

Bessemer Primary School Newsletter



Part of The Gem Federation

www.thegemfederation.co.uk

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 15th September 2023

Term Dates 2023-2024																											
September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5	6	7	8	9	10		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	17		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	24		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	
							30	31																			
January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	14		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
16	17	18	19	20	21		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
23	24	25	26	27	28		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					
30	31						29	30						29	30												
May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
14	15	16	17	18	19		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
21	22	23	24	25	26		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					
28	29	30	31				29	30						29	30												

School Holidays INSET Days Tutorial Day Bank Holidays

- 19.09.23 – Individual school photos for all children
- 26.09.23 – 3/4CB additional parents' meetings
- 27.09.23 – 3/4CB additional parents' meetings
- 27.09.23 – Year 2 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 27.09.23 – 6AC and 6SB trip to The British Museum
- 28.09.23 – 6LM trip to The British Museum
- 28.09.23 – Reception phonics workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 29.09.23 – Year 1 phonics workshop for parents and carers, 9.10 – 9.40am
- 04.10.23 – Years 5 and 6 English workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 11.10.23 – Years 3 and 4 English workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 12.10.23 – Nursery and Reception celebration day, 9.15am
- 17.10.23 – Year 1 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.10 – 9.40am
- 17.10.23 – Parents' evening
- 18.10.23 – Parents' evening
- 20.10.23 – Last day of half term
- 30.10.23 – Children return to school
- 31.10.23 – Deadline for secondary school applications
- 01.11.23 – Year 2 English workshop for parents and carers
- 02.11.23 – Years 5 and 6 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 07.11.23 – Year 1 celebration day, 9.10 – 10.10am (parents/carers of half of each class to attend on each day)
- 08.11.23 – Year 1 celebration day, 9.10 – 10.10am (parents/carers of half of each class to attend on each day)
- 09.11.23 – Years 3 and 4 maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 16.11.23 – Reception maths workshop for parents and carers, 9.15am
- 20.12.23 – Last day of term
- 19.01.24 – Year 5 Young Voices concert at The O2

News and Reminders

House System

If you are new to Bessemer, or your child has just moved from Reception to Year 1, you will have heard references to our house system, or 'gems' by now.

All children from Year 1 to Year 6 are in one of our four houses; Diamonds, Sapphires, Rubies and Emeralds. Once children are placed in a house, they stay in that house throughout their time at Bessemer. Children are awarded gems (laminated pictures of diamonds, sapphires, rubies and emeralds) for many reasons, including following school rules, excellent effort in work or helping people. These gems are collected in their classrooms during the week before being collected up across the school and counted at the end of the week by the Year 6 house captains. The weekly total for each house is announced in assembly every Friday and the running totals are displayed on our website. The week's winning house is announced on the celebrations page of the newsletter. At the end of each term the overall totals are announced and the children in the winning house are rewarded with a special trip, such as a visit to the adventure playground or the cinema.

Houses are also used to arrange teams for sports day and sometimes in P.E. lessons. On P.E. days children are allowed to wear a house t-shirt (available to order through our website) but this is not expected and it is fine for children to wear their usual white polo t-shirt on P.E. days. Children should only wear a house t-shirt or white school t-shirt for P.E. not other t-shirts in house colours. On sports day only, we ask that children wear either a house t-shirt or a plain t-shirt in their house colour.

Other Rewards

Our behaviour system also includes other rewards:

When a whole class is rewarded for doing the right thing, for example behaving sensibly in assembly or when moving around the school, they are awarded a treasure chest. When a class has collected 25 treasure chests they get 15 minutes of extra playtime.

Children in Reception also collect treasure chests, when they start attending rewards assemblies their treasure chests are counted up each week and the winning class is awarded Bessie Bear to look after for the week.

We have Golden Time on Friday afternoons. This is a half hour session during which children can choose from a menu of fun activities. Children who have followed the Golden Rules keep all of their Golden Time and get first choice of activities.

In rewards assembly on Fridays we award certificates for achievement in various areas over the week. The children who have received the certificates each week are listed on the celebrations page of the newsletter.

We have kindness trees on the walls in both of our buildings. Children are given a leaf on the kindness tree with their name on if they do something kind for someone else.

Clubs

Activity clubs start next week. If you have been able to book and pay for a place in a club then your child has a place, you will not receive further confirmation. Booking reopens today for parents and carers to book additional clubs, there is now no limit on the number of clubs you can book.

If your child is attending an activity club you can send a small snack for them to eat before the club, but, like packed lunches this must follow our Healthy Schools guidance; no crisps, cake, chocolate bars, chocolate biscuits or sweets, and no nuts or uncut grapes please.

Morning Snacks

Children in Early Years and Key Stage One are provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable for a morning snack each day. Children in Key Stage Two do not receive fruit, so need to bring their own snack, however this must only be fruit, vegetables, plain bread sticks or plain rice cakes as snacks need to be quick and healthy and easy to eat without making a mess (sometimes snacks are eaten while finishing off work).

Sharing Children's Learning

This week children in Year 1 learnt valuable cycling skills through their balance bike sessions with Cycle Confident. Children had lots of fun following a track, navigating obstacles, steering through small gaps and learning how to be safe, sensible cyclists:



Word of the Week

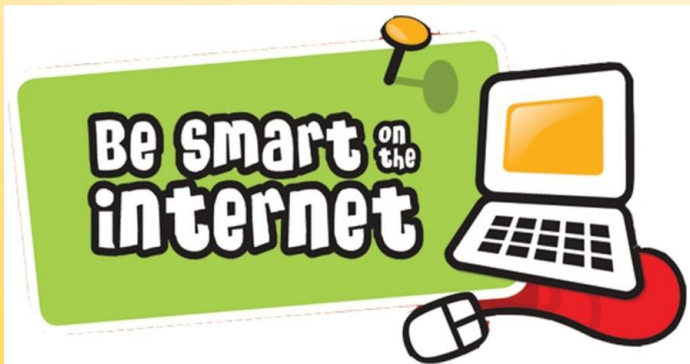
The Word of the Week next week is **embellish**. Please help your child to find out the meaning of the word and try using it in different ways in sentences. Try adding a different suffix to make a new word, e.g. **embellished, embellishment**. You could also research the origins of the word and see if 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 for using the word in their speech and writing and for explaining its meaning and origin.

