Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk
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Dates for your Diary

Friday 31st January 2025

Term Dates 2024-25

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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	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:

WB 03.02.25 - Children's Mental Health Week

03.02.25 – Year 5 Young Voices concert at the O2

05.02.25 – Wear bright colours / colours that make you feel good for Children's Mental Health Week

06.02.25 - Reception children's eye tests in school

07.02.25 - Year 3 benchball afternoon in school

07.02.25 – Year 4 ballet workshops in school

07.02.25 - NSPCC Number Day (number themed dress up)

11.02.25 - Safer Internet Day

12.02.25 - Year 5 trip to The London Eye

13.02.25 – Year 1 trip to The National Maritime Museum

13.02.25 – last day of this half term for children

14.02.25 – Tutorial day, school closed to children – booking is open, please make an appointment

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

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

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

Tutorial Day

School is closed to children on 14th February for tutorial day. Please make a tutorial day appointment on Parentmail to see your child's teacher and receive their mid-year report.

Inclusion

National Autistic Society coffee mornings



Our guest speaker this month:

Laurain & Sue from **The Autism Team** will offer advice and strategies to support your child's regulation at home. Please book your free ticket here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1214906170059?aff=od dtdtcreator

For parents & carers of autistic children on:

Friday 7th February 9:30am Carnegie Library Hub Herne Hill, SE24 0AG

And the first Friday of every month FREE of charge Open to parents/carers of autistic people of all ages in Lambeth & neighbouring boroughs



Toys from Home

Children are not allowed to bring toys from home into school unless this has been agreed with staff for a particular reason. Children do not need to bring in their own stationary, notebooks, pencil cases etc.

Children are still allowed to bring a small number of trading cards to school. If your child is bringing in cards please ensure that they understand the nature of card trading and that they know that they should only swap cards if both they and the person they are swapping with really want to, because swaps are permanent and they won't get their cards back.

Little Stars

Little Stars Enrolment Information

- Little Stars is our nursery provision for two to three year olds.
- You can add your child's name to the Little Stars waiting list once they are one year old.
- Places in Little Stars can be paid for privately or by using the government funding provided for childcare. Government funding starts in the term <u>after</u> a child's second birthday. E.g. a child who turns two in October will receive funding to start nursery in January.
- We have two intake points for Little Stars, in September and January. Children can be admitted in between intake points if a place is available, however children who turn two in the spring or summer term may have to wait for the September intake if no place is available before that.

News and Reminders

Children's Mental Health Week

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. We will be taking part in various activities to support good mental health during the week in school and children are invited to wear bright colours, or colours that make them feel good to school on Wednesday.

NSPCC Number Day

Friday 7th February is NSPCC Number Day. Children will be completing maths puzzles in their maths lessons and are invited to dress up as a number or something else maths related. We will be collecting money for the NSPCC on the gates.

As part of our Number Day celebrations we will be taking part in this Times Table Rock Stars competition. It runs throughout the day on Friday so children can take part before and after school as well – join in and help Bessemer win!



A message from Times Table Rock Stars:

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in school, we are running a friendly competition involving schools across the UK. The competition runs from 07:30 GMT Friday 7th February 2025 to 19:30 GMT Friday 7th February 2025. It's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com. Children can play in any game mode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question earning themselves, their class and the school a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit (see below)). Winning classes in the school and in the competition

as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60-minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60-minutes between 07:30 GMT and 19:30 GMT on 07:30 GMT Friday 7th February 2025 to 19:30 GMT Friday 7th February 2025. Once the player goes beyond 60-minutes of play

In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans.

on that day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition.

Sharing Children's Learning

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

Children in Years 5 and 6 were invited to JAGS for an author talk by M.G. Leonard, who has just released a new book *Hunt for the Golden Scarab*.







Children in Year 1 took part in a multi skills sports afternoon today:











Sharing Children's Learning

Demonstrating our core values of being Academically Ambitious and Creative and Practical

In science, children in Year 5 have been learning about the effects of up thrust and water resistance by dropping different shaped objects into water and recording the way that they sank.









Children in Art Club enjoyed exploring block printing this week:







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

Children in Year 1 have been learning about Chinese New Year this week:







Children in Year 6 have been learning about Maya city states. They have made models of a cenote (a natural sinkhole filled with water), a house and a pyramid temple.







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 **scour.** 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.

F@B Update

F@B Party Bookings

Football fun and nature garden play - weekend and holiday party bookings open to all!

Did you know, Bessemer families can hire the Nature Garden or the Astro football pitch for a birthday party?

Find out more: fab@friendsatbessemer.co.uk

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Advice for parents and carers

Smart Speakers

More and more households own smart-speakers, but what conversations should we be having with children about how to use them safely and responsibly?

The UK Safer Internet Centre has compiled a guide with the following advice for parents and carers:

- talking to children about responsible use of smart speakers
- what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens
- how to set parental controls on different devices

https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/smart-speakers







Celebrations!

Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
Sunshine	Micah-	Zella	Dylan		
	James		·		
Moonbeam	Bryan	George	Ursula		
1JM	Storm	Theo	Luna	Nickell	
1NS	Amir	T'mari	Alma	Cormac	
1ST	Yonathan	Violet	James	Safiyatu	Nasir
2SD	Freddie	Lyra	Jennyfer	Jago	
2LT	Blessing	Sorrel	Ruona	Jasper	Eve, Larry, Josiah
3LS	Ibrahim	Aidan	Phoebe	Amina	
3NI	Gwen	Emma	Athena	Santi	
3/4BW	Whole class	Rebecca	Felix	Ruby	Melody
4BG	Valentina	Sarah	Beau	Maia	
4GS	Mikey	Nikolas	Rene	Grace	Hari
5RS	Florence	Esme	Freddie	Malachi	Leo
5OF	Johnny	Holly	Alkyoni	Billy	
5FM	Amelia	Riccardo	Aishah	Harry	
6LM	Michael	Carter	Kitty	Rehana	Jacob
6SB	Alice	Arda	Lucy	Kelvin	
6KL	Finn	Neron	Ezekiel	Fayo	Stephen

Individual Timestable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Angus	Teresa	Casper	Stiven	Noah	Рорру

Timestable Rockstars Winning Classes

Key Stage 1		Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2	
	1NS	3LS	50F	

House	Emeralds!
Winners	Ellieralus:





Have a great weekend!



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





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Sports Focus Coaching Limited



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



A QUARTERLY ONLINE & IN PERSON PROGRAM

A QUARTERLY COFFEE MORNING FOR PARENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN TO SHARE THEIR ISSUES AND CHALLENGES AS WELL AS GOOD TIPS ON HOW THEY SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN

DATES

WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY 2025 TIME: 9:30 -11AM

WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL 2025 TIME: 9:30-11AM

WEDNESDAY 16TH JULY 2025 TIME: 9:30-11AM

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER

- Admin@parentskills2go.com
- parentskills2go.org

PLEASE NOTE 1:1 DROP IN SESSIONS ARE MONTHLY BASED ON REQUEST

OR CALL: 07507443737

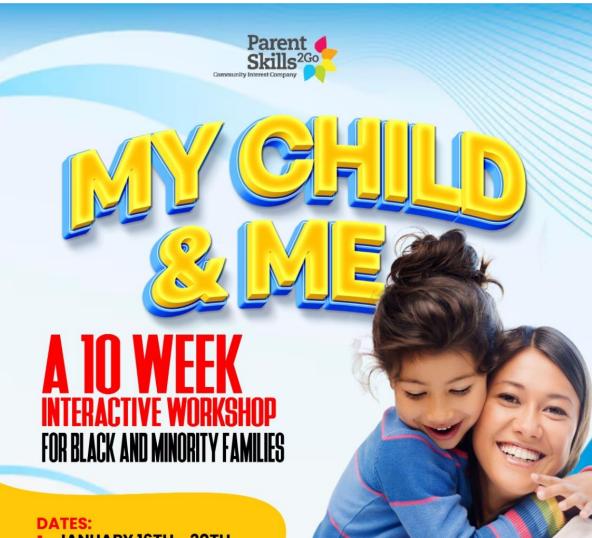
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Impact Parent on Urban Skills^{2Go} Health





- JANUARY 16TH 20TH MARCH 2025
- **1ST MAY -9TH JULY 2025**

TIME: 10:00AM - 12:00PM

VENUE:

THE LEWINGTON CENTRE
COMMUNITY CENTRE
9, EUGENIA ROTHERHITHE SE16 2RU

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER

02035369609, 07394662602

- Admin@parentskills2go.com
- parentskills2go.org

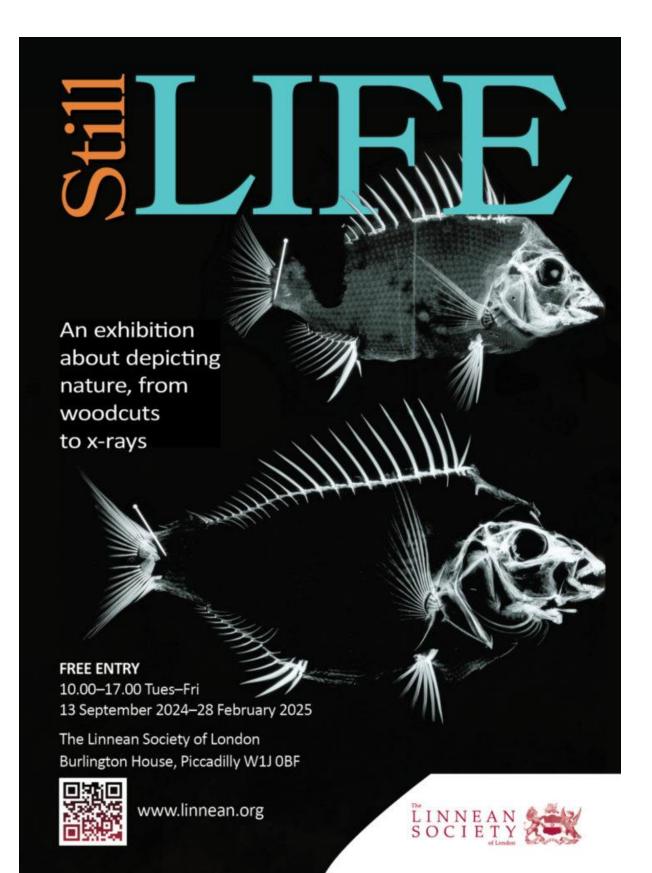
Parent feedback-

"This program taught me that I am not alone..."

