

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Sarah Beard

Address: Dylways, London, SE5 8HP

Email: bessemer@gemfed.co.uk

Telephone: 020 7274 2520

Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

Dates for your Diary

Friday 14th February 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						
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	31			

November 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	

December 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	31					

January 2025						
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	31		

February 2025						
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		

March 2025						
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
31						

April 2025						
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				

May 2025						
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	31	

June 2025						
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						

July 2025						
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	31			

August 2025						
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	31

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	6KL
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	1ST	Thursday 12 th June	6SB
Thursday 19 th June		Thursday 26 th June	5OF
Thursday 3 rd July	1JM		

Dates for your Diary

Upcoming Events for the Spring Term:

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 (no dress up, dress up moved to next day)
06.03.25 – Years 3 and 4 trip to The Royal Festival Hall
07.03.25 – Dress up for World Book Day (book themed dress up)
07.03.25 – International Women’s Day
10.03.25 – Moonbeam Class trip to The Horniman Museum
13.03.25 – Sunshine Class trip to The Horniman Museum
13.03.25 – Year 4 multiplication check parents’ and carers’ workshop, 9.15am
19.03.25 – Early Years Celebration Day (for parents and carers) 9.15 – 10.15am
31.03.25 – Nursery reading workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
01.04.25 – Years 3 and 4 trip to The British Museum

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

International Women's Day

International Women's Day is on 8th March and the theme this year is #AccelerateAction.

"Let's #AccelerateAction to speed up the rate of progress for gender equality."

Find out more about International Women's day here: <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

At school, children are going to learn about specific inspirational women based around a theme e.g. sport or STEM. Their task in class will be to create a speech, in a group, to read out about their chosen inspirational woman and the best ones will be selected to perform in a dedicated assembly.

Holiday task for children:

Over the half term, can you research any inspirational women? What did they do? What impact did they make? Try to choose someone who achieved in the field your class has chosen for a focus then you can bring your research to school to share and it could form part of your group presentation.

World Book Day

We love reading at Bessemer, so rather than celebrating World Book Day, we are stretching it out into World Book Week!

Of course, we will all dress up as our favourite book characters on Friday 7th March, but we also have activities planned for the rest of the week. Here's a quick look at what we have going on so far, thanks to our reading leads Oliver and Josie for organizing the fun!

Years 1-6:

Illustration workshops with Hannah Robinson - Friday 7th March.

Early Years:

Story sessions delivered by year 5 and 6 children to Nursery and Reception (Tuesday to Friday).

Book making activities in class.

Parents and carers invited to share stories in class.

Competition:

This will be introduced to the children during World Book Day Assemblies. They will be designing book covers (KS1) or blurbs (KS2) for their own story.

Pop-up Bookshop:

Each class will be given slot to attend the pop-up book shop on either Thursday 6th or Friday 7th. Children get to choose a pre-loved book to take home and keep.

Timestable Rockstars Competition

Well done to 4GS who won the Number Day Timestable Rockstars competition – they can look forward to some extra playtime after half term!

Half Term Activities

As well as the International Women's Day activity above and all the topic homework ideas shared in your child's new knowledge organizer to keep your child busy this half term, there are half term activity flyers at the end of the newsletter.

News and Reminders

Governor Awards

Governors are an essential part of any school and at The Gem Federation we are very proud of our incredibly strong and supportive governing body. Yesterday Southwark held Governor Awards to celebrate the contributions of outstanding governors across the authority and we are very pleased to share that two of those awards went to The Gem Federation! Huge congratulations and heartfelt thanks go to Ingrid, who started out as a parent governor and stayed on board long after her children left Bessemer, providing immeasurable support over the years, and Janet, who is a fantastic clerk who keeps our governing body running smoothly.



Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core value of being *Creative and Practical* and *Connected to the Community*

Children in Year 5's writing lessons this half term have been based on the book *The London Eye Mystery*, so this week they headed up to London for a ride on The London Eye to bring the story to life!



Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core values of being *Creative and Practical* and *Connected to the Community*

We always try to make the most of our links to our local and wider community and take advantage of all of the opportunities this offers. Last week children in Year 4 took part in an online ballet workshop offered by The Royal Opera Company and this week Year 6 children had a fun but muddy afternoon taking part in a rugby tournament led by a coach from Old Alleynians.



