



Dear Parents and Guardians

Summer has finally arrived, bringing a week of beautifully warm weather and lots of sunshine. Out in the school, the vast majority of our children have been incredibly well behaved, acting both sensibly and safely. Lesson-by-lesson attendance has been excellent, and we have seen a noticeable decrease in call-outs for challenging behavior. This has been wonderful to see, helping us all navigate a period of very high temperatures while keeping lessons running smoothly and ensuring our children continue to learn and progress.



Over the years, whenever we have had the funds to invest in developing our buildings, we have prioritised installing air conditioning. We are now fortunate to have it in around 80% of our teaching spaces. The company that maintains our system tells us that we are relatively unique in this regard - something we are incredibly proud of because of the massive, positive impact it has on teaching, learning, behaviour and the comfort of staff and students. Most of our rooms remain cool and comfortable even on the hottest days. So, while there has been talk in the media of some schools closing due to the heat, this isn't something we have needed to worry about. Wherever possible, now that our Year 11 students have left, we have relocated classes from rooms without air conditioning into cooler spaces. I am deeply grateful to both our staff and students for their patience and forbearance when they have had to use the few rooms without it.

Breaks and lunches have also been remarkably calm, and we have noticed a significant reduction in the amount of litter dropped on the fields and around our site. This has allowed our site team to focus on the vital work of maintaining and improving the school environment, rather than spending hours each day clearing up after lunch. On that note, can I respectfully ask for your support in speaking with your children about litter? There is really no need for anyone to litter the site. We have plenty of bins within easy reach, yet at the end of some lunch breaks, the amount of rubbish left scattered around is still quite substantial. One of the most common items is single use plastic bottles. These are incredibly damaging to the environment and there is no need for our students to buy bottled water. A simple, eco-friendly solution is for every child to bring a reusable water bottle, which they can refill for free at the filtered water stations located throughout the school.

With just three weeks left until the summer break, I want to reaffirm our shared commitment with all our families and ensure we keep our children focused, motivated, learning and thriving. Being an active participant in every lesson, working diligently, and upholding our core school values of **Learning, Belonging, Pride, and Ambition** is the very best way to ensure every day is meaningful, valuable and productive. The final weeks of the term are just as important as the first, and we have a brilliant lineup of events in these last few weeks. We have Sports Day, the Summer Concert, Battle of the Bands, the Year 11 Prom, the Year 13 Celebration Dinner, the incredible opportunities during Alternative Learning Week, and our Year 5 Open Evening. It is a busy and exciting time as we balance our daily teaching and tutoring with planning for a fantastic new academic year in September. We would love for you to join us at these after-school events to share in the fun; please check the school calendar for full details.

Last night, I had the pleasure of welcoming our new Year 7 parents to the school. Despite the heat, our air conditioning kept the hall cool and comfortable, allowing us to connect with families and look ahead to the new school year. Events like these are truly one of the best parts of my job, giving me the chance to spend time with the next generation of families joining this wonderful community, where I feel deeply privileged to serve as Headteacher. Parents and carers had the chance to talk to their child's Tutor and Head of Year, members of Senior Leadership and SEND. Families also listened to Henry, one of our College Student Leaders talk about our school and what it means to be a student at HCCS. He did an incredible job.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College



Finally, my heartfelt thanks go to all of our families who place their trust and support in us. Thank you for working alongside us to ensure your children learn, grow, and thrive, even during those times when things don't go perfectly to plan. We have an extraordinary group of young people here, and we deeply value the positive, collaborative relationships we share between home and school. Thank you for working hand-in-hand with us to keep our children happy, safe, and fulfilled.

Wishing you all a restful weekend after a week of very warm weather. Enjoy the sunshine.

