Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

At school, we often sing a hymn called "We Shall Go Out With Joy". The words are based on verses from Isaiah 55:12 and are sung to an uplifting melody. We hope that the children will be going out from school with joy this week, happy at the long holiday ahead, and excited at the new adventures that await them next year!

18th July 2025

A Joyful End To The Year

The time has come again for us to say goodbye to another amazing group of Year 6 children. We have encouraged them to go out into the world and shine like lights using everything they have learnt at Bodsham to guide them. The were certainly shining on Thursday for their production of Peter Pan at Evington Hall. The quality of the performances and the confidence the children displayed on stage shows how ready they are for their next step. Good luck and God Bless Year 6, we will really miss you all!

And so to the future…

I am aware of some speculation around what the future holds for Bodsham school and I am keen to reassure parents and carers that there are no changes to classes or teachers next year. Parents will be aware that schools all over Kent are having to adjust to lower pupil numbers, and Bodsham is no exception. Be assured that our governing body have been planning our response to this issue very carefully and will be involving all parents in the conversation about the future early next year. It is important that everyone's voice is heard and that we are able to set out our exciting vision for how Bodsham will continue to thrive!

Get Involved!

Both of our schools are represented on the governing body by elected parent governors. At Bodsham, Mr Adrian Phipps has been our parent governor since 2021 and as his daughter Celeste is moving up to secondary school, his term of office has come to an end. I'd like to thank Mr Phipps for all the support he has given our Federation over the years! We will be holding a parent governor election early in the new year, so please start thinking about whether you might like to put your name in the ring! It is a fascinating and highly rewarding role that genuinely helps to steer the school in the right direction. Full details will be sent out in September.

Thanks from Mrs Carter

Mrs Carter has asked me to pass on her heartfelt thanks to all the parents who sent her good wishes and contributed to her leaving presents. It all helped to make her last day quite emotional!

Have Your Say

Another way to make your voice heard is through our parent survey. It will remain open during the summer break and we'll be looking at responses before the new term starts. Please complete the survey here.

Bowles Briefing

Year 5 children may need to spend some of their summer holiday preparing for the Kent Test on September 11th, but they can also spend some time looking forward to our Bowles residential week that will take place in October. Mr Thomas from Saltwood, who leads the Bowles trip each year, held an online briefing about the trip for parents earlier this week. You can view a recording of this meeting here!

Would You Be Interested in Singing Lessons Next Year?

We have been approached by a singing teacher to find out if any Bodsham parents might be interested in their children taking private singing lessons at school. Mrs Joosten-Brisk is a Saltwood parent who has both professional teaching experience and substantial expertise in developing singing skills in children. If parents feel they may be interested in this offer, please visit www.jenniferbrisk.com for more information or call 07490 996891. If enough parents take up the offer, Mrs Joosten-Brisk will be able to start regular lessons at our school.

Seasonal Flu Vaccinations

Another bit of important life-admin you can get done before the summer holiday ends is to give consent for your child to receive the seasonal flu vaccination at school. The NHS team will be at Bodsham on 16th September, but will only vaccinate children where consent has been given. The team kindly ask parents/carers to visit: https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/ and select Seasonal Flu to complete the consent form. The schools unique code is: KT118673. The deadline to submit consent forms for Bodsham's immunisation session is 4PM on 11th September.

After School Clubs Now Running All Week

From September our partners at Teachsport will be running their exciting After School Club from Monday to Friday. The club runs until 6pm and children receive a healthy snack. Parents can book onto sessions here and can use Tax Free Childcare vouchers to make payments if you are signed up to this scheme.

See You In September!

I haven't yet mentioned the proposed building work that should be taking place at Bodsham over the summer holiday. KCC have said they intend to fully refurbish the Robins and Woodpeckers classrooms in August, which is a really exciting investment in our little school. Unfortunately, at the time of writing, due to the complicated KCC project planning process, the work has not yet been fully signed off by the local authority. With luck this will happen very soon and work will begin at the end of July. We hope to welcome the children back to shiny new classrooms and I'll send an update over the summer to keep you informed!

Term starts for children on **Wednesday 4th September.** I hope you all have a joyful summer full of sunshine and laughter, and look forward to seeing you again rested and refreshed ready for the new school year!

Paul Newton

Executive Head Teacher

Summer Holiday Activities!

THE READING AGENCY **Summer Reading Challenge**

Help Your Child Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The **Summer Reading Challenge**, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme is **Story Garden**, where imagination blossoms and stories grow! Children will explore creativity, storytelling, and the magic of books through exciting activities and adventures.

Why Join?

- It's **FREE**! Available at local libraries and online
- Inspires a **lifelong love** of **reading**
- Boosts **confidence**, **creativity**, and **imagination**
- Earn **rewards**, **certificates**, and **prizes**
- Fun for the whole **family**. Vsit your **local library** together
- **95%** of children said they **read more** after joining!
- Children **choose their own books** to read over the summer, **collect rewards** for each milestone they reach, and **receive a certificate or medal** when they complete the challenge.

Visit your local library or go online at
👉 summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
to get started from 5 July 2025.

Help your child start their reading adventure today!

