



# Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

Principal: Mrs F. Gresty B.A (Hons), NPQH  
[principal@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:principal@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)  
Head of School: Mrs V. Bradford B.A (Hons)  
[headofschool@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:headofschool@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)

T: 01477 533336

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Staff News

We are delighted to announce that one of our Year 1 teachers, Miss MacWilliam, is expecting her first baby in January – we wish her many congratulations. Arrangements for covering her role in Class 1 will be made over the coming weeks.

## Events in school

During the summer break, we have upgraded our school entrance and offices, and re-furbished the upstairs toilets used by our Year 5 and 6 children. We are especially pleased with the new location of our school library. Please see the photographs below:-



## Meet the Teacher

We have had a busy start to the school year with our Meet the teacher evenings – please note that all the information shared is available on your child's year group page on the school website.



## Plans for this School Year

During our INSET day on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, the staff and governors celebrated our achievements from the last year and identified our priorities for this year's School Development Plan. A copy of this will be available on our website once it has been finalised.

In line with the Ofsted focus on Quality of Education, we will continue to prioritise the successful implementation of a rich and engaging curriculum that builds on the children's skills and knowledge. This means continuing to focus on developing writing and maths skills throughout school, as well as promoting a reading culture throughout school with a focus on encouraging a high level of engagement in reading. We are particularly pleased with the successful implementation of Little Wandle to support phonics and early reading, and this continues to be a priority during the coming year.

We put a lot of work last year into ensuring that our curriculum is coherently planned and implemented to enable children to make progress and to gain high levels of knowledge and understanding of a range of curriculum areas. We will continue to refine this over the coming year, as well as ensuring a wide range of enrichment opportunities are offered to enhance our curriculum.

As always, a strong focus will continue to be on developing the personal and social skills of our children so that they are able to grow into resilient, respectful and well-rounded individuals, who know how to be safe in our changing world.

This will be another busy and exciting year ahead as we work to make our great school even better!

## Ofsted

Our last Ofsted inspection took place in July 2015. Previously, schools graded 'Outstanding' were exempt from inspection. However, this has changed and we are now in the Ofsted inspection window, which means we can expect an inspection anytime between now and September 2025. As you will have heard in the news recently, there have been some reforms and from now on judgements will be made regarding each of the four main areas during the inspection – Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership and Management.

We will receive one day's notice that inspectors will be visiting and are required to notify parents as soon as we are notified by Ofsted. Parents/carers will be given an opportunity to participate in a survey which will be sent out on the day of notification. It will be a 2-day inspection and inspectors will make their judgement based on a whole range of evidence gathered before and during the visit.

We are working as hard as we can to be prepared for inspection and to feel ready to embrace the experience! It will be an excellent opportunity to affirm what we do are doing well and to give us some next steps for development.

## Come and visit our allotment stall!

During their allotment lessons on Mondays this half term, the children will be harvesting the produce they have grown on the school allotments. They will also be helping to set up a stall in the covered area of the playground, where the produce will be available at the end of the day. We will not be selling the produce at a fixed price, but we would welcome any donations towards our allotment growing for next year. We have been growing onions, spring onions, garlic, tomatoes, courgette, beetroot, chard, carrots, sweetcorn, peas, blackcurrants and squash, although what is available on the stall each week will vary. Please come along and visit our stall, enjoy some of our produce and help to support our growing for next year.



## Individual photographs

Individual and sibling photographs will be taken on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Please make sure your child is wearing full uniform on that day, including jumper/cardigan. If your child is due to have PE on that day, your child's class teacher will let you know what the arrangements will be for PE. The School Photographers, Academy Photography, will also hold a family session after school for parents wanting photographs of younger siblings. This will take place in the breakout rooms.

## After School Clubs – autumn term 2024

The following clubs will be run by school staff:-

- Monday – Coding Club 3.20-4.00pm (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)
- Thursday – Singing Club 3.20-4.00pm (Years 4-6 - run by Ms Lackford, Mrs Henderson, Ms Beechener)

The following clubs will be run by outside providers and will require payment.

- Monday – Dance with Sports Coaching Group for Year 1 – Year 3 3.20-4.20pm
- Monday – Basketball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Tuesday – Target Games with Sports Coaching Group for Year 1 – Year 3 3.20-4.20pm
- Tuesday – Art with Jo Green for Year 1 – Year 6 3.20-5.00pm
- Wednesday – Dodgeball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Wednesday – Football with Shooting Stars for Year 1 – Year 4 3.20-4.20pm
- Thursday – Netball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Friday – Gymnastics with Sports Coaching for Year 1 – Year 3 3.20-4.20pm

There are still places available in many of the Sports Coaching Group clubs. All clubs will start next week (week beginning **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September**). Please note that the outdoor clubs will not continue after half term.

## Reminder of our NO NUT POLICY - Lunch Boxes and Snacks

As you are aware, we have a small number of children in school with quite severe nut allergies. We really appreciate you supporting us in caring for these children by not sending nuts or any nut based products for snacks or in your children's lunch boxes. Many thanks.

Please also be aware that we have a child in year 5 with a severe milk allergy.

## Holmes Chapel Jumble Trail

There is a community event on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September where a number of houses around the village will be holding a yard sale, and visitors can use a special google map to find all the places taking part- 35 so far. Please see further details below.



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

Please note this information has been updated based on the new government regulations. A new statement will be added shortly.

## Calendar of Events

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

### September 2024

Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Teacher sessions – Year 2 at 3.30pm, Year 4 at 4.00pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Teacher sessions – Year 5 and 6 at 3.30pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Reception children start full time
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	After school clubs/activities start this week
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Allotment session for Year 4 (please note change of year group)</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Individual photos
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Allotment session for Year 3 (please note change of year group)</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Book Fair 3.20-4.00pm</b>
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Amaven sports testing for all year groups
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Allotment session for Year 5

### October 2024

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Allotment session for Year 2
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Allotment session for Year 3
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Allotment session for Year 1
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evenings in school
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Inset day – school closed
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Half term – school closed

### November 2024

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Viking Day for Year 5
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	FLUENZ
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-bullying week (including Odd Socks Day – Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> )
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Christmas Fair

### December 2024

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Holmes Chapel Village Christmas Fair 3-7pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Reception nativity (class Ra) 9.30am
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Reception nativity (class R) 9.30am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Christmas performance (Years 1 and 2) 2pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Christmas performance (Years 1 and 2) 6pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Term ends at 1.20pm
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	School closed



Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty  
Principal

Vicki Bradford  
Head of school