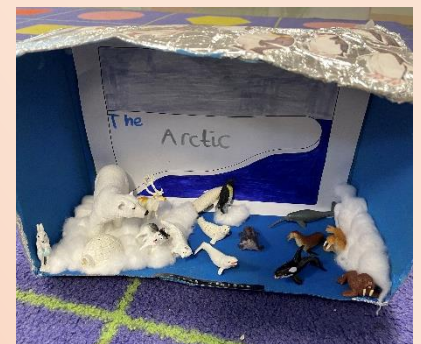
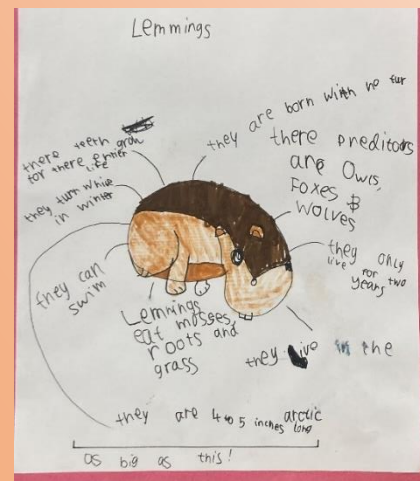
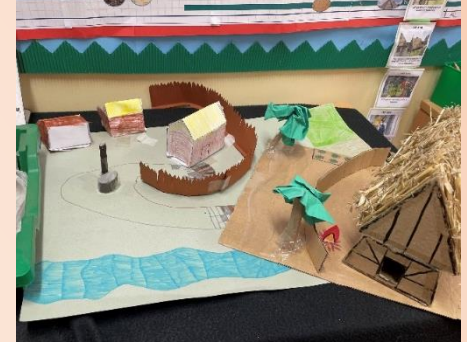
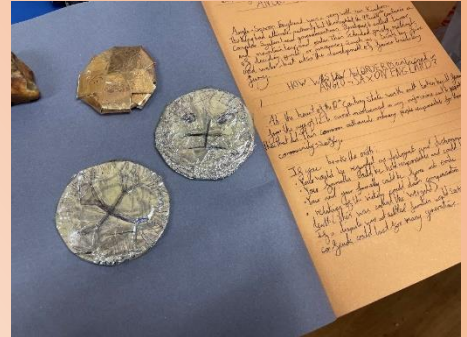
Children in Year 1 had a great time at The Maritime Museum yesterday, finding out more about their recent *Polar Regions* and *Explorers* topics:



Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core values of being *Creative and Practical* and *Connected to the Community*

Once again we have been so impressed by the amazing home learning we have seen this half term! Here are some of the great pieces of topic homework children have completed – look out for next half term's knowledge organiser and topic homework which will be sent out today, topic homework is a great way to learn about your child's new topic as a family over half term!



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 for the week after half term is **quarrel**. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and try using it in different ways in sentences.

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.

If you would like to review this half term's Words of the Week, they are:

Bellow

steep

momentum

scour

ooze

F@B Update

Pop-up Bookshop!

Each year our book swap volunteers sort through your donations and fill an entire classroom with a wonderful array of colourful donated books. Every Bessemer pupil is then invited to come and look around with their class, with each child choosing a book that they would like to keep.

We're really looking forward to this event! It's wonderful seeing the curiosity and joy of children as they search through the books and find the one that they want.

We'll be in touch soon with details and requests for donations. Until then, we wish you a lovely half term break!



Safer Internet Day

Online Safety Tip of the Week

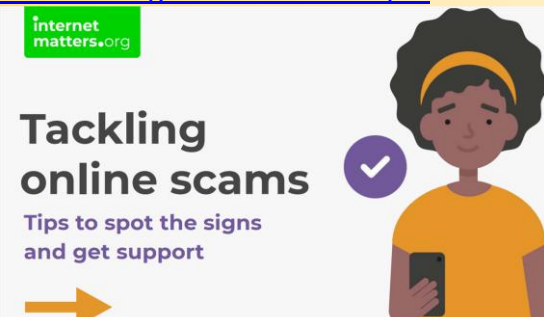
This Tuesday, 11th February was Safer Internet Day 2025! This is an international event where different organisations come together to share important messages about staying safe online.

This year's theme was: 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online' which focused on scams online and how young people can protect themselves from them. In assembly we talked about different scams they may experience – from unwanted pop-ups, promises of prizes, 'too-good-to-be-true' offers and unexpected friendship requests from strangers.

The BBC have recorded an online lesson for 7-11 year olds if you wish to explore this year's theme further with your child: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/articles/zm9vwsg#zm9q3qt>

More parent information about talking to your child about scams, phishing and online purchases:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Internet-Matters-Tackling-online-scams-interactive-guide-Feb-2023-2.pdf>



Have a great half term break!

Elizabeth

SPORTS FOCUS COACHING

Holiday Camp



Nerf Guns, Football, Floor is Lava, Arts & Crafts, Tennis

Location: Bessemer Primary School, Dylways

Ages: Reception - Year 6

Dates Live: February Half Term

Easter

May Half Term

Times & Prices:

9:00 - 12:00 £25

12:00 - 15:00 £25

9:00 - 15:00 £35

Early drop off 8:30 additional £3.50

Late up 17:00 additional £7

Dodge Ball, Cricket, Athletics, Cooking & More!

