



# Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

Principal: Mrs F. Gresty B.A (Hons), NPQH  
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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to all our families! We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break.

## Staff News

We would like to welcome Mrs Cain to our Reception staff team, and Mrs Barnes to our Year 3 staff team. Mrs Cain will be working on Thursday and Friday each week in Class R, and Mrs Barnes will be working in Class 3 every Friday.

## 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 **3.20-4.20pm (please note amended finish time)**
- Friday – Gymnastics with Sports Coaching for Year 1 – Year 4 3.20-4.20pm

Unfortunately, we did not have sufficient interest in the British Sign Language club, so this will not be taking place this half term.

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 8<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am
- Year 4 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 9.15am



- Year 5 – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 9.30am

### **PTA News**

#### **Invitation to the 2025 Planning Meeting - 15th January 7pm - Bottle Bank - In the Vault**

Join us to get the 2025 event planning underway.... or to just find out a bit more about what your PTFA does and if you'd like to get involved (go on, you know you want to!)

We'll meet at the Bottle Bank and have a few suggestions on the table already like a disco, spring fair, pot of gold, colour run... but would love suggestions to develop these ideas, or throw some new ideas around with the aim of bringing lots of fun for the kids in 2025 and also raise some money towards our current project.

Hope you can join us!

#### **The Autumn Term raised £1,672.04**

Massive **THANK YOU**, to all of our PTFA Members, Staff members and Helpers and of course to our amazing families for always supporting what we do!

#### **Here is a breakdown for you:-**

Tea & Coffee Sales £65.65

Mega Hamper £587.70

Grinch Hamper £234.87

Uniform Sales £217.00

Christmas Cards & Ornaments £419.50

Recycling Bags £105.00

Stikins Labels - £42.32

#### **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>

#### **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.



<b>Penalty Notices will be issued for</b>	
<b>Term time leave:</b> Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days	
or	
<b>Unauthorised absence:</b> A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absences in a 10 week period.	
<b>Per Parent/Per Child</b>	
Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued <b>per parent per child</b> . For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.	
<b>First Offence</b>	
The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or unauthorised school attendance the fine will be charged at:	
<b>£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)</b>	
<b>Second Offence</b>	
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:	
<b>£160 if paid within 28 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)</b>	
<b>Third Offence</b>	
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.

### January 2025

<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>School closed – funeral of staff member</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Height and weight checks for Reception children</b>

### February 2025

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Children's Mental Health week
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mystery Readers
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Young Voices concert (Manchester)
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Safer internet day
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evenings
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Half term – school closed

### March 2025

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

### April 2025

Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Term ends at 1.20pm
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	School Closed
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Summer term starts



Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 visit to Crowden River Valley
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### May 2025

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	SATS week for Year 6 pupils
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Presentation for Parents 9.15am
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Class photos
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Half term – school closed

### June 2025

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Presentation for Parents 9.30am
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sports Day</b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Come and Play with the Halle at The Bridgewater Hall
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	HCCS Transition days for Year 6
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Bikeability

### July 2025

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

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty  
Principal

Vicki Bradford  
Head of school

