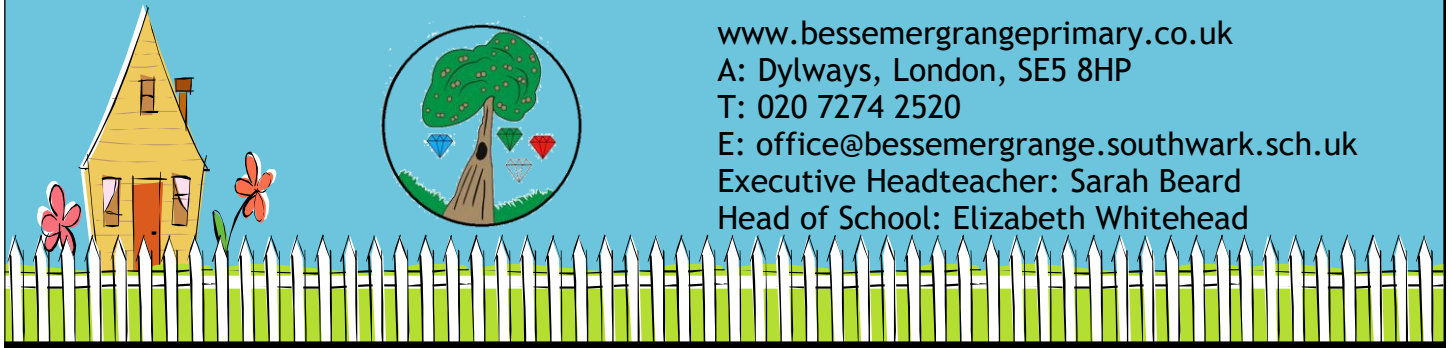


BESSEMER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 4th March - World Book Day

Monday 8th March - Full School Reopening

News

School Reopening

We are very excited about welcoming all children back to school on March 8th! It seems like such a long time since December, so please tell your children that we can't wait to see them again!

Attendance

Once school reopens attendance is compulsory for all children unless they are viewed as being at high risk, in which case you will have received a letter from their GP. If you have concerns about your child's return to school please do let us know so that we can provide some support and reassurance.

From Monday 8th March the timings of the school day will return to those that were in place last term, as shown below.

Year Group	Drop off time	Drop off gate	Pick up time	Pick up gate
Little Stars	Any time from 8.00	Blue gate	Any time up to 5.45	Blue gate
Nursery	8.55am (morning and full time children)	Black EYs gate (morning and full time children at 8.55)	11.55 (morning children)	Green EYs gate (morning children at 11.55)
	12.40 (afternoon children)	Green EYs gate (afternoon children at 12.40)	3.40 (afternoon and full time children)	Black EYs gate (afternoon and full time children at 3.40)
Reception Moonbeam and Sunshine	8.45	Black EYs gate	3.10	Black EYs gate
Rainbow	8.45	Green EYs gate	3.10	Green EYs gate
Year 1	8.55	Black KS1 gate	3.25	Red gate (1AS & 1JM) Black KS1 gate (1AM)
Year 2	8.45	Black KS1 gate	3.15	Red gate (2ER & 2JW) Black KS1 gate (2LC)
Year 3	8.55	Black 3/4 gate	3.20 (3LM) 3.25 (3LS & 3CB)	Black 3/4 gate
Year 4	8.45	Black 3/4 gate	3.10 (4KL) 3.15 (4HB & 4SB)	Black 3/4 gate
Year 5	8.55	Black 5/6 gate	3.25	Black 5/6 gates
Year 6	8.45	Black 5/6 gate	3.15	Black 5/6 gates

The timings are staggered to avoid congestion and reduce the risk of infection transmission, as always, we ask that you drop off and pick up promptly and then leave the area as quickly as possible.

Uniform and Equipment

As was previously the case, children should wear their school uniform except on P.E. days when they should wear their P.E. kit to school. It is advisable to wear trainers every day due to nature garden visits, but they are essential on P.E. days. Children can bring a book bag, packed lunch if needed and a water bottle to school. Other than that children should only bring outdoor clothing when needed and medication if previously agreed. Children must not bring toys or other non-essential items to school.

