Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

In Remembrance Week, we talk with the children about how wise people are able to avoid conflict. Using the wisdom of Solomon found in Proverbs, the children have reflected on ways to be patient and keep calm if others lose their temper!

7th November 2025

Well Done Woodpeckers!

As we announced in October, the Woodpeckers team have been given a Kent Mental Wellbeing Award! This is in recognition of the work Miss Skinner and her Woodpeckers team do every day to support children with anxiety and emotional needs. The team attended a well-deserved award ceremony to receive their gong during half term.

The work of the school as a whole was also recognised as we were awarded the Champion 2025 Award in recognition of outstanding commitment and dedication to supporting the wellbeing of others. These accolades, along with the School Award for Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing which we received in July, along with Mrs Allen's recognition as a Kent Teacher of the Year really do go to show Bodsham is an award winning school!

Cathedral Schools Day 2025

Bodsham was fortunate to receive an invitation to Canterbury Cathedral's Schools' Day this week. Our Year 6 children spent the day at the Cathedral taking part in a fascinating workshop about the history of the building including a dramatisation of the particularly gruesome murder of St Thomas. This was followed by a thoughtful session focussing on homelessness and the work of the charity Porchlight. The day was topped off with a special service and a banner procession with all the other schools that were attending! You can find out more about the day on the Owl's webpage!

Forest School Branches Out

Robins Class had their first forest school session on Friday 31st. They made mud paint hedgehogs, and pencils from charcoal and elder branches. They also loved looking for bugs, climbing trees and exploring the site, even in the autumnal weather!

A huge thank you to the PTFA who have provided the tools and equipment they will be using in the sessions. The children will be doing exciting things like using axes and saws in the coming weeks as well as cooking on a fire.

Anti-Bullying Week

Next week we will be thinking about all the ways we are unique, about our worries, and to talk about what it means to be kind. Tuesday will be Odd Socks Day to help children remember they are all special. Get your crazy socks ready!

Welcome to the team Mrs Thompsett!

The votes for our parent governor election were officially counted this week and, as the returning officer, I am delighted to announce that Samantha Thompsett, mum of Georgie in Sparrows, has been elected as Bodsham's new parent governor. Sam will be joining the governing body at an exciting time as both schools take on new leadership and move towards becoming part of the Multi Academy Trust. Welcome to the team Sam!

A Grand Opening

We are very much looking forward to Bishop Rose's second visit to Bodsham on Wednesday 12th November to join us in a whole school worship and then to open the new Robins extension 'The Rose Room'. Each class will share their work with her and the children will lead the school in a prayer of thanks!

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.

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

Heartfelt thanks

Mrs Fagg has asked us to pass on her heartfelt thanks for all the kind words, generous gifts and warmth she felt on her last day.

"Dear Parents and Staff
Thank you so much for all your kind words on my last few days at Bodsham. The bowl with the fingers prints is lovely, and my gate sign is amazing - I'm really touched. It's been my pleasure seeing all of you coming down the drive every morning and it's going to take a while to get used to not being at school. Thank you all again take care.
Mary Fagg xx"

It was an emotional farewell and she shared how deeply grateful she was for the love that surrounded her as she hung up her keys for the last time. It truly showed how appreciated she was as a vital member of our team!

Welcome Mrs Watts

Our new cleaner-in-charge is Liz Watts who is whizzing round our school keeping it shiny and clean. Mrs Watts will be here daily from 3pm to 6pm, so you might see her in the afternoons as you arrive for pick up. I know she already feels welcome and very much part of our Team Bodsham. Do say hello!

Brilliant Book Fair

After an extremely successful Book Fair last year, we are delighted to let you know that the Scholastic Book Fair will be returning later this month! The Fair will run after school between 17th and 20th November and there are lots of wonderful new titles to choose from, as well as five £5 vouchers to spend at the fair (details of how to win coming soon!). Please take this opportunity to come in and browse, and perhaps get some Christmas gifts too. Profit from the Fairs allow us to use the commission to purchase new books for our library. We value your support. Look out for the posters around school soon...

Fancy A Chat?

Mrs Thompson and Mrs O'Neon are holding a coffee morning for parents on **Thursday 13th November**. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents who are part of the Bodsham community. They will be happy to discuss any resources they can share with you for support, including NHS services and anything else we can help with!

Don't Get Dressed on 21st November!

The School Council have voted to hold a Pyjama and Cuddly Day on 21st November for a donation to Children in Need. This will also end our Scholastic Book Week, so it would be a good day to snuggle up with a favourite book!

Bodsham PTA Events

Christmas Cave and Christmas Crafts

We are starting to get our festive cheer on at Bodsham, and will be sending out Christmas Cave instructions next week in school bags, so please look out for these! This is an absolute favourite amongst the children; an afternoon event held during the school day, enabling pupils to buy gifts independently to give to their loved ones on Christmas Day. Please ensure that you complete the tags and make payment by **Monday, 17th November**, to give enough time for our Bodsham elves to ensure the cave is fully stocked with presents! Wrapping Elf volunteers are needed in the Wrapping Suite, so we'd love to hear from you if you are free.

On **Friday, 28th November**, we will be hosting a Christmas Craft event immediately after school in the school hall. Perfect for any pupil wanting to get creative (and for those who prefer a quieter event than the disco!), making Christmas keepsakes including festive wreaths, reindeer sweet bags, wooden robins and some pretty ornaments to hang from the tree, such as jolly snowmen and pretty peg dolls. A hot chocolate and snack will be included in the cost of the ticket, and since this is a drop-off event, parents and caregivers have the luxury of an extra-long school day, so book your space soon!

Paul Newton
Executive Headteacher

Community News

Police and Crime Commissioner Survey

Share your views on how safe you feel, how much you trust Kent Police, and how well you think Kent Police are performing. Your feedback helps shape the future of policing in your community

https://www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/get-in-touch/consultations/