Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

We have been talking with the children about the four Gospels found in the New Testament. This week we explored what they tell us about the miracles Jesus performed while he was on Earth. Which miracles can your child remember? Why do they think Jesus chose to do them?

19th January 2024

A North Wind Does Blow…

Winter is finally treating us to a proper cold snap and the forecasts are starting to mention snow as a possibility. It's a good time to remind you of our extreme weather procedures. At Bodsham, we will use email and our website to communicate information about class or even whole school closures. Parents are also advised to sign up to the Kent Closures website at www.kentclosures.co.uk to receive email alerts when the school's opening status changes.

We will always try and make decisions about closures as early as possible in the morning and alert you well before the school day is due to begin, but you will appreciate that a lot of information about staffing, roads and the school site needs to be gathered first. In the event of extreme weather parents are strongly advised not to set out for school (and Breakfast Club in particular) until you have confirmed the school is open. Never attempt the journey to school if it doesn't feel safe to do so!

Are there any parents who can teach Maypole dancing?

Bodsham pupils have been invited to dance the Maypole at this year's Hastingleigh Summer Fair. I know it's a long shot, but are there any parents who might be able to teach the children Maypole Dancing so we can participate? Do let us know via the office!

Important Update – Kent Test and Bowles Trip September 2024

We have recently received communication from KCC regarding plans to change the date of the Kent Test this year. Traditionally the test usually takes place on the first Thursday after the children return to school following the summer holiday (week beginning 2nd September 2024). KCC are concerned that because of the way the calendar falls this year the children will only have been back in school for a short time before they take the test. As a result, they are planning to move the test to the week beginning 9th September – so the most likely date is **Thursday 12th September 2024.** While this has yet to be confirmed, I feel it is a very likely outcome.

While this may help children feel more ready for their Kent Test, it has a serious impact upon our plans for September. The week beginning 9th September is when we had our Bowles trip booked for Year 6 at both Saltwood and Bodsham. With that in mind we have been fortunate to be able to agree an alternative date with Bowles for our trip this year. The new dates are **14th – 18th October 2024**. All other arrangements for the trip remain unchanged but current Year 5 parents should please change their diaries accordingly!

Are You Interested in Becoming a Foster Carer?

Could this be the year you become a foster carer or host for Kent County Council? Kent Fostering and Supported Homes are looking for new carers and hosts to join our outstanding fostering community in helping to care for some of Kent's most vulnerable children and young people. Being part of our team you'll receive excellent support, fantastic training opportunities and could really make a positive difference to a child's life. If you'd like to find out more please have a look at our website www.kentfostering.co.uk, give us a call on 03000 420002 or click the images to download our leaflets

Safety First

Coming up this term we have two events in school that will help the children to become more aware of their own safety. On Thursday 1st February, we will be having special assemblies from the NSPCC on 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' followed by activities in class. A separate letter will be sent home next week giving more details about the content of the day. The following Tuesday 6th February is Safer Internet Day 2024 with the theme being 'Inspiring Change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'. Throughout the year we regularly talk about ways to stay safe off and online, but these two events are a good opportunity for you to talk to your children about their rights and responsibilities. I wonder what they might remember from the messages they will have heard.

Choir to Sing at Evington Hall

Our choir have started to practice for a special concert for local residents at Evington Hall on 6th March. Mrs Allen is always keen to accept new choir members and the list will reopen next term ready for Easter songs!

Paul Newton

Executive Head Teacher

Community News

GREEN GANG February 2024

Childrens' Activities

BEACH SCAVENGER HUNT

Sunday 11th Feb 1300-1430

Our rangers lead a walk along the beach at Lydden Spout to discover what natural treasures the winter storms have left along the shoreline in our scavenger hunt challenge.

What will we find this year?

BIRD SAFARI AT ROMNEY WARREN

Monday 12th Feb 1000-1200

Look out for birds and other wintry wildlife with our rangers on a mini walking safari through Romney Warren Local Nature Reserve.

Pack your walking boots and binoculars!

FORT BURGOYNE BIRD BINGO

Friday 16th Feb 1000-1200

Join our rangers for a game of Bird Bingo, as we walk around Fort Burgoyne before heading to Coombe Hole in search of a full house!

There will also be bird themed crafts in our stable classroom.

To book and for more information please visit:
www.whitecliffscountryside.org.uk

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

ROMNEY MARSH COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP