



**Bodsham Church of England
Primary School**

**Federation
of**



**Saltwood Church of England
Primary School**



In worship the children have been learning how David calmed King Saul by playing the lyre (1 Samuel 16:23) Does your child have a way of calming themselves when they feel angry or upset? Is there a quiet space for them to talk to God?

9th November 2018

Keep Bodsham Beautiful This Saturday

Tomorrow a small gang of parent volunteers will descend on the school in the morning to help maintain and repair our site. With this act of generosity we not only make valuable savings to the school's budget, but our parents show once again what a caring and supportive community they are helping to build for our children. It's not too late to volunteer – work starts around 9:30am . Thank you to everyone who is giving up their time!



Bodsham Praised by School's Minister

This week I received a letter from Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards, congratulating the school on the excellent phonics results we achieved last June. As a vital step towards fluent reading, helping children understand the phonic rules of our language gives them confidence to tackle any word they care to read. In 2018, our Year 1 children achieved a 100% pass rate in the National Phonics Check, which puts our school in the top 3% of all primary schools in the country. Mr Gibb's letter is attached to this newsletter.



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Bodsham is going places

Parents will understand that small rural schools such as ours need to work hard to attract families each year. At Bodsham our PFA are doing a fantastic job of publicising the school far and wide. The PFA's Facebook Page <https://m.facebook.com/bodshamschool/> is reaching over a thousand people in the local area. As a result there has been strong interest in our tours for prospective parents that are taking place through November and December. Please spread the word to anyone who might be interested! If anyone is able to distribute leaflets on behalf of the school please contact the office.

Bodsham Footballers Battle Bravely

In quite difficult weather conditions our football team travelled to Brabourne Primary School on Wednesday to take on their team. Alas the result did not go our way, but the coach was very pleased with the sportsmanship and attitude of our team, who battled right to the end and scored three late goals!



Dogs Trust To Work With Our School

Today we were lucky enough to have a visit from the Dog's Trust. The children took part in a whole school assembly about being Dog Smart then each class had individual workshops. Our children are keen to raise money for this worthy cause and we look forward to another visit from the Trust in the new year, when Paddy the dog will also come along.



Children in Need Next Friday

We are coming out in spots to support Children in Need next week. For a £1 donation (or more if you can) children are encouraged to come to school wearing something spotty. Own clothes will be fine if spots aren't your thing, but it is a good opportunity to get creative with the face paint!

On the 9th November a Children in Need team will be travelling through the Channel Tunnel on rickshaws making their way to Ashford for 7pm. They will be passing through a number of villages near by, see the map on the school gate or check out pudsey.viewranger.com.



Bodsham Children Lead Cathedral Service

Our Year 6 children visited Canterbury Cathedral on Thursday as part of the special Cathedral Schools Day event. I was very proud to hear that Daniel and Lola from the Owls class were chosen to lead the special service at the end of the day. They represented our school with great maturity.



Butterflies Reach Folkestone

Our Butterflies Class had their first Year R Fun Day at the Three Hills Sports Centre in Folkestone on Monday. They had lots of fun throwing, catching and jumping and demonstrated excellent behaviour and manners throughout!



Year 5 visit to Hastingleigh War Memorial

Year 5 travelled to Hastingleigh this morning where they visited the war memorial and were able to see the names of the soldiers that they had found out about during their research work in class with Mrs Smith. Children laid a wreath at the memorial before walking back to the village hall where they presented their written biographies of the local soldiers to Mrs Block and local councillors. The biographies written by year 5 are now on perspex silhouettes of the soldiers and will be in the village hall on Sunday and then positioned around Hastingleigh and Elmsted in memory of the soldiers.



No Messy Church This Weekend

Messy Church will not be on this Sunday as Remembrance Services will be taking place across the country. Parents are reminded that the service at Elmsted Church commences at 18:50 and is followed by the Last Post, Beacon Lighting and Bell ringing before soup and rolls are served in the village hall.

Yours Sincerely
Paul Newton
Executive Head Teacher