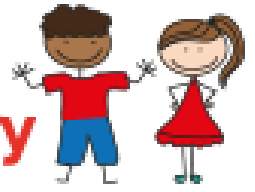


JANUARY 2026



# Holmesdale Community Infant School and Nursery



HOLMESDALE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## TAKE A PEEK

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

**Tuesday 3rd February**  
Year 1 - Victorian School Day

**Tuesday 9th – 13th February**  
Children’s Mental Health Week

**Friday 13th February – ‘Come as Yourself’ Day**

**Tue 10th (Woodpeckers Only ), Wed 11th & Thurs 12th February**  
Parents Evening

**Monday 16th – 20th February**  
Half Term Holidays

**Monday 23rd February**  
Inset Day





## A MESSAGE FROM MRS MULLARKEY

Dear Families,

As January comes to a close, I would like to recognise the strong learning behaviours and enthusiasm the children have shown throughout the month. Their determination, confidence and willingness to take on new challenges have been evident across all areas of school life. They have also embraced the cold and snowy weather, using it as an opportunity for exploration and play. Thank you to our staff team for their continued commitment to supporting the children each day.

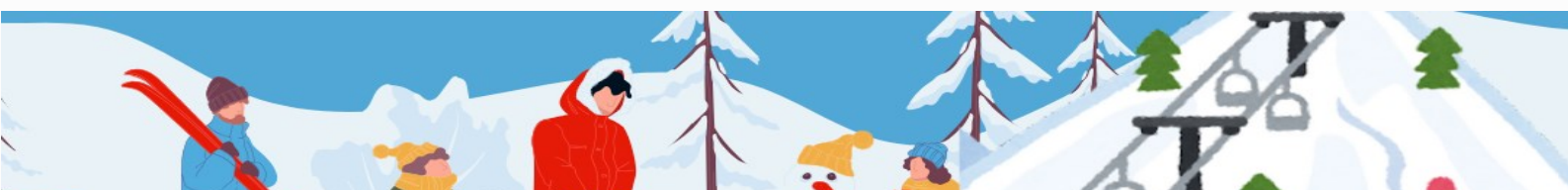
We are grateful to our parents and volunteers for your ongoing support, from helping with design technology activities to taking part in reading sessions. Your involvement makes a meaningful difference to the children's learning and helps to strengthen our school community.

We are pleased to begin 2026 as the National Year of Reading. Throughout the year, we will be highlighting books and storytelling across the school through a range of activities designed to inspire a love of reading in every child. From special events to engaging reading opportunities, reading will remain at the heart of our work.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another month of growth, curiosity and learning.

With warmest regards,

S. Mullarkey



# AUTHOR OF THE MONTH



**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

## Sue Hendra

We are thrilled to be celebrating the National Year of Reading 2026.

The message is simple: reading is fun and for everyone. It can be part of the things you already love, like games, music, family time, animals, or even cooking.

Throughout the year, we will be joining in with special reading events, fun activities, and exciting challenges, so everyone can enjoy stories, information, and books together.

To kick off our celebrations this year, we have chosen Sue Hendra as our Author of the Month. The children are loving reading about Supertato and his many hilarious adventures! There is a real buzz around the school as

children take part in a treasure hunt - searching for, finding, and describing Sue Hendra's wonderful characters and illustrations.

The excitement and love of reading is shining through, and we can't wait to share many more reading adventures together this year!



WELCOME TO EYFS  
JANUARY 2026

# NURSERY AND RECEPTION



We've had a frosty January! We went on an icy winter walk to spot signs of winter and made predictions about what would happen to water left outside overnight. We also had fun creating our own snowflakes and snowmen!

We enjoyed exploring 2D shapes this month. The children loved walking around the school to spot different shapes in our environment and talking about what they found.



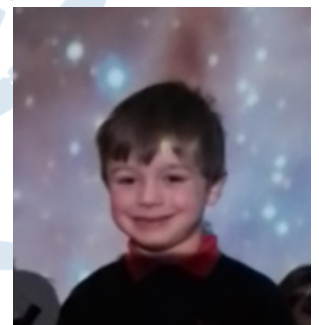
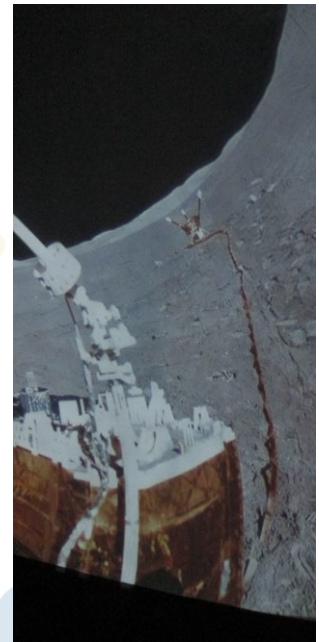
WELCOME TO EYFS

# NURSERY AND RECEPTION

This month we have explored the season of winter and made the most of the cold weather! We used our senses on a winter walk, made a snowman and had a go at making an igloo.



