Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

This week, we asked the children to think about why the Bible so often talks about people as being like sheep! Jesus described himself as the Good Shepherd who is willing to lay down his life for his flock. The children understood that is exactly what Jesus did.

14th February 2025

Happy 150th Birthday Bodsham!

2025 marks the 150th year since a new school was built in Bodsham, known at the time as Elmsted and Hastingleigh School. Mr James Wetherell is recorded as the school's first Head Master and the building was inspected and approved in a Diocesan Inspector's Report dated 1875. The inspector remarked that "This school is in all respects most satisfactory. The children are remarkably well taught, their behaviour is good and they answer questions intelligently". I'm glad to say that nothing has changed in that respect! To mark this important anniversary, we will be holding a special 150th Birthday Party on **9th June** this year. We would like to invite the local community and are particularly keen to welcome any Bodsham alumni back to the school. We will be publicising this event on our social media, but please spread the word among parents and ex-pupils. If anyone has any memories of Bodsham they would like to share, please email admin@bodsham.kent.sch.uk and we'll get in touch!

Welcome Back Daffodil Teas

In our anniversary year, we felt it was appropriate to bring back an old Bodsham tradition called the Daffodil Teas. The children of Bodsham are writing to local residents inviting them into the school on **Wednesday 26th March** for afternoon tea and a performance by the Bodsham School Choir.

Congratulations Miss Hughes

It is with mixed emotions that we offer our congratulations to Miss Hughes for gaining an exciting new position at Repton Manor School after Easter. Her new role will allow her to pursue her passion for outdoor learning with children of all ages. Of course, Bodsham will be very sorry to see her leave – she has touched the lives of many of our children in such a positive way she will always be remembered here. We are currently in the process of recruiting her successor to teach the Sparrows after Easter and next year, and potential candidates have visited the class this week. As soon as we have made an appointment we'll be letting parents know.

Have You Signed Up for Easy Fundraising?

Out PTFA are always looking for ways to raise money for our children and the Easy Fundraising scheme is a quick and effective way for Bodsham parents to help the school while shopping with your favourite retailers. To make the process easier we now have a new QR code which takes parents straight to Bodsham's sign up page. Thank you to the parents who have signed up since last week!

Shop with thousands of brands

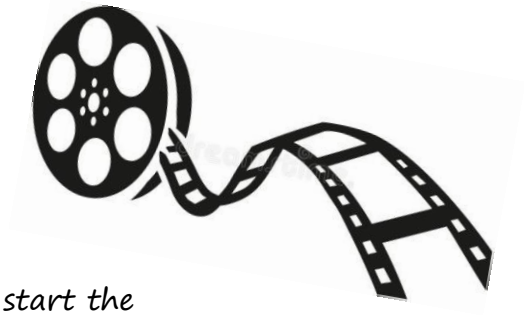
Sainsbury's trainline MONEYSUPERMARKET ASDA JUST EAT

Etsy M&S Booking.com TUI SCREWFIX

Sparrows Support Guide Dogs

For their Courageous Advocacy Project this year the Sparrows have chosen to help support the charity Guide Dogs. The children did this after hearing about a little girl called Josie who has a vision impairment, but whose guide dog allows her to enjoy the same things as her friends. Have a look at the Sparrows' class web page to find out how they decided to raise funds for this charity and see how much they have achieved already!

Movie Night: Storks



Drum roll please as after a long hiatus we welcome back Bodsham's movie nights! On Friday 28th February, we invite pupils to come to school in their pyjamas and armed with their cuddly toys ready to start the weekend off with Bodsham's very own cinema showing Storks, a hysterical animation suited to all ages.

This is a drop-off event, so parents/caregivers can enjoy a later pick-up at 5 pm, but we need at least two more parent volunteers on the day to run the event so please let the school office or the PTFA know if you can help via ptfabodsham@gmail.com. The ticket price will include a juice carton and a slice of pizza, with popcorn and other snacks for sale on the day. Siblings are very welcome to join in on the fun provided that they are accompanied by an adult.

This is a Nut Free School

Nuts can cause severe allergic reactions. A person with an allergy does not have to eat nuts to have a severe reaction, this can be caused by surface contact and airborne particles. Peanut allergy affects around 1 in 50 of children in the UK. Please do not send in any food or snacks that contain nuts or peanut butter

Half Term Holiday Club for Bodsham children

Elite Community Coaching will be running their very popular holiday club at Saltwood School next week. Bodsham children are welcome to book in!

Road Closures in Willesborough

We have received notice from SGN that they will be carrying out essential gas network upgrades in the Kennington Road area of Willesborough. There will be several phased road closures from 3rd March which may affect journeys to school. Please tell us if you know you will be held up. Full information can be found here.

Speech and Language Coffee Morning 27th February

Please come and join our free parent coffee morning which starts after drop off at 8:50am on Thursday after half term. This time we have invited our Link Speech and Language Therapist to join us. She will be able to give an overview of how she supports Speech and Language needs at our school and answer any questions you may have. Looking forward to seeing you there!
Mrs O'Neon and Mrs Thompson.

We are all safer now!

Today saw the last day of Bodsham's safety week and the children have taken on a lot of new information about keeping themselves safe at home and at school. The Fire Safety Assembly this morning taught the children about how to call the emergency services. On Thursday, Phil from the Dog's Trust led an assembly and a workshop with each class helping the children understand how to be safe around dogs. Phil sent us a lovely certificate for taking part!

Have a great half term break. Children return to school on Monday 24th February!

Paul Newton

Executive Head Teacher

Community News

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS February Half-Term

BEACH BIRD BONANZA - GREATSTONE DUNES

MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Spot wildlife through our scope, and step into the role of an oystercatcher as you scour the beach for food and hidden treasures.

BIRD BINGO - FORT BURGOYNE

FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Join us for a guided walk as we search for a variety of birds to fill up our bingo cards. Can you get a full house?

BEACH SCAVENGER HUNT - SAMPHIRE HOE

SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Discover the wonders of the shore! Hunt for mermaid's purses, cuttlefish bones, and other exciting coastal finds.

All bookings via the website:
whitecliffscountryside.org.uk/events/whats-on

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

SAMPHIRE HOE COUNTRY PARK

ROMNEY MARSH COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

FHODS
FOLKESTONE-HYTHE OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY

THE TOWER THEATRE

"This Is Me"

Easter Workshop

14-17 April

Does your child long to be on the stage?
Are they always singing and dancing around the house?
Are they aged between 8-17?
Then we have the answer for you!

The Tower Theatre and **FHODS** are delighted to offer a 4-day workshop, creating dances and musical numbers, with a performance on Thursday 17th April at 7pm to show off their work.

The Workshop is called This is Me, and is all about loving yourself, self-acceptance, and a celebration of who we are.

They will have the opportunity to work alongside experienced FHODS members from the adult section, learn new skills, make new friends and have fun creating a showcase, to perform for their love ones at the end.

Prices:
£60 per child (ages 8-17)
£100 for 2 siblings (ages 8-17)

Attendance will be required every day from 10am-4pm, and they must be available for the performance. Tickets for the performance will be sold separately.

The Tower Theatre
North Road, Folkestone, CT20 3HL

To register:
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk/easterworkshop
or call the Box Office on 01303 223925 (Mon-Fri 10am-2pm)