



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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CW4 7EB

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Friday 28th February 2025

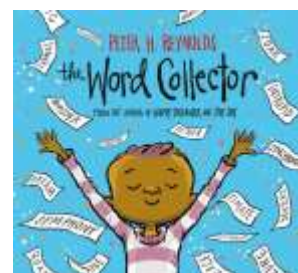
Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. We hope you all had a relaxing half term break.

Coming up this half term

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

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). There will also be a special themed lunch available. Please see the separate letter sent out recently.



Throughout next week (w/c Monday 3rd March) we will be holding Reading for Pleasure sessions in the hall for parents, carers, grandparents, etc, to come in and read with your child, or a group of children. Please see the sessions' timings below:

	Monday 3rd March	Tuesday 4th March	Wednesday 5th March	Thursday 6th March	Friday 7th March
9am – 9.20am		Year 4	Year 3	Year 5	Year 6
2.40pm – 3pm	Reception			Year 2	Year 1

We hope to see you there!

Red Nose Day/Down Syndrome Day – Friday 21st March

We will be selling gingerbread sock biscuits at 50p each during the week to help raise awareness of Down Syndrome. Children are invited to wear party clothes to celebrate 40 years of Comic Relief. Further details to follow.



Junior Bake Off opportunity

We have been contacted by an Assistant Producer at Love Productions; the production company behind **The Great British Bake Off**, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down.



They have recently opened applications for the 11th series of **Junior Bake Off (ages 9-15 years old)**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

Filming would take place from July 2025, but our **applications close on Sunday 23rd March 2025**. Interested bakers can apply online at -

www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk



enquiries: applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk

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.

March 2025

Monday 3 rd	Allotment session for Year 2
Tuesday 4 th	Year 1 visit to Macclesfield Silk Museum
Thursday 6 th	World Book Day Down Syndrome Day
Monday 10 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 11th	Year 6 visit to Dane Meadow – geography and art focused activities
Wednesday 12 th	Online meeting at 5.30pm for Year 6 parents – SATs information and residential information
Monday 17 th	Allotment session for Year 5
Friday 21 st	Red Nose Day
Monday 24 th	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
Thursday 27 th	PTFA Discos
Monday 31 st	Allotment session for Year 2
Monday 31 st to Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 5 residential

April 2025

Thursday 3rd	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
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
Monday 28 th	Allotment session for Year 1

May 2025

Friday 2nd	Non-uniform day - PTFA donations for summer fair (bottles and chocolates)
Monday 5 th	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Thursday 8 th	Year 3 Presentation for Parents 9.15am
Monday 12 th	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
Monday 19 th	Allotment session for Year 1
Thursday 22 nd	Class photos
Thursday 22nd	Trust football tournament at Macclesfield Academy
Thursday 22nd	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th	Half term – school closed

June 2025

Monday 2nd – Friday 6th	Multiplication check for Year 4
Monday 2 nd	Allotment session for Year 2
Wednesday 4 th	Year 5 Presentation for Parents 9.30am



Thursday 5th and Friday 6th	Amaven sessions
Saturday 7 th	PTFA Summer Fair 12-3pm
Monday 9th – Friday 13th	Phonics screening check for Year 1
Monday 9 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Friday 13 th	Sports Day
Monday 16 th	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Monday 16 th	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 23 rd	Allotment session for Year 1
Monday 30 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 30 th	Allotment session for Year 2

July 2025

Tuesday 1 st	Year 6 Bikeability
Wednesday 2 nd – Friday 4 th	Year 6 residential
Monday 7 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Tuesday 8 th	Year 3 visit to Macclesfield Forest
Wednesday 9 th	End of year reports to parents
Thursday 10th	Mystery readers 2.45pm
Monday 14 th	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
Thursday 17th	Year 6 Leaver's lunch
Friday 18 th	Term ends at 1.20pm

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school

