



NOTICES FOR ALL PARENTS Week ending 10th October 2025

Parent Consultation Evenings

You are invited to make a 10-minute appointment with your child's teacher to discuss how your child has settled into their new class. The appointments will be held in school in your child's classroom. Details of how to book your appointment will be emailed to you with the notices this week. Bookings will close at 3pm on Monday 20th October.

Consultation dates are:

- Wednesday 22nd October (4.00-7.00pm)
- Thursday 23rd October (3.30-6.30pm)

Woodpeckers class will be holding an extra consultation session on **Tuesday 21st October (5.00-7.00pm)** and amended hours on **Wednesday 22nd October (5.00-6.00pm)** and **Thursday 23rd October (3.30-6.30pm)**

Parking

We have received feedback from local residents expressing concern about inconsiderate parking. In one instance, a car was reported and photographed partially blocking a driveway, making it difficult for the owner to leave their property and safely access the road.

We understand that parking near the school can be challenging, particularly during drop-off and pick-up times, but we kindly ask that you prioritise the safety of our young children when making parking decisions and be considerate of our neighbours. Thank you.

Lost Property

Please check the lost property box in the school reception for any lost clothes or other items that are either unnamed or have names that are difficult to read. Any unclaimed items will be donated to the PSA or a charity, or recycled at half term.

From Mrs Hill – Gardening Club

Thank you for the kind donations we have received. We would still like any of the following:

Spare perennial plants or shrubs that you are digging up or dividing this autumn.

Spring bulbs of any sort.

Any woodland bulbs or plants such as English bluebells, aconite, wild garlic, or ferns for the woodland area.

Seeds for next year.

Pond plants for our new ponds that you are dividing up in your own ponds.

Any donations can go to the office or via your child's teacher.

Thank you

Harvest Festival

On Thursday 16th October, we will be celebrating Harvest Festival. KS1 will be marking the occasion with a walk down to St Mark's Church, where the children will learn about the importance

of harvest time and the values of kindness and helping others. Meanwhile, the EYFS team will enjoy their own harvest celebration by coming together to sing songs and share poems. When everyone returns to school, our kitchen team will add to the festivities by preparing a special harvest lunch for the children to enjoy. As a whole school, we will also be collecting food donations for **Loveworks**, who have urgently requested the following items:

Tinned meat (corned beef, spam, ham)
Tinned fruit
Tinned vegetables
Tinned potatoes
Tinned custard
Tinned meat casseroles

Please send all donations into school on the morning of Thursday 16th October so they can be included in our collection. Your generosity will make a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

Online Safety Weekly Updates – Dealing with Traumatic and Challenging Events

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events - from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

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

Recycled materials

Please could you collect and bring in any of the following recycled materials - toilet rolls, tubes, small yoghurt pots, small boxes such as toothpaste boxes, foil cake cases, bottle tops or corks. Please remember not to include anything that has contained nuts or sesame as we have children in school who are severely allergic to these. Thank you.

NOTICES FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

Woodland Explorers in Reception

The woodland at Holmesdale School is part of our educational environment and we utilise this area, based upon the Forest School philosophy. Forest School is a holistic approach to learning which fosters the children's natural sense of enquiry as they explore the outdoor environment. Although we are not a designated 'Forest School', we can teach the children some basic skills and knowledge they will need to promote their learning in all areas of the curriculum.

The skills and knowledge the children will gain are:

- The woodland rules on how to keep themselves and others safe during their outdoor experience.
- To dress independently and appropriately for different weather conditions.
- To develop their listening and attention skills through collaborative games and activities.

- To use tools and equipment appropriately and safely.
- To negotiate with their peers by listening to each other's ideas and working cooperatively together.
- To develop their own ideas and creativity using natural resources.
- To have the confidence and perseverance to learn through trial and error without a sense of failure.
- To develop independence and a sense of self-esteem in what they can do.
- To make choices while developing the skills and learning that have been demonstrated to them.
- To respect the woodland and come to understand how they can play a role in preservation and maintenance of their school woodland and the wider environment.

All Reception children will have the opportunity to go to the woodland, usually for an hour once a fortnight. We will provide waterproof trousers but would ask you to provide **named wellington boots or alternative footwear in a bag, as well as a waterproof coat on their scheduled day.** Named hats and gloves will be needed in cold weather. Children can get muddy and a little wet as we do go out in the rain and during the winter.

We plan to start our 'Woodland Explorers' sessions next week:

Wednesday 15th 2025 October for Rabbits

Thursday 16th October 2025 for Ducks and Foxes

Thank you for your support.

Parent Helpers

After half term we would like to invite any parents who would like to help in the classroom. This could be listening to readers, playing number, word or sound games or cutting/sticking resources for the class. If you are not DBS cleared with us, then please contact the school office who will be able to provide you with the relevant application information. We would like all volunteers to attend a short volunteers meeting (enquire at the office for times) and then liaise with your class teacher to arrange suitable times for coming in.

NOTICES FOR YEAR ONE PARENTS

Autumnal Natural Objects

Please collect and bring to school, natural objects found outside this time of year e.g. conkers, acorns, pinecones, leaves. No nuts or berries please.

Thank you

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 YEAR TWO PARENTS

Lunchtime Assistants

We would like to invite any Year 2 children who may be interested in helping at lunchtimes to apply for the role of a Lunchtime Assistant. This role is a valuable opportunity for pupils to take on responsibility, work as part of a team, and be a positive role model for others. It helps children build independence, communication skills, and a sense of pride in contributing to the school community. We have talked to the children about the role in class, what it involves and have sent home the job advert and application form for them to complete **if they are interested**. They will only need to write a couple of sentences about why they think they would be suitable for this role. We look forward to reading them! Please send these back to school via their class teacher by **Monday 20th October**.

Mrs Blanchard and Miss Yeates will chat with the children in small, informal groups to find out why they would like to be a Lunchtime Assistant. Following these discussions, a number of children will be selected for the role. The positions will be shared fairly across the Year 2 classes, and we will aim to give as many children as possible the opportunity to take on the role throughout the year. Children will not be expected to do the role every day and can choose to step back from it at any time if they wish.

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