



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

Principal: Mrs F. Gresty B.A (Hons), NPQH
principal@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk
Head of School: Mrs V. Bradford B. A (Hons), PGCE
headofschool@holmeschapelprimary.cheshire.sch.uk

T: 01477 533336

Friday 5th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas performances

We look forward to welcoming you at our forthcoming Christmas performances:-

Year 1 and Year 2

- Tuesday 9th December at 1.45pm
- Wednesday 10th December at 6pm

Reception classes

- Class Ra – Tuesday 16th December at 9.45am
- Class R – Wednesday 17th December at 9.45am

Refreshments will be available, provided by the PTFA, at each performance. Raffle tickets for our Christmas hampers will be available to buy at £1 per ticket (£5 for a strip of 5 tickets) – you can pay with cash or by card.

Christmas Events

- Christmas lunch – Wednesday 17th December. Christmas lunch will be served in the school hall.
- Christmas parties – Thursday 18th December. Children are invited to wear party clothes for the day (please make sure their outfit and shoes are suitable for playing outside). We invite you to send in a voluntary donation of £1 towards the cost of party food by Monday 8th December. Thank you
- Elf run for KS2 children - Children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are invited to take part in a Christmas Elf run around the school grounds on the morning of Wednesday 17th December. The event is in support of St Luke's Hospice and children will be invited to raise sponsor money. Children can wear their PE kit and suitable trainers. Your child will be coming home with a donation envelope and once sponsor money has been collected please return the envelopes to the school office by Wednesday 17th December. More information is attached.
- Santa Sleigh for KS1 children – Children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 will have the opportunity to meet Santa in his sleigh on the afternoon of Wednesday 17th December. Thank you very much to the PTFA for organising this event.



HCPS Year 6 Christmas Market - Thursday 18th December 3.30-4.15pm

On Thursday 18th December we will be holding our very own Year 6 Christmas Market in order to fundraise a very special post-SATs treat for our lovely Year 6 pupils as a celebration of all their hard work throughout their time at HCPS. Please do come along and support the event, which will be the outcome of an enterprise opportunity for our Year 6 pupils. Children will learn about costs and profits, as well as value for money and will be making all of the products sold at the market. On offer, there will be: sock snowmen (an adorable decoration for any home), Christmas tree brownies, hot chocolate reindeer, Christmas stockings, Christmas bookmarks, a range of

Christmas tree decorations and festive rice krispie treats. The goods will range between £1 and £3 and it would be brilliant if our whole school community could support the event! Please note that this is a **cash only** event – thank you.

Congratulations to our brilliant teaching assistant Mrs Mitchell! After being nominated by your colleagues, you have been selected as our **Autumn Term Living Our Values Every Day Award Winner**.

Your colleagues have nominated you for this award because you demonstrate exceptional effort to give the children at Holmes Chapel Primary School experiences that foster essential life skills that extend far beyond the classroom. We know that you are the fantastic Allotment Teacher at HCPS, managing the school's allotment with tireless commitment and passion. Your colleagues have told us that you go above and beyond to integrate outdoor learning into the curriculum, and that through weekly allotment sessions, children throughout school are given the opportunity for a hands-on experience that deepens their understanding of how things grow. Through this they learn how to look after things, developing a sense of pride and ownership. Sue, you are an inspiration to both the children and staff, and you are very deserving of recognition through the Aspire L.O.V.E Award!

PTFA News

- **Christmas Hamper raffle** - Raffle tickets for the hampers will be on sale at our Christmas shows (see above for dates and times) and after school in the school playground on Tuesday 9th December and Friday 12th December, as well as online. Prizes will be drawn on Wednesday 17th December and winners will be notified by phone or email (hampers can then be collected from the school office).
- **Children's raffle** – win an amazing prize, including cinema tickets, sweet treats, a games bundle and Panto tickets. Raffle tickets will be on sale in school for children to buy every lunchtime from 1st – 12th December at £1 per ticket, £5 for a strip of 5 (cash only please). Prizes will be drawn at the final assembly of the school term on Friday 19th December. Money raised from this raffle will be used to pay towards the Key Strings performance for children on Tuesday 24th March.



