



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 11th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Parents' Evenings – Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October

Our booking system is now live on the School Spider App. This parents' evening meeting is an opportunity for you to talk to your child's teacher about what is going well for your child and how we will be supporting your child to continue to make good progress during the spring and summer terms. Please note that this appointment is not suitable for your child/children to attend with you. Mrs Bradford, our SENCO will also be available to during both parents' evenings to discuss any SEND related concerns you may have. There is no appointment necessary. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Wear Red Day (Show Racism the Red Card) – Friday 18th October

Show Racism the Red Card is the UK's leading anti-racism educational charity. This year they are celebrating 10 years of Wear Red Day, so we are inviting the children to wear something red to show their support on this day. It could just be a red item of clothing or a red accessory and is entirely **optional**. To find out more follow the link below to their website:-

<https://www.theredcard.org/wear-red-day/>

Curriculum and Assessment Review - DFE consultation

The Department for Education is seeking views from stakeholders to share their perspective on potential improvements to the curriculum and assessment system.

The call for evidence invites stakeholders to submit proposals on improving the curriculum and assessment system. This step is crucial for the review process, with

the gathered material aiding the panel in making its first recommendations next year. This is not a consultation; they are not seeking views on specific recommendations yet. Instead, they want feedback on what works, what doesn't, and potential improvements. Please follow this link to complete the survey.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/curriculum-and-assessment-team/curriculum-and-assessment-review-call-for-evidence/>

Supervision after school

- Supervision of your child remains your responsibility from 3.20pm when they leave the building. Children, including younger children waiting with you for siblings, **should not be playing on the playground equipment including the climbing walls or the trim trail** – please ensure your child is aware of this
- Riding of scooters and bicycles is not permitted on the playground, in the interests of everyone's safety

Your support in this makes a big difference and is really appreciated – thank you!



PTA AGM – Tuesday 15th October at 6.30pm

The PTA AGM will be held on Tuesday 15th October in the school hall. All parents are invited to attend to find out more about the brilliant fund raising our PTA has done over the past year and about the events and activities they are planning for the coming year. Please come along and support!

Christmas cards

Your child is busy designing a Christmas card that will be sent to Cauliflower Cards to be printed. You can order packs of your child's cards online, raising funds for the school via the PTA. Parents/carers are invited to visit your child's classroom to view your child's Christmas card design on **Thursday 17th October between 3.20pm and 3.40pm, or on Friday 18th October between 8.40am and 8.50am**. The PTA will be sharing further information about the ordering process.

After School Clubs – autumn 2 2024 (after half term)

We are currently arranging after school activities for after the half term break.

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 **indoor** 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
- Tuesday – Pickleball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 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
- Friday – Gymnastics with Sports Coaching for Year 1 – Year 3 3.20-4.20pm

Further information about how to book a place for your child will be sent out shortly.

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.

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.



Penalty Notices will be issued for

Term time leave: Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days or

Unauthorised absence: A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absences in a 10 week period.

Per Parent/Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued **per parent per child**. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or unauthorised school attendance the fine will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of the issue, reducing to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Second Offence

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second penalty notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first penalty notice, for either term time leave or unauthorised attendance the second penalty notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Third Offence

On the third time that an offence is committed within 3 years of the first penalty notice for either a term time leave or irregular attendance, a penalty notice will not be issued. The case may proceed to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000.

Calendar of Events

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

October 2024

Monday 14 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 15 th	PTA AGM 6.30pm School Hall
Thursday 17 th	Christmas card designs on display 3.20-3.40pm
Friday 18 th	Christmas card designs on display 8.40-8.50am
Monday 21 st	Allotment session for Year 1
Wednesday 23 rd and Thursday 24 th	Parents' Evenings in school
Friday 25 th	Inset day – school closed
Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st	Half term – school closed



November	
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November 2024

Monday 4 th	Viking Day for Year 5
Tuesday 5 th	FLUENZ
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th	Anti-bullying week (including Odd Socks Day – Tuesday 12 th)

December 2024

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

January 2025

Monday 6 th	Inset day – school closed
Tuesday 7 th	Spring term starts
Thursday 9 th	Year 4 visit to New Vic Theatre

February 2025

Monday 3 rd	Children's Mental Health week
Thursday 6 th	Young Voices concert
Tuesday 11 th	Safer internet day
Wednesday 12 th and Thursday 13 th	Parents' Evenings
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st	Half term – school closed

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school