White Cliffs Countryside Partnership Summer Festival
SUNDAY FUNDAY
FORT BURGOYNE
FORT BURGOYNE ROAD, DOVER, CT15 5FN
3 AUGUST 2025
11am - 3pm
'Caspian's Storm' Outdoor Theatre
Mini Golf
Outdoor Cooking
Bug Hunts
Meet the Cows
Face Painting
& more!
FREE ENTRY
Join us for a nature-filled, fun family day out!
Visit: whitecliffscountryside.org.uk
No booking necessary
Free parking available
Email: fortburgoyne@dover.gov.uk
WHITE CLIFFS
the Land Trust

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP
THE BIG SUMMER FESTIVAL
River Dipping
Bat Walks
Rock Pooling
Fossil Hunts
Bug Hunts
& much more
2025
THROUGHOUT AUGUST
Sunday Funday
Fort Burgoyne
3 August
For more information visit: whitecliffscountryside.org.uk
WHITE CLIFFS
SAMPHIRE HOE
ROMNEY MARSH

>> INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FACILITIES AT ALL OUR VENUES <<

ALL COURSES START AT 9am until 4pm
All Courses are for Primary School Children
(Year 1 - Year 6) EACH CHILD WILL NEED TO BRING APPROPRIATE CLOTHING, PACKED LUNCH (if non HAF) AND AT LEAST 1 LITRE OF STILL DRINK (NO FIZZY)

JUST ONE DAY £25
MIX & MATCH ANY 2 DAYS for £45
3 DAYS JUST £60
4 DAYS £70
WHOLE WEEK £80

DISCOUNTS FOR SIBLINGS USE CODE: SIBLINGS2025

HALF DAYS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

EARLY DROP OFF 8.30am £2

BASKETBALL CRICKET
TRI-GOLF ARCHERY
INFLATABLES ATHLETICS
FOOTBALL SCOOTERS ARTS & CRAFT
DODGEBALL DANCE THEME

ALL COURSES ARE NOW BOOKED ONLINE:
www.elite-coaching-uk.co.uk/holiday-club-bookings

PLEASE NOTE YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BRING YOUR OWN SCOOTER/BIKE AND HELMET (which must be worn)
Note: Which can be brought everyday.

*Inflatables day subject to change due to weather conditions

2025

HAF
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

ELITE COMMUNITY
Coaching (UK) Limited

SUMMER HOLIDAY COURSES

www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme
HAF Voucher issued provisional on 2nd July 2025

Scan to book and find out more...
HAF courses subject to funding

elite_office@aol.co.uk • 07885 982598 • www.elite-coaching-uk.co.uk

SUMMER ESCAPE
AGES 13-17

• ESCAPE & CREATE 28TH - 31ST JULY •

VENUE: ST ANSELM'S FOREST SCHOOL CANTERBURY

THIS CAMP IS AIMED AT OLDER CHILDREN WITH A FOCUS ON EXPLORING NEW ACTIVITIES, RECLAIMING AND UP-CYCLING MATERIALS AS WELL AS LEARNING TRADITIONAL WOODWORKING SKILLS!

• WOODWORKING & SURVIVAL CHALLENGES •

CHILDREN WILL LEARN HOW TO USE BASIC HAND TOOLS SUCH AS HAMMERS, DRILLS, SAWS, KNIVES, BRACE & BIT AND AXES. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO COOK THEIR OWN LUNCH OVER FIRE

FOR BOOKINGS & INFO
WWW.PRIMARYSPORTSGIANTS.CO.UK
INFO@PRIMARYSPORTSGIANTS.CO.UK
07795546455

PRIMARY SPORTS GIANTS

SUMMER SPORTS & ADVENTURE CAMPS 2025

WEEK 1 @ST ANSELM'S 28TH JULY-1ST AUGUST
WEEK 2 @ST ANSELM'S 4-8TH AUGUST
WEEK 3 @WOOLTON FARM 12-14TH AUGUST

ST ANSELM'S SCHOOL- CANTERBURY

For children aged 5-14 (Year 1 to 9). Run by qualified PE teachers and coaches with a big focus on outdoor adventures and activities: including Gel Blasters (new), crafts, Nerf battles, dodgeball, outdoor challenges, multi-sports, baking, art and lots more....

FOR BOOKINGS AND INFO VISIT
WWW.PRIMARYSPORTSGIANTS.CO.UK
INFO@PRIMARYSPORTSGIANTS.CO.UK
07795546455

PRIMARY SPORTS GIANTS

SPORTS GIANTS @WOOLTON FARM ADVENTURE CAMP 2025

WOOLTON FARM · BEKESBOURNE · KENT

• DATES: 12TH - 14TH AUGUST •

@WOOLTON FARM- BEKESBOURNE

For children aged 5-12 (Year 1 to 7). Run by qualified PE teachers and coaches with a big focus on outdoor adventures and activities such as Forest school activities, movie in the barn, Gel blasters, den building, dodgeball, outdoor challenges, crafts, multi-sports, adventure walks, art and lots more...

PRIMARY SPORTS GIANTS

ONLY 50 PAID & HAF PLACES AVAILABLE

Holiday Activities and Food Programme Kent

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07795546455