



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Events in school

Foodbank donations – Friday 29th November

A reminder that on Friday 29th November we will have a non-uniform day to raise the profile of the brilliant work our local foodbanks do for our community.

The Middlewich and Sandbach foodbanks would welcome donations of the following items:-

Instant Coffee	Tinned sandwich meat	Tinned vegetables
Tea bags	Tinned potatoes	Tinned pulses
Tinned ready meals (like steak, chicken, pies, etc)	Long grain rice	Pasta sauces
Tinned spaghetti	Tinned fruit	Tinned rice pudding
Tinned tomatoes	Tinned custard	Pasta
Tinned soup	Tinned sponge puddings	Breakfast cereals
Tinned Baked Beans	UHT Milk	Fruit squash
Long Life Fruit Juice	Jam	Biscuits
Sugar	Toilet rolls	Shampoo
Toothbrushes	Toothpaste Soap	Shower gel

In addition to these items, the foodbank has asked for some Christmas items - selection boxes, Christmas cake/chocolate log cake, Christmas crackers, tinned ham.

Please bring your optional donation into school on Friday 29th November – thank you so much for your support. Please note that this replaces our usual request for donations for PTA Christmas hampers.

After School Clubs – spring term 2025

As the weather will still be cold and the evenings are dark until spring half term, we will not be running any outdoor activities for the first half of this term. See below for after school activities during the first half of the spring term.

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 Wall, Ms Beechener)



New Drama Club



From January 2025, brand new Drama classes taught by a fully qualified teacher specialising in Performing Arts will be taking place.

The classes will be after school on a Thursday 3:20pm to 4:20pm and open to Year 3, 4, 5, and 6. The cost is £6 per session.

Places are limited. See flyer for details or ask at the school office.

New British Sign Language (BSL) Club

From January 2025 we will be running an after school club offering children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 the opportunity to learn British Sign Language. The trainer leading the sessions will be deaf or hard of hearing and if needed, they will bring along a Sign Language interpreter. The sessions will be £6 per session. There will be more information to follow, and a flyer sent out with details of how to book.

Please remember all after school activities run by outside providers need to be booked through the company leading the club. Thank you.

Presentations to Parents

Each year our Year 3, 4 and 5 children hold an assembly for parents to showcase their learning. Dates for these this year are as follows:-

- Year 3 – Thursday 8th May at 9.30am
- Year 4 – Wednesday 21st May at 9.30am
- Year 5 – Wednesday 5th June at 9.30am

Reminder – Our school website

Our school website has a wide range of useful information about our school community, curriculum, and what we are working on this year as well as practical information about school meals, uniform, our school dogs and how to help your child at home. Please follow this link to find out more:-

<https://www.holmeschapelprimary.org.uk/>

Are you interested in becoming a Midday Assistant in school?

We are currently looking for Midday Assistants to work with children during the lunch break. Please speak to or email the office for further details, or look on our school website for a job description and application form - <http://www.holmeschapelprimary.org.uk/page/vacancies/121467>

PTFA News



Christmas jumper/accessory day – Wednesday 18th December



The PTFA are inviting children to wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas accessory on Wednesday 18th December and donate £1 in exchange for a strip of raffle tickets which will give them entry to a raffle to win a special, Christmas themed children's hamper.

Personalised Christmas Ornaments - Our PTFA is pleased to announce an opportunity for you to order a personalised Christmas ornament, hand-made by a highly talented and creative member of the PTFA team. Please see further details below (this information has also been sent out by email). Please note the closing date for orders is 28th November.

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.

November 2024

Friday 29 th	Foodbank Donations – own clothes
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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 18th	Christmas jumper/accessory day
Wednesday 18 th	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 18 th	KS1 Christmas performance (Years 1 and 2) 6pm
Thursday 19 th	Christmas parties
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
Wednesday 8th	Road safety presentation for Year 5
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

March 2025

Tuesday 4 th	Year 1 visit to Macclesfield Silk Museum
Thursday 6 th	World Book Day
Friday 21 st	Red Nose Day
Wednesday 26 th	Year 4 Wider Opps concert for parents in school hall 2.30pm
Monday 31 st to Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 5 residential

April 2025

Friday 4 th	Term ends at 1.20pm
Monday 7 th – Monday 21 st	School Closed
Tuesday 22 nd	Summer term starts
Friday 25 th	Year 4 visit to Crowden River Valley

May 2025

Monday 5 th	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th	SATS week for Year 6 pupils
Wednesday 21 st	Year 4 Presentation for Parents 9.30am
Thursday 22 nd	Class photos
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th	Half term – school closed

June 2025

Wednesday 4 th	Year 5 Presentation for Parents 9.30am
Monday 16 th	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Tuesday 17 th	Year 4 Come and Play with the Halle at The Bridgewater Hall
Monday 30 th	Year 6 Bikeability

July 2025

Tuesday 1 st	Year 6 Bikeability
Wednesday 2 nd – Friday 4 th	Year 6 residential
Tuesday 8 th	Year 3 visit to Macclesfield Forest
Wednesday 9 th	End of year reports to parents
Tuesday 15 th	Year 6 Leaver's performance for parents 2pm
Wednesday 16 th	Year 6 Leaver's performance for parents 6.30pm
Friday 18 th	Term ends at 1.20pm

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school