Warm regards,

Nigel Bielby
Executive Headteacher



Water Safety – STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER

Cold water can kill – even on warm days

- Cold water shock can happen suddenly causing panic and loss of breathing control
- Even strong swimmers can get into difficulty very quickly

Stay safe near water

- X** Never jump straight into open water
- X** Avoid swimming alone – stay with others
- X** Do not mix alcohol with water activities
- X** Always supervise children closely
- X** Follow safety signs and local advice

Know the risks

- Water is colder than it looks
- Hidden currents or deep water may be present
- Edges can be uneven or slippery

FLOAT TO LIVE

- Stay calm, control your breathing.
- Lean back, tilt your head back, ears submerged and float on your back
- Move your hands and legs to stay afloat
- Your legs may sink that's OK
- Keep your airway clear
- When calm, call for help

In an emergency – CALL 999 OR 112

- Call the emergency services
- Do not enter the water
- Use a lifebuoy or rope if available



Click the image for more information on Float to Live



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



Alternative Learning Week 2026 Key Information

It is just one week until we host our traditional ALW for our students and we are excited to see how they engage with the fun, interactive and alternative learning we have planned for them.

This year, we have decided to take the week in a different direction and give students a fully inclusive and engaging learning experience that also celebrates their hard work this year. Please see the timetable below showing what students from each year group will be doing each day.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 12
Monday	House Day	Subject Day 1	Subject Day 1	Community Day	University visit (Lancaster)
Tuesday	Subject Day 1	Community Day	House Day	Subject Day 1	Team-building Activities
Wednesday	Community Day	Subject Day 2	Subject Day 2	House Day	Future Pathways
Thursday	Subject Day 2	House Day	Community Day	Subject Day 2	Virtual Work Experience
Friday	Celebration Day	Celebration Day	Celebration Day	Celebration Day	UCAS/Post 18

So, what does this all mean?

Subject Days - students will spend two days in different subjects ranging from English to languages to technology. This year, we have challenged our departments to come up with innovative alternative learning activities that will run throughout the week. These include:

English: A Fatal Flaw in the Plot: Who Killed the English Teacher?

The English department has a dead body on its hands, and we need you to help resolve the ultimate cliffhanger. Join our traditional 'whodunnit' and crack the case!

Maths: Artful Maths/ Maths Team Challenge Team Challenge:

A challenging team competition with multiple rounds of fun maths activities.

Artful Maths:

A creative mix of Art and Maths.

Science Escape room

Humanities - Model United Nations - You have 2 hours to save the world.

Delegates will be assigned to different countries and be presented with some of the world's biggest problems. You have 2 hours to put the world right.

Languages - From Cannes to Hollywood!

Become an international film critic by watching a foreign film and writing a review of it.

House Days - students will be working together to support a local charity to complete team-building activities, culminating in a fun colour run. **See the House Leader section for more information on this.**



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College



SESSION 1



LEARNING

Learn about the charity
Create info poster – displays & social media



SESSION 2



PRIDE

Create banners to support colour runners
Prize for year group with best posters

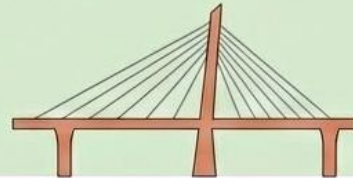


SESSION 3



AMBITION

Bridge building
Drone pictures



SESSION 4



BELONGING



Community Days - a new addition to this year's ALW. Teachers have designed fun and interactive activities for students to complete that focus on the idea of supporting our HCCS and local community.

Events include:

Painting a colourful, celebratory mural in the school corridors	Upscaling local fashion	Charity company Dragon's Den
School show prop design	Tatton Park educational visit	Be a HCCS reporter for the day

We look forward to seeing our students work together and show belonging and pride for their school community.

Celebration Days - on the Friday of ALW, students will be able to celebrate all their hard work during the week and the school year with a fun day of team-building activities. These include:

An inflatable obstacle course , Life-size board games, Bingo, Fun sports event

Students will also be able to purchase ice-creams from Bidley Dairy who are joining on-site. **Please bring cash for this.**

Sodexo are also offering a barbecue that day that students need to pay £5.50 for from their Scopay account. **Please make sure your child has this amount on their card to be able to enjoy this.**

We look forward to sharing this experience with our incredible students. Look out for daily updates on our Instagram account (hccs1978)!



