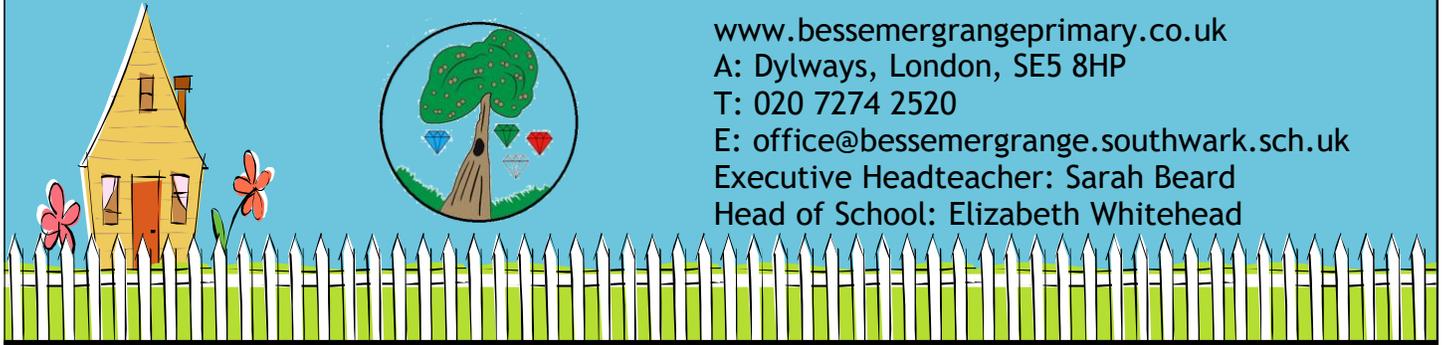


BESSEMER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Executive Headteacher: Sarah Beard

Head of School: Elizabeth Whitehead

Dates for your Diary

Friday 18th December - Inset day for staff, school closed for children

Monday 4th January - Inset day for staff, school closed for children

Tuesday 5th January - first day back for children

Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February, half term holiday

News

Miss Benjamins

As we told you earlier this term, Miss Benjamins has been offered the exciting opportunity of a secondment to support another Southwark school for a while. Miss Benjamins has been at Bessemer for nearly 20 years and I'm not sure we'll recognise the school without her! We will miss her enormously while she is away and wish her the best of luck in her new role. She has always made a huge impact at Bessemer and will no doubt do the same in her new school - they are very lucky to have her! Come back soon Miss Benjamins!

Goodbye

We are also very sorry to be saying goodbye to Amy Foster and Natalie Rivers who are leaving Bessemer this term. Huge thanks to both of them for everything they have done for the children of Bessemer, and best of luck in the future. Please come back to visit in the summer when we can have a proper leaving do!

Covid Testing and Isolating

We sent out a letter from the Director of Education yesterday, explaining that you can now get tested for Covid without having symptoms. This might provide some reassurance for those of you who are planning to spend time with relatives over the holiday.

If your child develops any Covid symptoms between now and Saturday evening please let us know via email. You will need to take your child for a test and let us know if the result is positive as this will mean that their year group bubble has to isolate.

If your child develops Covid symptoms after Saturday you do not need to inform school as they would not have been in school for the 48 hours prior to their symptoms starting. You should however get a test, or if you do not get a test the whole family should isolate for 10 days.

Christmas Lunch

Over the last two days the children have all enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, including mince pies and cream for pudding. Crackers were pulled, hats worn and jokes told and a good time was had by all!

A huge thank you goes out to Zainab and the kitchen team for all of their hard work in making it happen.

Here are a few photos to make your mouths water!



Virtual Carol Concert

All of the classes have been practising their Christmas songs for our virtual concert and today the final filming took place! The concert will be added to the website by Wednesday next week, so please do remember to have a look. Thanks to Lauren Todd for organising this.

House Winners' Trip

Unfortunately, due to the move into tier three restrictions, we have had to postpone the house winners' trip for now. We will rearrange the trips for Rubies as soon as possible in the new year.

Topic Homework

Topic homework is being sent out today and tomorrow, so please keep an eye out for it, on Google Classroom, our website and by email.

Thank you

Winter Fair

Last Saturday we enjoyed a fantastic virtual Winter Fair thanks to the hard work of the parents and carers in F@B. Everyone present had a great time listening to jokes and competitions, doing festive workouts and much, much more (including a video of some particularly good elves dancing!). We want to say a huge thank you to F@B for all of their hard work and incredible fundraising this year, you have all been amazing!

Collections

On behalf of all of the Bessemer staff, thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity in contributing to collections organized by parents this Christmas. Everyone is so grateful for this gesture of appreciation after a hard year, thank you!

Floodlights

We previously thank ed F@B for fundraising for the floodlights in the MUGA, but we also need to thank the parents and carers of the members of The Bessemer Football Club, run by Vladimir Stankovic who have made donations over the last three years and have contributed a large proportion of the funds to make this possible. Thank you!

Word of The Week

The word of the week is **Participate**. Please help your child to find out the meaning and origin of the word and to use it as much as possible over the holiday! Gems will be awarded in school when we come back in January to children who can use the word of the week and explain its meaning.

Celebrations

Now to end a challenging year with some celebrations!

Lizzie Clarke and her husband are celebrating the arrival of an early Christmas present, their beautiful son Oliver, who was born last weekend.



Oliver

Oliver is the third Bessemer baby to arrive this term, Debbie Pontes and her partner welcomed their gorgeous son River last half term and Charlotte Willoughby Parsons and her partner have been joined by a beautiful daughter called Georgie.



River



Georgie

Congratulations to them all and we hope the babies have a fabulous first Christmas!

Thank you all once again for being such a fantastic, supportive community. There have been some challenging times this term and your understanding and encouragement have made them so much easier. Thank you and have a great holiday!

Elizabeth

