



Holmes Chapel Primary School

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

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Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Forthcoming events

- **Winter Olympics themed day** - During the week beginning Monday 2nd February, we will be celebrating the forthcoming winter Olympics being held in Italy from 5th – 22nd February. Children in every year group will be finding out all about the exciting events taking place, and sharing their learning with children in their key stage at a special assembly on Thursday 5th February.
- **Children's Mental Health Week** - Children's Mental Health Week 2026, organised by the charity [Place2Be](https://place2be.org), runs from February 9th to February 15th, 2026, with the theme "[This is My Place](https://place2be.org/this-is-my-place)", focusing on the importance of belonging. On Friday February 13th we will have a 'wear what you want' non uniform day and ask for donations to raise money for this cause which will be donated to Visyon.
- **Safer Internet Day** – Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the 10th February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026>
- **World Book Day** – On Thursday 5th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. This year our chosen theme is 'Mystery and Magic' and we would like to invite the children to dress up in a costume related to that theme. More details to follow.



World Book Day inspires every child to enjoy the life-changing benefits of reading for fun.

Donate reading books

We are always looking to update our classroom book corners with a wide range of reading books for the children to choose from, particularly to encourage reading for pleasure. If you are having a clear out and would like to donate suitable reading books (fiction and non-fiction) that are still in good condition, we would be delighted to have them. Thank you.

End of day – Reminder

The playground is a very busy place at the end of the school day. In order to make sure all our children are safe and that they are delivered to the correct adult taking them home, please refrain from taking your child from the line while they are waiting to reach the front of the line where a member of staff is checking they go to the right person (this is particularly the case with Year 2 and Year 3 children who come out of the door by the park entrance). We really appreciate your cooperation – thank you.

Do you need some help with supporting your child's behaviour?

We have recently had conversations with parents/carers who have shared that they are struggling with their child's behaviour at home, whether that be defiance, anger, upset, anxiety and other emotional challenges. Cheshire East have launched the Togetherness online learning pathway which supports your parenting journey and important relationships.

Please see the attached poster which provides more information and the access code enabling free participation on the course or click on the following link.

<https://togetherness.co.uk/learn/>

We plan to run an 'Emotional Resilience and Parenting Support' workshop in April – date to confirmed.

NEW: After school clubs – second half of spring term 2026

Please see below our after school clubs for the second 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)

Please note that Singing Club will be taking a break after Young Voices so will not run during the second half of the spring term but will resume at the beginning of the summer term.

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 23rd February.**

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

Please see the attached flyer for booking information (changes in orange)

- Monday: Dance (Yr 1-4)
- Tuesday: Football (Yr 1/2)
- Wednesday: Football (Yr 3-6)
- Wednesday: **Handball/Benchball** (Yr 1-4)
- Thursday: **Team Sports** (Yr 1-4)
- Friday: **Tag Rugby** (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)

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.

Please see the information below from the Cheshire East Attendance Team:-

PENALTY NOTICE AND PROSECUTION
Penalty Notices may be issued for
Term time leave: Penalty Notice fines may be issued for term time leave of 5 or more days (10 sessions) in a 10-week period.

10 Sessions of Unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 week period: A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period. However, school retain the discretion to request a Penalty Notice before the threshold is met. For example, where parents/carers are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the threshold.	
Per Parent/Per Child Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued per parent/carer per child. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.	
First Offence The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular school attendance the fine will be charged at: £160 per parent/carer, per child if paid within 28 days of the issue, reducing to £80 per parent/carer, 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/carer for the same pupil within 3 years of the first penalty notice, for either term time leave or irregular 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 Local Authority may place the matter before the court. The Magistrates may impose a fine up to £2500. 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 or legal proceedings under Section 444 (1a) can include a fine of up to £2500.	

Calendar of Events

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

February 2026

Monday 2 nd – Friday 8 th	National story telling week
Wednesday 4 th	Year 5 residential meeting for parents 5pm (online)
Thursday 5 th	Mystery readers 2.45pm
Friday 6 th	Young Voices concert (Manchester)
Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th	Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 13 th	'Wear what you want day' for Children's mental health week (Non-uniform)
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
Monday 23 rd	Year 1 allotment session

March 2026

Monday 2 nd	Year 2 allotment session
Thursday 5 th	World Book Day – Mystery and Magic
Monday 9 th	Year 3 allotment session
Monday 16 th – Wednesday 18 th	Year 5 residential visit
Monday 16 th	Reception allotment session
Thursday 19 th	Singfest concert for Year 3 at HCCS 10.00-11.15am
Friday 20 th	Red Nose Day

Monday 23 rd	Year 5 allotment session
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 POSTPONED – NEW DATE TBC
Friday 27 th	School closes at 1.20pm
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th Apr	School closed – Easter break

April 2026

Monday 13 th	Summer term begins
Monday 13 th	Year 1 allotment session
Wednesday 15 th	Year 4 visit to Crowden Valley
Friday 17 th	Donations for PTFA Spring Fair (Make the Rules day)
Monday 20 th	Year 2 allotment session
Saturday 25 th	PTFA Spring Fair
Monday 27 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 27 th	Year 3 allotment session

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
Monday 11 th	Year 1 allotment session
Monday 18 th	Year 2 allotment session
Wednesday 20 th	Year 3 Presentation for parents 9.15am
Thursday 21 st	Class photos
Thursday 21 st	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th	School closed – Half term break

June 2026

Monday 1 st	Year 3 allotment session
Friday 5 th	Year 5 Presentation for parents 9.30-10am
Monday 8 th	Year 5 allotment session
Friday 12 th	Non-uniform day (donations for PTFA rainbow hampers)
Monday 15 th	Year 2 visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Monday 15 th	Year 1 allotment session
Tuesday 16 th	New Reception Parents open evening 6pm
Thursday 18 th and Friday 19 th	Transition days for Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School
Monday 22 nd	Year 2 allotment session
Wednesday 24 th	Sports Day
Monday 29 th and Tuesday 30 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 29 th	Year 3 allotment session

July 2026

Wednesday 1 st – Friday 3 rd	Year 6 residential visit
Friday 3 rd	Class 3 visit to Delamere Forest
Monday 6 th	Year 5 allotment session
Wednesday 8 th	Reports to parents
Thursday 9 th	Mystery readers 2.45pm
Friday 10 th	Class 3a visit to Delamere Forest

Monday 13 th	Year 4 allotment session
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 for school and Leaver's lunch
Thursday 16 th	Leaver's assembly for parents 2pm
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