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College



Alternative Learning Week 2026 Colour Run

During the House Days in-school throughout ALW, students from Years 7-10 will have the opportunity to participate in a Colour Run to raise money for the North West Air Ambulance Charity. Please find below the different days that each year group will be given the opportunity to take part:



Year 7- Monday
Year 9- Tuesday
Year 10- Wednesday
Year 8- Thursday



In order to participate, a £2 donation is required and payable via Scopay from Tuesday 30th June 2026. Participating students will need to bring in a white shirt to wear over their PE kit, and a pair of sunglasses to protect their eyes. These items are NOT provided by the school (excluding PP/ Service Children).

Any students who do not wish to participate in the Colour Run on their House Day will be spectating and supporting our school value of 'Belonging'. If your child is on a school trip, they will unfortunately not be able to participate as this is taking place during the school day.

Please note, as this is a charity donation, no refunds are available. Students who are not in school are still able to provide a donation to raise as much money as possible.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

Free School Meal Changes

Please click here for information regarding the changes to Free School Meal Eligibility from September 2026



The Big Future - Survey

For the first time, hundreds of thousands of children will be eligible to vote in the next general election at age 16, the biggest change to the franchise in half a century – yet just one in five children say politicians listen to them.

That's why I'm doing my final survey, The Big Future, to talk to a million children, to listen to them. And to find out about what it's like to be a child today.

I am asking children about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns, and their hopes for the future. More than anything, I want to know what they think a good childhood should look like, now and in the future.



[Click here](#) to fill in the survey



Early Movement Passes September 2026

As we approach the end of the school year, we are continuously looking for ways to optimise our learning environment, maximise teaching time, and ensure the safety of all students at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive.

Currently, a number of students hold early movement passes allowing them to leave lessons before the bell. To ensure these passes are being used effectively and fairly, **all existing movement passes will be removed at the end of this term, to enable us to review all requests for lesson passes, and to ensure that the system works effectively.**

A 5 minute pass impacts greatly on learning and throughout the year students who utilise these passes are missing out on over 81 hours of learning.

Starting in **September**, we are launching a refreshed, structured system, to ensure we maximise the learning needs of our students, whilst still making adjustments for students where necessary. Early movement passes will only be granted under specific circumstances to support students where there is a clear need that sits within the criteria below.

Our goal is to minimise disruptions to learning while ensuring that the students who need additional support receive it seamlessly. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and partnership in making our school day run as smoothly as possible.

Criteria for an Early Movement Pass

Going forward, passes will only be issued for students with:

- **Medical Conditions:** Supported by medical documentation or an existing healthcare plan.
- **Diagnosed Anxiety or Mental Health Needs:** where it is stated as a requirement in their EHCP or ISP
- **Senior Leadership Team (SLT) Approval:** Exceptional circumstances to be discussed and confirmed by a member of our leadership team.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

HOLMES CHAPEL COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

REFRESHED EARLY MOVEMENT PASS SYSTEM: MAXIMISING LEARNING TIME


INTRODUCTION

PREVIOUS SYSTEM REVIEWED

ALL EXISTING PASSES REMOVED END OF TERM


A 5-minute pass = **OVER 81 HOURS LOST LEARNING** over the year!

MINIMISING DISRUPTIONS TO LEARNING




NEW STRUCTURED SYSTEM - STARTING SEPTEMBER

EARLY MOVEMENT PASSES GRANTED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES:




MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Supported by medical documentation or an existing healthcare plan.




DIAGNOSED ANXIETY OR MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

Where stated as a requirement in EHCP or or ISP.



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT) APPROVAL

Exceptional circumstances to be discussed and confirmed by SLT.





