

NOTICES FOR ALL PARENTS Week ending 21st November 2025

Winter FAIR

We're excited to welcome you to the PSA Winter Fair at Holmesdale School on Saturday 22nd November, from 12:30 to 4:30pm. Join us for an afternoon packed with festive games, fun activities, and delicious treats.

For more details, please visit the [PSA website](#).

We can't wait to see you there!



Language and Communication/Phonics and Reading Workshops

Just a reminder that next week we will be hosting our Language & Communication, Reading, and Phonics Workshops. During these sessions, we will explore the importance of talk, discuss what good reading behaviours look like, and, particularly for Reception and KS1, explain how we teach reading and phonics in school. We will also share practical tips on how you can support your child's learning at home.

Workshop Dates:

- **Year 2:** Tuesday 25th November, 2:15 pm
- **Nursery:** Wednesday 26th November, 8:40 am
- **Reception:** Wednesday 26th November, 2:15 pm
- **Year 1:** Thursday 27th November, 2:15 pm

Following the Reception and Key Stage 1 workshops, parents are welcome to stay for a 'Reading Surgery' from 3:10-3:40 pm, where staff will be available to support you and your child with reading together.

Favourite Five

We are excited to launch a new library initiative designed to encourage reading for pleasure and to spark conversations about books across our school community. Every fortnight, a member of staff will choose and display their five favourite books in the school library. Teachers will be able to borrow these books to share with their classes during story time, and children are encouraged to talk to the staff member who selected them, asking questions, sharing opinions, and discussing which books they enjoy too.

In notices, we will let you know which books have been chosen so that, if you wish, you can also enjoy reading them at home with your child.

This fortnight, Mrs Mullarkey has chosen her 'Favourite Five':

- *James and the Giant Peach* – Roald Dahl
- *Room on the Broom* - Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler
- *Billy's Bucket* - Kes Gray & Garry Parsons
- *An Emotional Menagerie* - The School of Life
- *The Smeds and The Smoos* - Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler

We hope this new initiative will help spark a love of reading and lots of wonderful book talk at home and in school!

Thank You for Supporting Our School Community

We would like to take a moment to thank you for parking thoughtfully during drop-off and pick-up times. Your care helps keep our children and the whole school community safe, and it shows consideration for our neighbours. Thank you for your continued support.

After-School Clubs Collection

If the car park is full when collecting children from after-school clubs, we kindly ask that you use nearby streets and avoid double parking to keep everyone safe. Your support is greatly appreciated.

KOOSA Kids Christmas Holiday Club

KOOSA Kids are pleased to be operating our Christmas Holiday Club at Holmesdale Community Infant School from Monday 22nd to Tuesday 23rd December. Our exciting, action-packed activity programme is designed for children aged 4-13, featuring a mix of exciting games, art & crafts, science and challenges that bring our Winter Wonderland theme to life with a [Christmas Party on Tuesday 23rd December!](#) Bookings are open! Please [click here](#) for more information.

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

Tasting Food

We have enjoyed learning about the senses, and next week we will be exploring our sense of taste. The children will have the opportunity to taste lemon, salted crisps, and bananas. Please inform the teaching team if you do **not** want your child to try any of these items.

Walk to Postbox

We will be writing and posting letters to the North Pole!

On Wednesday 3rd December 2025, the children will walk down the road to the local postbox to post their letters. This will also be a lovely opportunity for us to learn about walking safely on the pavement, as well as to explore our local environment and talk about the interesting things we see along the way.

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 in a reusable bag (we will pass it back to you so you can reuse it).

We have a number of children who have a severe allergy to eggs, milk and nuts so we ask that NO EGG BOXES or CEREAL BOXES, INCLUDING CEREAL BARS that have contained nuts be sent to school for junk modelling. Please ensure that all yoghurt pots are thoroughly washed out. Please also avoid sending in any packaging that contained pine nuts, lentils, chickpeas or sesame seeds. Thank you.

NOTICES FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

Be Bright, Be Seen!

On Friday 5th December 2025, to support and embed our learning on road safety, we invite Reception children to come to school dressed in brightly coloured clothing or wearing a brightly coloured accessory.

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 in a reusable bag (we will pass it back to you so you can reuse it).

We have a number of children who have a severe allergy to eggs, milk and nuts so we ask that NO EGG BOXES or CEREAL BOXES, INCLUDING CEREAL BARS that have contained nuts be sent to school for junk modelling. Please ensure that all yoghurt pots are thoroughly washed out. Please also avoid sending in any packaging that contained pine nuts, lentils, chickpeas or sesame seeds. Thank you.

NOTICES FOR YEAR ONE PARENTS

Christmas Performance

We are looking forward to our Christmas Performance on Wednesday 17th December and will soon be busy learning our songs. The performance will be a re-telling of the Christmas story through narration and songs. Most of the children will not be allocated specific roles so will be able to choose one of the following costume options:

- A character from the Nativity story e.g. a shepherd, Mary, a star, a king
- Wear a festive / Christmas / colourful jumper / party outfit

We do not expect you to buy outfits and are very happy with homemade ones e.g. a dressing gown and a tea towel with a headband for a shepherd. A few children across the year group will play the part of a church mouse. We will let you know if this is your child. If your child is playing the part of a mouse, then they may like to wear dark clothes. We will make some mouse ears at school for them to wear. Please send in your child's costume in a named bag on Friday 12th December.

We look forward to welcoming you to our performance. Thank you for your support.

Learning Speaking Parts for the Nativity

We have spoken to the children about what the Christmas performance will entail. We have asked them to think about whether they would like to have a speaking part. We want the experience to be

enjoyable and exciting for all the children and understand that some children may prefer not to have a speaking role. However, all the children will have the opportunity to be on the stage to perform poems and songs. If your child brings home a line to learn next Thursday (we will put it in their reading record), please support them with saying it loudly, clearly and slowly. Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

Donations of children's magazines and comics

If you have any children's magazines or comics which your child has finished reading and no longer wants, please pass them to your child's class teacher. We are collecting them for our book corners. Thank you.

Volunteers please!

If you have a current DBS check and would like to support in class during the morning on Thursday 4th December, please let your child's class teacher know. We will be making fruit salad and it is always a very enjoyable (but slightly messy!) morning. Thank you very much.

Junk Modelling

We would be very grateful for any donations for 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

Christmas Performance

We are looking forward to our Christmas Performance on Wednesday 17th December and will soon be busy preparing and learning our songs. The performance will be a re-telling of the Christmas story through narration and songs. Most of the children are not allocated specific roles so we will be asking the children to wear something festive like a Christmas jumper, something red, green or sparkly or a party outfit.

We do not expect you to buy outfits and are very happy with whatever Christmassy clothes they may have already.

Please send in your child's outfit in a named bag on Friday 12th December. We look forward to welcoming you to our performance.

Thank you for your support, The Year 2 team

Sparkfish Christmas Journey

We are looking forward to our annual visit to Reigate Park Church for the 'Sparkfish Christmas journey' as part of our enrichment activities this year. The children will be learning all about the first Christmas by going on a 'Christmas journey' which will retell the story of the nativity, and they will also take part in some craft activities related to the story. This is taking place on Monday 1st December for Badgers (9am) and Falcons (10:15am) and Thursday 4th December (9am) for Woodpeckers. As the coach will be arriving at 9am on the Monday and Thursday please could you make sure that if your child is in Badgers or Woodpeckers in particular, that your child is in class promptly for registration that day so that we can leave as soon as we are ready.

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