



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 31st January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Staff News

We are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Miss MacWilliam's baby on Friday 24th January – a little girl called Mabel. We wish her many congratulations!

Allotment Sessions

We are pleased to be able to recommence our allotment sessions led by HLTA Mrs S Mitchell, who will run the sessions linked to our science curriculum every Monday afternoon from after February half term until the end of the summer term. These sessions will give the children a 'real life' experience to support their learning about plants.

Please see dates below for year group sessions. On an allotment day the children will be outside for a whole or part of an afternoon, so they can come into school in clothes that are suitable for being outdoors in a muddy environment. Suitable footwear (wellies or sturdy boots/trainers) should either be worn or brought to school in a bag.

Forthcoming Events



Children's Mental Health Week takes place from 3rd – 9th February exploring the theme 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself' in partnership with Here4You, supported by The Walt Disney Company and the *Inside Out 2* characters. For further information visit the website following the link below:- <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Non-uniform day – Friday 7th February 2025

To promote Children's Mental Health Week and to support Visyon (a mental health support service free of charge to the local community) we are inviting the children to wear non-uniform on Friday 7th February. Your child can choose to take part and to bring a voluntary donation of £1 into school on the day. Visyon will be running a workshop for parents in school in March on a date to be confirmed shortly.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on the 11th of February 2025, with celebrations and learning based around the theme '**Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online**'

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025>

Safer
Internet
Day 2025 | Tuesday
11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

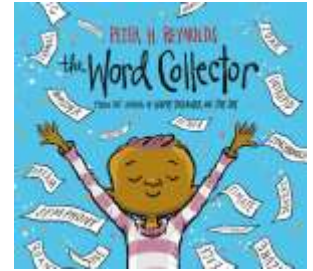
saferinternetday.org.uk



World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day this year, we have chosen the book 'The Word Collector' by Peter H. Reynolds to generate book-related activities across school. The book is an inspiring story about the transformative and profound power of words.

Children are invited to dress up as a word/favourite word (eg. Sporty, Glamorous, Emerald). More details to follow soon.



After School Clubs – spring 2 2025 (after February 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 3.20-4.20pm (Year 6 – run by Miss Maddock and Mr Vickery)

Please note that singing club will be taking a break following the Young Voices concert and will recommence in the summer term.

The following 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
- Monday – Hockey with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 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
- Thursday – Pickleball with Sports Coaching Group for Reception – Year 2 3.20-4.20pm
- Thursday – Drama with React Theatre Academy for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Friday – Gymnastics with Sports Coaching for Year 1 – Year 4 3.20-4.20pm

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

Calendar of Events

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

February 2025

Monday 3 rd	Children's Mental Health week
Thursday 6 th	Mystery Readers
Thursday 6 th	Young Voices concert (Manchester)
Friday 7 th February	Non-uniform Day – voluntary donation of £1 for Visyon
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
Monday 24th	Allotment session for Year 1
Thursday 27 th	Online residential information meeting for Year 5 parents – 4.30pm

March 2025

Monday 3rd	Allotment session for Year 2
Tuesday 4 th	Year 1 visit to Macclesfield Silk Museum
Thursday 6 th	World Book Day
Monday 10th	Allotment session for Year 3
Wednesday 12 th	Online meeting at 5.30pm for Year 6 parents – SATs information and residential information
Monday 17th	Allotment session for Year 5
Friday 21 st	Red Nose Day
Monday 24th	Allotment session for Reception
Wednesday 26 th	Year 3 Singfest event at Congleton Town Hall 12.15-1.30pm
Wednesday 26 th	Year 4 Wider Opps concert for parents in school hall 2.30pm
Monday 31st	Allotment session for Year 2
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
Friday 25 th	PTFA Discos
Monday 28th	Allotment session for Year 1

May 2025

Monday 5 th	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 12th	Allotment session for Year 3
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th	SATS week for Year 6 pupils
Friday 16 th	Year 4 Presentation for Parents 9.15am
Saturday 17 th	PTFA Spring Fair 1-4pm
Monday 19th	Allotment session for Year 1
Thursday 22 nd	Class photos
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th	Half term – school closed

June 2025

Monday 2nd	Allotment session for Year 2
Wednesday 4 th	Year 5 Presentation for Parents 9.30am
Monday 9th	Allotment session for Year 3
Friday 13 th	Sports Day
Monday 16 th	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Monday 16th	Allotment session for Year 5
Tuesday 17 th	Year 4 Come and Play with the Halle at The Bridgewater Hall
Thursday 19 th and Friday 20 th	HCCS Transition days for Year 6
Monday 23rd	Allotment session for Year 1
Monday 30 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 30th	Allotment session for Year 2

July 2025

Tuesday 1 st	Year 6 Bikeability
Wednesday 2 nd – Friday 4 th	Year 6 residential
Monday 7th	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 8 th	Year 3 visit to Macclesfield Forest
Wednesday 9 th	End of year reports to parents
Monday 14th	Allotment session for Year 5
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

