



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College

Date: 7th June 2024



Welcome back to our Summer Term Lower School families!

We hope that you were able to enjoy some time together and enjoy some rest and relaxation over the half term break.

Before the break and during Half Term 5, we completed our Learning Passports for Term 2, where students and families reflected upon what they have been most proud of and where they have faced challenges.

We also raised awareness for World Mental Health Week and celebrated Teacher Appreciation Day. Here, many of our Lower School students spent time on one of the five ways of wellbeing: gratitude. I know that many members of staff were moved by the kind words that your children had taken time to write for them.

We also opened our field up to our students as the sun (sometimes) came out and our Year 7 students changed from always being on our lower (concrete) tennis courts to being able to use the grassed area behind our 3G pitch.

In this final half term and due to the fact that our Year 11 students are now only coming into school for their exams, our Year 7 students can join the rest of the school on the main field. They are also starting to get used to queuing with the other year groups and now have their lunch hour from 12:30 - 13:15, along with the rest of the school.

Key reminders have been given to all students regarding behaviours on the field during the summer term and we would appreciate your support in reminding of these key messages:

- Show kindness
- Use the rubbish bins provided
- Use break and lunch time to use the facilities including filling up water bottles
- If you choose to play football, play sensibly
- If a teacher uses their whistle, stop play and listen to staff instruction
- When the final whistle blows, start to make your way towards your lessons so you are on time for lesson start (when the bell sounds)
- Support your peers and other members of the school community

Please remember to send your child(ren) into school with refillable water bottles as students are not allowed out of lessons for cups of water. They need to be filling their water bottles at break and lunchtime.

This half term, we are looking forward to:

- Monday 3rd June** - Return to school
- Monday 17th June** - End of year assessments in English, Maths and Science (including Accelerated Reader STAR Reading assessments)
- Wednesday 19th June** - Staff INSET day. School closed.
- Thursday 27th June** - Year 5 Open Evening. School closed early.
- Friday 28th June** - Sports Day
- Wednesday 3rd July** - Battle of The Bands
- Friday 5th July** - Interim 3 published
- Monday 8th July** - Alternative Learning Week
- Wednesday 17th July** - Summer Concert
- Friday 19th July** - Last day of the school year





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Transition Events

We are looking forward to welcoming our new cohort of Year 7 students to HCCS in September 2024. In preparation for their transition, there are a number of events taking place between now and the end of the school year. Further information about these events will be sent out in a letter to parents. Please see the dates below:

Date	Time	Event
Thursday 20th and Friday 21st June	8:45am- 3:05pm	Transition Days for all year 6 students
Wednesday 26th June	6- 7pm	Year 6 Parent Information Evening
Thursday 27th June	4- 6:30pm	Year 5 Open Evening



Outlines for Half Term 6 Studies for Year 7 & 8

Here at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School we are very proud of our curriculum; our subject experts have designed a well sequenced, interesting and knowledge-rich curriculum for our students.

More details are available on our school website under the 'Curriculum and Learning' tab. You will also find links to your child's learning manager page where we are building up a bank of additional resources and information relevant to your child's stage of learning.

Year 7 Curriculum Outline

Subject	Curriculum Objectives	Assessment
Maths	Number, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics	End of term tests, Homework
Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics	Practical work, Written tests
English	Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening	Classroom activities, Essays
History	World History, British History	Classroom activities, Essays
RE	Religion, Philosophy, Ethics	Classroom activities, Essays
Art	Visual Arts, Design	Classroom activities, Projects
Music	Music Theory, Instrumental, Vocal	Classroom activities, Performances
PE	Physical Education, Sports	Classroom activities, Sports

[Year 7 Click here](#)

Year 8 Curriculum Outline

Subject	Curriculum Objectives	Assessment
Maths	Number, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics	End of term tests, Homework
Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics	Practical work, Written tests
English	Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening	Classroom activities, Essays
History	World History, British History	Classroom activities, Essays
RE	Religion, Philosophy, Ethics	Classroom activities, Essays
Art	Visual Arts, Design	Classroom activities, Projects
Music	Music Theory, Instrumental, Vocal	Classroom activities, Performances
PE	Physical Education, Sports	Classroom activities, Sports

[Year 8 Click here](#)

LOWER SCHOOL EDITION

Year 7 end of year test topic list

As we approach the end of the school year, we want to provide you with important information regarding the Year 7 end-of-year exams, which will take place during lessons in the week beginning the 17th of June.

