

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 18th October 2024

Term Dates 2024-25

September 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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30	31					

January 2025						
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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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28	29	30				

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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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2025						
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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	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 Autumn Term

19.10.24 – F@B family fun run, 2pm
21 - 22.10.24 Year 3 Bikeability course
22.10.24 – Nursery reading workshop for parents, 9.15am
23 - 24.10.24 – Year 4 Bikeability course
23.10.24 – Reception maths workshop for parents, 9.15am
25.10.24 – Girls in Sport Festival (selected pupils)
25.10.24 – Break up for half term
31.10.24 – Secondary school application deadline
04.11.24 – Children return to school
05.11.24 – Year 1 Celebration Day for parents, 9.15am
06.11.24 – Year 5 and 6 trip to The Science Museum and Royal Albert Hall
04 - 08.11.24 – Year 5 Bikeability course
08.11.24 – Pre-loved toy sale after school – F@B
11 - 15.11.24 – Year 6 Bikeability course
13.11.24 – Early Years Celebration Day for parents, 9.15am
14.11.24 – Year 3/4 maths workshop for parents, 9.15am
14.11.24 – Year 5 trip to Victorian Docks
26.11.24 – Online safety workshop for parents and carers, 5-6pm
03.12.24 - Year 5/6 reading workshop for parents, 9.15am – change of date
03.12.24 – Year 5 A Christmas Carol workshop in school
14.12.24 – Winter fair, 12-3pm
17.12.24 – Year 3/4 carol concert at St Faith's, 5.30pm
18.12.24 – Year 5/6 carol concert at St Faith's, 5.30pm
18.12.24 – Children's Christmas lunch
19.12.24 – Class parties
20.12.24 – Last day of term, 2pm finish

Autumn 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.

Date	10:20- 11am	Date	10.20-11am
Thurs 19 th September	6LM	Thurs 24 th October	3LS
Fri 20 th September	6MB	Fri 25 th October	2LT
Thurs 26 th September	6SB	Thurs 7 th November	2SD
Fri 27 th September	5RS	Fri 8 th November	1JM
Thurs 3 rd October	5FM	Thurs 14 th November	1NS
Fri 3 th October	5OF	Fri 15 th November	1ST
Thurs 10 th October	4GS	Thurs 21 st November	Moonbeam
Fri 11 th October	4BG	Fri 22 nd November	Rainbow
Thurs 17 th October	3/4BW	Thurs 28 th November	Sunshine
Fri 18 th October	3NI	Fri 29 th November	Ladybird
		Thurs 5 th December	Butterfly

News and Reminders

Home Reading

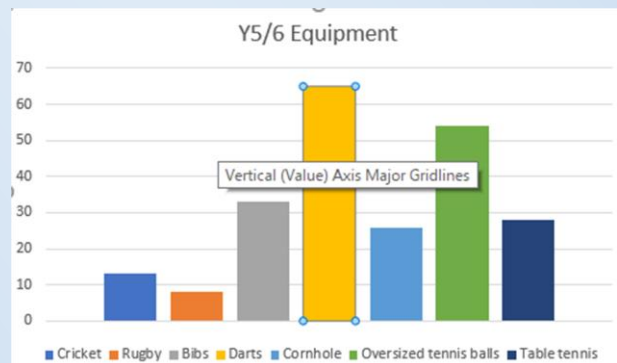
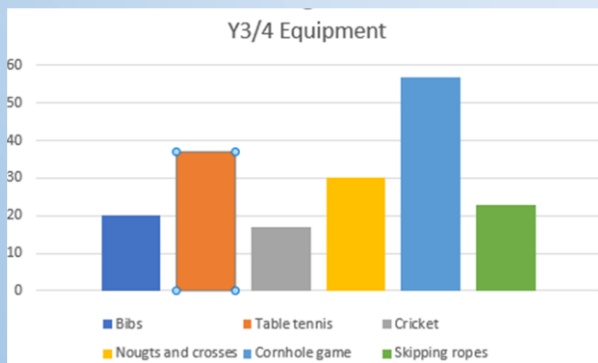
We have a very strong emphasis on reading at Bessemer as children who read regularly and enjoy a wide variety of books are more likely to be academically successful. Reading is also a great way to support children's wellbeing, as well as being a lot of fun! Some of the ways we support reading in school are:

- daily reading lessons in class
- daily 1:1 reading for children who are below expected levels in reading
- dedicated time for reading for pleasure in class
- investment in class reading areas
- book areas in all playgrounds
- local library visits
- pop up book shops and the lending library by the office
- KS1 book club
- Author visits
- Stickers and certificates for home reading

While other areas of home learning are encouraged, reading is the only area of home learning that we consider 'compulsory' in most year groups at Bessemer, because we think it is the most important thing that parents and carers can do to support children's learning. We expect every child to read at home daily, and while we understand that there will be occasional days that this is not possible we believe that all children should have at least 30 home reads in their diaries by now. We check reading diaries weekly to monitor home reading and next week we will be contacting the parents and carers of any child who has fewer than 30 home reads for this half term to see how we can support improvement in this area.

