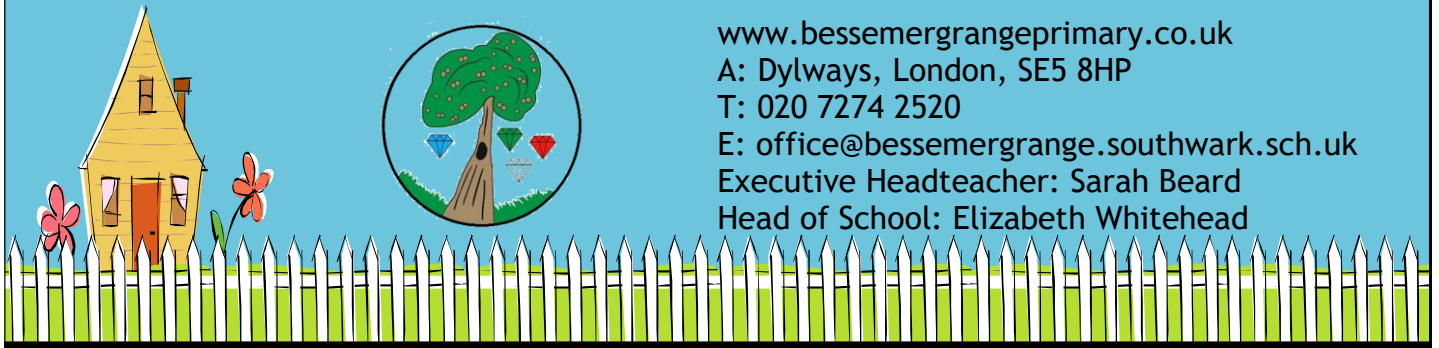


# BESSEMER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Executive Headteacher: Sarah Beard

Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January - Year 4 trip to Sainsbury's

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Year 6 Junior Citizenship trip

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February - Year 5 London Eye trip

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February - NSPCC Number Day

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Tutorial Day, school closed for children

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February - Half term break

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February - Children return to school

## News and Reminders

### **Our Federation**

We have taken the decision to rename our federation *The Gem Federation* as our gem house point system is a key similarity between Bessemer and Keyworth, and *The Bessemer and Keyworth Federation* is a very long name to use for our website and other purposes! Both schools retain their individual names, we are now *Bessemer Primary School, part of The Gem Federation*.

### **Website**

We have a new and improved website! Please have a look by following the link

[www.thegemfederation.co.uk](http://www.thegemfederation.co.uk) A Google search for Bessemer will also take you to the new website.

### **Activity Clubs**

We have booked a number of after school activity clubs which will start in the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> January and run for eight weeks. We will send the club list and booking information out next week. As usual, clubs will be booked on Parentmail and on a first come, first served basis, although children will only be allowed a place in one club. If there are any places left in clubs once everyone has had a chance to book then these places will be rereleased for booking. We have really struggled to find providers for some of our clubs but hope we have managed to provide a good range. Please note that all outdoor clubs will continue to take place outside even if it is cold or raining, unless the rain is so heavy that this is not appropriate, or temperatures make this unsafe, so please consider this when booking clubs and ensure children are dressed appropriately.

### **Interventions**

Due to staff shortages across the school and with reference to current government guidance, we have taken the unfortunate decision to suspend many interventions for this half term. Many small group interventions will not be taking place for the next 6 weeks. Where possible, specialist interventions (for example Speech and Language Therapy) will be prioritised.

### **Volunteer Readers**

We would very much like to welcome all volunteer readers back to school, starting next week if possible. Please confirm that you are happy to return by speaking to the teacher you were working with or emailing the school office. We are also very happy to welcome new volunteers, please email the office if you are interested.

### **Tutorial Day**

Tutorial Day will be taking place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. School will be closed to children for the day and you will be invited to make an appointment to see your child's teacher during the day to discuss their progress, targets and wellbeing.

### **Covid Update**

We are continuing to take reasonable precautions to limit the spread of Covid and to keep school open. We are asking staff to take regular lateral flow tests and to wear face coverings while moving around the school and children are reminded to 'catch it, bin it, kill it' and to wash their hands regularly. We will continue to inform you if there is a new Covid case in your child's class and we ask that you keep your child at home and carry out a lateral flow test if they develop Covid symptoms, including the cold-like symptoms that appear typical of the Omicron variant.

### **Celebrating Children's Home Learning**

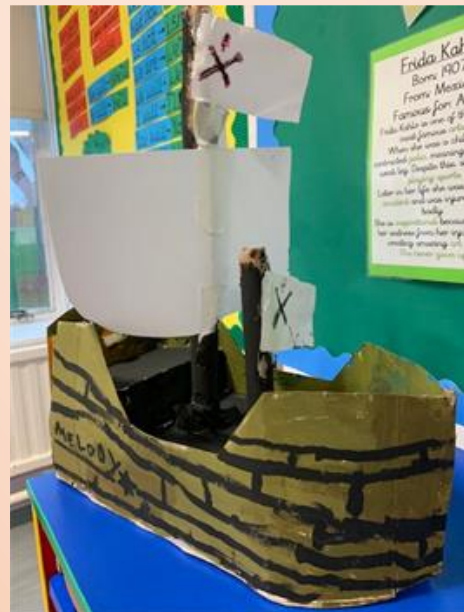
You will have received your child's topic homework for this half term, providing suggestions of tasks and activities that you could do at home as part of their topic. We love it when children bring their topic homework in to show us, here are a few (or quite a lot really, they were all so good I couldn't choose!) great examples from last term:

















Well done to everyone who brought some homework in, I am looking forward to sharing more at the end of this half term!

### Word of the Week

The Word of the Week is back! Each week we will share a new word which we would like the children to add to their vocabulary. Some children may already know it, some may never have heard of it. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and perhaps research its origin, then try to use it as much as possible so that it becomes part of their vocabulary. This week's word is **temporary / temporarily**. Children will receive gems for using the word in their speech and writing and for explaining its meaning and origin.

Have a great Weekend!

*Elizabeth*