



**Bodsham Church of England
Primary School**

**Federation
of**



**Saltwood Church of England
Primary School**



We have been talking about how special it feels to receive a letter, rather than a text or an email. Some children wrote thank you letters to Year 6 for all the help they have given over the years. In his letters, St Paul wrote "it is love then that you should strive for." When did your child last write a letter? Who was it to? Did it finish with 'love from'?

19th July 2019

Sad goodbyes, but off to a bright future!

This time of year always presents emotional challenges. Saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children means sadness tinged with pride as we see they are so ready for their next steps in life. This year is particularly poignant as we are also saying goodbye to **Mrs Record**, who has been my deputy for two years now. I will miss her positive attitude and cool head. We wish her all the luck in the world as she begins her new adventure away from Bodsham. We are also waving off **Julie Buckland** from our Breakfast Club – although I'm delighted that she will be staying on as our school cook. Finally of course **Mrs Billingsley** starts her maternity leave this summer, thank you for all the gifts and fond wishes you have sent her.



Owls Production – a work of genie-us?

A huge well done to the Owls who treated parents and carers to a hilarious performance of Aladdin Trouble on Monday. It is so good to see the children confidently acting on a real stage in front of a big audience. The Year 6 children have shown themselves to be true megastars who will, I hope, be facing their new adventures in September with renewed confidence following the rave reviews they received! If you haven't yet ordered your DVD of the show please contact the office asap.

Breakfast Club in September

Sadly, Mrs Buckland has decided not to continue as our Breakfast Club manager from September. Until we are able to replace her, the service will be taken over by our friends at Elite Community Coaching. The club will continue to open its doors at 8am and offer children a hearty breakfast followed by games and activities until the start of the school day. Unfortunately costs will rise as a result of the new staffing arrangements so the price of a morning at the breakfast club will be £3.50 from September. Payments will continue to be made at the Breakfast Club please.



Summer Reading Challenge

We were delighted to welcome Karin from Ashford Library in to school this week. She told us all about this year's Summer Reading Challenge – The Space Chase. Your child has brought home a bookmark with more information to take part in this FREE challenge. Just pop to your local library and pick up a booklet to record your reading, scratch and sniff stickers, and a shiny gold medal at the end. There is also a cup for the school with the highest percentage of children taking part!

PTFA News

You should have received an exciting email from the PTFA this week celebrating the fact that the final profit raised from the Summer Fair was £3205.21 – a fantastic amount for such a small school. Thank you again to all those involved.

The current PTFA secretary, Mrs Alison Dewhirst, has decided to step down from the role. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and the time and effort she has put into the role. Therefore, in September the PTFA will be looking to appoint a new secretary. Anyone who thinks they may be interested in taking on this position can think about it over the summer and get in touch with us about it in the new school year. The following information from the Parent Kind association gives a brief overview of the role:

Main purpose of the role The Secretary supports the Chair to build effective communication links between the school and the association and maintains accurate records (see below).	Duties and key responsibilities Prepares for meetings (with the Chair) Takes minutes at meetings, recording attendance, action points, decisions and proposals Circulates approved minutes, along with a reminder of any actions agreed Maintains association records Making sure that the association is GDPR compliant Updates trustee details with Charity Commission (as appropriate) Assists the Chair writing the annual report for the association Handles written and email correspondence received for the association
Key Skills Organised and efficient – keeps accurate records in a format that can easily be handed over to successor. Good listener – able to identify key discussion points, actions and agreements at meetings to accurately record in minutes. Calm, friendly and approachable –able to communicate confidently with the school and committee	

If anyone feels they would be able to fill this role we would love to hear from you. The position will be officially voted in at the AGM in September (date to be confirmed).

School Meal Prices Set to Rise

Our school meals are provided by KCC who have recently renewed their contract with Caterlink as our service provider. Unfortunately this new contract involves an agreed rise in the price of school meals to £2.20 a day Parents will continue to be able to make online meal payments at <https://meals.caterlinkltd.co.uk/>



Parents of children who finish Year 2 this year should note that the Universal Infant Free School Meal provision stops when children reach Year 3, therefore school dinners will now need to be paid for. If you feel you may be entitled to Free School Meals (for example, you may be claiming a benefit) you can register for them online without contacting the school: www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals. Doing so also attracts extra funding for the school itself.

Have a great Summer

So, as we hand the children back to you for the next 6 weeks, all I have to do is wish you all a happy and peaceful summer break. Term 1 starts on **Wednesday 4th September**. The term dates for the entire year can be found on our website.

Happy holidays!

Paul Newton
Executive Head Teacher