Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

In worship this week, we have been helping the children understand the meaning of philanthropy. After establishing it's nothing to do with stamp collecting, we explored the idea of generous giving to help those in need, using the life of George Cadbury as an example. Can you think of any other well-known philanthropists?

17th October 2025

Goodbye and Thank You Mrs Fagg

Mrs Mary Fagg, Bodsham's amazing site manager, has finally announced her desire to put down her hoover and enjoy a very well deserved retirement. Mary has worked at Bodsham school for more than thirty years and attended the school herself as a child, so there aren't many people on the planet who know more about Bodsham than she does! Her work has helped to keep our children and staff warm, safe and dry and our whole community owes her a real debt of gratitude for the years she's given us. I know there are plans afoot to make sure her name is always remembered at Bodsham and we will say goodbye to her properly on Wednesday 29th October which is her last day with us.

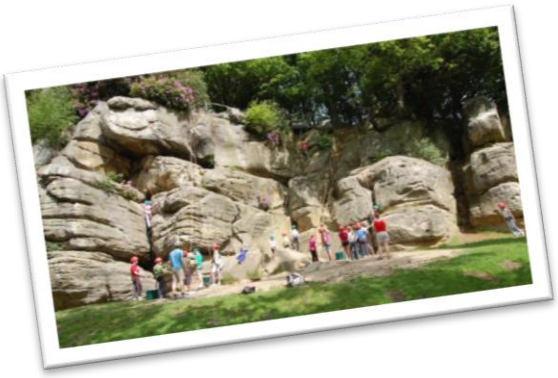
Welcome to the Team Mrs Smith

Welcome to Mrs Rebecca Smith who has joined our governing body as a co-opted governor and will be attending her first meeting in December. Her background is as a Bodsham parent of two children and she brings her skills as an author and social campaigner to our team!

Bowles Rocks!

Every year I enjoy waving off the Year 6 children from both of our schools on the Bowles coach on Monday morning. It's always quite moving seeing how excited the children are to face the challenges of their residential week. But a more significant moment is when the coach arrives back from Bowles, as it did on Friday last week. Seeing the happy reunions with parents and siblings is touching, but knowing that the children have all grown a little with the things they have achieved over the week makes it a truly memorable moment. Well done to all the children on this year's trip – Mr Thomas and Mrs King reported this was one of the most enjoyable years ever.

A big thank you to these members of staff and our amazing volunteers, Mr Cooksey and Mrs Coffey, for giving the children so much care and attention all week!



Year 5 parents will have received a letter this week about the 2026 Bowles trip, so please sign up for this exciting opportunity!

Parent Governor Elections

Thank you to all those who have voted so far in our parent governor elections. Ballot papers are still coming in and parents have until 30th October to cast their votes. Please return the voting slips in the envelope provided to the school office.

Owls in Space!

The Owls class have been learning about space and the Solar System. They made mobiles to demonstrate how the eight planets of the Solar System orbit the Sun and learnt about distances and sizes. It really helped them to understand the term 'space'! Click here to see more of our Solar System work!

Bodsham PTA Events Coming Soon!

As always, our amazing PTA have some exciting plans to brighten up the darkening days of Autumn!

After School Club Bookings for Term 2 Now Open

Teachsport are now taking bookings for their fun after school club next term. Sessions run until 6pm and include a healthy snack. Parents can book directly with Teachsport via their website https://teachsportcanterbury.classforkids.io

Beautiful Bodsham Day

One of the wonderful things about our school is how you, our parent body, support the school in such a wide range of ways. One such way is to join us on our 'Beautiful Bodsham' days where parents (and the kids!) muck in to keep our school looking spick and span. Our next day is on Saturday 8th November from 9.30am to 12.30pm. This time of the year we are cutting back vegetation, jet washing the playground markings, clearing gutters and gullies, and tidying up the school house garden. We are also in need of some help with fixing the fence round our spiritual garden. We would love you to join us with tools and enthusiasm – drinks and snacks aplenty. The children are always brilliant at helping, and enjoy having the freedom of the school grounds, so do bring them along. Tony Jones (Dad to Darcey, Molly, Matilda and Harriet) is our head honcho this time round while Rosie is out of action, so do let Rachel and Tony know if you can help. Look forward to seeing you there!

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

Have a great half term. Children return to school on Monday 27th October!

Paul Newton

Executive Headteacher

Bodsham C/E Primary School,
uk.arbor.sc

Community News

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS October Half-Term

CREEPY CLAY CREATION

FREE DROP IN

MEL WRIGLEY HUB
MONDAY 20 OCTOBER , 1 - 3PM.
Come and be inspired by local spooky wildlife and make your own creepy clay creation!

WESTERN HEIGHTS HALLOWEEN TRAIL

WESTERN HEIGHTS BATTERY
TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER, 11AM - 1PM

FREE DROP IN

Discover spooky facts about the Western Heights wildlife on our Halloween trail. Join us for crafts after!

GHOSTLY TALES AT SAMPHIRE HOE

WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER, 5.30 - 7PM

£2.50

Join us for a Ghostly Tales walk around Samphire Hoe. As dusk falls and the light fades try to hold your nerves...

