



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 6th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Staff News

We would like to welcome Mrs Cain to our Reception team. Mrs Cain is an experienced teacher who recently moved into the village and has been volunteering in school this term. Starting in January 2025, Mrs Cain will be teaching in Class R every Thursday and Friday with Mrs Noble.

Holmes Chapel Village Christmas Fair

Thank you so much to the children who represented our school brilliantly singing at the Holmes Chapel Village Christmas Fair on Sunday 1st December. Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 sang some festive songs, entertaining the crowd with their enthusiasm, and really putting us all in the Christmas spirit! Thank you!

Forthcoming Christmas events

Reception Nativities

The children in reception would welcome you to join them for their nativity performance on:-

- Tuesday 10th December at 9.30am – Class Ra Miss Sanchez's class
- Wednesday 11th December at 9.30am – Class R Mrs Noble's class

Key Stage 1 Performances – Year 1 and 2 classes

The children in Year 1 and Year 2 would welcome you to join them for their performance on either:-

- Tuesday 17th December at 2pm (audience admitted from 1.45pm onwards)
- Wednesday 18th December at 6pm (audience admitted from 5.45pm onwards)

Christmas Events

- Christmas jumper/accessory day – Wednesday 18th December (PTFA event – bring £1 to be entered into a prize draw to win a children's Christmas hamper)
- Christmas lunch – Wednesday 18th December. Christmas lunch will be served in the school hall. Please ensure you have pre-booked your meal on ParentPay by Monday 9th December
- Christmas parties – Thursday 19th December. Children are invited to wear party clothes for the day (please make sure their outfit and shoes are suitable for playing outside). We invite you to send in a voluntary donation of £1 towards the cost of party food by Monday 9th December. Thank you
- Christmas fun run - Children are invited to take part in a Christmas fun run around the school grounds on the morning of Friday 20th December. Please wear or bring suitable trainers. Children can also wear festive clothes/a festive accessory. If you would like to make an optional donation to charity on this day, we will be sharing any money collected to a homeless charity appeal.

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)

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

- Monday – Dance with Sports Coaching Group for Year 1 – Year 4 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
- Tuesday – British Sign Language for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4pm
- Wednesday – Benchball/Handball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Thursday – Drama with React Theatre Academy for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.40pm
- Friday – Gymnastics with Sports Coaching for Year 1 – Year 4 3.20-4.20pm

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~~ (change of date TBC)
- Year 5 – Wednesday 4th June at 9.30am

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

The PTFA would like to thank everyone for your orders of Christmas Cards, Mugs and Ornaments together we raised a whopping **£419.50** for our school! All of the support is so greatly appreciated.



For our last bit of Christmas fun we have:

First up - The PTFA Mega Christmas Hamper

We will be selling tickets 3 different ways:

1. At the Reception and KS1 shows

2. Via school bags – send your money in via school bags by Thursday 12 Dec and we'll send back your tickets the same way. (Money in envelope with child's name and class marked PTA RAFFLE. Please don't worry if the



tickets don't come back as we'll have your details on ours)

3. Playground - find us under the sheltered area on 13 Dec to buy those last min tix!

Tickets are £1 each or £5 for a strip.

The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 19th December for collection before school closes on 20th December.

And the last one - JUST FOR THE KIDS!

We will have Christmas Jumper day - on 18th December. To make the day even more fun we have put together 3 rather glorious **Grinchmas Hampers** to be won on the day! Tickets will be on sale at break times for children who want to enter the raffle.

Raffle tickets are £1 each (buy as many as you like)

Money in envelope with child's name and class marked

GRINCHMAS RAFFLE - it will help the queues go quickly!

This draw will be done before the end of the day, so your child might be coming home with a very green hamper :)



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.

December 2024

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 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 8 th	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
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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 21st	Year 4 Presentation for Parents 9.30am (new date TBC)
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

