



## Holmes Chapel Primary School

Holmes Chapel Primary School  
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Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Spring Term Parents' Evenings

Our spring term parents' evenings will be held face to face in school on the evenings of Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February. We will be sending out a letter shortly with information about how to book your appointment. Please note that our SENCO, Mrs Bradford, will also be available on those evenings if you wish to speak to her about your child.

### SEND Newsletter

Our first SEND newsletter was published earlier this week, providing an update each term. Our SENCO, Mrs Bradford, is keen to enable and encourage more opportunities for parents to share/raise concerns with school and to be able access timely support. She will be holding regular, informal SEND/Behaviour drop in sessions in school where parents will be able to chat to Mrs Bradford our SENCO & Deputy Headteacher, and Mrs Lavin our Learning Mentor. Drop in sessions have been scheduled for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 2:15pm Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 2:15pm. Refreshments will be available.

### News from the Children's Commissioner for England

I just wanted to offer my final thanks for your support with my national campaign 'The Big Ambition' which will be **closing on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**.

I have been overwhelmed by the response the survey has received. Over 300,000 children, young people, parents and carers have participated, making it one of the largest surveys of its kind!

This is the final push to hear from even more children before the survey closes, it is so important that every child in England has an opportunity to tell policy makers what they want and need ahead of the General Election.

By sharing my survey with your pupils and parents or carers, you can make sure that the children and young people of Cheshire East are fairly represented in the results.

Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here:

[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)

I am so very grateful for your support, and I am beyond excited to share the findings.

Very best,

**Dame Rachel De Souza**  
Children's Commissioner for England



## 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 this academic year. New dates have been added in bold.

Please note that sports events at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School will not be taking place until further notice due to staffing shortages at HCCS. We will keep you informed of any changes to the situation, and whether events later in the term will be taking place, as soon as we know more.

### January 2024

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 1 visit to Macclesfield silk museum
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### February 2024

Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception visit to Jodrell Bank
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Young Voices – Manchester
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Greek workshop
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 residential
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine's Day themed lunch
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Half term – school closed
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evenings

### March 2024

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/carers workshop with Visyon 1.45-3.15pm
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 and 6 Basketball at HCCS 3.30pm
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 and 6 Girl's Football at HCCS 3.30pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Disco
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Presentation to Parents 9.30am
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	School closed for Easter holiday



## April 2024

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Term begins
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 5 and 6 Cricket tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 4 day visit to Crowden River valley
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 and 4 Cricket tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Presentation to Parents 9.30am

## May 2024

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATS week
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 and 6 Rounders tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 and 4 Rounders tournament at HCCS 3.30pm
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 5 Presentation to Parents 9.30am
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mystery Readers 2.45pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Half term – school closed

Other key dates for your diary –

- Year 4 Wider Opps concert at Bridgewater Hall – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June
- Sports Day – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June (KS2 am, KS1 pm)
- Year 6 Leaver's Performance – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm

**PLEASE NOTE:** Additional Inset Day for Academic Year 2024-25 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 will now be an Inset day so the children will return to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Kind regards,

Fiona Gresty  
Headteacher

