



## NOTICES FOR ALL PARENTS Week ending 30th January 2026

### Parent Consultation Evenings

A reminder to book your 10-minute parent consultation by **3pm Monday 9th February**. Consultations will take place Tuesday 10th February (Woodpeckers only), Wednesday 11th February, and Thursday 12th February. Booking instructions were included in last week's notices. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

### Feeling Good Week – Friday – ‘Come as yourself’ Day

On Friday 13th February your child may wear an outfit which makes them feel most comfortable, confident, and like they truly belong - whether that's cosy clothes, cultural dress, favourite colours, or something totally unique. Celebrate what makes you, you!

### Favourite Five

We are delighted that Mrs Blashfield has shared her 'Favourite Five' for our school library! Her curated selection celebrates imagination, curiosity and a love of stories, from the warmth and adventure of *Hotel Flamingo* by Alex Milway to the globe-trotting inspiration of *The Travel Book* by Lonely Planet Kids. She has also selected the thoughtful and humorous *Look After Your Planet* by Lauren Child featuring Charlie and Lola, the playful, empowering story *The Fairytale Hairdresser* by Abie Longstaff and the timeless classic *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. Many of us fondly remember Aslan, the majestic, golden-maned lion whose presence fills Narnia with courage, wisdom, and hope.

### Author of the Month

This February, we are celebrating Shirley Hughes as our Author of the Month. Her wonderful stories and illustrations bring everyday adventures to life - splashing in puddles, crunching through autumn leaves, and sunny trips to the seaside. Shirley Hughes shows us that the best stories come from simply looking closely at the world around us. We hope the children are inspired by her work. Just by noticing, imagining, and creating from our own everyday adventures - we can all be writers and artists too.

### Train to Teach – Information Seminar

If you are considering a career in teaching, i2i Teaching Partnership is offering a free Information Seminar at St Bede's School, Redhill, on February 3rd from 9:30am to 11:30am. For more details and to book a place, please visit [www.i2ipartnership.co.uk](http://www.i2ipartnership.co.uk) and click on the Events page.

### Help Us Reduce Our Carbon Footprint

As part of our *Count Your Carbon* and wider sustainability work, we are asking all parents and staff to complete our Travel Survey. Your responses will help us understand commuting habits and identify ways our school can reduce emissions and promote greener travel.

**Please complete the survey here: [Travel Survey link](#)**

The survey takes only a few minutes, and your feedback is incredibly valuable.

Thank you for supporting our sustainability efforts! 🌱

### 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

### 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 a number of children who have a severe allergy to eggs, milk 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 avoid sending in any packaging that contained nuts, pine nuts, lentils, chickpeas or sesame seeds. Thank you for your support.**

### Share a Story

We would love to invite parents and carers to come into our nursery class and share a favourite book or a story that your child enjoys. This is a lovely opportunity to celebrate stories, cultures, and help foster a love of reading. We especially welcome parents and carers who speak another language at home to share a familiar story, book, or traditional tale in that language. Hearing stories in different languages helps children appreciate diversity, build confidence, and enriches everyone's learning experience. Parents and carers are welcome to come in during the week beginning **2nd February** or **9th February** at **9:00am**. If these times are not convenient, we are very happy to try to accommodate another date or time to suit your availability. If you would like to take part, please speak to a member of the nursery team so we can arrange the details. Thank you for supporting our love of stories.

## NOTICES FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

### Junk Modelling

Next week we hope to make space rockets. Please collect any clean, empty small boxes (not cereal boxes), empty kitchen roll cylinders, yoghurt pots, bottle lids and send them into school.

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### NumBots

We are delighted to inform you about an online learning platform called NumBots that we're using to support your child's understanding of number bonds and to help their addition and subtraction skills. These are the essential building blocks for higher-level maths concepts, so we are excited by the impact that NumBots will have on your child's learning.

### Logging In

The children have been shown how to log in and have brought home a username label containing their unique login details. NumBots can be played on a browser ([play.numbots.com](http://play.numbots.com)) or via the app which is free to download on Amazon, Android and Apple devices. They may need help entering the details, but once they're in they will be able to play the game independently.

Please ask your child's teacher if they are struggling to login.

Important: Do feel free to support your child if they're stuck and give them encouragement to keep trying even if it takes several times to complete a level. The program will progress at your child's pace.

### Little and often

To get the best out of NumBots, we recommend that children play regularly for short bursts at a time, aiming for 3 minutes, five times a week.