Christmas Holiday club

Our **Great Christmas Snowdown Holiday Clubs** are now live, and we would love for your students to have the most memorable Christmas holidays with **Sports Coaching Group**.

We are running at Holmes chapel primary school.

Here is what we have on offer:

- **Christmas craft camp - Tuesday 23rd December**
- **Christmas Party Day – Wednesday 24th December**
- **Nerf day - Friday 2nd January**
- Christmas crafts
- Christmas themed party games
- Visits from our mascots
- Christmas jewellery making
- Multi-sports available every day

Additionally each child will enjoy a **hot Christmas dinner** on our Christmas Party Day (24th December).

Booking links:

22nd, 23rd, 2nd - [Multi-Sports Holiday Club - Holmes Chapel Primary School \(5 - 11yrs\) at Holmes Chapel Primary School, Holmes Chapel | Sports Coaching Group | Powered by ClassForKids](#)



24th - Multi-Sports Holiday Club - Holmes Chapel Primary School (5 - 11yrs) at Holmes Chapel Primary School, Holmes Chapel | Sports Coaching Group | Powered by ClassForKids

After school clubs for final week of term (week beginning 15th December)

Please note that there will be no coding club, singing club or cooking club during the final week of term. Singing club will re-start in the first week back in January and Coding club will start on Monday 12th January.

All clubs run by outside providers will continue as usual during the final week of term (there will be no Sports Coaching clubs on Friday 19th December).

After school clubs – first half of spring term 2026

Please see below our after school clubs for 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 Mr Vickery and Miss Brett)
- Thursday – Singing Club 3.20-4.00pm (Years 4-6 - run by Ms Lackford, Mrs May, Ms Whalley)

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 Tuesday 6th January.**

Sports Coaching – <https://sportscoachinggroup.co.uk/>

Please see the attached flyer for booking information.

- Monday: Dance (Yr 1-4)
- Tuesday: Football (Yr 1/2)
- Wednesday: Football (Yr 3-6)
- Wednesday: Dodgeball (Yr 1-4)
- Thursday: Ball Sports (Yr 1-4)
- Friday: Archery + Pickleball (Yr 3-6)
- Friday: Gymnastics (Yr 1-4)

React Theatre – reacttheatreacademy@gmail.com

- Drama Club — Thursdays (Y3-6)

Art Zone – jo@art-zone.co.uk

- Art Club — Tuesdays (Y1-6)

Visyon Parent workshops

Visyon offer a variety of courses and workshops for parents including a 6 week 'Anxiety programme' where you will get the chance to meet other parents, gain an in-depth understanding of what anxiety is and learn how you can support your child with their anxious feelings.

They also run workshops on topics including Loss and Bereavement, Navigating Sexuality and Understanding Self-harm. These are great opportunities to meet other parents going through similar experiences so you don't feel alone in supporting your child.

Follow this link for further information:-

<https://www.visyon.org.uk/parentworkshops>

For more information on these courses please contact Visyon by email on administration@visyon.org.uk.



Community News

Holmes Chapel Community Newsletter – Issue 137 (December 2025)

The latest issue of the Holmes Chapel Community Newsletter is now available. Please visit our website using the link below and click on the **link** to access it.

<https://www.hcpartnership.org.uk/community-newsletter>

In this edition you will find out about:

- The Holmes Chapel Christmas Market & Fair
- Santa's Sleigh Schedule for December
- Updates from the Holmes Chapel Parish Council
- And much, much more!

A message from the Parish Council

Middlewich Road Play Area - We want your views!

The Parish Council has set aside funding to improve the Middlewich Road and Elm Drive Play Areas over a multi-year period.

The first phase of our project is focused on the Middlewich Road Play Area, in particular the pirate ship section. This part of the play area is looking run down and the pirate ship in particular can be a place of anti-social behaviour with graffiti and littering.

The Parish Council would like to gain initial thoughts from our residents about what equipment you would like to see replace the items in the pirate ship area.

Please can you answer the following questionnaire and share your thoughts with us:

<https://forms.office.com/e/yJCT53iipB>

The deadline for responses is 15th January 2026 at 12pm.

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey!

Holmes Chapel Methodist Church

The Methodist Church are holding the following Christmas events:-

- **Christmas Tree Festival** - Friday 12th December 3.30pm-7pm and Saturday 13th December 9.30am-3.00pm. Entry is free and donations can be made for Action for Children.
- **Nativity Service** – Sunday 14th December 10am
- **Come and Sing Christmas** – Saturday 20th December 2pm. Sing favourite Christmas songs, craft for children (with non-alcoholic mulled wine and mince pies).
- **Messy Christingle** – Monday 22nd December 3.30-5pm. Join for games, making Christingles and a short service, followed by drinks and cakes.
- **Christmas Day Service** – Thursday 25th December 10.30am

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.

December 2025

Sunday 7 th	Holmes Chapel Village Christmas Fair 3-7pm (Singing group performing 4.45-5.05pm)
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
Wednesday 17 th (please note change of date)	PTFA Santa Sleigh visit for KS1 Elf run for KS2 (fundraising for St Luke's Hospice)
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
Wednesday 14 th	Year 4 visit New Vic Theatre
Friday 23 rd	Guitar/Ukelele performance to parents KS1 2pm, KS2 2.30pm

February 2026

Thursday 5 th	Mystery readers 2.45pm
Friday 6 th	Young Voices concert (Manchester)
Tuesday 10 th	Safer internet day
Wednesday 11 th	Year 4 Greek workshop
Thursday 12 th	Year 4 Greek workshop
Wednesday 11 th and Thursday 12 th	Spring term parents' evenings
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th	School closed - Half term break

March 2026

Thursday 5 th	World Book Day
Monday 16 th – Wednesday 18 th	Year 5 residential visit
Thursday 10th	Singfest concert for Year 3 at HCCS 10.00-11.15am
Monday 23 rd and Tuesday 24 th	Book Fair 3.30-4.00pm

Tuesday 24 th	Key Strings performances for KS1 and KS2
Thursday 26 th	Mystery readers 2.45pm
Thursday 26 th	PTFA Spring Disco – Reception classes 2.30-3.00pm; Years 1, 2 and 3 5.00-5.45pm; Years 4, 5 and 6 6.00-6.45pm
Friday 27 th	School closes at 1.20pm
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April	School closed – Easter break

April 2026

Monday 13 th	Summer term begins
Wednesday 15 th	Year 4 visit to Crowden Valley
Friday 17 th	Donations for PTFA Spring Fair (Make the Rules day)
Saturday 25 th	PTFA Spring Fair

May 2026

Friday 1 st	INSET day for staff – school closed
Monday 4 th	Bank holiday – school closed
Tuesday 5 th	Year 1 visit to Staircase House
Thursday 7 th	Year 4 Presentation for parents 9.15am
Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th	Year 6 SATS tests
Wednesday 20 th	Year 3 Presentation for parents 9.15am
Thursday 21 st	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th	School closed – Half term break

June 2026

Friday 5 th	Year 5 Presentation for parents 9.30-10am
Friday 12 th	Non-uniform day (donations for PTFA rainbow hampers)
Monday 15 th	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Tuesday 16 th	New Reception Parents open evening 6pm
Thursday 18 th and Friday 19 th	Transition days for Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School
Wednesday 24 th	Sports Day

July 2026

Wednesday 1 st – Friday 3 rd	Year 6 residential visit
Wednesday 8 th	Reports to parents
Thursday 9 th	Mystery readers 2.45pm
Tuesday 14 th	Year 6 Leaver's performance to parents 2pm
Wednesday 15 th	Year 6 Leaver's performance to parents 6pm
Thursday 16 th	Leaver's assembly and Leaver's lunch
Friday 17 th	School closes at 1.20pm
Monday 20 th July – Monday 31 st August	School closed – summer break

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Principal

Vicki Bradford
Head of school