



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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Friday 22nd March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Staff News

Mrs Winter, who currently teaches in Reception, will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Winter has been a teacher at our school for 13 years and has taught in a range of year groups during that time. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her every success for the future. We are fortunate to have managed to appoint an experienced teacher to join our Reception team for the summer term. We would like to welcome Miss Hubbard to our school. Miss Hubbard has taught at 3 other schools, one of which is also a member of the Aspire Trust.

Miss Clark, who is currently working as a Teaching Assistant in Year 1 and Reception will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a new post at another school. We wish her every success in her new role.

Miss Hitchen, who has worked part time with us as a Teaching Assistant in different year groups during the time she has been with us, has secured a full time post at another school. We wish her well in her new role.

Safety Squad/School Council

Our school safety squad and school council representatives recently took part in two national webinars with Picture News. The webinars were aimed at KS2 children and were based around 'Protected Characteristics' and 'British Values'.

During the 'Protected Characteristics' webinar our safety squad discussed the following key points:

- What are protected characteristics and why are they important?
- What is discrimination and why does the Equality Act matter?
- How the news can help us understand the characteristics
- How you can make an impact in your school and the wider world.



During the 'British Values' webinar our school council discussed the following key points:

- What are British values and why are they important?
- How the news can help us understand values.
- How you can make an impact in your school and the wider world.



Our safety squad and school council members contributed their ideas, experiences and throughout the webinar they were fantastic ambassadors for our school. The children are now going to prepare an assembly to deliver to the whole of KS2 to share what they have learned and how they can make an impact in our school and the wider world. A certificate was awarded to all children that took part. Well done!



After School Activities – Summer Term 2024

After school activities for the first half of the summer term are as follows:-

Activities run by school staff:-

- Tuesday – Singing Club 3:20-4:00pm (Years 3-6 run by Ms Lackford, Mrs Henderson and Ms Beechener)
- Wednesday – Craft Club 3:20-4:10pm (Reception Year 2 – run by Mrs Middleton, Mrs Heal and Mrs Collis)
- Wednesday – French Club 3:20-4:15pm (Year 4 – run by Mrs Andrews)

Activities run by outside providers:-

- Monday: Multi-skills with Sports Coaching Group for Reception-Year 2 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Tuesday: Art with Jo Green for Years 1-6 (3:20pm-5:00pm)
- Tuesday: Athletics with Sports Coaching Group for Reception-Year 2 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Wednesday: Basketball with Sports Coaching Group for Years 3-6 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Wednesday: Football with Shooting Stars for Reception-Year 6 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Thursday: Dodgeball with Sports Coaching Group for Years 3-6 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Friday: Dance with Sports Coaching Group for Years 1-6 (3:20pm-4:20pm)

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

Swimming – summer term 2024

The PE curriculum states that children should leave primary school at the end of Year 6 able to swim at least 25 metres. This year we will be having a temporary swimming pool in our school grounds for four weeks (from 29th April to 24th May). The pool will be set up on site and filled, heated and available to use for a period of three weeks. Trained swimming coaches and a lifeguard are provided as part of the package. This will give all our Key Stage 2 children the opportunity to access lessons during the school day. There is also an opportunity for parents/carers to pay for younger children to access lessons after school with a qualified swimming coach. A letter will be sent out next week with further information about how to book after school lessons.

We would welcome donations of second-hand beach towels, swim wear, and flip flops suitable for children 9+ years to use for those children who forget their kit – please send in any donations by Friday 26th April. Thank you for your support.

Parking – a reminder

Further to the recent reminders regarding courteous parking on the roads around school, we have had visits from our PCSO, Pam Graham, who is monitoring this issue closely with regular patrols and with assistance from Cheshire East council. Please continue to ensure you park with consideration for our neighbours.

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.

March 2024

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
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

Monday 6 th	May Bank holiday – school closed
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 23rd	Walk to school event
Thursday 23 rd	Year 5 Presentation to Parents 9.30am
Thursday 23 rd	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Friday 24th	Christie's charity black and white day
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

