Bodsham Church of England Primary School

Federation of

Saltwood Church of England Primary School

**"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you…"** ***Matthew 7:12*****.**
**We have been reminding the children of our Christian Values this week. This is our Golden Rule! Can your child tell you how the story of the paralysed man is important to us all?**

9th September 2022

## Remembering Her Majesty

My happy welcome back message today has been replaced by the sad task of informing you how the school is responding to the death of Her Majesty The Queen. It is particularly poignant that, as the school year begins with its usual hope and excitement, we need to be talking about a period of national mourning. I have asked all our teachers to give time in their classrooms for the children to talk and reflect on the life of the Queen, and to share what she meant to them. We will also be offering prayers for her and our new King. There will be guidance for the nation as a whole issued soon and schools may close if the State Funeral is to be held on a week day. It is of great importance, I feel, that children are made aware of the historical significance of these events, but we must all be sensitive to their feelings, especially if they have lost loved ones of their own recently.

## Harvest Festival on 30th September

An early date for your diary is to join us at Church for our Harvest Festival celebration on **Friday 30th September.** A letter will follow next week with details of donations needed to help us support those in need. Parents will be asked to collect the children from school at 2pm and transport them to Elmsted Church where we will be joined by Rev. Holy for his first service of the year with our school.

## PTFA to welcome our new families

Our amazing PTFA would like to welcome all new parents and children to the school with a chance to chat and play over tea and cake in the playground. The date is Friday 23rd September at 3.30pm – all new parents are invited to stay!

## If you'd like to know more…

You should be receiving a newsletter from your child's class teacher around now, which will let you know about the curriculum the children will be following, along with essential information on PE days, school uniform, trips and homework. Anyone who would like to look a bit closer into what their child will be studying this year is directed to the Curriculum area of our website, where you will find a detailed curriculum map for each year group and specific information about how learning progresses in English and maths.

## Important Information for Year 6 Parents

It might seem hard to believe, but it's time for Year 6 parents to apply for a secondary school place for September 2023! Applications can be made on the online Secondary Application Form (SCAF) between 1st September and 31st October. If your child took the Kent Test on Thursday, or will be taking the Shepway test on Saturday, you will obviously want to wait until you get the results of these tests before making your choices. You can view the KCC secondary admissions leaflet here.

You might also need a reminder of the whole process of applying for a secondary school place. If so, please take a moment to watch my briefing for parents of children who are now in Year 6 which I recorded in June.

## Ride and Stride to Church this weekend

You might also be interested in the Ride and Stride event taking part between churches all over Kent this weekend. Churches and chapels are open across the county and participants are invited to plan their own routes, assured of a warm welcome wherever you go!

## Reading, reading, reading.

Of all the ways parents can support their children at home, regular reading is by far the most important. We will be giving all children a reading record book to keep in their bags and we would ask that **children from YR – Y6** fills this in each day. For the younger children it will create a predictable reading routine and help to track progress through the reading scheme. For older children it helps record the breadth and depth of the texts they are choosing, so teachers can be sure that suitably challenging books are being tackled! Please sign your child's reading record. Thank you!

## Orientation Meetings Next Week

Parents are invited into school to meet their child's teacher next week to discuss how things work in the new classes. You should have received an individual email setting out these times and dates after school. Please contact the school office if you didn't get yours!

## Have you heard about the Big Sleep Out?

Sleeping rough is the daily reality for many disadvantaged people in Folkestone & Hythe District. Most of us are fortunate to have a warm bed and a place we call home. On Friday, 16 September, let us take some action on behalf of those less fortunate and raise funds to help homeless people in our community.

The Rainbow Centre, BIG SLEEP OUT event, is again able to take place outdoors: and our new venue for 2022 is at Saga Enbrook Park grounds on **Friday 16 September from 7 pm until 7 am.** In 2020 we held the event at home and raised a whopping £7600; in 2021 we raised £3600 so this year we want to smash the 2020 target! We therefore invite you to participate, get sponsorship and support the work of the Rainbow Centre. Consider joining us as a family or part of a small group for some fun but serious fundraising. As an outdoor event, you will need to bring your own cardboard and materials to build your shelter in an allocated space. A simple supper will be served, and there will also be opportunities during the evening to upload photos and join in fun competitions for the best shelter for yourself – and your cuddly toy!

Download your registration form

Download your group registration form

Download your sponsor form

## Reminders

- Parents are reminded to please not send cakes or sweets into class to celebrate their child's birthday. Our allergy policy does not permit us to give them out!
- Black shoes are needed on non PE days please!

Paul Newton
**Executive Head Teacher**