The exams will cover the following content:

- **Genes 1:** This includes topics on reproduction and variation. For revision materials, please refer to BBC Bitesize: [Reproduction and Variation](#).
- **Waves 1:** This includes topics on light and sound, reflections, colour, and eclipses. For revision materials, please refer to BBC Bitesize: [Light, Sound, and More](#).
- **Matter 2:** This includes topics on elements, atoms, and the periodic table. For revision materials, please refer to BBC Bitesize: [Elements, Atoms, and the Periodic Table](#) and [Additional Information](#).



We encourage all students to make use of these resources and previous work in lessons to help with their revision. Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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As we approach the end of the school year, we want to provide you with important information regarding the Year 8 end-of-year exams, which will take place during lessons in the week beginning the 17th of June.

The exams will cover the following content:

- **Forces 2:** This includes topics on forces, Hooke's Law, and moments. For revision materials, please refer to BBC Bitesize: [Forces and Hooke's Law](#) and [Moments](#).
- **Reactions 2:** This includes topics on chemical reactions, word equations, and combustion. For revision materials, please refer to BBC Bitesize: [Chemical Reactions](#) and [Combustion](#).
- **Organisms 2:** This includes topics on breathing and digestion. For revision materials, please refer to BBC Bitesize: [Breathing, Digestion](#), and [Additional Information](#).



We encourage all students to make use of these resources and previous work in lessons to help with their revision. Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

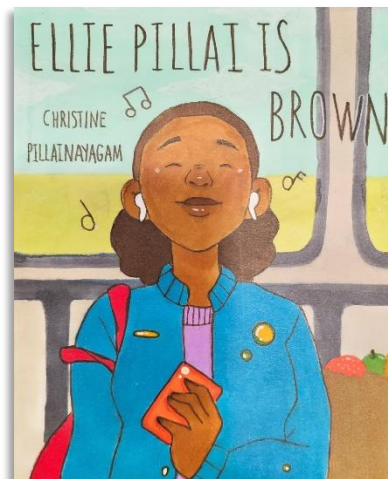
Cheshire Schools' Book Awards Art Competition 2024

Each year, the Cheshire Education Library Service runs an Art Competition as part of their Cheshire Schools' Book Award. Students throughout the 25 participating Secondary Schools are invited to create an alternate front cover for one of their shortlisted titles.

We had fantastic news this year, as one of our students was announced at the final event on Wednesday 15th May 2024.

Congratulations to our Year 9 student, Lilly A, for her fantastic alternative cover for Christine Pillainayagam's, *Ellie Pillai is Brown*.

I think you will agree that this is an incredible piece of artwork - Well done Lilly!



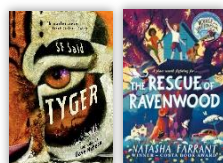
CHESHIRE SCHOOLS' BOOK AWARD 2024



Cheshire Schools' Book Award 2024

On Wednesday evening, we were lucky enough to take a number of students for our annual trip to the Cheshire Schools' Book Award Final. This year pupils were treated to not 1, not 2 but 6 attending authors! SF Said, Josh Silver, A Connors, Sarah Hagger-Holt, T.A Fisher and S.J. Willis presented to students, talking about their writing journeys, shortlisted titles and took part in a Q and A session for pupils.

Younger Age Category



Older Age Category



LOWER SCHOOL EDITION



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Empathy Day Book Recommendations

Thursday 6th June was Empathy Day, a day when children are encouraged to learn about empathy through books and stories.

Empathy Day inspires students to learn more about empathy, have transformational experiences through stories, and to put empathy into action!



HCCS Read for Good Readathon

29th April – 14th June 2024
1 week left to go!!

During our final school term, we have over 200 students who are taking part in the Read for Good Readathon.

