Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." (Luke 2:52) Just as Jesus was nurtured and prepared before beginning His ministry, our children are growing day by day - learning, developing character, and building relationships. This verse reminds us that education is about more than knowledge alone; it is about helping children grow in wisdom, faith, and confidence as they prepare for life in the wider world – things we cherish dearly at Bodsham.

23rd January 2026

Forest School Keeps Growing

Our children are enjoying forest school just as much (if not more!) in these muddy months where there is still plenty to explore. Robins have been taking part all year, and now the Sparrows are joining in the fun too. The message from Miss Morris is that they will be out whatever the weather, so do ensure they have puddle suits and warm coats on Friday afternoons!

Attendance Matters

If your child is absent for a medical appointment, please provide confirmation such as an appointment letter, text, or other documentation so we can keep our attendance records accurate. Thank you for your support.

After School Club Booking Now!

TeachSport continue to run their exciting after school club at Bodsham. Children can relax and play until 6pm and will be given a healthy snack to keep them active! Parents can book direct through their website.

Thanks to our PTFA

You will have received the PTFA newsletter this week, which outlines how funds are being spent, highlights the fantastic activities organised for the children, and shares details of the exciting fundraising events planned for the coming months. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our core team, Sarah, Virginia, Natalia and Rebecca, along with all the parents, friends and staff who support them so generously. Our school community is richer for their dedication and hard work.

We are also delighted to report that the first three upgraded computers are now installed and up and running!

Safeguarding Update

At Bodsham, the safety and wellbeing of every child is incredibly important to us. As part of our safeguarding procedures, we need to be confident about who is authorised to collect each child at the end of the day. If your child is regularly or occasionally collected by an adult other than their usual carer, permission can be given to the school office in advance, so this can be recorded on our system. For one-off collections, please make sure the office is informed ahead of time. If a message is received late in the day, teachers may not see it before taking children onto the playground. In these cases, we ask for your patience while confirmation is checked with the office. **Please note that adults who do not have prior permission will not be allowed to collect children from the playground. This is an essential safeguarding measure to help keep all children safe.**

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

Remembering Claire with Love

Many of you will remember Charlie and Gracie Ball, who attended Bodsham, with Gracie moving on to secondary school in 2022. Very sadly, their mum, Claire, passed away at home just after Christmas following a long illness. Claire was a close friend to many, known for her sharp sense of humour, and will be remembered by countless children for her beautiful face-painting designs at the summer fairs. Our thoughts, love, and heartfelt condolences are with Dad Chris, Charlie, and Gracie at this incredibly difficult time. We wish them strength, comfort, and support in the months ahead. Please contact Rosie (Piers' mum) for details of the funeral.

Memories from Bowles

Our Year 6 children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their Bowles experience last week through photos and writing, bringing the adventure to life for parents and their Year 5 friends who will be looking forward to their own Bowles adventure next year. From muddy moments and funny memories, to facing fears and tackling new challenges, their presentations captured it all beautifully. It was clear to see how much they had grown in confidence and character during their time away. Parents greatly enjoyed the event too, laughing along with the stories and feeling very proud of everything the children achieved.

Upcoming events

We have some brilliant events come up over the next few weeks – here's a snapshot!

When		Who	What and Where
Thursday 29th January		Robins	Infant Agility Day at Three Hills
Safety Week	Tuesday 3rd February	Whole School	Safer Internet Day Talk with PSCO Rikki Apps for KS2 in school
	Wednesday 4th February	Whole School	Kent Fire and Rescue workshops in school
	Thursday 5th February	Whole School	NSPCC PANTS talk in school
Thursday 5th February		Sparrows	Fun Day at Three Hills
Thursday 12th February		Whole School	Pancake Day Races in school (Shrove Tuesday is during Half Term)
Monday 9th March		Woodpeckers and Owls	Visit the Sikh Gurdwara, Gravesend
Thursday 26th March		Owls	Handball Competition at Three Hills

As we come to the end of this week, my thanks to everyone in our community for the care and kindness you show one another. I wish you all a peaceful and restful weekend.

Mary Stephen

Headteacher

Community News

BODSHAM BINGO BONANZA!

CHARITY BINGO NIGHT FOR THE PTFA!

SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY!

CASH PRIZES TO BE ANNOUNCED!

£10 ADULT • £5 CHILD

★ DOORS OPEN 4PM • EYES DOWN AT 4:30PM ★

★ AT EVINGTON VILLAGE HALL ★

★ BOOK VIA PTFABodsham@gmail.com ★

Kent Music

This February Half Term, Kent Music is offering a range of exciting courses and experience days for pupils aged 8–18. With options for many instruments and ability levels, our courses are a great way for pupils to continue developing their musical skills during the school holidays.

Monday 16th February

Junior Wind Band
Ages 8–18 | Grade 2+ | £16 | Ashford

Strings Day
Ages 8–18 | Grade 2+ | £16 | Ashford

Tuesday 17th - Friday 20th February

Orchestra ONE Project 39: Epic Quests
Ages 11–18 | All abilities | £60 | Ashford

Tuesday 17th February

Junior Come & Sing (Day One)
(come to one or both days)
Ages 8–13 | All abilities | £16 | Ashford

Wednesday 18th February

Junior Come & Sing (Day Two)
(come to one or both days)
Ages 8–13 | All abilities | £16 | Ashford

Thursday 19th March

Music Tech Experience Day
Ages 10–12 | All abilities | £16 | Rochester

[Click Here for Courses with Kent Music]