



OCTOBER 2026



Holmesdale Community Infant School and Nursery



HOLMESDALE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October



TAKE A PEEK

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Sports Round

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 19th – Friday 30th
October Half Term

Friday 6th November
Mufti Day for Winter Fair Donations

Monday 16th November
Friendship Week – Odd Socks Day

Saturday 21st November - Winter Fair

Saturday 28th November
PSA Christmas Quiz Night





A MESSAGE FROM MRS MULLARKEY

Dear Families,

It was fantastic to welcome so many parents and carers into school this week for parent consultations. Your support and positive feedback are greatly appreciated, and I'm very grateful to our dedicated team for their continued hard work and commitment to every child's success.

A huge thank you as well for your generous donations to the Loveworks Food Bank as part of our Harvest collection. Your kindness and contributions will make a real difference to local families in need, and we are so proud of the children's understanding of compassion and community.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to our volunteers and our PSA for everything they do to strengthen our community and support our school.

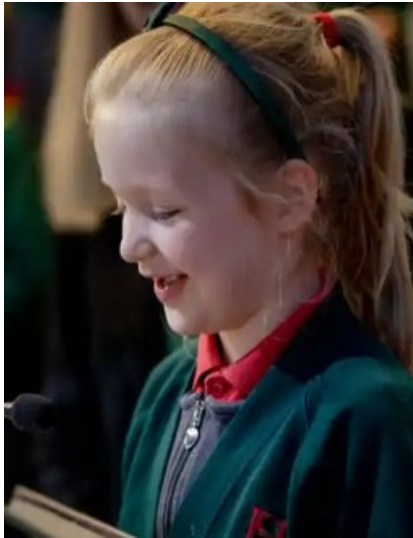
I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break.

With warmest regards,

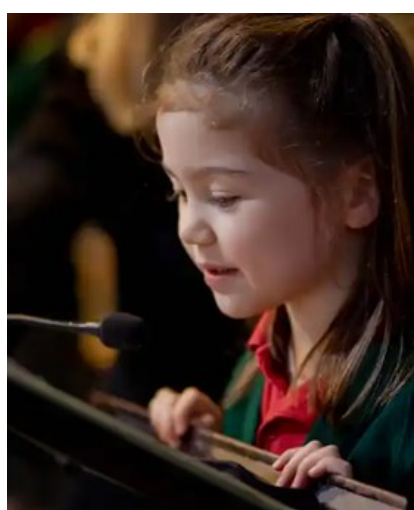
S. Mullarkey



October Events



On Friday 9th October, some of our year 2 choir visited Reigate Park Church to join other schools across our trust for a special concert celebrating the National Year of Reading. The children performed songs from *Matilda*, *Paddington* and *James and the Giant Peach* - a fantastic way to come together and celebrate our love of books. Their wonderful performance was met with requests for a rousing encore of *Explorer* and *the Bear*. What a showcase of talent and commitment. Well done to everyone involved!



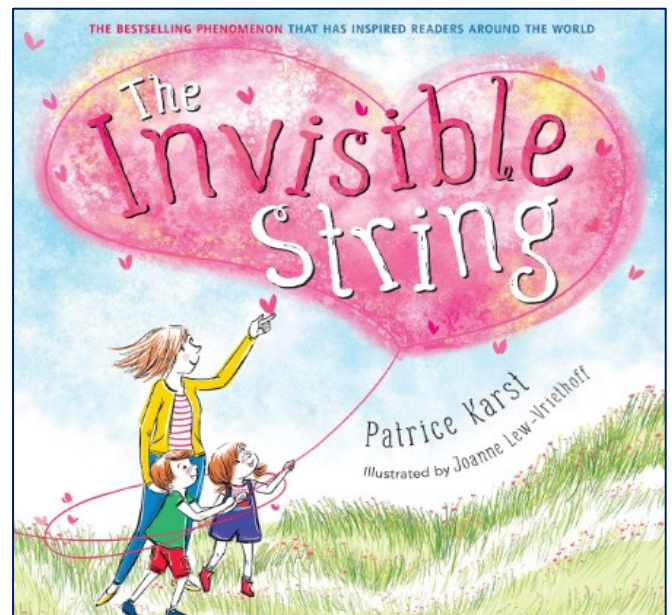
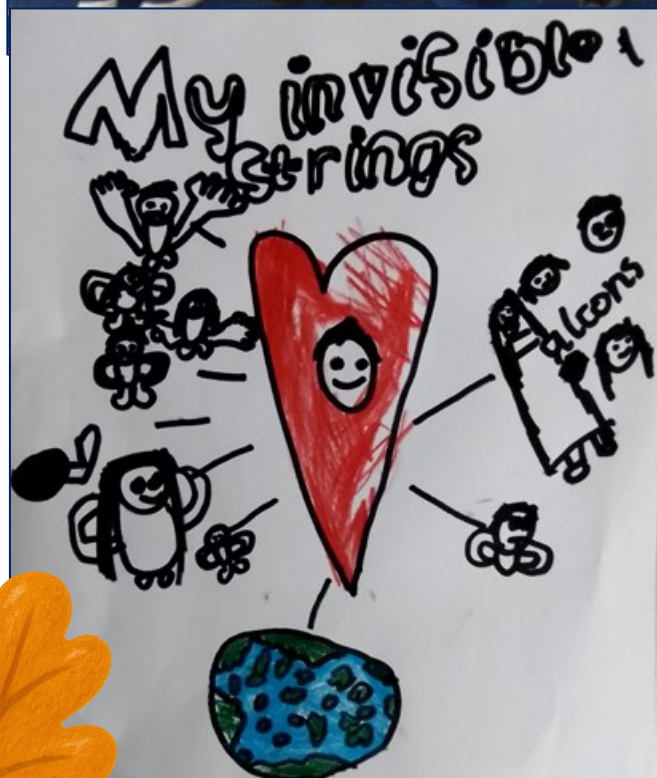
The choir are now busy rehearsing for some special festive performances, learning new songs and actions to spread Christmas cheer and bring a little magic to our upcoming events!



October Events

Feeling Good Friday

As part of **Feeling Good Friday**, we explored the theme of **belonging** through a variety of fun activities. Children were invited to wear something that represented a group or community that is important to them. It was lovely to see such a diverse range of outfits, from cultural dress and sports shirts to Brownies, Beavers, and even astronauts! Year 2 enjoyed reading the book 'The Invisible String' and thought about the ways in which we are all connected to each other. The day was a great celebration of the many ways we belong and the unique communities that make up our school.



October Events

NURSERY AND RECEPTION



What a fun-filled October we have had in Nursery! The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning and singing a variety of nursery rhymes. Our Nursery Rhyme Day was a wonderful success, and it was lovely to see everyone dressed up as their favourite nursery rhyme characters.

Throughout the day, we sang lots of nursery rhymes, took part in themed activities, and even made delicious jam tarts, just like the Queen of Hearts! The children had great fun baking and were very proud of their tasty creations.



October Events

NURSERY AND RECEPTION

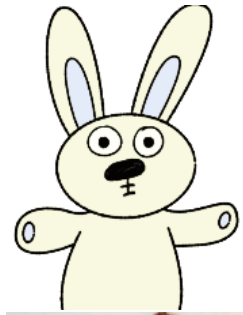


Reception had a fantastic time celebrating 'Super Me' Day, learning that we are all special, unique and wonderful in our own way. The children looked fantastic in their creative costumes, proudly showing off their individual superpowers and personalities.

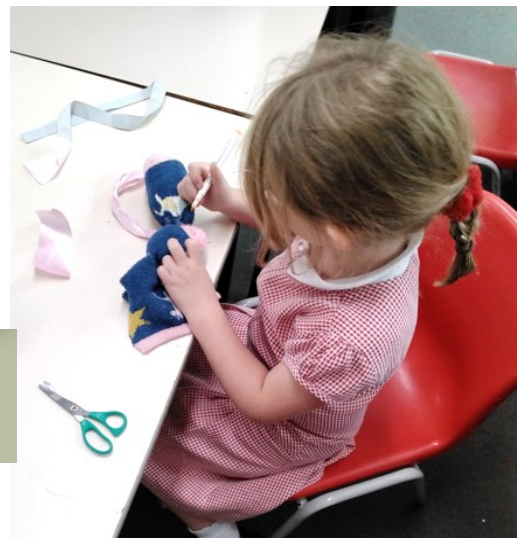


The children took part in some exciting superhero training in the hall, joined in with a fun dance and finished the day with a fabulous celebratory parade. It was a joyful day full of smiles, confidence and lots of superhero spirit!

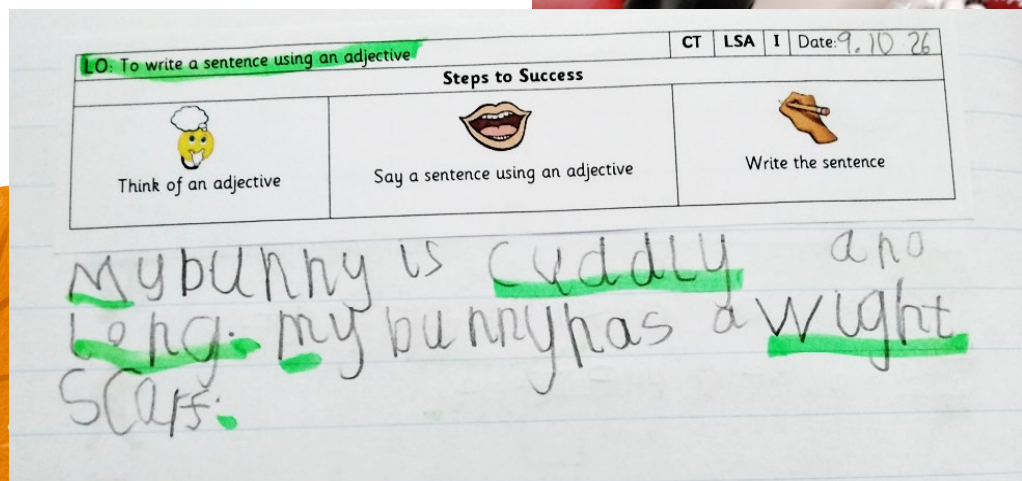
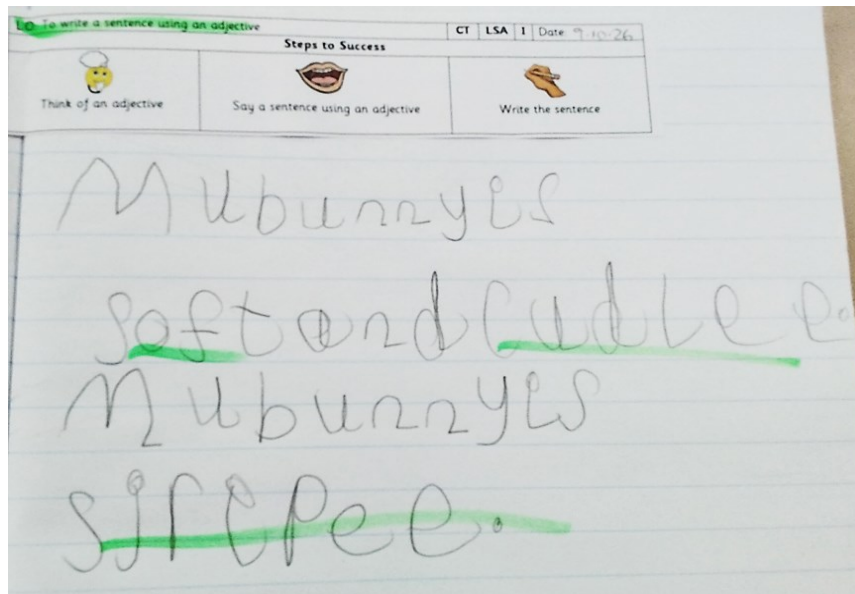
October Events Year 1



KNUFFLE BUNNY



Year 1 finished the topic of toys by making their own 'knuffle bunnies' based on the story we have been reading in English. The children thought of amazing adjectives to describe their toys and wrote some sentences using their phonics. Take a look at some of our wonderful writing!



October Events Year 2



Year 2 were shocked when they found they had been visited by a giant! We read the book 'Jim and the Beanstalk' and it inspired some wonderful writing and artwork!



Date: _____ Title: Jim and the Beanstalk

LO: To write in the past tense.

Have I included _____

CL	FS	sp.			
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Jim climbed up the beanstalk to see how tall it was. Jim climbed up the beanstalk in his pajamas. Jim is on top of his house. Jim reached the top of the beanstalk and found a castle. Jim hoped the castle ^{was} ~~had~~ corn. ^{glades.} Jim walked on the clouds to get to the castle.

Jim knocked on the door because he was hungry. Jim saw a big old giant measured the giant's head because the enormous giant wanted glasses.

The giant was happy because he ~~like~~ looked like a giant child. The giant put some of his best clothes.

Jim asked the ~~giant~~ if he would like some glasses. The giant said get em and gave Jim an huge gold coin. Jim climbed ~~down~~ down.

The beanstalk and ~~was~~ climbed he climbed down the beanstalk.

SPORTS ROUND

WELCOME

THIS MONTH'S ESSENTIAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY UPDATES ►

Can you complete these Autumn themed activities?

1. Leaf Jump Challenge

- **What to do:** Rake a big pile of leaves (with an adult's help!) and have children take turns jumping over or into the pile.
- **Skills:** Jumping, coordination, spatial awareness.
- **Twist:** Time them, how many jumps can they do in 30 seconds?

2. Conker Obstacle Course

- **What to do:** Set up a garden or park obstacle course using natural autumn objects like conkers, pinecones, sticks, and leaves.
- **Idea:** Children must balance a conker on a spoon and complete the course without dropping it!
- **Skills:** Balance, concentration, gross motor.



Autumn
is
here



3. Windy Day Races

- **What to do:** Make and decorate paper leaf or feather “runners” and have children race them by blowing them along a path with a straw or just using the wind.
- **Skills:** Breath control, crawling/running, gentle competitive play.

4. Squirrel Scurry

- **What to do:** Pretend to be squirrels gathering nuts for winter. Scatter soft balls, beanbags, or pinecones around the garden or park. Children must race and collect as many as they can into a “nest.”
- **Skills:** Running, agility, speed.