Read for Good is a registered charity that started as Readathon in 1984, by asking students to read whatever they wanted in their spare time, and getting their friends and family to sponsor them to raise money for seriously ill children in hospital.

Readathon continues to support reading for pleasure in schools and now raises money for Read for Good's Hospital Programme, which provides books and a storyteller for children in the 30 major children's hospitals across the UK.

If you would like to support our students with their fantastic reading efforts, and help to raise money to provide books and stories for children in hospital, you can donate to the Readathon here:

www.readathon.org/sponsor.

The money raised will benefit children local to our communities.

You can find more information about Read for Good via their website:

<https://readforgood.org/>



READ TO RECHARGE
Reading is vital for wellbeing - offering entertainment, escape and a much-needed screen break!

READ TO CONNECT
Readathon is a great way to share experiences and reach goals, whether in school or at home.

READ TO KEEP UP
Research has shown that reading for pleasure helps you to be more successful.

READ TO HELP OTHERS
Reading and raising money to buy books for children in hospital feels great!

Read for Good readforgood.org

Registered charity 110209 (England, Wales and Scotland) Read for Good's Readathon and Read for Good are registered trademarks Read for Good is registered with the Charity Commission

SO FAR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS HAVE A COMBINED TOTAL OF:

748 PASSED QUIZZES!

13,765,455 WORDS READ!

WOW!

#HCCSLRC

LOWER SCHOOL EDITION



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Lost Property In PE

We have an abundance of PE kit at present. If you have lost a PE kit of any kind please come down to the PE dept and check our lost property. We have many JD sports bags, trainers etc.



Calling All Coaches

If you are qualified in FB, Rugby, Trampolining, Cheerleading, or Boxing and you are able to support our extra curricular provision in September of this year, please get in touch. We are looking to expand the current provision but need coaches or contacts to help us achieve this. Payment will be in line with relevant qualifications and experience.

Please contact Mr Thomas in the PE dept.
michael.thomas@hccs.info

HCCS Jambo Kenya Expedition – Summer 2025

40 Students will be packing their bags and heading to Kenya for a life changing expedition in summer 2025.



Fundraising for their trip is well under way with thousands of pounds having been raised already!

Students have been working really hard to fund their expedition in a variety of ways, from securing sponsorships from local businesses, bag packing at Morrisons and selling items on eBay. Students have made sweetie cones and beautiful baby blankets to sell, or have run car boot sales, raffles and tombolas. Some are working for their plane ticket through Saturday jobs, gardening, babysitting, and you may have spotted car washes in the local area.



With the Holmes Chapel village fair on the horizon, keep a look out for further fundraising stalls, including homemade dog biscuit stands and sweetie stalls.

YouTube Stars, Chris MD and Ollie, will also be taking part in a fundraising event on 21st July on HCCS's 3G pitch, more info to follow.



Well done to all those students taking part – keep up the hard work!

LOWER SCHOOL EDITION



Save the date



NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK 2024

17-23 JUNE

Join us in celebrating National School Sports Week!

We have some exciting activities planned for the week. England Netballers Laura Malcolm and Taylor McKeivitt will be delivering assemblies and workshops. In PE lessons we will be basing our lessons on the Euro 2024 and Paris Olympics.

Staff have been invited to play rounders and netball.

We look forward to a week of celebrating the joys of Sport.



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A fantastic achievement for Emily H

The May Bank Holiday weekend saw Emily H, Year 8, travel to Hickstead, Surrey, to the All England Jumping Arena for the National Schools Equestrian Association, National Championships.

After winning two County Championships earlier in the season, Emily went forward to represent Cheshire schools in two Show Jumping classes. Emily also qualified in a third class representing HCCS in the Eventers Challenge which is a mixture of show jumps and cross country jumps.

Emily rode 3 wonderful double clear rounds over the 3 days. The highlight of the weekend was Emily being awarded the Reserve National Champion in the 80cm Show Jumping representing Cheshire Schools. Emily also took 5th place in the 70 cm category. We are so proud of Emily not only representing HCCS but also Cheshire Schools at this national level on her home produced pony Tiggy Wig.



LOWER SCHOOL EDITION



Girls Football Success

A Big Well done to our Girls Football Team for winning the South Cheshire Cup after an amazing display of teamwork and composure against a talented Sandbach team.



