



**Bodsham Church of England
Primary School**

**Federation
of**



**Saltwood Church of England
Primary School**



“Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” John 14:12

22nd May 2020

I hope you have all seen my letter of 20th May informing parents that Bodsham School will be reopening to some pupils on **Monday 8th June**, rather than 1st June as originally planned. If you haven't seen it please do read it carefully – [it is available on the Covid19 page on the website](#). In the letter I have set out some of the detail around how the school will operate from 8th June, so I won't repeat it here.

What is clear from our plans is that school will not feel like a normal experience for children. There will be new rules and restrictions in place. If your child belongs to one of the year groups being opened, then this must be considered when you make your decision about sending them back to school.

I am grateful to all those parents who have filled in our survey to give us an idea of your intentions. This was very useful to help us in our planning decisions. The survey is now closed and I will be writing to all parents over half term with a form to complete asking for a definite indication of your need for places by **Tuesday 2nd June** – we'll need you to return the form even if you have done the survey!

Once we are open we will ask parents to give us adequate notice of the need for new places if decisions change. It will be very important that we know who to expect in school every day.

It's clear from your responses to our survey that there is a great deal of uncertainty around the idea of some children returning to school after the half term break, which I find completely understandable. However, the fact that we are now even considering this move is a definite step forward in our fight against this virus. A time when something resembling normal life has moved a little closer.

Half Term 'holiday'

Today is the end of Term 5 – the single most unusual term I have ever experienced. We would have been [celebrating Ascension Day](#) with the children.

The plan was to complete another whole school Pilgrimage in our wonderful local countryside. With that in mind, as we enter the half term week I think it will be important to give the children some sort of feeling of taking a rest. There will be no home learning for the week and I hope parents as well as children find that helps to recharge batteries. If you have any treats up your sleeve, now would be a good time to dish them out! Maybe as a family you could undertake your own, socially distant, Pilgrimage [somewhere in the Garden of England?](#)



A Message From Cameron

“My daddy and I made a website with some educational games. There's a calculator, a game for adding ly to words and a game for making words possessive. We made the games on my Raspberry Pi together, and my daddy built the website. I made a special logo for the website too! Here's the link – <http://cjs-games.co.uk>
Hope you have fun. From Cameron (Woodpeckers)”

Kent Test?

In June, parents of children currently in Year 5 will be able to apply for them to take the Kent Test. The problem being of course that we don't actually know when or even if the Kent Test will be going ahead. I have said before that the best course of action for Year 5 parents is to assume that it is going to take place in much the same format as previous years and at a similar time. Although KCC have not yet indicated their final decision, nothing I have heard so far has made me think differently. An announcement is due on 1st June.

Thank you!

I must say thank you to Givaudan – an Ashford company that manufactures fragrances – who have donated hand sanitizer to both Saltwood and Bodsham schools. This kind of support is much appreciated at the moment!



We will be in touch after the half term break with full details of reopening – including the staggered timings of the school day. Until then, I hope you manage to have a restful half term.

Yours Sincerely
Paul Newton
Executive Head Teacher