

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 21st July 2023

6.9.23 – First day back for children in Years 1-6

6.9.23-7.9.23 – Stay and play sessions for new Nursery and Reception children

8.9.23 – First day of school for Nursery and Reception

Next Year's Term Dates

Term Dates 2023-2024

September 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2023						
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30	31					

November 2023						
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December 2023						
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January 2024						
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29	30	31				

February 2024						
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March 2024						
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April 2024						
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May 2024						
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June 2024						
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July 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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29	30	31				

August 2024						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

School Holidays

INSET Days

Tutorial Day

Bank Holidays

News and Reminders

Saying Goodbye

We have been saying goodbye to our Year 6 children this week. We enjoyed their fantastic production of Macbeth on Tuesday, the children were amazing! They put on a brilliant performance which was obviously the result of a great deal of hard work from all of the children and staff, and lots of the parents as well. Thank you to everyone involved!

We continued the week with the Year 6 graduation, when we said goodbye to the children individually and presented them with their leavers' certificate, yearbook and t-shirt, as well as a portfolio of work charting their journey through the years at Bessemer.

The graduation was followed by the year 6 disco, where everyone had a great time and showed off their dance moves!

We ended the week with the highly anticipated staff V Year 6 football match, always a very competitive event! After a really fun match, Year 6 beat the teachers 4-3, well done Year 6!

We send our Year 6 children off to secondary school with our very best wishes, all the luck in the world and the absolute belief that they are fully equipped for any challenges they face and to become amazing members of the society we hope to see in their future. Goodbye and good luck Year 6!

Home Reading and Timestable Rockstars

We have seen amazing progress in reading this year thanks to our daily reading initiative in school. This has been massively supported by daily home reading. Please keep this up over the holiday, it makes an enormous difference, not only to children's reading, but also to their speaking and listening, their writing and their understanding of the wider curriculum.

Please also try to keep up the use of Timestable Rockstars over the summer. We will be relaunching this in September, with a focus on where Bessemer is in the local schools' league table, so please help us get ahead!

Universal Free School Meals

Please see the attached letter from the mayor, regarding Universal Free School Meals.

Summer Reading Challenge

Please use the link below to find out about Southwark Libraries' summer reading challenge:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/events-culture-and-heritage/56355/62183/summer-reading-challenge-2023?c=56>

Summer of Food and Fun

Please use the link below to find out more about Southwark's Summer of Food and Fun. This is free programme for children who are entitled to free school meals and provides a range of fun activities as well as daily lunches free of charge.

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/health-advice-and-support/healthy-eating?chapter=8>

Summer Camps

Please see the flyers at the end of the newsletter for a range of summer holiday childcare and activity provision.

Carnival

Despite the weather, we all had a great time at our annual Bessemer carnival! We paraded, sang and danced in the rain and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers brave the downpour to come and join us. Thank you to Lauren Todd, Rebecca Steel, Lydia Saunders and Colin Mcguigan for organizing it.



Sharing Children's Learning

Children in Reception went out on the final trips of this school year this week, visiting Crystal Palace Park and Farm:



Word of the Week

Please try to use this term's words of the week over the holiday to continue to develop your child's vocabulary. Here are the words we have learnt this term:

inevitable
perilous
yearn

ludicrous
maintain
roam

quest
dubious
daunting

immense
squeamish
nostalgic

Try challenging your child to use the words in sentences, or to match the word to its definition, or make up games of your own!

F@B Update

👏 A massive thank you to everyone who supported the Bessemer Summer fair and raffle. We had such a fun afternoon on Saturday and the rain stayed away! ☀️

In particular thank you to the amazing **volunteer crew** who cooked for us and worked on all the stalls and helpers with set up and tidy up. We couldn't do it without you! Special thanks also to the performers - they were incredible! 😊 🎭 👤

We are really delighted to be able to announce our **fundraising total** from the event. When we combine the money raised through our summer raffle, Urban Village sponsorship, and summer fair takings we have reached a VERY impressive total of **over £7,000!** 🎉

This is going to make a fantastic difference at Bessemer. Huge thanks to everyone involved 😊

One final message is to share that a warm welcome awaits any parents who join our **F@B WhatsApp group** where we chat about events coming up, share ideas and coordinate volunteers for stalls. Here's the link:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ld4xuFj6Gzi3QQetELLaf7>

Happy holidays everyone! 🙌

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Your child is likely to spend more time on line over the holiday, to ensure they are safe online please have a look at this helpful website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>





Celebrations!

