

# Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



**Part of The Gem Federation**

[www.thegemfederation.co.uk](http://www.thegemfederation.co.uk)

**Executive Headteacher:** Sarah Beard

**Address:** Dylways, London, SE5 8HP

**Email:** [office@bessemergrange.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@bessemergrange.southwark.sch.uk)

**Telephone:** 020 7 274 2520

**Head of School:** Elizabeth Whitehead

## Dates for your Diary

- 13.9.22 - Year 1 phonics workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 21.9.22 - Reception maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 5.10.22 - Year 6 English workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 7.10.22 - Year 1 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 11.10.22 - Parents' evening
- 12.10.22 - Parents' evening
- 12.10.22 - Year 6 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 19.10.22 - Reception reading and phonics workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 19.10.22 - Nursery Communication and Language workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 19.10.22 - Early Years Celebration Day, 10am (after workshops)
- 8.10.22 - Year 1 Celebration Day, 9.15am
- 10.10.22 - Year 1 Celebration Day, 9.15am
- 24.10.22 - 28.10.22 - Half term break
- 32.10.22 - Children return to school

## News and Reminders

### **Welcome**

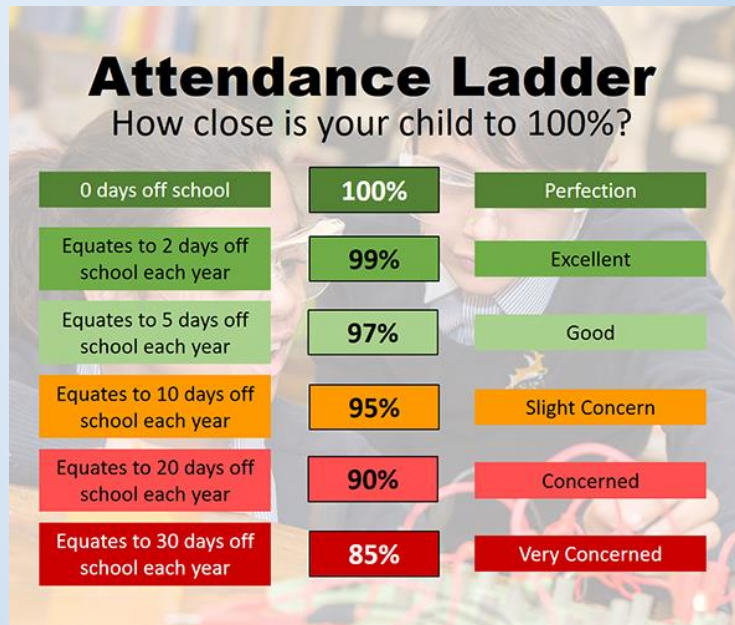
Welcome back! It is lovely to see everyone again and we hope you all enjoyed the summer and that your children are excited about the year ahead. Please remember that if your child has any issues regarding the return to school, or you have any concerns you can speak to their class teacher at the end of the school day. If your concerns are more urgent, please contact the school office and your child's phase leader or another member of the senior leadership team will be happy to give you a call.

### **Queen Elizabeth II**

Following the sad news yesterday of the death of Queen Elizabeth II classes across KS1 and KS2 have been having discussions in class about the life and death of the Queen and watching age appropriate materials such as Newsround to support this. Next week we will have assemblies focused on coming together to celebrate her incredible 70 year reign.

## Attendance and Punctuality

Our school target for attendance is 96% and we are proud to say that most children achieve this target. Children with good school attendance achieve better academically and are also often more settled in school. Please use the ladder below to monitor your child's attendance. Children should not attend school if they have a high temperature, vomiting or diarrhea or a childhood illness such as chicken pox, however there are many situations where a child is slightly unwell but can still come to school, e.g. when they have a cough or cold or other mild illness. If you are unsure of whether your child should be in school please ask. If your child becomes unwell, or more unwell, during the school day we will call you to collect them.



It is really important that your child is on time for school every day. Lessons start promptly every morning and children who are late, even by 5 minutes, miss valuable teaching input and are then likely to fall behind or struggle with the rest of the lesson. All children should be either in their classroom (KS1 and EYs) or in their playground (KS2) before 9am. The gates for different year groups open at staggered times to ensure that siblings in different years can all get to class on time:

KS2 gates (3/4 and 5/6) open at 8.45am

KS1 gate and courtyards open at 8.50am

Early Years gate (Nursery and Reception) opens at 8.55am

Please drop older siblings off first to ensure that everyone is in class on time.

All gates close by 9.05am at the latest, this is to allow time for KS1 and EYs parents and carers to leave again after dropping their children off, so please allow time for this.

When children arrive after the gates have closed this is disruptive for the office staff and for the children's learning, so please arrive in good time.

### **Uniform and PE Kit**

All children should be wearing school uniform every day. Uniform consists of navy trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore with a white polo T-shirt or shirt and a red jumper or cardigan. The jumper / cardigan can be the Bessemer ones available from the school office, or a plain red jumper or cardigan. Children should wear sensible shoes appropriate for playing, trainers are allowed. In warmer weather a red and white checked dress (or the culottes version of a summer dress) is also part of the uniform.

On their PE days children should wear their PE kit to school (older children should have a spare T-shirt or shirt to change into afterwards if needed). PE kit consists of navy tracksuit bottoms, shorts or leggings with either a white polo T-shirt or a Bessemer house T-shirt. Children must wear trainers or plimsolls on PE days. If you are unable to provide navy bottoms black or grey are acceptable, however these should be plain. Children should wear their usual school jumper or cardigan with their PE kit.

### **Reading**

We will be having a huge focus on reading this year. We are continuing to develop our class libraries, ensuring that our books reflect the diversity of our families and community and we are investing in lots of new reading scheme books to ensure that children access quality texts that best support their learning. We will be continuing with our focus on home reading, giving stickers for every five reads and certificates for every 50 reads (please make sure your child reads at home every day, this makes a massive difference to their attainment!) and we will also be ensuring that children who are below age expected levels in reading have the opportunity to read 1:1 to an adult in school every day.

We would really like to have as many reading volunteers back as possible, particularly those for whom we have already processed DBS checks. If you are able to continue to support reading in school, whether you can spare half an hour a day or an afternoon a week, please speak to your child's teacher.

### **Word of the Week**

The Word of the Week next week is **appreciate / appreciation**. 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. 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*



# Nature Explorers for Families

At the Centre for Wildlife Gardening  
28 Marsden Road SE15 4EE



After school on Mondays  
From 19th September until 14th  
November 3.45 till 5pm  
Aimed at families with primary school  
age children but younger ones can  
accompany you. Mums and Dads  
who are Southwark residents only.  
Free and fun! Come for a taster on  
19th September!

Discover the wildlife on  
your doorstep with  
games, minibeast  
hunting, pond dipping,  
crafts, planting and more  
in our garden nature  
reserve.



Funded by



To find out more and for booking visit [www.wildlondon.org.uk/events](http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/events) or  
contact [Diana dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:Diana.dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk)