



NOTICES FOR ALL PARENTS Week ending 19th September 2025

School Photographs

On Monday October 20th and Tuesday October 21st, the school photographer will be in school to take individual pupil photographs. Reception, Nursery and Year 1 will be on Monday 20th October and Year 2 will be on Tuesday 21st October. If your class has PE that day, please send them in school uniform - PE will be Music and Movement. Proofs will be sent home allowing you to place orders. Siblings will have their photos taken together unless you contact the school office in writing.

Parking and Road Safety Reminder

As we welcome new families to our school community, we would like to remind all parents and carers to park safely and considerately around the school site. We understand that drop-off and pick-up times can be busy, but pulling up directly outside the gates causes congestion and unsafe conditions.

There have been incidents of cars mounting pavements or reversing near the school, which poses a real risk to children and families walking on the paths. To help keep everyone safe, please use nearby parking spaces and walk the short distance to school wherever possible.

Thank you for your support in making both arrival and collection times safe for every child.

Online Safety Weekly Updates – Snapchat

Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

Running for a Great Cause

Mrs Mullarkey is lacing up her trainers and taking part in this year's Run Reigate! She'll be running with her daughter to raise money for Stripey Stork, a local charity that Holmesdale School is proud to support. Stripey Stork helps families who are experiencing hardship by providing essential items for their children. If you'd like to learn more or make a donation, please click [here](#).



We'd also like to wish the very best of luck to all the Holmesdale families and children taking on the Run Reigate challenge. If you're happy to share your photos with us, and have given consent, we'd love to include them in our newsletter. Have fun on the run!

St Mark's Church Grounds

We have been made aware by Father Martin that children are running around and behaving inappropriately within the grounds of St Mark's Church, particularly around the War Memorial and the Garden of Remembrance. Sadly, this has led to damage to several memorial plaques, as well as to surrounding trees and plants. As you can imagine, this can be deeply distressing to the families of those who are honoured and remembered here and upsetting to nearby residents. We

kindly ask that you speak with your children and remind them not to play in these areas Children wearing the Holmesdale uniform are ambassadors of the school, and we expect them to show kindness, respect, and responsibility in the wider community.

KOOSA KIDS Holiday – October Half Term

KOOSA Kids are pleased to be operating their October Half Term Holiday Club at Holmesdale School from Monday 27th to Friday 31st October. Their exciting, action-packed Spooky Skele-Bration activity programme is designed for children aged 4-13, featuring a mix of games, art & crafts, science, drama, sports and their famous Go Karts. They will also be holding a Spooky Party on Friday 31st October with party games, music, dancing and lots of fun! Children can join staff in dressing up in their spookiest outfits and take part in the fancy dress parade. Dressing up is always optional. Prices start from just £30.00 per child, per session (Standard day 10.00am to 4.00pm; longer days available) an 8% discount on a full week booking and your third child goes FREE (siblings only)!

Visit www.koosakids.co.uk/holiday-club for more information or call 01276 21884. See the [Autumn/Winter brochure](#) for full details, dates, venues and what is coming up at Christmas and February Holiday clubs. Bookings are open.

Dogs at Drop-Off and Pick-Up

We know that many of our families and staff, including Mr Jarvis our site supervisor, are dog lovers, and we appreciate the care you take when bringing dogs on the school run. However, we have recently received complaints from local residents about dogs becoming distressed, which is leading to increased barking.

As a reminder, dogs are not permitted on school premises. If you do bring a dog on the school run, please ensure they remain outside the school gates and are not left unattended at any time. Although Mr Jarvis is often on duty at the gate, he is not able to take responsibility for any dogs brought to school. You may wish to leave your dog at home or consider asking another parent to collect your child from the teacher. If so, please let the teacher or school office know that you have an arrangement with another parent.

We also kindly ask that children do not approach or try to stroke dogs on the way to and from school, without their owner's permission. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Reigate and Banstead – October Half Term Activities

The council's school holiday activities are not for profit and aim to provide affordable activities for children to be active, learn a new skill and build confidence. They offer a 50% discount for families in receipt of benefits and are also able to offer free spaces for families in need. [Please see attached.](#)

Midday Supervisor Role

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated Midday Meals Supervisor to join our dynamic team at Holmesdale School. Please click [here](#) for more information and to apply.

Greensand Job Opportunities

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

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.

NOTICES FOR NURSERY PARENTS

Declaration and Early Years Pupil Premium Form

In order for your child to receive Funded Early Education, parents of **all children** in the Nursery are required to complete [Surrey County Council's Declaration and Early Years Pupil Premium Form](#) once their child has attended their first session. If you are unable to print this, please ask for a paper copy from the school office.

This form will apply for the whole academic year so please complete the autumn, spring and summer funding periods now and **please contact the school office immediately** if any changes occur after completion or you become eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium.

Please return your completed form to the school office no later than **Friday 26th September**.

30 Hours Funding

If your child receives funding for 30 hours, please remember to reconfirm your eligibility every three months to continue claiming the extra hours. You should receive a prompt from the HMRC to remind you to do this. However, it is advisable to make a note of your renewal date yourself to make sure you don't miss the deadline and lose out on your funding.

Junk Modelling

Please collect any clean, empty small boxes (not cereal boxes), empty kitchen roll cylinders, yoghurt pots, bottle lids and send them into school.

We have several children who have a severe allergy to nuts, eggs, and gluten so we ask that NO EGG BOXES or CEREAL BOXES, INCLUDING CEREAL BARS, be sent to school for junk modelling. Please ensure that all yoghurt pots are thoroughly washed out. Please also remember not to send in any packaging that contains nuts or sesame seeds. Thank you!

NOTICES FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

Library Books Amendment

Please return all library books on **Mondays** so your child can choose a new book. (This corrects last week's notice, which stated Tuesdays in error.)

Bookbags

Please write your child's name on the top flap of their book bag, either directly onto the bag or on a sticker. This will help your child and staff to locate bags quickly and efficiently. Thank you for your support.

Reception Baseline Assessment

Over the next fortnight, your child will be taking part in the statutory baseline assessment. These assessments are required for all children starting school, but please rest assured they are carried out in a fun, play-based, and supportive way. If you'd like to find out more, please [click here](#).

Word and Sound Books

We use the phonics programme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised to teach phonics. Please [click here](#) for more information about Little Wandle and an overview of phonics for the year.

This week your child will bring home a 'Word and Sound Book' with the graphemes that we have learnt thus far. Please encourage your child to recognise the grapheme and say the phoneme catch phrase. Little Wandle have recorded clips on how to say each phoneme to support parents.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Moving forward, please keep your child's 'Word and Sound Book' at home and stick in the new phonemes for the week when they are sent home on a Thursday. A note explaining how to use this book to support your child is stuck into the inside cover.

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Pupil Premium

If you have a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and you are eligible to register for Pupil Premium, please complete [FSM Application Form](#) and return it to the school office by **Friday 26th September**.

More information is given in the [Handbook for Parents September 2025](#) (available on our website).

Eligibility criteria 1 – if either parent is in receipt of the following:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400
- Income support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC. N.B. If you receive WORKING TAX CREDIT you do NOT qualify even if you receive child tax credit and your income is below £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Eligibility criteria 2 – Application for other pupil premium

- If your child is a looked-after child (LAC) i.e. in the care of, or provided with accommodation by an English local authority
- If your child ceased to be looked after by the local authority because of adoption, a special guardianship order, a child arrangements order or a residence order.
- If either or both parents are regular members of HM Forces and designated as personal category 1 or 2 (PStat Cat 1 or 2), in the armed forces of another nation and stationed in England or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence.

Eligibility criteria 3 – no recourse to public funds

If you are a family with no recourse to public funds and your immigration category is one of the following, please complete the [Application form for No Recourse to Public Funds](#)

Zambrano

Article 8 of the ECHR

Section 4 of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999

Chen

BN(O) Passport holder

Spousal visa holder

Work visa holder

Student visa holder

Other

If your circumstances change during the course of the year and you become eligible for the above, please complete the form and send it to the school office at that time.

NOTICES FOR YEAR ONE PARENTS

Toy Workshop

Next week, we will be learning about how toys have changed and the types of toys our parents and grandparents may have played with during an exciting workshop. To support your child with their learning, you may like to talk to your child about the toys you liked, or the games you played, as a child. Thank you.

Owls: Change of Library Day

From now on, we will visit the library on a Tuesday instead of a Monday. Thank you for your understanding.

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iRock Bands – Spaces available

[iRock School of Music](#) provides rock and pop music lessons on Friday afternoons and after school. iRock gives children the opportunity to join their very own rock band, making learning music fun while also aiding other important skills such as confidence and teamwork. At the end of each term every band performs for parents and carers in the school hall. There are currently spaces on all instruments in the after-school band running from 15:05-15:35 and some spaces in the four bands running during the school day. Please see [Enrol | iRock Rock and Pop Band Lessons](#) for more information.

NOTICES FOR YEAR TWO PARENTS

Year 2 Information Session

Thank you to all those who joined us for the information session last week. If you did not manage to attend, you can see the information that was shared attached.

Woodpeckers PE Days

For the next few weeks Woodpeckers will be doing PE on Monday and Thursday instead of Wednesday.

Please see notices for when this returns to normal.

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For any previous notices please refer to the [Holmesdale School website](#)