



**Bodsham Church of England  
Primary School**

**Federation  
of**



**Saltwood Church of England  
Primary School**



**I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. Psalm 130:5**

18<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### **Hopeful signs for the future**

Writing this newsletter each week gives me a chance to reflect on the amount that has been achieved over the last seven days and also to look ahead at what might be to come. Since we opened our doors to Years R, 1 and 6 on 8<sup>th</sup> June I have been delighted to see that the children who have returned have had no trouble readjusting to the routine of school. This gives me hope that when all children are finally able to return we will be able to quickly re-establish the learning habits that have been on hold for such a long time.

The theme of my worship for next week is Hope. Some parents have reported that, even though their children remain at home, watching something familiar from school helps them to feel connected to Bodsham still. Teachers at school are showing the worship to their groups – which created the surreal experience this week of being able to watch the children as they were watching me. Most of them even stayed awake!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAKdgWTLR1g>

### **Hope for a fruitful summer**

There is now much talk of a national catch up programme for all school children. While this has yet to be announced it would seem the approach will be to offer additional support to children over a long period, perhaps a whole school year. This seems not only workable, but much more likely to have long term benefits. This would also leave the summer holiday as a time when the offer could focus more on children's health and wellbeing, with summer clubs that keep children active and help restore vital social skills that may have been dormant for a while.

### **Thank you PTFA**

Even though they have not been able to meet for three months, the PTFA have still been finding ways to support the school. This week we received a donation of £1000 towards the cost of running Bodsham's minibus. This is vital support for our school's limited budget and is very much appreciated. Thanks also to Mrs Palmerini who has helped us keep the minibus roadworthy during lockdown!



### **Taking children on Public Transport**

*It may not directly affect many Bodsham parents on their school run, but KCC has asked schools to remind parents that as of this week, a face covering is mandatory on public transport. They write:*

*...the requirement is for a form of face covering that covers the mouth and nose and is distinct from any medical grade PPE. With this in mind, it is the responsibility of parents to equip their child with an appropriate face covering for their journey. In addition to pupils wearing face coverings, those who support children with their journey to school will also be required to wear a face covering in line with the national guidance.*

### **An update on Bowles for September**

*I know many Year 5 parents will be wondering about Bowles in September. We have been in touch with the centre and, to date, the trip is still booked. Obviously the conditions nearer the time will dictate whether the trip can take place. Some parents have already paid in full, others have decided not to continue their payments towards the trip, which is understandable given the current uncertainty. If you think you would like your child to attend Bowles please remember the total cost will be £365 per child, which will be payable in September. Our office can quickly update you on your balance if you are not sure.*

*Yours Sincerely*

*Paul Newton*

*Executive Head Teacher*