

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 21st April 2023

- 25.04.23 – Class photos
- 27.04.23 – School closed, industrial action
- 28.04.23 – F@B Eid celebration
- 02.05.23 - School closed, industrial action
- 09.05.23 – 12.05.23 – Year 6 SATs
- 10.05.23 – Year 4 trip to The Science Museum
- 15.05.23 – 19.05.23 – Year 2 SATs
- 15.05.23 – 17.05.23 – Year 6 residential trip to The Bushcraft Centre
- 17.05.23 – Year 5 trip to Allyn's *Space* lecture
- 17.05.23 – Year 1 trip to The Horniman Museum
- 22.05.23 – Year 4 trip to The British Museum
- 23.05.23 – Year 6 trip to The Science Museum
- 23.05.23 – Reception trip to Sainsbury's
- 26.05.23 – Year 1 Singing Festival
- 06.06.23 – Year 6 trip to The Old Operating Theatre
- 12.06.23 – 16.06.23 – Year 4 multiplication check
- 12.06.23 – 16.06.23 – Year 1 phonics screening / Year 2 rescreening
- 29.06.23 – Nursery trip to The Horniman Museum
- 14.07.23 – Carnival
- 18.07.23 – Year 6 performance
- 19.07.23 – Year 6 graduation and disco
- 21.07.23 – Last day of term, 2pm finish

Class Assembly Dates

Friday 12 th May	5LW	Friday 5 th May	2OF
Friday 26 th May	1FP	Friday 19 th May	
Friday 30 th June	6MS	Friday 23 rd June	4YH

Library Visits

	10:00- 10:40	11:00 – 11:40
Thurs 27 th April	1AM	2OF
Fri 28 th April	Sunshine	2LS
Thurs 4 th May	Little Stars	5LW
Fri 5 th May	Rainbow	5JB
Thurs 11 th May	3LM	4KL
Fri 12 th May	3CB	3SB
Thurs 18 th May	1FP	5RS
Fri 19 th May	Butterflies	Lauren Todd's English group
Thurs 25 th May	6AC	6MS
Fri 26 th May	4YH	6CB

News and Reminders

Industrial Action

As we explained when we wrote to you earlier this week, members of the NEU trade union are taking strike action on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. This industrial action is taking place because no agreement on pay has been reached between the government and the NEU. The pay rise that teachers have been offered did not meet the level requested and did not come with an offer of additional funding for schools, meaning that pay rises would come from schools' existing and already overstretched budgets. It is for this reason that NEU members rejected the offer presented.

After careful consideration we have decided that we are unable to keep Bessemer open during the teachers' strikes while maintaining a safe environment for pupils and safe and reasonable working conditions for remaining staff. However, the wellbeing and education of our children is at the heart of everything that we do at Bessemer and our teachers do not take any action which could affect this lightly. As this strike action falls just before the Year 6 SATs it has been decided that on this occasion Year 6 will remain open on the strike days to ensure that the strike action does not cause additional worry to Year 6 children or their families or affect their performance in their SATs, which we know they have worked so hard for. Little Stars will also remain open as usual on the strike days.

After School Club will remain open on the strike days and is available for booking on Parentmail until Monday 24th April. School packed lunches can also be ordered for the strike days, they must be ordered on Parentmail by Monday 24th April and can then be collected from the office between 12 and 1pm on the days of the strikes. We would all like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for the overwhelming positivity that has been felt during the strike action, we are very grateful for all of your messages of support and understanding.

After School Activity Clubs

There are still some places available in some of our after-school activity clubs. Booking on Parentmail is now closed, but if you would like to book a club please call the school office where staff will be able to make the booking for you. If your child is entitled to pupil premium and you would like to ask about reduced price places (plus a limited number of free places) in activity clubs please speak to a member of the office staff.

Activity Clubs scheduled on strike days will be rescheduled for the week beginning 10th July.

Class Photos

Whole class photos are taking place on Tuesday 25th April, please make sure that your child is wearing full uniform on that day.

School Lunches Update

In response to feedback from children and parents we have been working with our catering company to address concerns and have made a number of changes. One recurring issue was that pizza portions were not big enough, so in response to this, from this term pizza slices are now being served with potato wedges as a side, along with the usual vegetable, salad and bread options.

