



**Bodsham Church of England  
Primary School**

**Federation  
of**



**Saltwood Church of England  
Primary School**



In our worship we have been talking about prayer. The children were able to say that they pray in many different ways, at different times, for different reasons. They said that not every prayer feels like it has been answered, but the Bible says every prayer is heard.

8<sup>th</sup> February 2019



### **Bodsham Praised by Schools Minister – Again!**

This week we received our second letter of commendation from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for Schools. In it he congratulates the school for the fact that 100% of our children reached or exceeded the expected standard in writing at the end of Key Stage 2 last year. Mr Gibb points out that this puts Bodsham in the top 1% of all primary schools in England. This is great news and follows an equally pleasing well done from the minister after our Year 1 children achieved 100% in their Phonics check last June. We have published the letter on the Facebook page and put up a copy in the noticeboard by the school gates.

### **Friendship Week next week – can you lend a helping hand?**

To celebrate the value of friendship we are holding a special Friendship Week at Bodsham next week. There will be a whole school assembly to launch the week and friendship themed activities in every classroom. We have a 'Buddy Bench' on the playground that children sit on when they feel they need a friend to play with. Our School Council have decided to try and raise funds during friendship week to help redecorate this bench. Look out for a cake sale coming soon. Can any parents help? We need brightly coloured gloss paints that are suitable for all weathers – and maybe a volunteer or two to help the children with the sanding and painting. Offers to Mrs Smith via the office please!



### **PFA AGM next Friday**

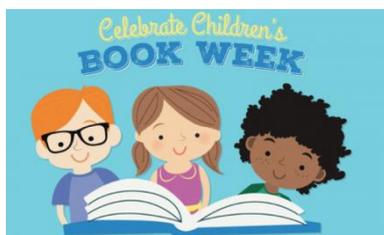
As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, the PFA are holding an extraordinary AGM next Friday to elect a new Chair and Treasurer. The PFA adds significant value to the life of the school, but relies entirely on volunteers to help it run. All parents are members so please come along if you can. The meeting starts at 2.45pm in the Art Studio, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

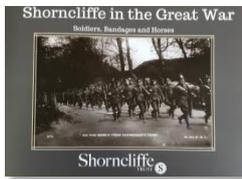
### **Come and play with the Butterflies**

Mrs Billingsley would like to invite parents to another Stay and Play session in the Butterflies class at the start of the day on Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup>). Come along between 8.45 and 9.45am to see how your children are learning in their first school year – and get involved in the fun yourself!

### **Get Ready for Book Week!**

We are looking forward to Book Week, starting Monday 4 March. There will be lots of exciting activities throughout the week to celebrate reading. We would like to mark 'World Book Day' on Thursday that week by dressing up as our favourite book characters, so there's plenty of time to start thinking about a fun outfit!! If you are available to come in and read to a class during that week, we would love to hear from you – just let your child's class teacher know.





### **Children bringing home a piece of history**

Folkestone and Hythe District Council, along with the Shorncliffe Trust, have produced a booklet for all local schools commemorating the part the Shorncliffe barracks near Folkestone played in the Great War. Children in Key Stage 1 and 2 should be bringing home a copy in their book bags today.

### **Messy Church at school this Sunday**

Parents and children are invited to come along for worship and fun at Messy Church this Sunday in the school hall at 10am.



### **Guitar and Ukulele**

On Thursday afternoons, Leon Hastwell (Ella's dad) comes in to school to teach Guitar and Ukulele. (All styles, techniques and musicality are covered; from Abba-to-Zeppelin – and Bach). It's FUN for total beginners and for more advanced players. If your child would like to have weekly, half-hour 1-to-1 tuition from an experienced, professional, performing guitarist, please contact the school office, or Leon directly: 01227 700009. (Each 1/2 hr lesson is £10).

### **End of Term 3**

On Friday next week we are officially half way through the school year! We break up at the normal time of 3.30pm and return to school on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

Yours Sincerely  
*Paul Newton*  
Executive Head Teacher