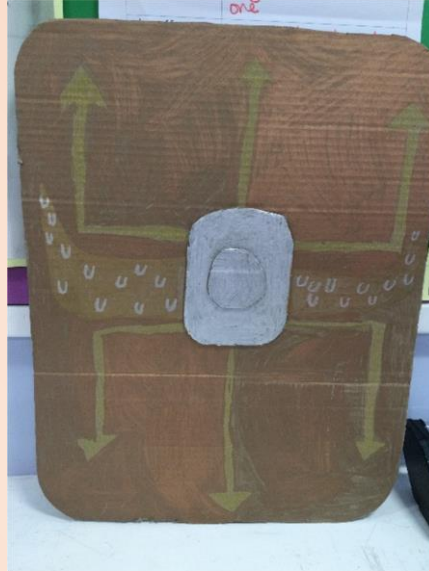
Children in Year 1 visited Crystal Palace Park this week as part of their study of the history of our local area. They went in search of the site of The Crystal Palace and other things that were in place at the time of The Great Exhibition, search as the dinosaur statues. Unfortunately the trip was cut short due to the weather, but everyone still had fun!





## Sharing Children's Learning

Once again we have been so impressed by the topic homework we have seen this term! Here are just a few examples of the amazing work children have brought in:



Knowledge Organisers and topic homework for next half term's topics were sent home today, we look forward to seeing more great home learning after the holiday!

## Word of the Week

### Word of the Week Competition!

We are running a competition for children to create their own riddle for the word of the week.

What do you need to do?

- Check our list of words of the week that have already been used (attached to the newsletter).
- Use a dictionary to pick a word that is not on the list. Think carefully about your word choice – it should be a word that not everyone knows yet but that could be useful.
- Write a riddle using up to four clues to help people work out your word. (Use riddles from previous weeks for inspiration if you want, or do something completely different!)
- Submit your word to the folder in your google classroom called “Word of the Week Competition” by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April or bring it to the school office on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April.

We will then pick 6 winners to be our words of the week for the first half of the Summer term; winners will have their riddles shared in the weekly newsletters.

## F@B Update

This year so far Bessemer families have raised an amazing £24,000 for the school through F@B. This has funded nature garden repairs (after the storms), school trips and learning enrichment, and the entire music programme for children from reception to year 6! Thank you everyone!

Next up, we want to support science week activities and purchase new early years playground equipment so that we can offer the younger children a beautiful space for them to play, explore and learn. We will - of course - need your help to achieve this! We can't wait to tell you about all the exciting things planned for next term.



♻️ Ps if anyone is running low on uniform stocks we can help! Our summer term stall is planned for Friday 26 April - pop by and help us to save clothing from landfill! ♻️

## Online Safety Tip of the Week

Do you wish you had more control over your child's devices? Follow this link to find out more about an app that enables you to set limits, track location and control app permission:

<https://families.google/familylink/>



Have a great holiday!

*Elizabeth*