



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Events in school

At the end of last week all children attended a music assembly led by music teachers from Front Row Music. The children were treated to guitar and ukulele performances. As a result of the assembly, a large number of children have been inspired to engage in lessons to learn to play the guitar or ukulele, joining the children who have already been learning for a year. We look forward to seeing the children perform and show us what they have learnt later in the year.

Several of our children have already had the opportunity to visit St Luke's Church this week to see the Knitted Bible exhibition. Other year groups will be visiting next week.

Sporting events

So far this term many of our children have taken part in sports events organised by Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School and attended by all the primary schools in our local cluster. Our Year 5s won gold in tag-rugby, and our Year 4, 5 and 6 children won bronze medals in netball. Forty-eight Key Stage 2 children took part in the cross-country competition on Wednesday this week, and brought home the trophy! Well done to everyone who has taken part in any of the tournaments/competitions and thank you very much to Mr Lavin for organising the teams and to other members of staff who have accompanied the children to the after school events.

Autumn Term Parents' Evenings – Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th October

Our Parents' Evenings this term will be online. This meeting is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher, to let you know how your child has settled into school and how we will be supporting your child over the coming term. It is also an opportunity for you to share any information with the teacher that you feel is particularly relevant. The meetings will be on Wednesday 18th October (evening – times tbc), Thursday 19th October (evening – times tbc).

The booking system is now live – please see the separate letter with information about how to book and how to access your meeting that was sent out on Monday this week.

REMINDER – Adult behaviour

At our school we believe that all members of the school community should demonstrate mutual respect. We really appreciate it that the vast majority of our parents interact with us in the exact way we would want all people to communicate with each other – thank you for this.

However, unfortunately a very small minority do not conduct themselves in a kind way on some occasions. We have experienced behaviour that has led to feelings of harassment or distress that will not be tolerated. The adults in school strive to set a good example to the children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community. This happens on a daily basis as we work towards teaching the children to become resilient and independent individuals and giving them the tools to solve problems and issues for themselves.



There may be occasions when you may need to contact us to discuss a concern or clarify an incident that has occurred. We ask that this is done with consideration for our members of staff who work incredibly hard to provide your children with a safe and protective environment in which to learn. We appreciate that emotions can sometimes get in the way, but we ask that your response is proportionate and reasonable to enable us to work together in a positive and constructive way to solve an issue.

We really appreciate your full support with this, and ask that you trust our professionalism. We have displayed Adult Behaviour posters around school – please see a copy attached. Thank you for your cooperation.

After School Activities – Autumn 2 (after half term)

As the weather becomes more inclement and the evenings are darker, we will not be running any outdoor activities for the second half of this term. After school activities for after half term are as follows:-

Activities run by school staff:-

- Tuesday – Singing Club 3.20-4.00pm (Years 4-6 run by Ms Lackford)
- Wednesday – Coding Club 3.20-4.20pm (Year 6 – run by Miss Maddock and Mr Vickery)
- Thursday – Cooking Club 3.15-4.30pm (Year 5 – run by Mrs Hill and Mrs Middleton)

Activities run by outside providers:-

- Monday: Gymnastics with Sports Coaching Group for Year 1-3 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Tuesday: Art with Jo Green for Year 1-6 (3.20pm-5.00pm)
- Wednesday: Dodgeball with Sports Coaching Group for Year 3-6 (3:20pm-4:20pm)
- Wednesday: Mad Science* for Year 1-6 (3.20-4.20pm) from 1st November to 6th December (6 weeks)
- Friday: Dance with Sports Coaching Group for Year 1-3 (3:20pm-4:20pm)

Providers for Mad Science will be in school on the morning of Friday 13th October to deliver assemblies to the children. Your child will then bring home a flyer with more information about the after school Mad Science club that will start on Wednesday 1st November and run for 6 weeks.

PTA Disco – Friday 13th October

Times of the discos will be as follows:-

- 4.45-5.30pm Reception, Year 1, Year 2
- 5.45-6.30pm Year 3 and Year 4
- 6.45-7.30pm Year 5 and Year 6

Children should not wear Heelys to the disco. Mobile phones will be collected at the door and stored safely in the office until the end of a disco session.

PTA AGM

Our PTA will hold their AGM online. Everyone is welcome to join – please see the link below.

Topic: AGM

Time: Oct 17, 2023 08:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/85184991166?pwd=TfDaMXdzbnfUm4NjCtUumMOFY0aCWE.1>

Meeting ID: 851 8499 1166

Passcode: hcpsagm

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.

October 2023

Tuesday 10 th	Open Morning
Thursday 12 th	Reception welcome evening 6pm – please note change of date
Friday 13 th	PTA Disco 4.45-5.30pm Reception, Year 1, Year 2 5.45-6.30pm Year 3 and Year 4 6.45-7.30pm Year 5 and Year 6
Wednesday 18 th and Thursday 19 th	Parents' Evenings online (times TBC)
Thursday 19 th	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th	Half term – school closed

November 2023

Thursday 2 nd	Y5 Viking Day
Monday 13 th	Odd Socks Day for Anti-bullying week
Friday 17 th	Children in Need
Wednesday 22 nd	Hamper donation day – PTA (more details to follow)
Friday 24 th	Christmas Fair 5-7pm
Tuesday 28 th	FLUENZ Vaccinations

December 2023

Sunday 3 rd	Village Christmas Market 3-7pm
Tuesday 12 th	Y4 visit to theatre – The Nutcracker
Tuesday 12 th	Reception Nativity for Class RA (Miss MacWilliam) 10am
Wednesday 13 th	Reception Nativity for Class R (Mrs Noble/Mrs Winter) 10am
Wednesday 13 th	KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 1 and 2) 2pm
Thursday 14 th	KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 1 and 2) 6pm
Wednesday 20 th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21 st	Christmas parties
Friday 22 nd December – Monday 8 th January	Christmas holiday – school closed

January 2024



Monday 8 th	Inset day – school closed
Tuesday 9 th	Spring term begins

February 2024

Tuesday 6 th	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 6 th	Young Voices – Manchester
Monday 12 th – Wednesday 14 th	Y5 residential
Thursday 15 th	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd	Half term – school closed

Other key dates for your diary –

- Parents' Evenings – Tuesday 27th and Thursday 29th February
- Year 4 Presentation to parents – Wednesday 20th March at 9.30am
- Year 3 Presentation to parents – Tuesday 30th April at 9.30am
- Year 5 Presentation to parents – Thursday 23rd May at 9.30am
- Sports Day – Friday 28th June (KS2 am, KS1 pm)
- Year 6 Leaver's Performance – Tuesday 16th July at 2pm and Wednesday 17th July at 7pm

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Headteacher