We have enjoyed learning about Space. We had a visit from a space dome, tried some space food and learnt lots of facts about astronauts and our solar system!



# Year 1 News

## Welcome to Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed learning about the Victorians. In our workshop, we created a human timeline to help us understand how long ago the Victorian era was.



We explored Victorian objects and we thought about what it would feel like to only eat SLOP for breakfast, lunch and dinner!



# Year 1 News

Welcome to Year 1



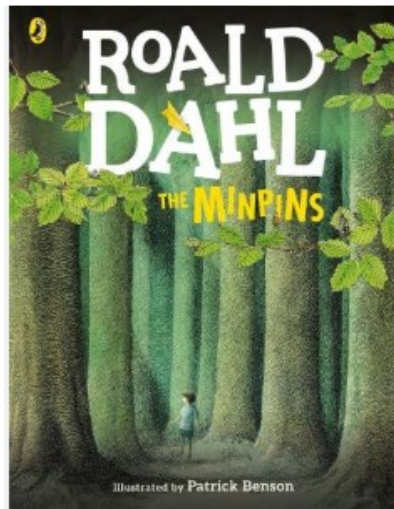
We thought our visiting alien, Beegu, might be lonely, so we decided to make her some alien puppet friends. First, we thought about our designs. Then, we sewed and decorated them.



# WELCOME TO YEAR 2 NEWS

HOLMESDALE INFANT SCHOOL

Year 2 have been reading the story of  
The Minpins by Roald Dahl.



We imagined what the monster that lives  
in the Forest of Sin might look like and  
created our own.



# WELCOME TO YEAR 2 NEWS

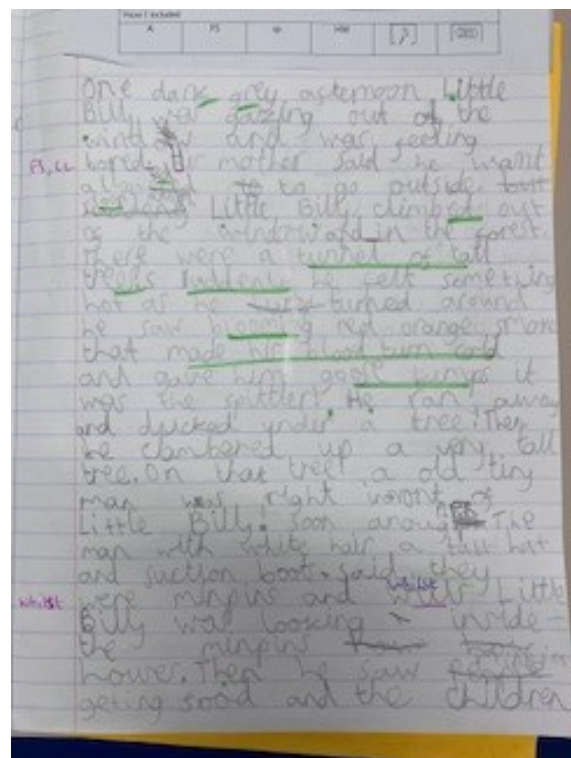
HOLMESDALE INFANT SCHOOL



We wrote reports about the Minpins and where they live.



We have written our own retell of the story.



# SPORTS ROUND

WELCOME

THIS MONTH'S ESSENTIAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY UPDATES ►

## Stay Active & Warm This Winter!

### Animal Track Adventure!

Hide stuffed animals around the house! Can you follow the "tracks" (made from paper footprints) to find them all?

Crawl over pillows or climb under the table to reach them!



### Superhero Obstacle Course!

Create an awesome indoor obstacle course! Leap over cushions, crawl through tunnels, and hop over cones!

Pretend to be superheroes leaping from building to building!



### Put on Some of your Favorite Music!

Dance around the living room! Play Freeze Dance by freezing in silly poses when the music stops!



### Have a Dance Party!

Put on some of your favorite music and dance around the living room!

Play Freeze Dance by freezing in silly poses when the music stops!



### Indoor Scavenger Hunt!

Make a list of colors or items you can find around the house. Race to see who can find them all first! The winner gets to pick the next game!



## Keep Moving & Have Fun!