At the end of each year, every year group chooses two children for special achievement certificates in various areas of the curriculum.

	Reception	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five
Maths	Djene Josiah	Amina Rimas	Richard Leo S	Johnny Holly	Aimenya Ezekiel	Cristobel Eddie
Reading	Laura Eve	Margot P Albie	Isaiah Rene	Nicholas Tobias	Ali George	Victoria Yousef
Writing	Samiya Sophia	Aymar Maya	Phoenix M Agnes	Stella- Lucia Sam	Arda Einass	Brogan Yousef
PE	Ruona Kiyoko	Rebecca Keyan	Salome Fred	Lacey Leo	Owen W Akila	Zahid William
Science	Yousef Riaz	Margaret GC Dougie	Idris Leila	Abdullah Sharon	Carter Rehana	Freya Oscar
Computing		Bella Dylan	Ezra Oscar	Uriel Abemelek	Milo Lucy B	Amani Marley
Humanities / Understanding of the World	Leon Lyra	Ivor Emma	Beau Mikey	Olivia Isobel	Kitty Emily	Gen Adam
Creative	Sadie Florence	Henry Nyeem	Marco Sophie	Olha William	Jonathan Eve	Olesia Hasiba



Thank you everyone for all of your support this year, we are so grateful for our Bessemer community! Have a very happy, safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Elizabeth



Herne Hill Velodrome

Throughout the school summer holidays we will be running holiday club sessions for riders aged 8-16yrs both on the track and mountain biking on our off road trails. Our holiday clubs are designed to enable young people of all abilities to develop their skills at their own pace as well as have fun and make friends during the holidays in an engaging and active day.

Running Monday - Friday from 24th July until 2nd September, no previous experience is necessary as our experienced coaches will be on hand to provide instruction as needed. Running 10am - 3pm with an hour break for lunch, sessions will include lots of fun and games on bikes. We offer sibling discounts and subsidies for those on low income and you are free to book a single session or a number of days. More details about our holiday clubs and how to book are [here](#).

For any youngsters under the age of 8, we will continue to run our extensive schedule of cycling sessions whether your young people need help to learn to cycle, are already pedalling or are looking to improve their bike handling and skills. More details of our under 8 sessions and how to book are [here](#).

MAYOR OF LONDON

London Borough of Southwark

Date: July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I'm delighted to inform you that City Hall is ensuring all primary school children who attend state schools in London will receive **free school meals** for the full academic year, starting this September.

As Mayor of London, I know parents/carers are really struggling with the cost-of-living crisis right now. That's why I've taken the decision to provide funding to expand on the Government's limited existing free school meals offer. This means all state funded primary school children in London are now eligible for free school meals.

Your borough has been doing wonderful work to deliver universal free school meals for primary school children already and I'm delighted to be able to provide them with the funding to do this for the next year.

The funding we're providing will help up to 270,000 primary school children in London, like yours, access free school meals and could **save your family upwards of £440 across the year.**

Your child will receive their free school meals automatically, but it's vitally important that you still complete your school or borough's registration form in case your child is eligible for extra funding for their school from the Government, worth £1,300 per year. That's extra money to spend on enrichment activities, teacher development, and targeted support for the children that need it most. Depending on how schemes operate in your borough, it may also entitle you to other benefits like food vouchers during the holidays. There is more information about registration in your borough here: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/information-for-parents/financial-support/free-school-meals>.



City Hall, Kamal Chunchie Way, London E16 1ZE
mayor@london.gov.uk ♦ london.gov.uk ♦ 020 7983 4000

MAYOR OF LONDON

Those parents/carers whose children already qualify for free school meals under the Government's existing offer must also continue to apply for free school meals as before.

