Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

In this time of Epiphany, we are reminded that Jesus is the light that reveals God's great love, calling us to shine brightly and grow together in wisdom. Just like the wise men found Him through His light, we are called to follow that same light in faith and hope today.

9th January 2026

A Privilege to Serve our School Community

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin 2026, I feel both proud and excited to be taking on the role of Headteacher. It is a real privilege to lead such a caring church school community, and I am very grateful for the trust placed in me.

I would like to offer sincere thanks to our wonderful teaching team and support staff, including our office and maintenance team, whose dedication, care, and quiet hard work make our school such a special place every day. I am also truly thankful for our active and supportive PTFA and our wider parent community, whose generosity, encouragement, and involvement enrich school life in so many ways.

As we move forward together, my key priorities for our school include strengthening attendance, ensuring clear and open communication with parents, developing our new class structure for September 2026, and working closely with our Governors to ensure the school continues to thrive and flourish.

Guided by our Christian values, I am committed to cherishing childhood and to nurturing a school where every child feels safe, valued, and loved, and where learning is joyful, purposeful, and full of hope. I very much look forward to working alongside pupils, staff, families and Governors as we continue this journey together, rooted in faith, kindness, and ambition for all.

Mary Stephen

Headteacher

Giving Tree Gifts

Thank you to the PTFA who organised our Giving Tree again this year. Your generous gifts go a long way to supplement our ongoing resources, and we are truly thankful for the pens, glue sticks, atlases and safety gloves amongst other treasures!

Class Newsletters

Class newsletters are being shared today and provide helpful information about the term ahead. They outline what your child will be learning across the curriculum, and include key practical details such as PE days and homework. We hope you find these newsletters informative and reassuring. As always, please do speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance plays an important role in helping children feel settled, confident, and ready to learn. Being in school every day supports not only academic progress, but also friendships, routines, and overall wellbeing. To celebrate this, we recognise good class attendance each week by awarding *Elvis the Attendance Aardvark* to the class with the highest attendance, and we love celebrating the collective effort this represents.

Of course, there will be times when children are genuinely unwell. The NHS provides helpful guidance for parents about when children should stay at home and when they are well enough to attend school. Please click the link for more information. Is my child too ill for school? - NHS

As Headteacher, I want to emphasise that attendance is a key priority for our school. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with families to ensure every child attends regularly and has the best opportunity to thrive. Thank you for your ongoing support in making school a positive, consistent part of your child's life.

Bodsham C/E Primary School,
uk.arbor.sc

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.

Entry to Reception 2026 – Deadline Approaching!

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2026, the application deadline is **Thursday, 15 January 2026**. Applications must be made online via Kent County Council (KCC), listing up to three preferred schools. As siblings, your child will be assured a place at Bodsham. National Offer Day is on 16 April 2026!

A Smart New Look for PE

We're pleased to share that our uniform partners, Springers Online, have launched a new Bodsham PE T-shirt this term. The updated design is navy blue and features a white embroidered Bodsham tree. Our PTFA team worked closely with Springers to create a T-shirt that looks smarter and stays cleaner for longer than our current white version! Priced at just £6.50, it offers excellent value for money. The new PE T-shirt is optional for now, but it will become part of our uniform expectations from September 2026. Orders can be made via this link: Bodsham C of E School

Wood you be able to help?

Miss Morris is on the hunt for more green wood, such as hazel, around 10cm diameter which is easy to cut and manipulate for little hands. If you know of any woodcutters that might be able to provide us with some lengths of wood, do ask them to get in touch!

