



Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School
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Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Events in school

Visit from our PCSO Pam Graham – our local Police Community Support Officer, Pam Graham, visited our Year 5 and Year 6 children this week to talk about Halloween and Bonfire Night with a specific focus on anti-social behaviour and how to stay safe.

Amaven Testing – all our children participated in their first session with Sports Coaching Group coaches to measure their fitness levels. This was previously called 'Personal Best'. Running, jumping and throwing/catching skills were measured. Children will repeat these activities in the spring term to see if they have made progress with their skills and fitness levels.

Morning break snack after half term – Fridays only

After the half term break we will be trialling bacon baps or vegetarian sausage baps as a morning break snack on **Fridays** just for years 4, 5 and 6 initially to gauge popularity. A bap will cost £1.20 and can be ordered and paid for using the online payment system from after half term.

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. Our sports provider, Sports Coaching Group, will be providing lunchtime sports activities for some year groups beginning during the week beginning 6th November. 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 3.15-4.40pm (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)

Forthcoming Events

Children in Need – Friday 17th November

The School Council team have been thinking about the how to celebrate the up and coming 'Children in Need' event on Friday 17th November. This year Joe Wicks has invented 'The Bearpees Challenge', which challenges children to do as many burpees in the classrooms as possible throughout the week beginning 13th November. Classes will be participating and then on Friday 17th Nov (Children in Need day) your child can wear a sports themed outfit or their PE kit and bring in



an optional donation. Throughout the week the School Council team will be running fund raising activities/raffles to raise extra money – further details to follow.

HELP needed for the PTA Christmas Fair – Friday 24th November

The PTA are currently recruiting for anyone who can help out on a stall for our Christmas Fair on Friday 24th November. If you are interested, please email the PTA on hcps.pta@gmail.com They will also be sending out information regarding donations for stalls/raffles. We really appreciate your support with this event – thank you.

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

Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th	Half term – school closed
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November 2023

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
Friday 15 th	Y5 Viking Day
Wednesday 20 th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21 st	Christmas parties



Friday 22 nd December – Monday 8 th January	Christmas holiday – school closed
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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

We hope everyone has a happy and relaxing half term break. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 30th October.

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty
Headteacher

