



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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Friday 30th June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sports Day

In spite of the rather soggy weather, our Sports Day was a huge success! A huge thank you to all parents/carers who supported the children, school staff and volunteers who helped the event to run so smoothly, and members of the PTA who provided refreshments.

Strike Action

As you know, the teaching unions have published some additional dates for teachers to take strike action. The strikes are happening because of a national dispute between the Teaching Unions and the Government over pay and not because of any issues at our school. The dates are Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July. At the moment we are not aware of any classes that are affected by the strikes, but will let you know as soon as possible if anything changes.

Transition arrangements

In the last newsletter I shared with you our staffing arrangements for September 2023, so all the children now know who their teacher will be next year. Over the next few weeks we will be starting the transition process. This will include a session scheduled for Monday 17th July when each class will spend a short time with their next teacher and support staff, and each child will receive a letter from their new class teacher giving them information about next year. There will be additional transition arrangements for those who need it and for our younger children.

The Year 6 children who are moving to Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School in September will be visiting the school for a transition session on Tuesday 4th July. Children should be dropped off at HCCS by parents/carers. The Year 6 children who are moving to other high schools will be notified of the dates for their visits by the individual schools.

Our new Reception 2023 intake will be visiting us for a 'stay and play' session and a taster lunch next week.

Parents' Survey

We would like to survey all parents as to their views about aspects of school life. Suggestions you make will be incorporated into our School Development Plan for the next academic year (September 2023 -24). Your views are vital to us in continuing to ensure we are delivering the quality of provision you would like for your children.

We would very much appreciate you taking the time to complete the questionnaire. It can be completed anonymously; the only specific information required being your child's current year group.

Please could surveys be completed by the end of the day on **Monday 10th July 2023** – results of the survey, together with any action we intend to take as a result of your views, will be shared with you, allowing us to continue to work together to ensure the very highest standards of schooling for all your children.



Please follow this link to access the survey:-

<https://forms.office.com/e/SENHvLTn1C>

Parent Governor Nominations

We recently asked for nominations for two Parent Governor vacancies. We would like to congratulate Richard Gregson and Naomi Mitchell who were elected unopposed.

School Meals

Unfortunately, due to rising costs, we will be increasing the cost of a school meal to £2.35 from September 2023.

Reminder 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.

Timeline	Penalty Charges
Paid within 21 days	£60 per parent per child
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent per child
After 28 days	The parent will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrate's Court on the grounds of having failed to secure their child/ children's regular attendance

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.

Calendar of Events

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

July 2023

Monday 3 rd	Y5/6 Tennis Tournament at HCCS at 3.30pm
Monday 3 rd	Open evening for new Reception parents 6.30pm (doors open at 6.15pm)
Tuesday 4 th and Wednesday 5 th	Transition days for Y6 children attending HCCS in September 2023
Tuesday 4 th and Wednesday 5 th	Stay and play/lunch sessions for new Reception children
Monday 10 th	Year 1 Zoolab visit
Tuesday 11 th	Y6 End of Year Performance at 2pm
Wednesday 12 th	Y5 Bikeability
Wednesday 12 th	Reports to parents – change of date
Wednesday 12 th	Y6 End of Year Performance at 7pm
Friday 14 th	Performance for parents – children who are learning ukele and guitar (2pm for Years 1, 2 and 3; 2.30pm for Years 4, 5 and 6)
Tuesday 18 th	Y6 Treat Trip and Leaver's Lunch
Thursday 20 th	Term ends at 3.20pm
Friday 21 st	School Closed



September 2023

Monday 4th	Inset day for school staff – school closed
Tuesday 5th	Inset day for school staff – school closed
Wednesday 6th	Autumn term starts
Wednesday 13th	Meet the Teacher evening (times tbc)
Thursday 14th	Individual photos
Friday 29th	Inset day for school staff – school closed

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Headteacher