Safety Measures

We will be doing everything we can to reduce the risk of infection in school. We will be continuing with regular handwashing and cleaning of frequently used surfaces and resources, children will still have their individual packs of resources they use daily and doors and windows will be kept open to ensure good ventilation. As far as possible children will be encouraged to maintain social distancing and furniture will be arranged following government guidance.

New safety measures have also been introduced since the school closure. Staff are now able to take lateral flow Covid tests twice a week and adults are wearing face coverings in all communal areas.

In order to help us to reduce the risk of infection and limit bubble closures we ask that once we reopen, you do not send your child to school if they are unwell and that you continue to observe lockdown restrictions outside school - we all have to do everything we can to keep school open!

Class Bubbles

Despite all of these safety measures, it is to be expected that once we reopen fully we will still experience some Covid cases and therefore bubble closures. We know that the last thing that children and families need after so much time off school is to have to isolate, so while some closures are inevitable we have taken further action to reduce the impact. We have decided to try to operate class bubbles instead of year group bubbles to lower the number of children affected by each case of Covid. This means that children will remain with their own class for most lessons, lunch and playtimes. However, with such a large school the logistics of class bubbles are very challenging and there are times at which we cannot avoid some children mixing with children from other classes in their year group, e.g.

Breakfast Club, After School Club and maths and English groups in KS2. This means that if a child has Covid, their class bubble will close, but there may be other contacts who also have to isolate. E.g. if a child in Year 3 who attends Breakfast Club and After School Club tests positive, their base class will have to isolate, as will their maths or English class and the other Year 3 children who attend Breakfast Club and ASC. However, this will still be a significantly lower number of children than if the whole year group had to isolate.

Recovery Plans

Of course, we understand that this has been a very difficult time for children and we will be putting a number of measures in place to support children's emotional, social and academic recovery. We will let you know more about this over the next few weeks. Please do let us know if you have particular concerns about your child's wellbeing at the moment. Based on some feedback we have already received from parents and carers Lynette will be sending out an email to families of children in EYs and KS1 with some games and suggestions for supporting children who have been struggling in particular areas, so look out for that today.

Further Information on Reopening

All information about reopening, including an updated risk assessment, will be found on our website under 'Full School Reopening, March 2021'.

World Book Day

As we mentioned before half term, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 4th March, both in school and in live lessons. There is no competitive element this year, it is just for fun, but it would be great if children could have a bit of fun dressing up as their favourite characters. The following link offers some suggestions for easy to put together costumes. While the link mentions toddlers and pre-schoolers, the ideas will work for all primary aged children.

<https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/>

F@B are going to put together a gallery of pictures of all the costumes, so please upload these to Google Classroom if your child is learning from home.

Year 6 Art Project

Last term some children in Year 6 did some art work for a CBBC production *Ricky Wilson's Art Jam*. This will start airing on CBBC from **Monday 1st March**. It will be on at **11am** for 10 consecutive weekdays, finishing on Friday 12th March. It will also be available on iPlayer from March 1st. The children who took part will know which programme to watch in order to spot their work based on the celebrity guests listed below.

CBBC TX SLOT	EPISODE NUMBER	EPISODE GUEST NAME
Monday 1 st March 11.00	1	JOE SUGG
Tuesday 2 nd March 11.00	2	ADE ADEPITAN
Wednesday 3 rd March 11.00	3	SAFFRON BARKER
Thursday 4 th March 11.00	4	NILE WILSON
Friday 5 th March 11.00	5	NADINE COYLE
Monday 8 th March 11.00	6	KEM CETINAY
Tuesday 9 th March 11.00	7	TILLY LOCKEY
Wednesday 10 th March 11.00	8	LIAM CHARLES
Thursday 11 th March 11.00	9	DANI HARMER
Friday 12 th March 11.00	10	NICK GRIMSHAW

Word of The Week

The word of the week next week is **Clamber**. Please help your child to find out the meaning and origin of the word and to use it as much as possible at home! Teachers will be looking out for it in children's writing in the week after half term and it will be discussed in Zoom meetings or in class.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the arrival of the spring weather!

Elizabeth