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Join us as we mark our 10 year anniversary at the official opening of our new premises, helping us to serve more people in crisis

THE DETAILS

DATE
Thursday 6th June

VENUE
Middlewich & District Foodbank
Unit 7 Holly House Estate,
Middlewich Road,
Middlewich
CW10 9LT

RSVP
Nicky Harris:
info@middlewichdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

THE AGENDA

- 12pm: Guests arrival
- 12.30pm: Welcome address
- 12.45pm: Screening of our video: Discover our journey and ways to extend support
- 1pm: Lunch & refreshments
- Our Tombola features an array of donated prizes. Don't miss out on your chance to win!



SANDBACH HOCKEY CLUB

REGISTER NOW!

Senior Training Time:
Ladies - Tues 7:00-8:30 pm
Mens - Thur 7:30-9:00 pm

Sandbach has four senior teams that are always looking for more players (Ages 14 & over). Our training is mixed ability, so if you've never played before or are looking to get back into the sport, try our 3 free sessions available to new players.

TRAINING STARTS ON JUNE 6TH @ SANDBACH SCHOOL
FIND US ON THE BLUE ALL WEATHER PITCH

Contact us below to register:

- Sandbach Hockey Club
- Sandbach Hockey Club
- www.sandbachhockeyclub.com



LOWER SCHOOL EDITION

Summer water safety

Accidents are mostly preventable with the correct knowledge and judgment and here are our tips to staying safe in the water during the summer:

To enjoy the water safely and make the right call...

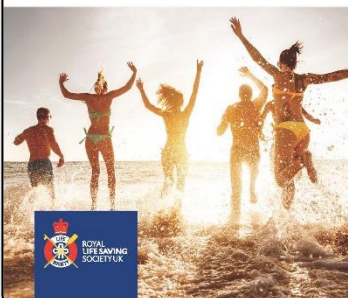
- Enter slowly and carefully
Think carefully about your ability to splash or swim in cold outdoor water, 49% of those who lost their life were classified as swimmers*. Are you really a good swimmer?
- Stay within reach
Don't go too far and stay within a standing depth.
- Always be supervised
Over 70% of fatal accidents occur in the absence of professional supervision. Seek life guarded areas and always make sure some one is available to raise the alarm.

Summer is an amazing time to enjoy our beautiful waterways but we must be mindful that warmer weather is directly linked to an increase in fatal drowning incidents.

Rivers and Lakes/Lochs pose the greatest statistical risk as there are often hazards that the average person is equipped to handle and there is a lack of professional supervision.

In an emergency...

- Call 999
Ask for the Fire and Rescue Service when inland and the Coastguard if at the coast. Don't enter the water to rescue.
- If you're in trouble FLOAT and call for help
Fall in or become tired – stay calm, float on your back and call for help. Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.



STOP AND THINK



STAY TOGETHER



CALL 999



FLOAT





Date: 7th June 2024



Keep Your Child Safe *Online*

A Guide for Parents

1 Check Parental Controls

Check that your parental controls are up-to-date and use them to restrict access to inappropriate content and monitor online activity.

2 Set Clear Expectations & Boundaries

Establish rules for online activities. Define time limits, appropriate content, and allowed websites or apps.

3 Supervise Online Activities

Keep an eye on your child's online behaviour. This can involve periodic checks, co-viewing, or sitting with or near them during their screen time.

4 Be a Good Role Model

Set a positive example with your own online behaviour. Demonstrate responsible use of technology, respecting others' privacy and maintaining a healthy digital life.

5 Encourage Open Communication

Create an environment where your child feels comfortable discussing their online experiences. Especially if they have any worries or concerns.

6 Ensure a Healthy Balance

Ensure that your child has a balanced routine with enough time away from a screen for physical activity, hobbies and family interactions.

7 Educate About Online Dangers

Talk to your child about the risks of being online, such as cyberbullying, predators and inappropriate content. Explain how to recognise and report these dangers.

8 Know the Platforms

Familiarise yourself with the apps, games and websites your child uses. Understand their features, privacy settings and potential risks.



Silly School Education