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

ALL DAY BREAKFAST

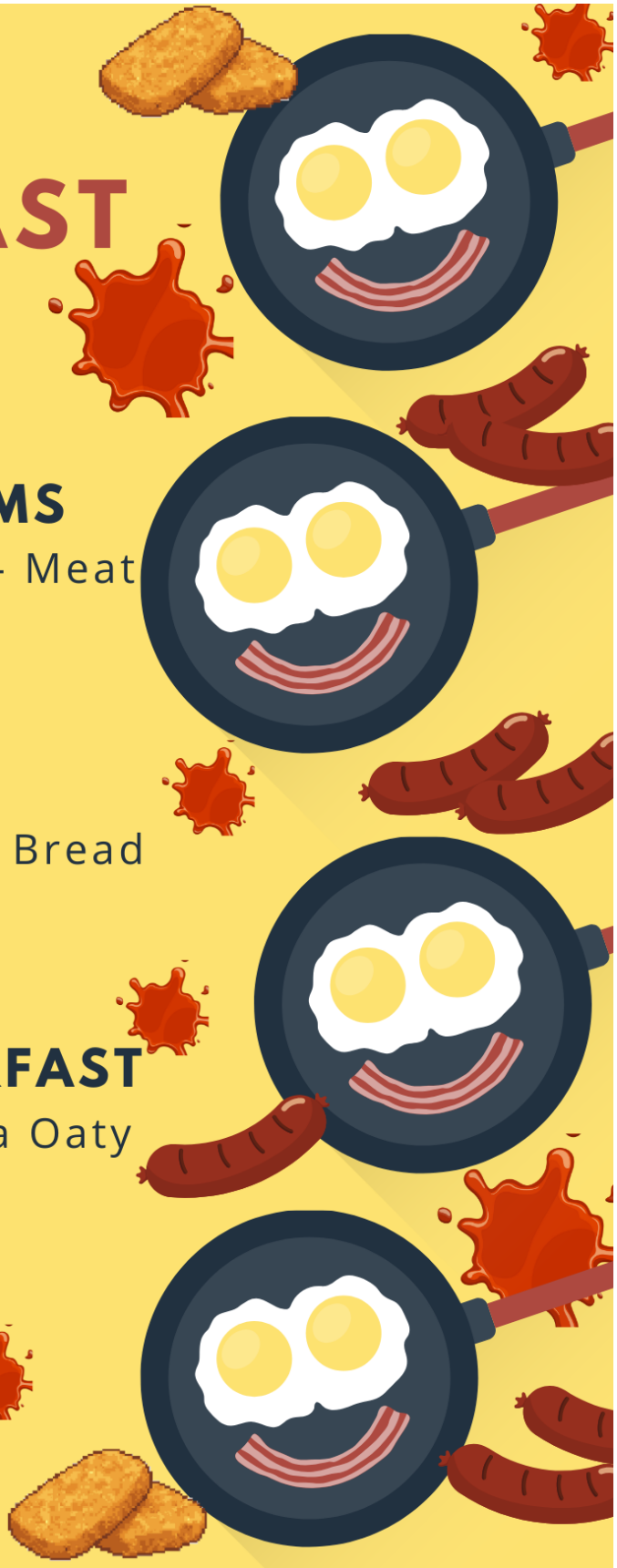
THURSDAY
15TH JANUARY 2026

BREAKFAST ITEMS

Chipolata Sausage - Meat or Veggie
Omelette
Mini Hash Browns
Baked Beans
Slice of Homemade Bread

DESSERT BREAKFAST

Chocolate & Banana Oaty Square
or
Yoghurt
Or
Fresh Fruit



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feeding the imagination

Community News

THE YOUNG ARTISTS'
SATURDAY STUDIO

Challenge your creativity, grow in confidence, and develop your skills as an artist in an inspiring environment

PART 1 : REVISITING DRAWING

£60 (4 week block) Led by an experienced art teacher-practitioner

Dates: Sat 17th Jan - Sat 7th Feb

Time: Years 5 & 6: 10:00-11.30
Years 7-10: 12:00- 13:30

Venue: Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School
Canterbury
CT1 3EW

For further info and to secure your place, email Sharon at: believe_in_art@yahoo.com

Spaces are limited to ensure small group sizes. Book early to avoid disappointment