Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

"if someone says they have faith, but does nothing, then their faith is worth nothing." ***James 2:14*****. We have been helping the children to understand the idea of compassion, but also to realise that compassion without action doesn't do much good!**

6th October 2023

Harvesting Kindness

Our school value of Love was very much on display last week during our Harvest service in church. Our families showed an incredible level of generosity to those in need as you can see by the impressive display of gifts and donations laid out at the altar during the service. All this food has been gratefully received by Bright City Church who support around 150 families a week through providing food parcels from their food bank, and hot meals for those in need.

School Tours Now Booking

We are already looking ahead to next September, so if you know a little one who will be starting school next year, please come along for a visit. You can attend our next Open Day on **30th November** or if you prefer, contact the school office to book an individual tour. Miss Hughes is also running several 'Story Time with Barley the Bodsham Bear' sessions in our Art Studio this term and next, so that pre-school children and parents can come along to Bodsham to get a feel for our lovely school and our lovely staff!

Full details are on the website!

Governors Give Their Stamp of Approval

Our governing body do an awful lot of work behind the scenes helping to make sure our Federation operates as it should. Among other things, they take responsibility for ensuring staff are properly appointed, buildings are kept safe and warm, standards of learning and behaviour are maintained and budgets are set and stuck to. Recently our governors visited the school en-masse and were warmly welcomed into each classroom by the children. They reported that children were happy, polite and well behaved wherever they went with purposeful learning taking place in every class. Well done everyone!

Secondary School Applications

It is time for Year 6 parents to be completing their applications for secondary schools. The deadline on the KCC portal is 31st October. If your child sat the Kent Test in September then you will receive these results, along with Shepway and Dover Test outcomes, on the 18th October. Please don't hesitate to ask if you need any help with your application.

Attendance is Important

You may have heard that the government are increasingly focussed on improving school attendance, which has fallen considerably since the pandemic across both primary and secondary schools. Our attendance rate at Bodsham last year was not good and too many children's attendance fell well below the 95% target. To help improve this situation we have introduced **Elvis, the Attendance Aardvark!** Each week, the class with the best attendance rate get to welcome Elvis into their classroom; a small motivation to help children with an important issue.

Bodsham Confirmed RAAC Free

Parents will be aware that many schools have been affected by failing Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete or RAAC – a construction material used in the 1950s, 60s and 70s that is now becoming unstable. I am pleased to inform parents that we have finally received our Local Authority survey which has confirmed our school does not contain any RAAC. While welcome, this is not much of a surprise as most of our buildings are from the Victorian era!!

Thank you PFA

Just a quick note of thanks to finish. Our children and staff are already starting to use the new set of laptops that the PFA purchased for the school in the summer. This new technology will help children with online learning, practice times tables and play phonics games. Importantly, modern speech to text software helps children with dyslexia issues express themselves much more quickly when writing. Thank you!!

Parent Consultations

On Monday 16th October or Wednesday 18th October, you will have a chance to meet with the teachers to find out how your children are settling into their classes. This is a good opportunity to ask questions or raise any worries you may have, but also to celebrate their achievements so far this year! An email will be sent out early next week with dates and times available and we will try to accommodate your preference as best we can. Parent consultation slots are for 10 minutes per child. We hope you find these meetings a useful way to find out about and support your children's progress in school.

Community News

WHAT'S ON Events for Everyone

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023

Tuesday 24th : **Green Gang: Autumn Claytime**
River Dour Centre, Dover 10am-12pm (Drop-in)

Wednesday 25th: **Green Gang: Chough Challenge.**
Coombe Hole, Dover. 10am-12pm

Thursday 26th: **Green Gang: Scary Scavenger Hunt.**
High Meadow, Dover. 10am-12pm

Guided Walk: Fungi Foray.
Gibbins Brook, Sellindge. 10am-12pm

Autumn Anna Outdoors.
River Dour Centre, Dover 1pm-4pm (Drop-in)

Friday 27th: **Fangtastic Fun at Fort Burgoyne.**
Fort Burgoyne, Dover. 10am-12pm & 1:30pm-3:30pm

Saturday 28th: **Green Gang: Spooky Nature Sounds.**
Samphire Hoe. 2pm-3:30pm

Saturday 28th: **History Tours.**
Fort Burgoyne, Dover. 10am-12pm & 1:30pm-3:30pm

For more information or to book your place please visit
whitecliffscountryside.org.uk or scan the QR code.

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP
SAMPHIRE HOE COUNTRY PARK
ROMNEY MARSH COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

Green Gang events are for children. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

THE 1ST EAST KENT JUNIOR CHESS CONGRESS

A qualification event for the London Junior Chess Championships

Saturday 21st October 2023

9:45 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

VENUE:
Barham Village Hall, Valley Road
Barham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6NX

Tournament Director: Jon Hunt
Chief Arbiter: Harry Sharples

Online entry only, at:
https://sandwichess.uk/tournaments

Early bird discount for ECF Silver members!
Save £3.00 when you join the ECF or renew your membership in 2023/24 and enter by 21st September.

Pay just £15.00!!!

NEW

2023-2024

SATURDAY SCIENCE @ KENT COLLEGE

DATE:

Saturday 7th October 2023

10-12 MEET AT KC SENIOR SCHOOL RECEPTION. CANTERBURY CT2 9DT

OPEN TO CHILDREN IN YEAR 6

20 spaces available please book via the link here

https://forms.gle/vxCxdqilWBluZFo29 - NO charge

Venture camps

OCTOBER CAMPS

Ashford, Canterbury & Folkestone

Themes, Multi-Activity & Sports

WACKY RACERS · NERF · Archery Tag · NINJA WARRIOR · ZORBS · Pirates

Number 1 for Kids Holiday Camps

Venture Camps deliver the very best in children's activity camps during the school holidays. Each day is different with themed activities that include zorbing, Nerf battles, Wacky Racers, Archery Tag, assault courses and inflatables; there's something for every child.

★★★★★

Our children have attended summer and Easter club for the past 3 years and absolutely love it. They are always happy to go and are well looked after. Staff are friendly and kind and the kids always have positive things to say. This is a hidden gem.

Dates & Locations

October Half Term	23rd Oct - 27th Oct
Folkestone:	Sandgate Primary School
Ashford:	The Wyvern School NEW VENUE
Canterbury:	Simon Langton Boys

For children ages 5-11 (Schools years R - 6).

NEW EXTENDED DAY OPTION IN CANTERBURY. PICK UP AT 5:30pm

FOOTBALL CAMPS

Football camps that focus on the development of each individual child, join us for jam-packed days of skills and drills, penalty shootouts, competitions and tournaments. For ages 6 - 12 years.

CANTERBURY
23rd - 25th October
Simon Langton Boys

FOLKESTONE
26th - 27th October
Folkestone Academy 4G

VENTURE FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Camps days run from 9am - 4pm. Drop off from 8:30am at no extra charge. Childcare vouchers accepted. Book online; spaces fill fast, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Book for either a 3 day, 2 day or a full week camp. Venture Camps run in Ashford (The Wyvern School), Canterbury (Simon Langton for Boys) and Folkestone (Sandgate Primary School with football at Folkestone Academy 4G).

venturecamps.co.uk

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