School Council

The children on the school council have been working on developing the provision in our playgrounds. They were provided with a budget and have carried out surveys in KS2 classes to find out what new equipment children would like to play with. They collated the results, producing graphs to show the most popular choices and will now be ordering the new equipment.



Harvest

Remember to check the poster at the end of the newsletter to find out about our Harvest collection for our local foodbank.

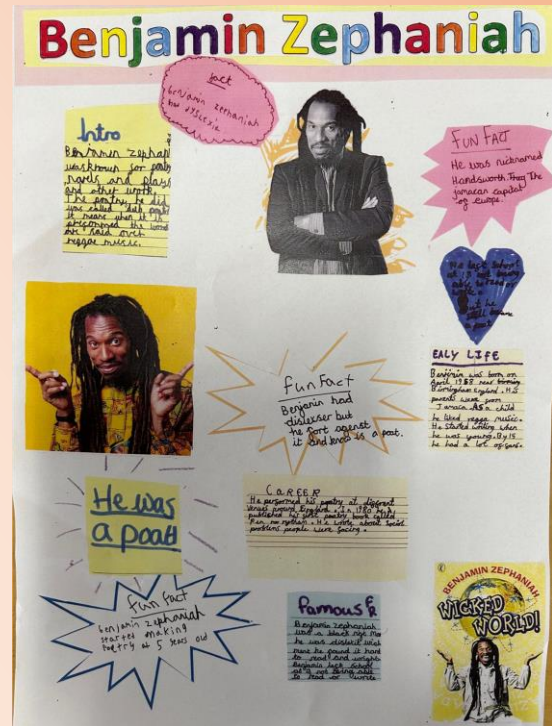
Birthday Celebrations

We know that birthdays are very special times for children and that they look forward to celebrating these occasions with their friends. However, while we will always try to make a child feel special on their birthday by singing Happy Birthday to them, we would like to remind you that we are not able to give out any birthday treats in school, as detailed in our Food Policy.

Sharing Children's Learning Demonstrating our core value of being *Respectful*

Black History Month

The theme for BHM 2024 is 'Reclaiming Narratives' which aims to tell the untold stories and histories of Black people in the UK. In school this month, each class is completing a project based on a range of people from Black British history. Here are some examples of work completed by children in Year 4:



On Tuesday children across Key Stage 2 watched The Great Big Live Assembly which celebrated the achievements of notable Black individuals:



There are lots of Black History Month events going on in Southwark, find out more here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/events-culture-and-heritage>

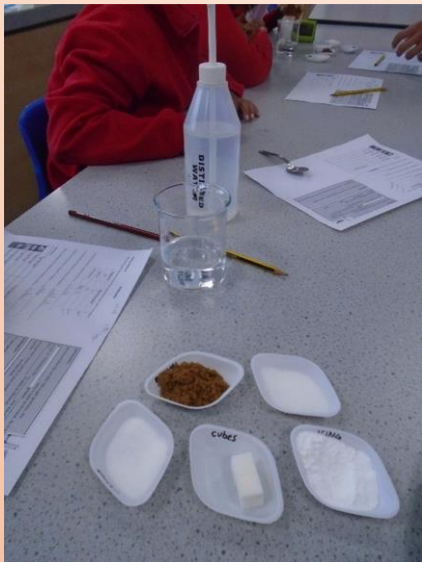
<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/listings/region/southwark/black-history-month-means-southwark-exhibition/>

<https://communitysouthwark.org/its-2022-black-history-month/>

Sharing Children's Learning

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

Children in Year 5 had their final science lesson at Alley'n's this week and had a great time exploring dissolving:



Children in 3NI enjoyed their visit to Grove Vale Library today:



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

Children in Year 1 went on a nature walk in the local area today. They were looking for signs of Autumn and making tally charts to record the features they found.

