

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 10th January 2025

Term Dates 2024-25

September 2024						
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 2024						
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28	29	30	31			

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025						
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March 2025						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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July 2025						
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28	29	30	31			

August 2025						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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School Holidays

INSET Days

Tutorial Day

Bank Holidays

This Year's Class Assembly Dates

Class assemblies take place at 9.15 am on Thursday mornings and last for about 15 minutes. Parents and carers are invited to come along and watch their children present their learning from their half termly topic.

Years 1,2 and 3		Years 4,5 and 6	
Thursday 21 st November	1NS	Thursday 28 th November	5FM
Thursday 30 th January	3/4BW	Thursday 6 th February	6LM
Thursday 13 th February	2SD	Thursday 13 th March	6MS
Thursday 20 th March	2LT	Thursday 27 th March	4BG
Thursday 3 rd April	3LS	Thursday 8 th May	5RS
Thursday 15 th May	3NI	Thursday 22 nd May	4GS
Thursday 5 th June		Thursday 12 th June	6SB
Thursday 19 th June	1ST	Thursday 26 th June	5OF
Thursday 3 rd July	1JM		

Dates for your Diary

Upcoming Events for the Spring Term:

WB 13.01.25 – Activity clubs start
31.01.25 – Years 5 and 6 to author talk at JAGS
WB 03.02.25 – Children’s Mental Health Week
03.02.25 – Year 5 Young Voices concert at the O2
06.02.25 – Safer Internet Day
07.02.25 – NSPCC Number Day (number themed dress up)
12.02.25 – Year 5 trip to The London Eye
13.02.25 – last day of this half term for children
14.02.25 – Tutorial day, school closed to children
WB 17.02.25 – Half term holiday
24.02.25 – Children return to school
06.03.25 – World Book Day (book themed dress up)
07.03.25 – International Women’s Day

Please check this page weekly as dates will be added throughout the term.

Spring Term Library Visits

Each term every class has the opportunity to visit Grove Vale library. Children spend some time exploring the library, younger children often have a story session and then all children borrow a book to bring back to school with them. If you are able to accompany your child’s class on their library visit please speak to their class teacher.

	10.20-11.00		10.20-11.00
Thurs 9 th Jan	6LM	Thurs 27 th Feb	3LS
Fri 10 th Jan	6MS	Fri 28 th Feb	2LT
Thurs 16 th Jan	6SB	Thurs 6 th March	2SD
Fri 17 th Jan	5RS	Fri 7 th March	1JM
Thurs 23 rd Jan	5FM	Thurs 13 th March	1NS
Fri 24 th Jan	5OF	Fri 14 th March	1ST
Thurs 30 th Jan	4GS	Thurs 20 th March	Moonbeam
Fri 31 st Jan	4BG	Fri 21 st March	Sunshine
Thurs 6 th Feb	3/4BW	Thurs 27 th March	Ladybird
Fri 7 th Feb	3NI	Fri 28 th March	Butterfly

News and Reminders

House Captains

Our House Captains for this half term are Lucy, Azariah, Arda and Max.

House captains are responsible for counting up each house's gem total every week as well as taking on other duties around the school.



Attendance and Punctuality



Our school attendance target is 96%. The reason that attendance is so important to us is that poor attendance and punctuality has a negative effect on children's academic progress and their social and emotional wellbeing. We understand that some absence due to illness is unavoidable, but we ask that children return to school as soon as possible after an illness. When children miss days of school or miss lessons due to arriving late they fall behind in their learning, miss out on experiences and may become reluctant to attend school as a result. We are very rarely able to authorise absence for anything other than illness or medical appointments; please do not request term time absence for holidays as we are unable to authorise it and you may receive a fine.

School starts promptly at 9am in the mornings. We open our gates at staggered times to ensure that everyone can be in school on time. KS2 gates open at 8.45am, KS1 at 8.50am and Early Years at 8.55am. Please drop older siblings off first to ensure everyone is in their classroom or their line in the playground at 9am. Missing just the first few minutes of the day puts children at a disadvantage as lessons start as soon as children reach their classrooms and those who arrive late miss the start of the lesson.

Reception Applications

The deadline for applying for your child's place in Reception is January 15th. If your child is due to start Reception in September 2025 you must apply for their place by this date, even if they are already attending Nursery at Bessemer. You can use this link to find out how to make your application.