crèche will be provided









Hello New Dads! 47)

Looking for a fun way to bond with your little one?



Free 8-week music-making group just for dads and babies

FREE

Breathe Melodies for Dads is a friendly, no-pressure environment where you can sing, laugh, and connect (no experience needed!)

Have fun, make memories, and enjoy quality time with your baby while meeting other dads who are in the same boat.

For dads living in Southwark with babies aged 0 - 12 months







Breathe Melodies for Dads is designed to:

- Be a space just for dads
- Boost your wellbeing
- Support your mental health
- Build your confidence
- Help you bond with your baby
- Connect you with other dads

When:

Saturdays (10 - 11am) Feb 15th - April 5th 2025

Where:

Ann Bernardt Children & Family Centre, 29 Chandler Way, SE15 6DT

Please register online before **attending**







Click here to <u>register</u>

For enquiries contact:

Email:

melodies@breatheahr.org

Phone: 07511 214 069 0203 290 2013











PARENT-LED INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILD ANXIETY

Facilitated by Groundwork MHST

CHILD ANXIETY

Many children experience problems from anxiety. If left unchecked, these feelings can continue over time. They can affect a child's ability to cope with every day life. It can also impact their schooling, friendships, family life and hopes for the future.



WHY IS IT LED BY PARENTS?

Parents are in a great position to help their child with their anxiety, because they can teach them to apply the skills in their everyday life. Many parents fee empowered by working on their child's anxiety as a family. This intervention allows parents to share their experiences and feel supported. Parents are also more likely to remember the strategies if problems occur in the future, and children do not miss any time at school.

WHAT DOES THE INTERVENTION INVOLVE?

The intervention is based on CBT and involves five steps:

- -Setting goals for your child's progress
- -Understanding what your child needs to learn to help them with their anxiety
- -Encouraging independence and brave behaviour
- -Developing a plan to help your child face their fears
- -Help your child learn how to become an independent problem-solver and develop autonomy

THE EVIDENCE

Research suggests that when following this Parent-led intervention, 65% of children under the age of 10 lose their anxiety diagnosis (compared to 18% on the wait list)*

At 3-8 months after treatment, 70% of children do not require any further interventions for anxiety **

*(Cartwright-Hatton et al, 2010) **(Evans et al, 2018)

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

The intervention consists of 8 sessions, which last up to one hour.

There will be a follow-up session after the sessions end, to see how the child is coping with their anxiety.



BETWEEN SESSIONS...

The intervention is based on Helping your Child with Fears and Worries by Cathy Cresswell & Lucy Willetts. Parents are given book chapters to read between sessions. Parents are encouraged to try out the strategies with their child between sessions.

1:1 Parent-led

Interventions

PARENT-LED INTERVENTIONS FOR COMMON BEHAVIOUR

PROBLEMS
Facilitated by Groundwork MHST

COMMON BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS

Lots of children demonstrate challenging behaviour at some point. Common behaviour problems are persistent and difficult for both you and your child to manage. This include things like having lots of angry outbursts, regularly shouting, swearing and being very argumentative, frequently hitting, biting or kicking others, being unkind or bullying towards other family members or children.

WHY IS IT LED BY PARENTS?



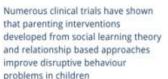
Parent-led interventions are the single most effective intervention for the treatment of conduct problems in children. This intervention allows parents to share their experiences and feel supported. It is designed to promote positive relationships, attachment and pro-social behaviour through sensitive responding, and to provide appropriate routines, boundaries and limit setting.

WHAT DOES THE INTERVENTION INVOLVE?

The intervention is based on social learning theory and focused on implementing strategies with two main principles:

- Reinforcement: Behaviour that is reinforced immediately is more likely to occur
- Attention: Children's behaviour is often oriented to gaining attention from others, especially parents.

THE EVIDENCE



(Dretzke et al 2009)

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

The intervention consists of 8 weekly sessions. Each session lasts up to one hour and is focused on a different strategy.

There will be a follow-up session after the intervention ends to see how you and your child are getting on.

BETWEEN SESSIONS...

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Parents are encouraged to try out the strategies with their child between sessions to find out the ones that work best for you and your





If you have any questions, please contact us at MHSTSouthwark@eroundwork.org.u