



## NOTICES FOR ALL PARENTS Week Ending 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### Parent Governor

A message was recently sent out inviting applications for the role of a Parent Governor at Holmesdale. As part of Greensand Multi Academy Trust, the School Committee, with the Headteacher, has responsibility for the running of the school. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the work of the School Committee in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people at Holmesdale. If you would like to stand for election, please can you return your nomination form by 12:00pm, Monday 25th November. Thank you.

### Curriculum Evening

It was wonderful to see everyone who attended our recent Curriculum Evening, and we hope you found it helpful. For those who couldn't join us, we've provided the Maths and Reading/Phonics presentations [here](#) along with handouts featuring ideas for supporting your child at home.

### Attendance / Studybugs alerts- *'Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow'*

Statistics show a direct link between poor attendance and under-achievement.

#### **Regular attenders:**

- ***make better progress, both socially and academically***
- ***find school routines, schoolwork and friendships easier to cope with***
- ***find learning more satisfying and settle into secondary school more easily.***

Regular attendance also encourages responsible learning habits and prepares children for higher education and for their working life. Absence for whatever reason disadvantages a child by creating gaps in his/her learning.

Thank you to everyone who is using Studybugs to report your child's absence. If you are yet to download the app you can find the link here: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

In the summer the government released new guidance to support schools in 'Working together to improve school attendance' and using this guidance we updated our school's Attendance Policy which was sent to you in September and is on the school's website.

As per our new policy, from next week (Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November) we will be sending out the following automated alerts to you via Studybugs to inform you of your child's current attendance if they reach these triggers:

If your child's attendance falls below 94%	You will be sent an automated alert to let you know and you may be asked to have an informal chat with your child's class teacher.
--	--

If your child's attendance falls below 92%	Your child is at risk of becoming a 'persistent absentee' and you may be asked to come in to have a meeting to discuss your child's attendance.
If your child's attendance falls below 90%	Your child is now a 'persistent absentee' and you will be asked to have a meeting at school to discuss your child's attendance
If it is 9:20am, your child is absent and you have yet to let us know the reason why your child is not at school	You will receive an automated alert to your email address reminding you to let the school know the reason for absence.

Thank you for your continued support in terms of your child's attendance at school.

### Follow us on Facebook/Instagram

Stay updated on all the latest news, events, activities, and celebrations in our school! Follow us on Facebook [here](#) or on Instagram [here](#). Please invite family and friends to follow us as well!

### Greensand Job Opportunities

Please [click here](#) for current opportunities within Greensand MAT.

## NOTICES FOR NURSERY PARENTS

### Comfort Items

We kindly ask that cuddly toys not be brought into nursery. Now that the children are settled and familiar with the environment, we feel they're ready to leave comfort items at home. If a comforter is still needed, please keep it in their bag, out of sight. Thank you for your support.

### Yoghurt pots

We will be using yoghurt pots, toilet rolls and small boxes to create musical instruments next week. If you have any at home, please save them and pass them along to the nursery team. Thank you.

## NOTICES FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

### Be Bright, Be Seen!

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024, to embed our week's learning on road safety, we wish to invite Reception children to dress up in brightly-coloured clothing or wear a brightly coloured accessory.

### Reception Nativity

We are delighted that Reception children will be taking part in a Nativity performance on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30AM and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30AM. This year's performance will take place in our school hall and children will tell the story of the Nativity primarily through song.

*Your child is invited to choose to dress up as any character from the Christmas story or wear festive/party attire.* Please send in your child's choice of costume (in a clearly labelled bag) by **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024.**

For your convenience, please find a list of The Nativity characters and suggested costumes below. Feel free to adapt the suggestions as necessary. We do not expect you to buy outfits and are very happy with homemade ones.

**Your child can choose to dress up as one of the following:**

- **Angel:** *White ankle-length, long-sleeved dress with silver or gold tinsel (you can decide where to attach this), small wings and a silver or gold halo.*
- **Innkeeper:** *Dressing gown with plain, dark-coloured trousers and a tea towel with something to keep it on their head e.g., tie, rope, or elasticated hairband.*
- **Star:** *T-shirt with leggings. (You could cut out star shapes and stick onto your T-shirt)*
- **King:** *Crown, cloak or cape, with similar coloured trousers and T-shirt.*
- **Shepherd:** *Dressing gown with plain, trousers and a tea towel with something to keep it on their head, e.g., tie, rope, or elasticated hairband. Your child could bring in a crook or a cuddly lamb. Please do not send in a precious toy as it could go astray.*
- **Mary:** *Blue, ankle-length, long-sleeved dress with a matching piece of cloth for their head and a tie, rope, or elasticated hairband, to hold it on.*
- **Joseph:** *Dressing gown with plain, dark-coloured trousers with a tea towel and something to keep it on their head e.g., tie, rope, or elasticated hairband.*
- **Festive attire:** *Christmas jumper/festive party clothes.*

Please let your class teacher know if you are unable to source or provide a costume for your child.

## NOTICES FOR YEAR ONE PARENTS

### Autumn Natural Objects

We are continuing to learn about autumn and thinking of adjectives to describe this season using our five senses. We will then be writing our own autumn poems. If you have any natural objects such as pinecones, conkers, acorns, or leaves, that you are happy to donate, please give them to your child's class teacher. Please remember no nuts due to allergies. Thank you.

## NOTICES FOR YEAR TWO PARENTS

### Endangered Animals workshop

Unfortunately, we have had to reschedule our Endangered Animals Workshop due to illness. We will let you know as soon as this has been rescheduled.