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Many of us enjoy using the Internet to keep in touch with friends and family - sharing photos, video calling, and instant messaging. Many children enjoy these things too, as well as meeting friends online to play games and chat. However, it is important to know what age restrictions there are for different social media apps, and the reasons behind these age-restrictions. Please find detailed information about the different apps here at the NSPCC website:

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



F@B Update

A huge thanks to everyone that joined us for ice creams while the sun was shining. It was great to see all the smiling faces back at Bessemer for the new school year enjoying a treat in the gorgeous weather!

As the summer fair was quite close to the end of term last year, we haven't yet published the official list of winners. Please see the lucky winners on the next page. A few people are yet to collect their prize, so if one of them is you, please contact Emily on 07960 415004. For privacy reasons only first names and initials have been listed, for any further clarification please contact F@B or the school office.

We are also looking for someone to take over the raffle for this academic year. It's a great fundraiser and integral part of the fairs that we all look forward to, so if this is something you would be interested in, please reach out to Alan on 07899 043150 who can give you more information.

Many thanks.

Team F@B

F@B Update

Raffle Prize Name	First Name
Signed hardback copy of Skandar and the phantom rider and art by Gleyeson	Seiko B
Selection of prizes from Kika Murphy Studio - https://www.etsy.com/shop/kikaMurphyStudio	Mathieu G
Plymouth Gin	Peggy C
One free yoga class at Laura's Yoga	Natalie R
one free child's tennis lesson at Butterfly Tennis Club Camberwell	Catherine B
Never Say Die Bourbon	Emily F
Meal for 2 at Made of Dough	Amanda L
Martell Cognac	Mark W
Malfy Rosa Gin	Melissa S
Magnum of Tunella Biancosesesto	Sofya G
Le Colture Rosa Prosecco	Lulu V
Havana Club	Jamie S
Hair blow dry service with senior stylist Sergio Renis	Peter R
Gorgeous Vivian Westwood jewellery	Hannah J
Gorgeous Vivian Westwood jewellery	Ian B
Free framing service worth £80	Karen O'B
Fortnum & Mason Earl Grey Tea and art by Kristjana S Williams	Ros T
Fire HD 8 kids pro tablet	Emma T
EGO 75979 Harry Potter Hedwig the Owl Figure	Helen M
Complementary meal and glass of wine at Rocca	Dan B
Bottle of The Lane 2021 Sauvignon Blanc	Jeremy W
Bottle of Scotch whisky	Megan H
Bottle of M&S Delacourt Champagne	Ellen C-G
Bottle of Civit 757 Cabernet Sauvignon red wine	Melissa S
Bottle of Aberlour whiskey	Mark J
Beefeater Gin and art by Kristjana S Williams	Anna S
2 prints from Kristjana Williams	Mike T
Alder Gardens - 3 hours of gardening services (tidy, planting advice)	Melissa S
4 tickets to any show at The Little Angel Puppet Theatre	Marianthi M
3 tickets to East Dulwich Picturehouse	Megan H
3 months sports membership at JAGS	Helen W
2 free pizzas at Franco Manca	Anna B
£50 voucher for Go Ape	Bibiana G
£50 voucher for a new bike helmet	Melissa H
£50 food and drink voucher at The Cambria	Paul M
£25 voucher for Dulwich Pot and Plant	Clare H
£25 book voucher	Sarah S
£20 voucher from Minus 12 degrees craft ice cream	Alan F
£20 voucher for Rigby and Mac	Susan W
£10 coffee and cake at Lumberjack cafe and art Gleyeson	Claire W



Celebrations!

Certificates

	Star	Writer	Mathematician	Presenter	Scientist
1AM	Hamilton	Sara	Dora	Josiah	Teresa
1NS	Jeremiah	Florence	Djene	Johnny	
2JW	Georgie	Ramsay	Jerome	Callum	Humaira
2LS	Manon	Keyan	Zak	Harrison	
2LT	Isobel	Stephany	Malachi	Rebecca	
3KL	Shafi	Koji	Mikey	Faye	
3NI	Stivan	Richard	Juno	Sarah	
3/4CB	Kyanna	Theo	Oscar	Millie-Rose	
4BC	Esther	Malachi	Winnie	Jadon	Leo
4YH	Callum H	Olivia	Safa	George	
5OF	Olive	Edward	Hannah	Emily	
5RS	Tofarati	Rehana	Poppy	Owen	Jacob
5FM	Violet	Ezekiel	Finn	Lori	
6LM	Rocco	Freya	Emma	Iona	Lucas
6SB	Leandra	Rufus	Jake	Brogan	
6AC	Andonaila	Flora	Freddie	Grace	

Individual Timetable Rockstars

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Zak	Agnes R	Kyanna	Emily D	Pearl

Timetable Rockstars Winning Classes

At the moment there are not enough people using TimesTable Rockstars for us to have winning classes. Remember, the winning classes each week earn two treasure chests. Please log in for some valuable times table practice and help your class win next week!

House Winners	Diamonds!
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Have a great weekend!

Elizabeth