



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back!

Welcome to the autumn term 2025. We hope all our families had a relaxing summer break. We would particularly like to welcome our new reception children who have started their half days with us this week.

Communication platforms - Arbor

We are working really hard to streamline the way we communicate with parents, carers and our school community. We have already starting using an online platform called Arbor within school and will be rolling this out externally this year. For the time being you will receive emails and texts via School Spider and Arbor, this will be until we have completed our full transition to Arbor. We continue to use ParentPay to order and pay for school meals and trips; this will again move over to Arbor in time.

Harvest Time

This half term is the main harvest time for all the produce the children across school have grown on our allotments. Each Monday afternoon, a year group will be harvesting some of the different fruit and vegetables we have grown including pears, tomatoes, onions, garlic, carrots, leeks, parsnips, beetroot, courgette, chard and various squashes/pumpkins. At the end of the school day, Mrs Mitchell will set up the allotment 'shop' in the quiet zone in the playground so that the children and their families can take some of the produce home and enjoy eating it. All year groups are welcome to come to the shop each Monday, not just the year group that has been involved in the harvesting that day. There is no charge for the produce, but we welcome any donations which go directly to supporting the school allotment project and next year's growing. We hope to see you at the allotment shop soon!

After school clubs – Autumn Term 2025

Please see below our after school clubs for the autumn term.

The following clubs will be run by school staff. **Please note due to our 'Meet the Teacher' events next week, the following clubs will commence from Monday 15th September.**

To secure your child's place, please log onto parentpay and click on the 'pay for other items' button.

- Monday – Coding Club 3.20-4.00pm (Year 6 – run by Mr Vickery and Miss Brett)
- Thursday – Singing Club 3.20-4.00pm (Years 4-6 - run by Ms Lackford, Mrs May, Ms Whalley)

To secure your child's place, please complete and return the slip which was sent home if your child expressed an interest in attending.

- Thursday – Cooking Club 3.20-4.40pm (Year 5 – run by Mrs Hill and Mrs Middleton)

The following clubs will be run by outside providers and will require payment – please contact the school office for further information. **The clubs below will commence from Monday 8th September.**

Sports Coaching – sportscoachinggroup.co.uk

Please see the attached flyer for booking information.

- Monday: Dance (Yr 1-4)
- Monday: Basketball/Netball (Yr 3-6)
- Tuesday: Dodgeball (Yr 4-6)
- Tuesday: Football (Yr 1-3)
- Wednesday: Dodgeball (Yr 1-3)
- Wednesday: Football (Yr 3-6)
- Thursday: Pickleball (Yr 3-6)
- Friday: Gymnastics (Yr 1-4)

React Theatre – reacttheatreacademy@gmail.com

Please see attached flyers for more information.

- Drama Club — Thursdays (Y3-6)

Art Zone – jo@art-zone.co.uk

Please see attached flyer for more information.

- Art Club — Tuesdays (Y1-6)

Cross Country House Competition

On Friday 12th September all children will be invited to participate in our Autumn Term Cross Country competition. Please can all children to come to school in their PE kit for the day.

Parent Parking Permits

To safeguard our pupils parents are not permitted to use the staff car park without prior authorisation for drop off or collection. This also applies to after school clubs. Parking permits are now in use, please contact the school office for an application form or download one from the school website. If your application is authorised, you will be provided with a permit to display on your windscreen.

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, we are 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 our duty to strongly urge parents or carers to avoid booking holidays, appointments or visits overseas during term-time. In addition, it is important that we 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 the next academic year. New dates have been added in bold.

September 2025

Monday 8 th	Allotment session for Year 2
Tuesday 9 th	3.30pm Meet the Teacher for Year 2 4.00pm Meet the Teacher for Year 4
Wednesday 10 th	3.30pm Meet the Teacher for Year 1 4.00pm Meet the Teacher for Year 3
Thursday 11 th	3.30pm Online safety talk for Year 5 and Year 6 parents with PC Andy Cornall, followed by Meet the Teacher for Year 5 and Year 6
Friday 12 th	Whole School House Cross Country competition
Monday 15 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Thursday 18 th	Individual photos
Monday 22 nd	Allotment session for Year 4
Monday 22 nd	Book Fair 3.30pm
Tuesday 23 rd	Book Fair 3.30pm
Monday 29 th	Allotment session for Year 5

October 2025

Monday 6 th	Allotment session for Year 2
Tuesday 7th	Open Morning 9.15-11.30am
Monday 13 th	Allotment session for Year 3
Thursday 16 th	Child safety event in Crewe for Year 6
Monday 20 th	Allotment session for Year 5
Wednesday 22 nd and Thursday 23 rd	Parents' Evenings
Friday 24 th	Inset day for staff – school closed
Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st	Half term break – school closed

November 2025

Monday 10 th	Odd Socks day
Tuesday 11 th	FLUENZ
Friday 14 th	Children in Need

December 2025



Tuesday 9 th	KS1 performance 1.45pm
Wednesday 10 th	KS1 performance 6pm
Tuesday 16 th	Reception nativity 9.45am
Wednesday 17 th	Reception nativity 9.45am
Wednesday 17 th	Christmas lunch
Thursday 18 th	Christmas parties
Friday 19 th	School closes at 1.20pm
Monday 22 nd December – Monday 5 th January (inclusive)	School closed – Christmas break

January 2026

Monday 5 th	INSET day for staff – school closed
Tuesday 6 th	Spring term begins

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school

