



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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Friday 15th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

World Book Day



Our World Book Day celebrations went well last week. We had over 80 brilliant entries for our Decorate a Stone competition – all the entries are on display in our entrance hall and the children have loved looking at them! Congratulations to the winners, who each won a £5 book token. Everyone who took part received a packet of Haribo sweets.



Visits to Holmes Chapel library were fantastic and we were extremely proud of the way our children behaved on their walk there and back, and during the visit. Our Reading for Pleasure sessions were really well attended by parents and grandparents – thank you so much for your support.



On World Book Day itself, many of the children took part in a welly walk around the school grounds, and produced some excellent writing and art based on the book 'Where My Wellies Take Me' by Michael Morpurgo.



Year 5 wrote their own poems about the book:-



Red Nose Day - Friday 15th March

Thank you very much for your cake donations today. Our bake sales were very well supported. Donations for Red Nose Day can be made via their official website by following this link.

<https://donation.comicrelief.com/>

Forthcoming events

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY – Thursday 21st MARCH 2024

Down Syndrome Cheshire are inviting our school to join their award-winning gingerbread sock biscuit campaign to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March 2023. Gingerbread socks will be on sale for 50p each at lunchtime every day next week, or until they are all sold.

10 years ago the charity embarked on its inaugural biscuit campaign selling 1,000 sock biscuits. Fast forward 10 years and the campaign has gone from strength to strength, selling tens of thousands of biscuits in schools and business across Cheshire and winning 3 awards! 100% of the proceeds go to Down Syndrome Cheshire so that we can continue to support people with Down syndrome in our community to live the life they choose.

Book Fair

Our book fair which will be held after school on **Friday 22nd March and Monday 25th March, 3.30 pm - 4 pm**, in the breakout rooms (opposite the Year 4 classrooms).

Click on the link below to find out all the information you need as well as a digital invitation so you can browse the highlights before the Book Fair arrives:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents?nt=t>

Walk to School Week – 20th-24th May

We will be taking part in this event again this year so add it to your diary. We will be joining members of our local community with a walk to school event on Thursday 23rd May. More details to follow. Please see the link to the official website below.

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/walk-to-school-week/>



IMPORTANT Parking Reminder

A neighbour on Bessancourt has been in touch about inconsiderate parking at drop off and pick up times. It would be appreciated if parents could refrain from parking across the front of private driveways on any of the roads near to the school when dropping off their children. Please also be considerate about parking on the pavement, as this can impact on parents with buggies.

Please do not park in the parking bay outside school as this is needed for school buses.

We appreciate parking around the school can be challenging, please park considerately. We have consulted with our PCSO, Pam Graham, who is working closely with Cheshire East to address parking issues. We would really appreciate your support in improving this situation - thank you.

Are you eligible for free school meals?

The Council provides two types of free school meals to children attending a school within the Cheshire East Borough.

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67
- Income Support



- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

For further information visit the Cheshire East website via this link:-

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

PTA news

Our PTA are organising some exciting events during the spring and summer terms!

Pot of Gold – The PTA are excited to announce that our super simple game "Pot of Gold" returns next week after a 5 year break. If you would like to take part in the Pot of Gold draw, all you have to do is seal a £1 coin into the special envelope being sent home next week and return into school labelled with your child's name and class. Please return all envelopes by Tuesday 26th March. All names received will then be placed in a 'hat', the winner will be drawn in assembly on Thursday 28th March and will receive half of all monies taken. It really is as simple as that! With over 400 pupils in school there is the potential of over £200 for the lucky winner, just in time for the Easter holidays. Good Luck!

Bingo night on Friday 26th April 6.00-7.30pm – join us for bingo in the school hall with chocolate prizes. We would welcome donations of chocolate/Easter eggs for this event – thank you.

Summer disco – Friday 21st June

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 be going ahead as normal this half term.

March 2024



Monday 18 th	Allotment session for Year 5
Wednesday 20 th	Year 4 Presentation to Parents 9.30am
Thursday 21 st	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 25 th	Allotment session for Reception
Friday 29 th	School closed for Easter holiday

April 2024

Monday 15 th	Summer Term begins
Monday 15 th	Allotment session for Year 1
Monday 22 nd	Allotment session for Year 2
Monday 22 nd	Year 5 and 6 Cricket tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Tuesday 23 rd	Year 4 day visit to Crowden River valley
Friday 26th	PTA Bingo Night 6.00-7.30pm
Monday 29 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Monday 29 th	Year 3 and 4 Cricket tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Tuesday 30 th	Year 3 Presentation to Parents 9.30am

May 2024

Wednesday 8 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 13 th	Allotment session for Year 1
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th	KS2 SATS week
Monday 13 th	Year 5 and 6 Rounders tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Monday 20 th	Allotment session for Year 2
Monday 20 th	Year 3 and 4 Rounders tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Thursday 23 rd	Year 5 Presentation to Parents 9.30am
Thursday 23 rd	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st	Half term – school closed

June 2024

Monday 3 rd	Allotment session for Year 3
Wednesday 5 th – Friday 7 th	Year 6 Residential
Monday 10 th	Allotment session for Year 5
Thursday 13 th	Year 4 Wider Opps concert at Bridgewater Hall
Monday 17 th	Allotment session for Year 1
Thursday 20 th	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelters
Friday 21 st	PTA Disco
Monday 24 th	Allotment session for Year 2
Friday 28 th	Sports Day (KS2 am, KS1 pm)

July 2024

Monday 1 st	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 2 nd	Year 6 transition day at HCCS
Wednesday 3 rd	Year 6 transition day at HCCS
Monday 8 th	Allotment session for Year 5
Wednesday 10 th	Reports to parents
Thursday 11 th	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 15 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 16 th	Year 6 Leaver's Performance at 2pm
Wednesday 17 th	Year 3 visit to Macclesfield Forest
Wednesday 17 th	Year 6 Leaver's Performance at 7pm
Monday 22 nd	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 23 rd	Term ends
Wednesday 24 th July – Tuesday 3 rd September (inclusive)	School closed (school reopens for children Wednesday 4 th September)



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