FORT BOO-GOYNE

£5

FORT BURGOYNE
FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER, 3 - 6.30PM
Spend a spooky afternoon filled with activities, crafts and campfire treats at Fort Boo-Goyne.

For more information please visit:
whitecliffscountryside.org.uk/events/whats-on or scan the QR code.

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

SAMPHIRE HOE COUNTRY PARK

ROMNEY MARSH COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

AUTISM FAMILY
SUPPORT SERVICE
YOU ARE NOT ALONE

You Are Not Alone - Free Parent Online Drop-In

Parenting an autistic child can feel amazing, confusing, and overwhelming, sometimes all in the same day. That's why we host our **no-cost monthly online drop-in sessions for parents and carers**.

First Tuesday of every month
7pm - 8.30pm
Platform: Zoom

Erik Wagter - host of the drop-in

What these sessions are all about

We've created a safe, non-judgemental space where parents can bring their questions, share worries and connect with others who 'get it'.

Topics often included:

- Understanding and responding to challenging behaviour
- Making sense of autism on a deeper level
- The ups and downs of family relationships and dynamics
- Working with schools and professionals
- Meeting like-minded parents and realising you are not alone

YOU ARE NOT
ALONE

What parents say:

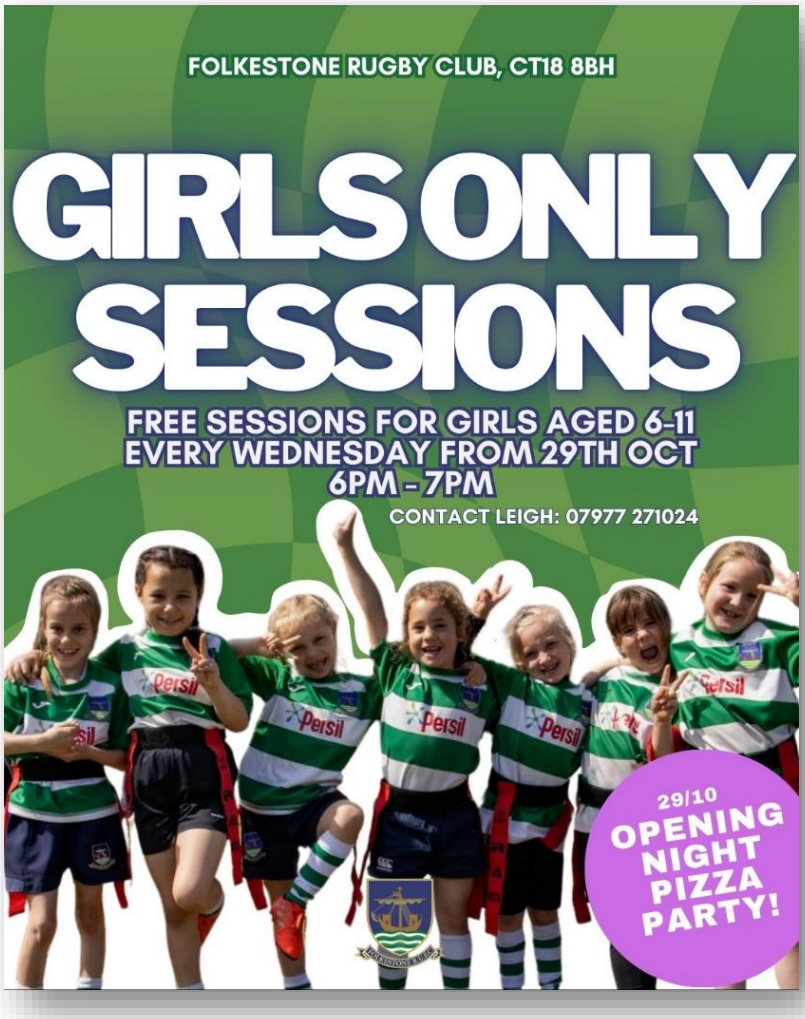
'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel, and I really do feel less alone and more validated. ***My hope is back****'*

Who runs the sessions?

I'm Erik Wagter, co-founder of Autism Family Support Service. Alongside being a social worker, trainer and Solution Focused family coach, I also bring over two decades of personal lived family experience of autism. Sometimes my wife Sally will join in as well.

If you would like to join please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link.

Autism Family Support Service
www.autismfamilysupportservice.com



ASHFORD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

BARRY FULLER FOOTBALL ACADEMY

HALF TERM CAMP

FUN PACKED FOOTBALL ACTION 10AM TO 3PM | FOR AGES 4 YEARS TO 14 YEARS | RUN BY FULLY QUALIFIED COACHES

WEEK 1 - OCTOBER

TUES 21ST ,WEDS 22ND ,THURS 23RD

WEEK 2 - OCTOBER

TUES 28TH ,WEDS 29TH ,THURS 30TH

£20 A DAY
£50 FOR 3 DAYS
£90 FOR 6 DAYS
CASH OR CARD ON THE DAY

9AM EARLY DROP OFF
£2.50

THE GREENBOX STADIUM, ASHFORD ROAD, TN26 1NJ
BARRYF@ASHFORDUNITEDFC.COM | 07767 679808

PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR CORRECT FOOTWEAR & BRING THIER OWN DRINKS & PACKED LUNCH