Spaces are limited

To book

www.sportsfocusuk.co.uk

For further info

Email: bookings@sportsfocusuk.co.uk

or Call: 07946 007937



[Sportsfocuscoaching_](https://www.instagram.com/sportsfocuscoaching_)



[Sports Focus Coaching Limited](https://www.facebook.com/sportsfocuscoaching)





London Wildlife Trust
**Centre for
Wildlife Gardening**

Half Term Family Workshops

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



Nature Detectives

Monday 17th and/or Tuesday 18th February 10am-3pm

Tune up your senses with fun activities discovering the clues about the animals that live around us. On Monday try out all your sense and set footprint and other traps to gather information. On Tuesday make plaster casts of footprints and make your own trails.

And after half term

Afterschool Bushcraft

Thursday 27th February -20th March 3.40 - 5pm

Practise different survival skills each week on this 4 week course for families.

Pond Life Sunday 30th March 10am till 3pm

Find out what lives in and around our ponds.

Fun workshops for families living in Southwark suitable for all ages funded by Southwark Council run by London Wildlife Trust. Booking essential.

Booking fee £3 but let us know if that is too much for you (email dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk)

To book: <https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/events>

Funded by

Southwark
Council





FREE

HALF TERM

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

with young people 10+

Camberwell & Old Kent road

**MONDAY 17TH -THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY
10:00AM- 3:00PM**

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:
MONEY MATTERS, GAMING, SPORTS,
CREATIVE WRITING, ARTS,
2D PRINTING AND HOT LUNCH**

**VENUE: THE LIVESY EXCHANGE
567 OLD KENT ROAD SE 1 5EW**

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER
02035369609, 07394662602
Admin@parentskills2go.com
parentskills2go.org

Proudly supported by





FREE

HALF TERM

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

with children 0-11 **Nunhead**

SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY : FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY MATINEE (SOUTHBANK UNIVERSITY)

MONDAY 17TH -WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
ARTS, CRAFTS, MUSIC GAMES, SPORTS AND HOT FOOD
TIME: 10AM - 2PM

VENUE: THE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE
NUNHEAD GREEN SE 15 3QQ

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER
02035369609, 07394662602
 **Admin@parentskills2go.com**
 **parentskills2go.org**

Proudly supported by





FREE

HALF TERM

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

with children 0-11 Rotherhithe

DATE: SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY : FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY MATINEE (SOUTHBANK UNIVERSITY)

MONDAY 17TH -WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
ARTS, CRAFTS, MUSIC GAMES, SPORTS AND HOT FOOD
TIME:10AM - 2PM

VENUE: THE LEWINGTON CENTRE
COMMUNITY CENTRE
9 EUGENIA ROAD ROTHERHITE SE16 2RU

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER
02035369609, 07394662602
✉ Admin@parentskills2go.com
🌐 parentskills2go.org

Proudly supported by



JOIN US



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.

IWDyouth

Saturday 8 March 2025

PLAY LIKE A GIRL SESSION

Location: **Alleyn's School**

Time: **10:00-12:00**

Age group: **6-12**

Level: **All abilities**

Cost: **FREE!**



GIRLS UNITED



ALLEYN'S



girlsunitedfa.org/iwdyouth25



FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Monday

Stay and Play
10am-11:30am

Stay and Play
1:30pm-3pm

At The Grove
SE15 6BP

Tuesday

Stay and Play
10am-11:30am

Stay and play
1:30pm-3pm

At Crawford
SE5 9NF

Drop In Sessions

Tuesday: Breastfeeding
drop in 10am-12pm

Thursday: Health Visitor
10am-12pm

At Crawford
SE5 9FN

Last arrival at 11.30 am

Wednesday

Stay and Play
10am-11:30am

Stay and Play
1:30pm-3pm

At Crawford
SE5 9NF

Thursday

Stay and Play
10am-11:30am

SENsational Play
2-5y 1:30pm-3pm

At The Grove
SE15 6BP

Friday

Stay and Play
10am-11:30am

Stay and play
1:30pm-3pm

At The Grove
SE15 6BP

From 17.02.2025-21.02.2025



Dulwich Youth Orchestra

Easter course at

Alleyn's School

SE22 8SU

Sat 5th - Wed 9th April 2025

9am-1pm with concert at 7pm on final day



For musicians, aged 7 - 18, grade 2 - 8+.
Students are divided into ensembles:

String Ensemble
Wind Band
Senior Strings
Symphony Orchestra

Apply now:

