



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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Friday 1st December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Events in school PTA Christmas Fair

Last Friday we held our Christmas Fair. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this event a success.

Forthcoming Events Reception Nativities

The children in reception would welcome you to join them for their nativity performance on:-

- Tuesday 12th December at 10am – Class Ra Miss McWilliam's class
- Wednesday 13th December at 10am – Class R Mrs Noble/Mrs Winter's class

Key Stage 1 Performances – Year 1 and 2 classes

The children in Year 1 and Year 2 would welcome you to join them for their performance on either:-

- Wednesday 13th December at 2pm (audience admitted from 1.45pm onwards)
- Thursday 14th December at 6pm (audience admitted from 5.45pm onwards)

Year 4 music concert

The children in Year 4 would welcome you to join them for their Wider Opportunities concert on:-

- Wednesday 20th December at 2.30pm

Christmas Events

- Christmas fun run - Children are invited to take part in a Christmas fun run around the school grounds on the morning of Wednesday 20th December. Please wear PE kit/sports clothing and wear or bring suitable trainers. Children can also wear a festive accessory. If you would like to make an optional donation to charity on this day, we will be sharing any money collected between St Luke's Hospice and The British Heart Foundation (more details to follow)
- Christmas lunch – Wednesday 20th December. Christmas lunch will be served in the school hall. Please remember to return your order form to school by Wednesday 6th December
- Christmas parties – Thursday 21st December. Children are invited to wear party clothes for the day (please make sure their outfit and shoes are suitable for playing outside). We invite you to send in a voluntary donation of £1 towards the cost of party food by Monday 11th December. Thank you
- Santa's Sleigh visit – this will take place on Thursday 21st December

Christmas Village Fair – Sunday 3rd December 3-7pm

The Holmes Chapel Village Christmas Fair will be taking place on Sunday 3rd December 3-7pm. Children who attend our after school singing club will be performing at the fair at around 4.30pm. Please come along and support them.

After School Activities – Spring Term 2024



As the weather will still be cold and the evenings are dark until spring half term, we will not be running any outdoor activities for the first half of this term. After school activities for the first half of the spring term are as follows:-

Activities run by school staff:-

- Tuesday – Singing Club 3.20-4.00pm (Years 4-6 run by Ms Lackford)
- Wednesday – Coding Club 3.20-4.20pm starting on 17th January (Year 6 – run by Miss Maddock and Mr Vickery)
- Thursday – Cooking Club 3.20-4.40pm (Year 5 – run by Mrs Hill and Mrs Middleton)

Activities run by outside providers:-

- Monday: Dodgeball with Sports Coaching Group for Years 1-3 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Tuesday: Art with Jo Green for Years 1-6 (3.20pm-5.00pm)
- Wednesday: Boxing with Sports Coaching Group for Years 3-6 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Thursday: Mad Science* for Years 1-6 (3.20-4.20pm) from 11th January to 15th February (6 weeks)
- Thursday: Dodgeball with Sports Coaching Group for Years 3-6 (3.20-4.20pm)
- Friday: Ball Games with Sports Coaching Group for Years 1-3 (3:20pm-4:20pm)

All after school activities run by outside providers need to be booked through the company leading the club.

Before School Activities – Spring Term 2024

We will be trialling a Fun Fitness before school club with Sports Coaching starting in January. This club will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for Years 1-6. Flyers will be sent out shortly with further information about how to book a place.

Free School Meals

All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal. If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be entitled to Free School Meals which means that your child/children will continue to receive a funded meal in Years 3-6. This also triggers additional funding for help and support at school – this is called Pupil Premium funding. For more information about eligibility and how to apply for funding, follow this link to the Cheshire East website:-

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx

Are you interested in becoming a Midday Assistant in school?

We are currently looking for Midday Assistants to work with children during the lunch break. Please speak to or email the office for further details, or look on our school website for a job description and application form - <http://www.holmeschapelprimary.org.uk/page/vacancies/121467>

Community News

The latest issue of the Holmes Chapel Community Newsletter is now available to download from their web site. Click on the link below and then click on the image of the Newsletter.