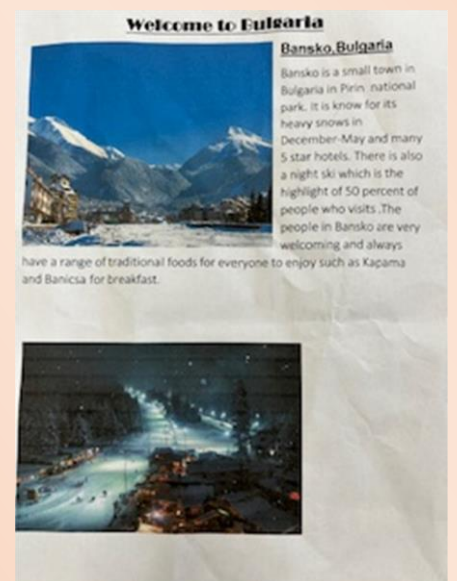
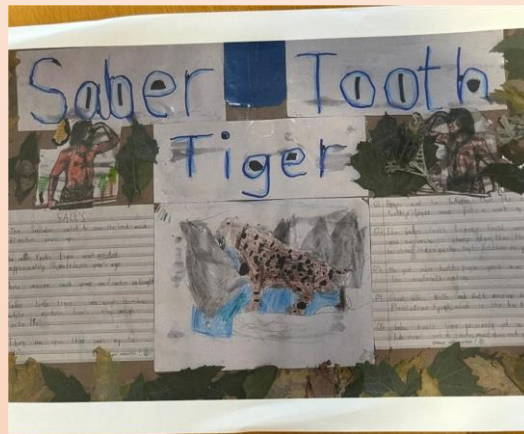
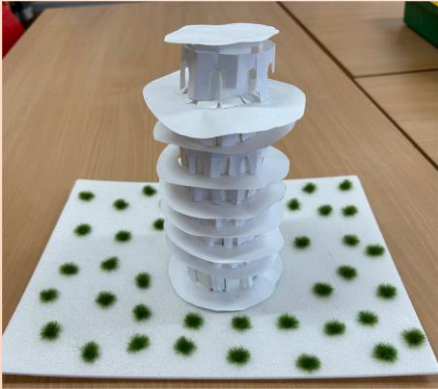


It was Year 2's turn for Bikeability sessions this week:



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

We send home Knowledge Organisers and topic homework each half term to help families engage with children's wider curriculum learning. Here are some amazing examples of topic homework we have seen across the school this half term:



Look out for next half term's Knowledge Organiser and topic homework next Friday!

Word of the Week

The Word of the Week next week is **sincere**. 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 prefix or suffix to make a new word, e.g. **insincere** or **sincerely**. You could also research the origins of the word and see if you can think of any related words with the same origin.

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

F@B AGM highlights

In the 2023/24 school year we raised over £51,000. This is a tremendous achievement! Thank you everyone for all your help and support!

Events and fundraising included: two school fairs, an Eid festival, lots of ice cream and cake sales, Christmas wreath making, nature garden parties and picnics, a jazz concert at St Faiths (thank you Bill Laurance!), a fun run, two fantastic raffles ... and more besides!

We're always keen to welcome more people into the F@B team - there's no minimum commitment!

Save the date: Bessemer kids rug sale

Friday 8 November after school we're going to be inviting children to sell their spare toys and games at our first ever Bessemer rug sale. Kids can spread out their wares on a blanket and keep their profits - we'll just ask for a fee per stall.

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Top Social Networks for Older Children

Social media has continued to grow in popularity with both teens and tweens. According to a BBC survey more than three quarters of younger children between 10 and 12 years old are using at least one social media network.

If your child is eager to start tweeting, posting or sharing but they are not old enough or ready to use the likes of Facebook or Instagram (which both have an age limit of 13+), then there are a number of alternative social networks made for children that you can point them towards. As well as offering child-friendly features like games and contests, these can also be used as a teaching tool by parents and carers, to get children sharing and engaging with friends they know in a safer environment. Please see the link to find out whether these might be something you think is suitable for your older child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-networks-made-for-kids/>





Celebrations!

Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
Rainbow	Reception children will start to receive certificates later in the term when they have settled in fully.				
Sunshine					
Moonbeam					
Feli1JM	Luna	Olivia	Victoria	Storm	Janaya
1NS	Cormac	Alma	Dylan	Felix	
1ST	Lenny	Alden	Yoni	Atreen	
2SD	Jago	Iliana	Lyra	Rufus	Tam
2LT	Jacob	Jasper	Lydia	Annabelle	Blessing
3LS	Adam	Alexis	Rayha	Albie	
3NI	Haddy	Jojo	Ava	Jose	Georgie
3/4BW	Martha	Zahra	Juno	Casper	
4BG	Donatas	Zafer	Idris	Kebreab	
4GS	Stiven	Nikolas	Leo	Joel	
5RS	Leo	Stella	Aubrey	George	Elena
5OF	William	Holly	Eve	Khaliyah	
5FM	Esther	Remy	Millie-Rose	Abemelek	
6LM	Emily	Francesco	Virtue	Tayo	
6SB	Olive	Hannah	Lenny	Eve	Arda
6MS	Jonathan	Owen	Fayo	Johanna	

Individual Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Scarlett	Teresa	Zahra	Felix H	Luciano	Hameed

Timestable Rockstars Winning Classes

Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
2LT	3/4BW	6LM

House Winners	Rubies!
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Have a great weekend!

Elizabeth



Black History Month Competition 2024






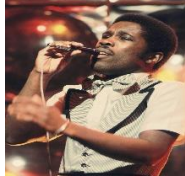




The theme for BHM 2024 is **'Reclaiming Narratives'** which aims to tell the untold stories and histories of Black people in the UK. This year's theme was chosen to:

- Honour Our Heroes
- Embrace Our Stories
- Empower and Educate

In school this month, each class is completing a project based on a range of people from black British history. In addition to this, we will be watching the 'Big Live Assembly' in school on Tuesday 15th October.

As we as focusing on oracy and speaking skills at Bessemer, as a home learning task, we would like to we would like you prepare a speech on a significant person (or event) in British Black History. You can select anyone or a significant event but may want to take inspiration from the individuals below:

			
Olaudah Equiano	Sam King	Sarah Forbes Bonnetta	Steve McQueen
			
Olive Morris	Una Marson	Ladipo Solanke	Walter Tull

Your speech could include relevant information about your chosen individual such as:

Introduction: Their full name, age date of birth, occupation(s): do and did they have a family? Where do/did they live?

Main: What are they famous for? What have they famous for? What have achieved in their life? Have they hit any obstacles in life?

Conclusion: Why did you pick this person? Why are they significant within Black History? What have they achieved?

Google Classroom for all pupils will be up and running again later in October - This will be the best platform to submit your videos and speeches. However if you would like to present what you find out in a different way, such as a poster, poster-board, booklet or power-point, this will also be welcomed!

The following websites might also help:

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/articles/zjwf8xs#zq66yw>

As we are already a little way through October the due date for submissions will be **after half term on Monday 4th November**. Please submit on Google Classroom or send to Laura McPherson via the office. Entries will be reviewed and the best projects will receive a prize and will be shared in assembly.

Bessemer Harvest Collection



What should I donate?

- ✓ Pasta / spaghetti / macaroni
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Baked beans / tinned spaghetti
- ✓ Basic tinned vegetables e.g. potatoes, carrots, peas, sweetcorn.
- ✓ Tinned tomatoes
- ✓ Soup (tinned & packet)
- ✓ Pot noodles / instant pasta or rice meals
- ✓ Sandwich spreads e.g. paste, marmite, jam, marmalade



All donations will be delivered to the Albrighton Centre by our new school council reps, where they will be shared with those in need from the local community.

Please bring donations to the school office by 25.10.24



Free online art activity!

More Big Draw activities at:

<https://thebigdraw.org/events?s=ART+PLAY+LONDON>

HALF-TERM IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER...



ART REBEL ART CLUB IS BACK!

Tuesday 29 October, 3:00PM (GMT) | Free | Zoom

Join us for a **fun, FREE online art adventure** this half-term, led by art historian & award-winning author Ben Street! In this interactive workshop, young art rebels will explore weird and wonderful works of art, learning to see them in fun and exciting new ways.

Perfect for **ages 5-11**, but rebels of all ages are welcome - just bring your **curiosity, a pen, and some paper**. And for **older art rebels**, don't miss our **[Art Rebel Art Club \(Teens and Adults\)](#)** session on **4th November!**

[I WANT TO BE AN ART REBEL!](#)



Online Safety

workshop

for parents and carers

Top Hall

Tuesday November 26th

5pm-6pm

All Welcome!

SPORTS FOCUS COACHING
October Camp




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

Locations: Bessemer Primary School, Dylways

Ages: Reception - Year 6

Monday, 28th October - Friday, 1st November

Times & Prices:
 9:00 - 12:00 £20
 12:00 - 15:00 £20
 9:00 - 15:00 £30
 Early drop off 8:30 additional £3
 Late pick up 17:00 additional £5




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31ST OCTOBER & 1ST NOVEMBER
0900 - 1500

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