Snacks

Please remember that children in KS2 are only allowed to bring fruit, vegetables, plain rice cakes or plain breadsticks for their morning snacks. We know that there are other, equally healthy snacks, but the reason for this limitation is ensuring that teachers do not need to spend teaching time assessing whether individual snacks are healthy options or not.

Family Art Day

The next Family Art Day at the October Gallery will be Saturday 29th April 2023, 10am-12pm. It is a free drop-in session open to families with children of all ages. Please see the flier at the end of the newsletter for more information.

Sharing Children's Learning

As part of their *Space* topic, Year 5 have started the term with a Design and Technology project. They spent the first part of the week designing and creating buildings for a settlement on Mars, ensuring that their designs considered all of the environmental challenges the planet presents.



Sharing Children's Learning

Children from all year groups across the school have been enjoying half termly visits to the local library, which supports our ongoing focus on the importance of reading.



Word of the Week

The Word of the Week next week is **inevitable**. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and try using it in different ways in sentences. You could try adding a suffix to make a new word, **inevitability**. 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 these words as much as possible so that they become 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

This week we are looking to find a new volunteer to lend a special hand with the Bessemer chickens. A volunteer crew, led by Clare, take it in turns to look after our feathered friends at weekends and during school holidays. Now Clare is looking for someone who can take on a deputy role and give a bit of extra support. If you'd like to find out more please email us on fab@friendsatbessemer.co.uk

We also have two exciting events coming up! This Friday after school we have our delayed egg hunt activity and snack stall - and you will also find yummy cakes being sold in aid of Greenpeace, organised by the Bessemer school council. Don't forget to bring coins/cash.

Next Friday 28 April is the date when we will have an Eid celebration. We hope you can help us to make this a really special event.

- Can you contribute food? Lots of our Muslim families are contributing already but we are still looking for more offers of food please! If you can bring along a rice dish or other dish or snacks on the day we would love to hear from you!
 - Can you bring cakes or cookies? We'll have a snack stall and cake stall on the day and would love any yummy treats that you can contribute
 - Can you volunteer on the day? We need help with set up from 2.30pm and running the stalls
- If you can help please contact Nicola on 07967 044379

We are hoping to make this event a fantastic celebration that brings our whole school community together! It's been a hugely popular event in recent years and we're very grateful to all the parent chefs who do so much work to make it all happen.

E-Safety Tip of the Week

It is important as parents to be aware of your child's life online. Some of the most common areas of concern for parents include use of apps, bullying, gaming, instant messaging and online streaming. Attached to this week's newsletter is a leaflet with advice and links to useful websites for parents relating to these concerns.





Celebrations!

Certificates

Rainbow	Dora	Jolyon	Leon		
Sunshine	Jasper	Annabelle	Emily		
1AM	Kenza	Omar	Ava	Ferhot	Callum
1EB	Simon	Ava	Malachi	Margot P	
1NS	Ruby	Temu	Humaira	Jules	
2FW	Otis	Fred	Marco	Elliott	
2LS	Aidan	Sarah	Leo	Sophie	Leonel
2OF	Brandon	Salome	Richard	Maia	
3LM	Sam	Camila	Amelia	Callum	Elena
3CB	Callum	Mariatu	Isobel	Sophie	
3SB	Leo	Fran	Sharon	Amelia	
4KL	Owen	Violet	Neron	Lorelie	
4YH	Valentina	Carter	Janessa	Ozgur	
4FM	Rehana	Tayo	Bill	Lucy B	
5JB	Phoebe	Keira	Iona	Lukas	
5RS	Pearl Summer Toren Rufus				
5LW	Joe Una Flora				
6MS	Dayo	Nife	Yasmin	Alex	Dora
6CB	Josh	Freida	Charlotte	Ibrahim	
6AC	Jaanai	Tillie	Osian	Sofia	

Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Zak	Ben	Abemelek	Myriam	Khadijah	Amelia

Timestable Rockstars winning classes: **2OF, 4FM** and **5RS**

This week's house winners: Diamonds!



Have a great weekend!

Elizabeth