<https://www.hcpartnership.org.uk/community-newsletter>

They are always delighted to receive contributions to the newsletter - all you have to do is send some text with pictures/logo to news@hcpartnership.org.uk and they will do the rest; you don't have to write an essay, they're happy to accept anything from a simple event notice to a couple of paragraphs, or more if you wish! Please note that they cannot accept articles in the form of pdf files, but can take plain text (in an email) or Word files.

If you would like to submit an article for the next issue, please email it to news@hcpartnership.org.uk by the 20th of the month before the cover date.

Reminder School Attendance, including Persistent Absences and Holidays during Term Time



The government has a persistence absence threshold of 10%. The absence threshold of 10% means that if a pupil is absent for 38 sessions (19 days) of school, they are classified as persistently absent. Schools are urged to inform parents of this threshold and to advise parents that fines will be made for persistent absence, unless there is evidence of a justifiable reason for such absence, for example, significant illness. Failure to make payment will result in legal action for failure to ensure regular attendance at school under Section 444 (1) Education Act 1996.

Timeline	Penalty Charges
Paid within 21 days	£60 per parent per child
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent per child
After 28 days	The parent will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrate's Court on the grounds of having failed to secure their child/ children's regular attendance

As you are aware, I am not allowed to grant any leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. An exceptional circumstance is usually a one-off, unique situation that is of significant emotional, educational or spiritual value which outweighs the loss of teaching time. It is my duty to strongly urge parents or carers to avoid booking holidays, appointments or visits overseas during term-time. In addition, it is important that I advise you that under the legislation there is an expectation that schools will issue a Fixed Penalty Notice to those parents who take their children on an unauthorised leave of absence (holiday) in term time.

Calendar of Events

Please see below calendar dates for the new academic year. New dates have been added in bold.

December 2023

Sunday 3 rd	Village Christmas Market 3-7pm (Our school choir will be singing at 4.20pm)
Monday 4 th	Year 5 and 6 Dance workshop at HCCS 3.30pm
Monday 11 th	Year 3 and 4 Boccia tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Tuesday 12 th	Y4 visit to theatre – The Nutcracker
Tuesday 12 th	Reception Nativity for Class RA (Miss MacWilliam) 10am
Wednesday 13 th	Reception Nativity for Class R (Mrs Noble/Mrs Winter) 10am
Wednesday 13 th	KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 1 and 2) 2pm
Thursday 14 th	KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 1 and 2) 6pm
Friday 15 th	Y5 Viking Day
Wednesday 20 th	Fun run and Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 20 th	Wider Opps music concert for Year 4 parents 2.30pm
Thursday 21 st	Christmas parties
Friday 22 nd December – Monday 8 th January	Christmas holiday – school closed

January 2024

Monday 8 th	Inset day – school closed
Tuesday 9 th	Spring term begins
Monday 15 th	Year 5 and 6 Boccia tournament at HCCS 3.30pm

February 2024

Tuesday 6 th	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 6 th	Young Voices – Manchester
Thursday 8 th	Year 4 Greek workshop
Monday 12 th	Year 3 and 4 Basketball at HCCS 3.30pm
Monday 12 th – Wednesday 14 th	Y5 residential
Thursday 15 th	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd	Half term – school closed



Tuesday 27 th and Thursday 29 th	Parents' Evenings
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March 2024

Monday 4 th	Year 5 and 6 Basketball at HCCS 3.30pm
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day
Monday 11 th	Year 5 and 6 Girl's Football at HCCS 3.30pm
Friday 15 th	PTA Disco
Wednesday 20 th	Year 4 Presentation to Parents 9.30am
Thursday 21 st	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Friday 29 th	School closed for Easter holiday

Other key dates for your diary –

- Year 3 Presentation to parents – Tuesday 30th April at 9.30am
- KS2 SATS week – Monday 13th – Friday 17th May
- Year 5 Presentation to parents – Thursday 23rd May at 9.30am
- Year 4 Wider Opps concert at Bridgewater Hall – Thursday 13th June
- Sports Day – Friday 28th June (KS2 am, KS1 pm)
- Year 6 Leaver's Performance – Tuesday 16th July at 2pm and Wednesday 17th July at 7pm

PLEASE NOTE: Additional Inset Day for Academic Year 2024-25 – Monday 6th January 2025 will now be an Inset day so the children will return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Headteacher

