



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 25th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the summer term! We hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter break.

Staff News

We would like to extend a warm welcome Mrs Rebecca Swindell who has joined our office team this week. Mrs Swindell will be working at the front desk and will be your first point of contact.

Miss Maddock who currently teaches in Year 6 and Miss Bradshaw who works in the school office, have both made the decision to retire at the end of the summer term. We wish them both well in their next adventures!

Safety at the beginning and end of the school day

For the safety of our children, we will be closing the car park gates between 8.30am and 9.15am, and between 3.00pm and 3.30pm. We have had a few near misses recently and need to protect pedestrians crossing the school drive. This will start from the beginning of next week (week beginning 28th April). We will be issuing parking passes for members of staff and for those parents who have permission to park in the school car park. Please contact the school office for further information.

Forthcoming events in the summer term

Online Safety Presentation – Wednesday 7th May 6pm

We would like to invite parents of Year 4, 5 and 6 children to join PC Andy Cornall online for a presentation about how to keep your child safe online. This will take place on Wednesday 7th May at 6pm – a link will be sent out prior to the meeting. Please note this is a session for adults only and is not suitable for children to attend.

Walk to school event



Following the success of previous years, Holmes Chapel Partnership are organising the annual Walk to School event on **Thursday 8th May**. This event helps to highlight the issues of safe walking routes to school (or lack of them!) in Holmes Chapel. This date coincides with the VE Day 80th Anniversary, which is being celebrated by various events throughout the village. We would ask that people taking part come accessorised with red, white and blue items.

The official Walk to School week organised by Living Streets is later in May from 19-23rd

May. <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/walk-to-school-week/>

Please see the attached poster. More information can also be found on the partnership website

here: <https://www.hcpartnership.org.uk/walk-to-school-week>

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

Celebration of 80th Anniversary of VE Day – Friday 9th May

We will be celebrating the anniversary of VE Day in school on Friday 9th May. Children will be invited to dress up in 1940s clothes or in red, white and blue. We will learn about the history of VE Day, learn some songs and dances and have a street party picnic during the afternoon. More details to follow.

Please see below some of the artwork our children have produced for the Parish Council to display in the village for the VE Day celebrations:-



Wear Purple for Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis – Friday 23rd May

We will be supporting this charity on Friday 23rd May and invite children to wear purple clothes or a purple accessory for the day to show your support. Donations can be made on the day or via the website – more details to follow. Please see further information below about the charity.



#WearPurpleForJIA is an annual campaign dedicated to raising awareness and funds for the benefit of those living with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA).

The money we receive through the #WearPurpleForJIA campaign means that we can continue to support people living with JIA and their families.

Together we have shouted loud, rallied support, and increased public understanding of JIA. We know there is still more to do, and we hope that you will join us in raising awareness and funds with #WearPurpleForJIA this year to help support the 10,000 children living with arthritis in the UK.

After School Clubs – first half of summer term 2025

The following club will be run by school staff:-

- Thursday – Singing Club 3.20-4.00pm (Years 4-6 - run by Ms Lackford)

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 – Cricket/rounders 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 – Tennis with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Wednesday – Dodgeball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3 – Year 6 3.20-4.20pm
- Thursday – Athletics 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 Group 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.

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 Notice 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.

April 2025

Monday 28 th	Allotment session for Year 1
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May 2025

Friday 2 nd	Non-uniform day - PTFA donations for summer fair (bottles and chocolates)
Monday 5 th	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 th	Year 5 Bikeability

Wednesday 7 th	Online safety presentation with PC Andy Cornall for parents of Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils – 6pm
Thursday 8 th	Year 3 Presentation for Parents 9.15am
Friday 9 th	VE Day celebration – 80 th Anniversary
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 22 nd	Trust football tournament at Macclesfield Academy
Thursday 22 nd	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th	Half term – school closed

June 2025

Monday 2 nd – Friday 6 th	Multiplication check for Year 4
Monday 2 nd	Allotment session for Year 2
Tuesday 3 rd	Reception visit to Delamere Forest
Wednesday 4 th	Year 5 Presentation for Parents 9.30am
Thursday 5 th and Friday 6 th	Amaven sessions
Saturday 7 th	PTFA Summer Fair 12-3pm
Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th	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 10 th	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 17 th	Year 6 Leaver's lunch
Friday 18 th	Term ends at 1.20pm

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school

