



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
Middlewich Road
Holmes Chapel
Cheshire
CW4 7EB

Headteacher: Mrs F. Gresty B.A (Hons), NPQH
head@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk

T: 01477 533336
F: 01477 544556

Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break.

Events in School

Some of our lovely Year 6 children filmed with BBC Newsround at the end of last term talking about their aspirations for 2024.

Here is the link for the clip:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/av/67905894>



[What are you looking forward to in 2024?](https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/av/67905894)

www.bbc.co.uk

Spring Term Parents' Evenings

Our spring term parents' evenings will be held face to face in school. The dates and times of these will be as follows:-

- Tuesday 27th February – 5.00-7.30pm
- Thursday 29th February – 4.00-6.30pm

We will be sending out a letter shortly with information about how to book your appointment. Please note that our SENCO, Mrs Bradford, will also be available on those evenings if you wish to speak to her about your child.

Cheshire East survey – National Wrap Around Care Programme

The DfE recently launched the National Wraparound Childcare Programme and Cheshire East Council has commenced a project to assess whether there is sufficient wrap-around childcare within the borough. This research includes a short survey and focus groups with parents.

The research will inform the councils' plans for the expansion of wrap-around care and the targeting of grant funding to create new or extended provision. Therefore, completing the survey is vital to ensuring long-term sustainability and accessibility for families.

See the poster below to advertise our parental focus groups to gather their views on current wrap-around services. Any parents are invited to join, and we are keen to hear from parents of children with SEND.



Parent Focus Groups

Wraparound Childcare in Cheshire East

Do your children attend local wraparound childcare, such as breakfast and afterschool clubs? We'd love to hear your experiences of accessing these services.

- Do you find that your local wraparound offers are accessible and affordable?
- Do the services meet yours and your child's needs?
- How important is wraparound care for you and your family?
- What could be improved?

All parents: 16th January at 12pm & 18th January at 4pm, online via Zoom
SEND parents: 16th January at 4pm & 18th January at 12pm, online via Zoom

Scan to reserve your place!



Focus Group Information

The focus group will take no longer than 45 minutes to complete! Your participation will remain anonymous. Scan the QR code or search the below to take part!
Premier Advisory Group Events |
Eventbrite



Follow this direct booking link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/wraparound-childcare-in-cheshire-east-parents-2970169>

PTA News

New Year – New Term

Happy New Year!! We hope you've settled back into the back-to-school routine.

We just wanted to say a huge thank you for all of your support last term and we're looking forward to more fundraising fun this term. We had a fabulous start to the academic year and the Christmas fair was a great success. Thanks once again.

So new year, new term – let's do this!!

We have our first PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends Association) meeting of 2024 on Wednesday 17th January at 6.00pm in the school staff room and it would be great if you could join us.

An agenda will follow but it will include a quick round up of last term, what we're raising money for and future planning. We'll also be saying a sad goodbye to our outgoing Chair and welcoming our new interim Chair – she'd love it if you came along to say 'Hi'.

Hope to see you there!

From your PTA

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 this academic year. New dates have been added in bold.

Please note that sports events at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School will not be taking place until further notice due to staffing shortages at HCCS. We will keep you informed of any changes to the situation, and whether events later in the term will be taking place, as soon as we know more.

January 2024

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Monday 15 th | Year 5 and 6 Boccia tournament at HCCS 3.30pm |
| Monday 22 nd | Year 1 visit to Macclesfield silk museum |

February 2024

| | |
|--|---|
| Friday 2 nd | Reception visit to Jodrell Bank |
| Monday 5th – Friday 9th | Children's Mental Health Week |
| 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 |
| Wednesday 14th | Valentine's Day themed lunch |
| 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 |

March 2024

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Monday 4th | Parent/carer workshop with Visyon 1.45-3.15pm |
| 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 |

April 2024

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Monday 15 th | Summer Term begins |
| Monday 22nd | Year 5 and 6 Cricket tournament at HCCS 3.30pm |
| Tuesday 23rd | Year 4 day visit to Crowden River valley |
| Monday 29th | Year 3 and 4 Cricket tournament at HCCS 3.30pm |



| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 30th | Year 3 Presentation to Parents 9.30am |
|--------------------------------|--|

May 2024

| | |
|--|--|
| Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th | KS2 SATS week |
| Monday 13th | Year 5 and 6 Rounders tournament at HCCS 3.30pm |
| Monday 20th | Year 3 and 4 Rounders tournament at HCCS 3.30pm |
| Thursday 23rd | Year 5 Presentation to Parents 9.30am |
| Thursday 23rd | Mystery Readers 2.45pm |
| Monday 27th – Friday 31st | Half term – school closed |

Other key dates for your diary –

- 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