My administration has taken the unprecedented step of providing this funding because we're deeply concerned by the number of primary school children going hungry in London's classrooms. Eligibility criteria for the Government's existing free school meals offer is strict, which means many parents/carers and children who need this helping hand have been missing out. But from September – thanks to our intervention – that will all change as part of our effort to build a better London for everyone.

As someone who received free school meals myself, I'm incredibly proud that we're able to step up and provide this crucial lifeline to London's families during such tough economic times. I firmly believe that every child deserves the chance to be able to grow up healthy and thrive, regardless of their background or circumstances. But for this to happen, children must be able to access healthy, nutritious meals.

My online hub for families provides all the information you need about our scheme. Please find the link here: <https://www.london.gov.uk/free-school-meals>.

Families who are struggling with their financial situation can also access advice and support by visiting my cost-of-living hub here: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/communities-and-social-justice/help-cost-living>.

Your school will be in touch with more details of how you can take up the offer of the free school meals. I wish your family a happy and healthy academic year – and I hope they enjoy their free school meals.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London



Dear parents,

With the holidays fast approaching, we thought we would tell you about some new initiatives running over the summer and beyond. These are part of Southwark Council's Streets for People initiative which aims to improve air quality, by moving away from favouring cars to free up more space for walking, public transport and cycling. You can learn more about Streets for People here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/streetsforpeople>

Free cycle training

There will be free family learn to ride sessions in Burgess Park every day during August. There will also be sessions for women and girls. Sessions fill up fast, so book your place today.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/joyriders-britain-42543996813>

BetterPoints Southwark

This new app encourages users to record their travel with the free app and rewards users with points that can be spent at participating businesses or donated to charity.

Download the app today for your chance to win an electric folding bike.

<https://southwark.betterpoints.uk/>

Summer in Southwark

This summer we have lots of activities for children and young people across the borough. It's time to get out and enjoy the sunshine. To find out more, click below:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/summerinsouthwark>



THEATRE TROUPERS

DRAMA SUMMER SCHOOL FOR WELLBEING

FOR 5-11 YEAR OLDS
IN SOUTHWARK AND
LAMBETH



5-7 years

**10:30AM-
12:30PM**

8-11 years

**1PM-
3PM**

£40

£20 concessions
£15 per child sibling
discount

Monday 14th - Friday 18th August

- ✓ Have fun
- ✓ Make friends
- ✓ Build your confidence
- ✓ Forget about your worries for a while

Southwark Playhouse
Elephant
Dante Road
SE11 4RX



"THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE SHE CAN BE HERSELF" (PARENT, 2023)



“THEATRE TROUPE IS A REALLY BIG DEAL FOR ME BECAUSE I DON’T USUALLY TALK TO PEOPLE.” (PARTICIPANT, 2022)

Theatre Troupers is a summer holiday programme for children who like drama, or want to give it a go, and may be going through things that are a bit difficult at the moment.

We know lots of children are struggling, especially since COVID & we want to do something about that!

Theatre Troupe are experts in providing high quality arts projects for good mental health. Our supported activities give every child the chance to relax, express themselves, build self-esteem and gain confidence in social situations.

We welcome anyone who'd like to meet other people, have fun and have a break from their worries for a while.

Participants need to be able to work in small groups. For those who find this challenging we can talk to you about our specialist, high support Youth Troupe programmes.

For more information, and to book a place, please contact Emily on:

emily@theatretroupe.org

07951047015

@TheatreTroupeUK

www.theatretroupe.org
Registered Charity No. 1197879



SSFA

SSFA provides SATURDAY morning Football coaching for 4 - 11 year olds.

We are based at Peckham Rye Park and sessions are conducted by Coach Denzil, Coach Simon and other SSFA Coaching staff.

We also have 2 upcoming Football Camps for 5 - 11year olds from 9am - 3pm.

The first camp is for the 2 day teachers' strike:
Wednesday 5th July & Friday 7th July

The second, is our Annual Summer Football
Camp:

Monday 24th July - Friday 28th July

&

Monday 21st August - Friday 25th August

If you are interested in any of the above, please can you message 07522425931 with your child's name, age and dates/session/camp you wish for them to attend.