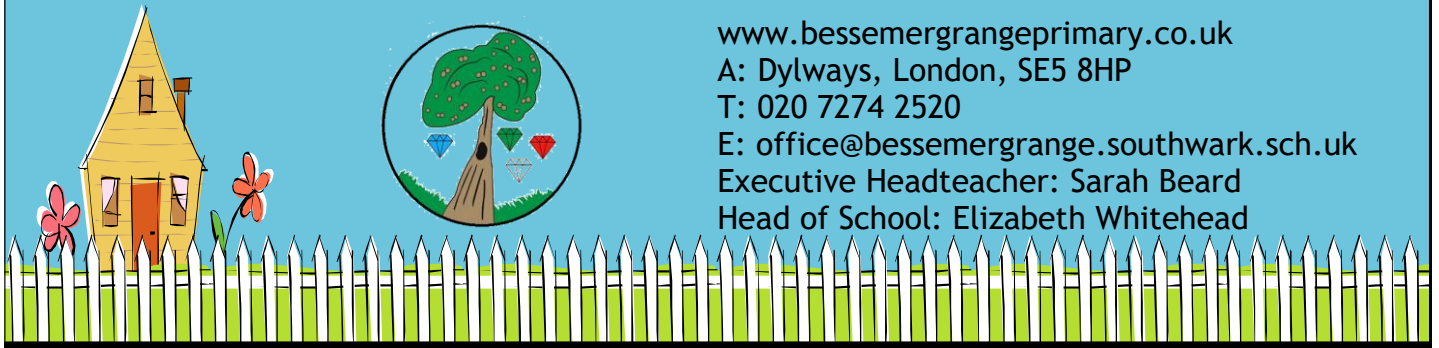


BESSEMER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Executive Headteacher: Sarah Beard
Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th September - first day back for Nursery and Reception
Thursday 9th September - Year 3 Stone age trip
Monday 13th September - Year 2 Pirate Dress Up day

News and Reminders

Welcome Back

I hope everyone has had a restful summer break and a smooth return to school. It is lovely to see everyone again and to be beginning to get back to 'normal'! The children are very happy to be mixing with their friends from other year groups in the playground again and to be eating hot lunches in the hall every day.

New Staff

We are very happy to welcome some new staff this term. Samantha Beeton is a new teacher in Year 6 and Oliver Finegold has joined us to teach Year 2. In addition, we welcome Jamilla Clarke who is working in Moonbeam class and Nekay Lewin who has joined the Little Stars team. Kristen Hoogland, Deputy Head for Inclusion at Keyworth is now fulfilling this role across the federation, Lori Knight has joined the federation as a SENCo and Xavier Somerville will be supporting children across the federation.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Capacity in Breakfast and After School Clubs has returned to normal and is once again available to anyone who wishes to book a place. Bookings are made on Parentmail, please contact the office if you have any difficulties with this.

P.E.

We are now changing for P.E. again rather than wearing P.E. kits to school. Every child in Years 1-6 should have a P.E. kit in school every day, bringing it home at weekends to wash and returning it on Mondays.

Reading

We are relaunching our home reading scheme this term. We have invested in new books for our book corners which children can borrow to read at home, and in our reading scheme books. Research shows that children who read for pleasure have an advantage over others when it comes to their wellbeing, their communication skills and their academic success. With this in mind it is essential that we do our best to ensure that all our children develop a love of reading and are able to read fluently.

We have ordered new reading diaries to support home reading, unfortunately their delivery has been delayed. We have quickly made some interim diaries so that we can get started with home reading, these will be replaced when the new ones arrive. The new diaries have spaces for five home reads on each page, then a space for a sticker at the bottom. Children will earn bronze, silver and gold stickers for every five reads, then a certificate for every 50 reads. Please try to make time for your child to read to an adult for 15-20 minutes a day, or if your child is older and a fluent reader who reads alone, please allow time to talk to them about their book and ask questions to check and develop their understanding. Please make sure that you sign their reading diary whenever they read with you at home.

Home Learning

Next week you will receive your child's topic homework, with optional tasks and activities that you can do relating to their topic this half term. You should also have login details for Mathletics, Reading Eggs and Timestable Rockstars which you can use to support your child's learning at home if you wish. If your child is new to Bessemer you will receive login details in the next week or two. In addition children in Years 1-6 will have spelling and maths rocket cards which give you an indication of the skills expected for their year group so that you can practise these at home if needed. Children in KS2 will receive a piece of maths homework each week based on their rocket targets. The majority of home learning activities are shared on Google Classroom, so it is a good idea to check this weekly.

Please remember that all home learning tasks at Bessemer are optional, with the exception of home reading and Year 6 maths homework, although we do encourage you to use some of these other resources if you can, especially if you feel your child needs some extra practise in certain areas. However, we do not want you or your children to feel overwhelmed by this, and there is absolutely no expectation that you are completing all of the tasks available!

Have a great weekend!

Elizabeth