### Game Types

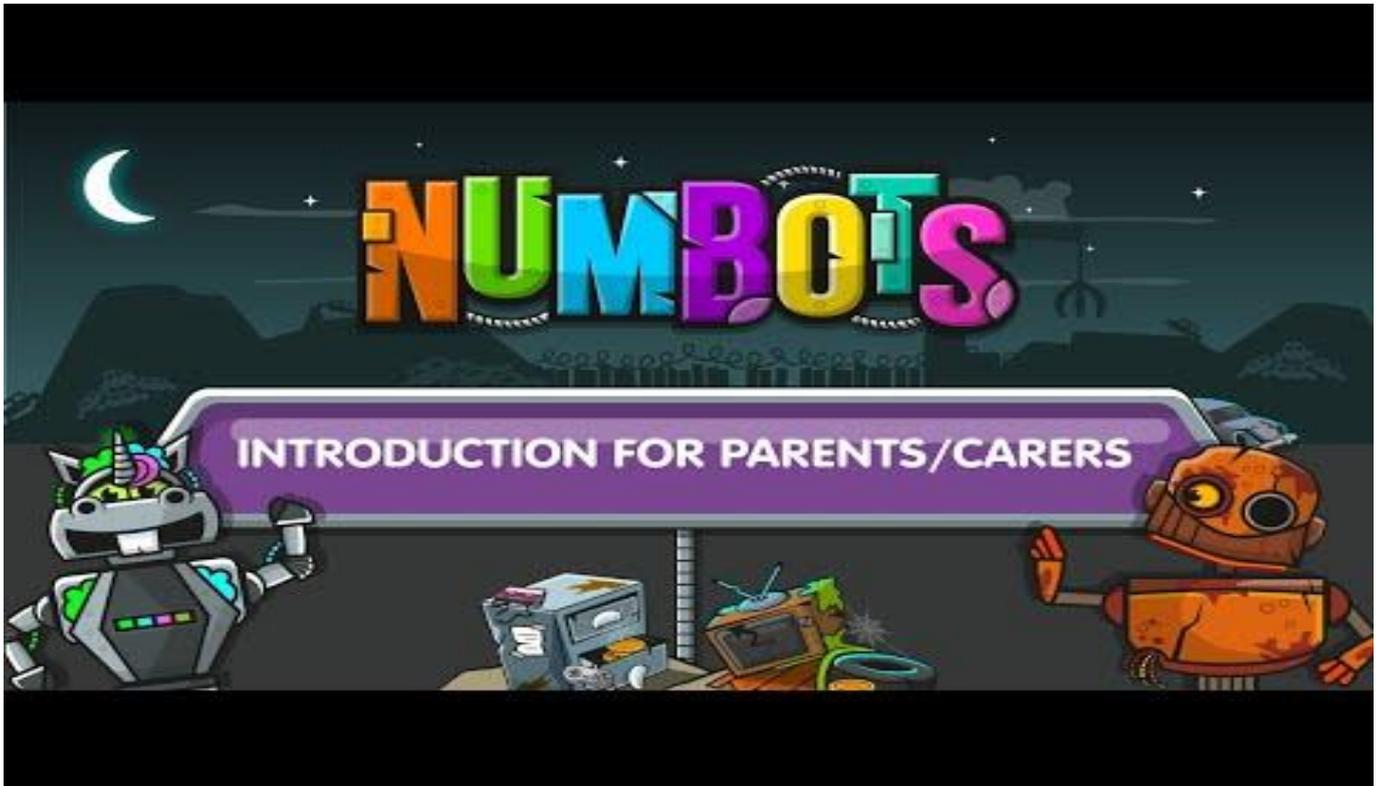
1. Story Mode – the emphasis is on learning the ideas and concepts behind addition and subtraction, so it features more diagrams, representations and question styles.
2. Challenge Mode – the emphasis is more on speed of recall of key facts, like number bonds to 10, doubling small numbers or adding & taking away in your head.

Please let your child's teacher know if you have any questions or comments.

For more information about how to use NumBots and how to support your child, please click on [Parent Help Guide](#) and [Maths Help Guide](#).

The video below is a great introduction to NumBots for parents.

[A Parents/Carers introduction to NumBots - YouTube](#)



## NOTICES FOR YEAR ONE PARENTS

### History Learning: The Victorians

On **Tuesday 3rd February**, we will be stepping back in time for the morning. We will be pretending that we are Victorians at school and will be taking part in activities such as exercise drills, marching, writing dictations, observational drawing, and following Victorian school rules. We will prepare the children for this by learning, in advance, about what a Victorian school day would have entailed and by reassuring them that their teachers are only acting and will be their usual selves in the afternoon. During the afternoon we will reflect on how it felt to be a Victorian child and record our thoughts and observations. The teachers will be wearing Victorian costumes, and it would be fantastic if the children would like to dress up too, however, they do not have to if they would prefer not to. Your child may like to wear some of the following: a dress (any colour), a skirt, a blouse / shirt / top, pinafore, hat, cap, short trousers, or trousers tucked into socks, a waistcoat. Please do not feel the need to buy anything special for this; a few simple tweaks to your child's normal clothes will do the job!



## **Puppets**

The children did a fantastic job of designing, making and evaluating their puppets. Thank you very much to our volunteers who were wonderful.

## **Hever Castle Trip Volunteers**

Otters and Hedgehogs have enough volunteers – thank you so much for your support. However, Owls would like two more volunteers if possible. Please do contact the school office if you are able to help. Owls are going to Hever Castle on 18th March. Thank you for your support with this.

## **Hever Castle Consent**

A gentle reminder to submit your parental consent form and lunch choice by Friday 1st March. Please make payment for the trip via **Arbor**. Guidance on how to book the school trip is attached.

## **Book Show and Tell**

On Thursday afternoons this half term, we will be celebrating reading for pleasure and would like to invite the children to bring in a favourite book to recommend to their peers. The children will have the opportunity to talk about why they like the book and their favourite part (without giving away any plot spoilers of course!). Please support your child by talking to them about what they would like to say about their book and perhaps have a quick practice before sharing in school. This is a great way for the children to develop their communication skills and confidence, and everyone will benefit from being introduced to new books.

Each week a different colour group will be able to bring their books in. Please stick to the correct week to avoid confusion. Your child will know which colour group they are in but, if you are unsure, please check with your child's class teacher.

- Thursday 5th February: Green Group
- Thursday 12th February: Blue Group
- Thank you for your support with this.

## **Reading Volunteers**

If you have an up-to-date DBS check and have an hour to spare, we would love you to come into school to hear readers. Please let your child's class teacher know if this is something you would like to help with. Thank you.

## **NOTICES FOR YEAR TWO PARENTS**

There are no notices for Year 2 this week.

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