



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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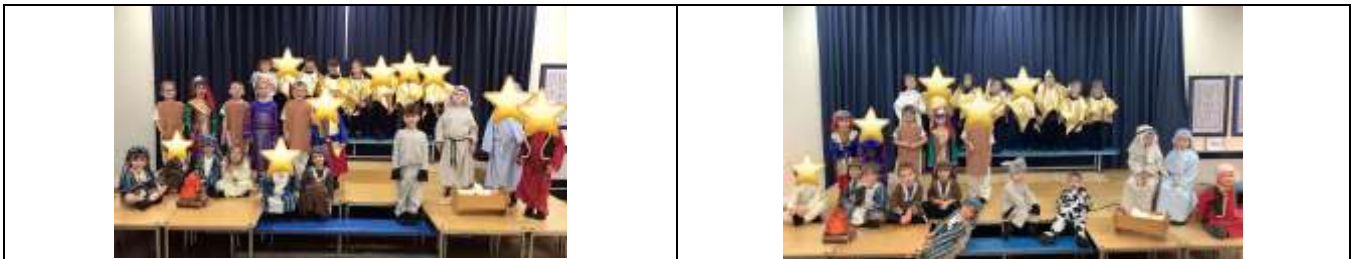
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Friday 20th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reception Nativities

Our lovely Reception children performed their nativity for children in school and pre-schools, and parents/carers last week. They looked gorgeous in their costumes and sang beautifully. Thank you so much to our Reception children for starting our Christmas festivities!



Thank you very much to our Reception staff team for their fantastic hard work with our little ones!

Key Stage 1 Performances – Year 1 and 2 classes

'The stars come out at Christmas' key stage 1 performances took place on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday evening this week. The children put a 'Christmas smile' on our faces and certainly performed with razzle-dazzle!

Thank you very much to our staff team for their brilliant hard work with our Key Stage 1 children.



Christmas Events

We enjoyed our Christmas jumper/accessory day and our Christmas lunch on Wednesday. Class Christmas parties were enjoyed on Thursday and our fun run took place today. Thank you for your donations to a homeless charity.

The children have engaged in a wide variety of Christmas activities in their classes – please see a selection of the brilliant work they have done.



All our year groups visited the Methodist Church to learn more about the events of Christmas long ago, and to engage in a range of activities.



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 3.20-4.15pm (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

- 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 – Friday 16th May at 9.15am (please note change of date)
- 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

Thank you to all the children who bought tickets for our Grinchmas raffle. Prizes were won by Georgia in Year 3, William in Year 4, and Darcy in Year 6 – congratulations!



Our adult hamper was won by Noah in year 3.

Thank you very much to the PTFA for organising the raffles.

Community News

Visyon offers free workshops to parents/carers of school age children on common mental health topics. The workshops are designed to inform and empower parents in supporting their children as well as an opportunity for parents to meet each other and gain mutual support. Please click on the link below to find out more information:-



<https://www.visyon.org.uk/parentworkshops>

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

Monday 23 rd December – Friday 3 rd January 2025	School closed
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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

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
Friday 16th	Year 4 Presentation for Parents 9.15am (new date)
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
Thursday 19th and Friday 20th	HCCS Transition days for Year 6
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

Wishing all our families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school