<https://services.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/how-to-apply-online>

Reading Challenge

This winter, Grove Vale Library is running the Winter Reading Challenge. This is similar to the Summer Reading Challenge; children have to read books between now and the end of February. Children create an account on the website of The Reading Agency, which is the organisation that created the Summer Reading Challenge, and fill in the details there.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Sharing Children's Learning
Demonstrating our core value of being *Creative and Practical*

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Word of the Week

Word of the Week is all about developing children's vocabularies by increasing the number of words they know and use. Making these challenging words part of their vocabulary improves children's speaking and listening, reading and writing skills.

The Word of the Week next week is **bellow**. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and try using it in different ways in sentences. You could add a suffix to make a new word, e.g. **bellowed**, **bellowing**.

Try to use the word of the week as much as possible so that it becomes part of your child's vocabulary. Children will receive gems in school for using the word in their speech and writing and for explaining its meaning and origin.

F@B Update

Last term we raised an amazing **£13,500** - thank you everyone!

We're just getting ideas together for the spring term and we're keen to hear your suggestions!

Please do connect with us and share your ideas via the Team F@B WhatsApp or on email: fab@friendsatbessemer.co.uk

Online Safety Tip of the Week

How does going online affect our children's well-being (and our own)?

Being online can affect children's well-being in many ways. We can reduce this by managing the content children see, ensuring the interactions they have with others online is suitable and managing how long they are online, in balance with other activities.

For more advice about this and other topics, visit:

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

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/>

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/how-much-time-should-i-spend-online/>





Celebrations!

Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
Sunshine	Jude	Anaiah-Rose	Thomas		
Moonbeam	Dylan O	Yahya	Ayah		
1JM	Angus	Rex	Ben	Abigail	
1NS	Arlo	Hadley	Liam	Tobi	
1ST	Nasir	Joe	Atreen	Rudy	Scarlett
2SD	Johnny	Eleanore	Freddie	Florence	
2LT	Mason	Teo	Lucy	Larry	Sam
3LS	Malachi	Ellie Mae	Louie	Dougie	
3NI	Joseph	Taylan	Haddy	Jose	
3/4BW	Rebecca	Azaheir	Otis	Talya	Evie -Yr3 Jake - Yr4
4BG	Felix	Wolfe	Fred	Zafer	
4GS	Phoenix S	Rene	Nikolas	Aidan	
5RS	Elijah	Abass	Sharon	Theo	Noah
5OF	Callum	Olivia	Uriel	Suraya	
5FM	Elliot	Cruize	Salima	Callum	
6LM	Isaac	Michael	Izzy	Fox	
6SB	Alexis	Bailey	Ruby	Max E	
6KL	Johanna	Finn	Rayanne	Lori	Gabriel

Christmas holidays Timestable Rockstars competition winners:



House Winners	Diamonds!
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Have a great weekend!

Elizabeth

JOIN

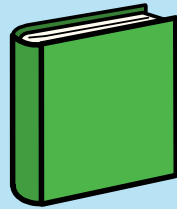


ALLEYNTIAN RUGBY

SCAN HERE



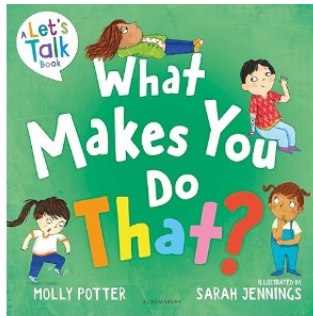
If your child would like to give rugby a try, then please use the QR code to register your interest and for more information. We are an RFU Accredited and Age Grade Rugby Champion Club.



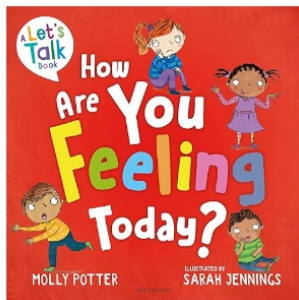
EYFS/KS1

Book

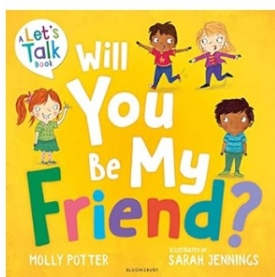
Recommendations



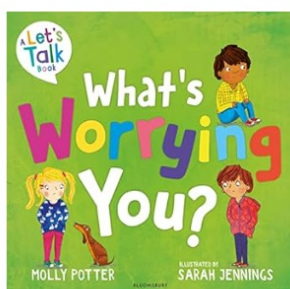
This important book prompts children to question certain behaviours and why they happen. Addressing common situations sympathetically and humorously, What Makes You Do That? answers key behavioural concerns and encourages children to self-reflect, consider how their actions affect others and manage their emotions.



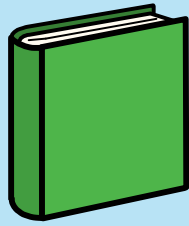
How Are You Feeling Today? is packed with fun, imaginative ways to help children understand and cope with a whole range of different emotions.



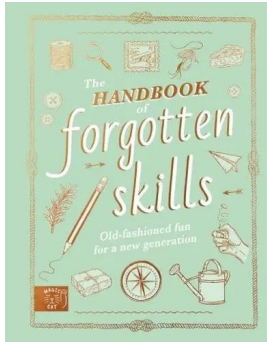
Practical advice on helping children understand how to make friends, what it means to be a true friend and how to cope with the tricky parts of friendship.



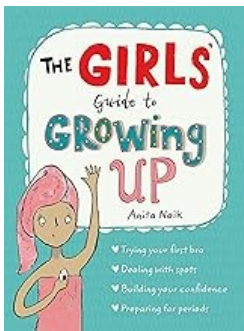
What's Worrying You? is a book all about helping children understand their worries, and what to do when they feel overwhelmed by their thoughts and feelings.



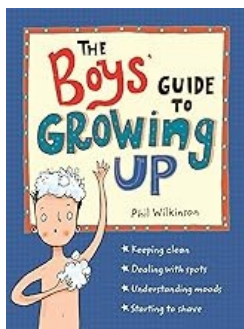
KS2 Book Recommendations



Use this book to teach children how you used to amuse yourself before the internet in this fun and engaging book. Children will discover that 'old-fashioned fun' was more rewarding than playing with technology.

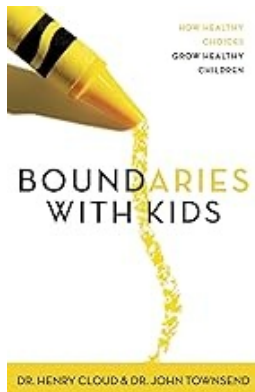


Puberty is a natural and inevitable part of growing up, and having accurate knowledge about it helps children navigate the changes they experience with confidence and understanding. Knowledge is key because it helps children feel prepared and less anxious about what's happening to their bodies.

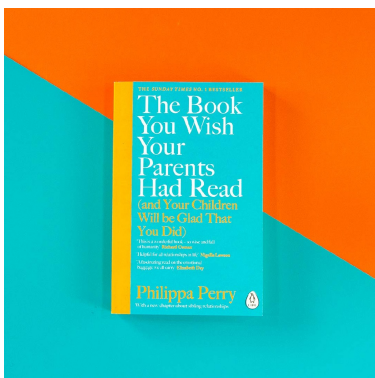


Death is a natural part of life, and while it can be a difficult topic to approach, stories that involve death allow children to explore and process the emotions related to loss. Reading about characters who experience death helps children understand grief and may help them cope with any personal loss they may experience in the future.

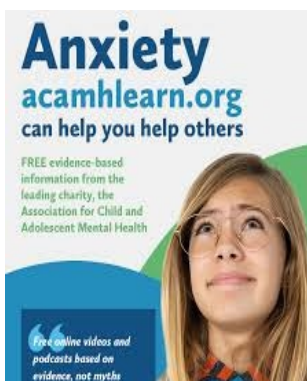
Adult Book Recommendations and Signposting



One of the most loving things you can do for your children is set firm boundaries with them. *Boundaries with Kids* will help you raise your kids to take responsibility for their own actions, attitudes, and emotions. In eight sessions, Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend help you bring order to problematic circumstances and cultivate healthier ways of relating with your kids.



In this Sunday Times bestseller, leading psychotherapist Philippa Perry reveals the vital do's and don'ts of relationships. This is a book for us all. Whether you are interested in understanding how your upbringing has shaped you, looking to handle your child's feelings or wishing to support your partner, you will find indispensable information and realistic tips in these pages.



The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health has launched a new CPD platform for anyone interested in supporting young people's mental health.

<https://www.acamh.org/>