Music Performance at the Cheshire Show

Recently, we took 45 students to perform at the Cheshire Show. We showcased all of our school ensembles - drum group, Wednesday band, Thursday band, Swing Band and Choir. Great preparation for our upcoming Music Tour to Paris in ALW.

Thank you and well done to all involved. The students showed great maturity and organisation skills, both in our performances and in their free time exploring the Cheshire Show.

Our next big Music events are **Battle of the Bands on Tuesday 30th June, 6pm** (tickets online) and our Summer Concert on Tuesday 14th July, 6pm. Please come along to support if you can.

Some of our performers pictured here:



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

HCCS PRESENTS LIVE MUSIC!!!

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

You are invited to join us to celebrate the musical talent of students here at HCCS. The Battle of the Bands event is taking place on **Tuesday, 30th June in the Theatre, at 6pm**. This is a live music event where individuals, duos and groups of students can show off their talents and compete to win the coveted award.

We are trialing an online ticketing system this year. Please click the link to purchase

Student/Concessions £4, Adults £6.

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GJXR>

Refreshments will be available to purchase on the night.

If you have any questions, please get in touch (richard.lawson@hccs.info).

We look forward to seeing you there!

R Lawson

Arts and Performance Faculty Lead



STEM Trip to Toyota – HCCS Dominate at Toyota Competition

We are incredibly proud of the ten Year 7 students who recently represented our school at the prestigious Toyota STEM competition. Tasked with designing and building their very own CO₂-powered racing cars from scratch, our talented teams put their engineering and physics skills to the test before racing them in a high-octane finale. The competition was split into two categories—Most Creative and Fastest Car—and our brilliant students swept the board by winning both! A special congratulations goes out to our speed champions, whose car flew across the finish line at an astonishing 44mph. Thank you to Toyota for hosting such a fantastic event, and huge congratulations to our innovative Year 7s for such an outstanding achievement!



Most Creative Design



Fastest Design - speed of 44mph



01477 689500



Office @hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

Learning Resource Centre News

Cheshire Schools' Book Quiz

This year, we were delighted to enter two teams into the Cheshire Schools Book Quiz, organised by the Cheshire Educational Library Service. This was a special milestone for our school, as these were the very first teams we have ever entered into the competition.

Throughout the year, pupils were challenged to read five set texts and answer an impressive 100 questions across 10 quiz rounds. Both teams performed exceptionally well, demonstrating remarkable dedication, resilience and teamwork throughout the competition.

Our Year 7 team particularly impressed us when we received the exciting news that they had secured a place in the live final, having finished among the top four participating schools in Cheshire. Last week, our four finalists attended the live final at Weaverham High School and represented the school brilliantly.

Although we did not bring home the trophy this year, reaching the final is a fantastic achievement and one of which we are incredibly proud. The pupils' enthusiasm, commitment and determination have been outstanding, and we look forward to taking part in the competition again next year.

Congratulations to both teams on their hard work and success!





Book Recommendations

With this week's glorious sunshine and soaring temperatures, we thought we'd embrace the summer spirit by sharing some of our favourite seasonal reading recommendations.

Whether you're looking to escape the heat indoors with a captivating story, relax in the shade with a good book, or stretch out in the garden and soak up the sunshine, there's nothing quite like getting lost in a great book!



Author Visit!

Quite possibly one of our favourite days of the year took place on Tuesday 16th, when we were delighted to welcome award-winning author Ashley Hickson-Lovence to HCCS.

As a Literacy Team, inviting Ashley to visit our school had been an ambition for some time. We knew that his passion for reading and writing, combined with his ability to engage young people, would make for an inspiring and memorable experience for our students, and he certainly did not disappoint.



Ashley began the day with an inspiring assembly for our Year 9 students. From the moment he started speaking, every student and member of staff in the room was captivated. It was wonderful to witness such enthusiasm, engagement and participation, with students eager to contribute and share their ideas throughout the session.

In the afternoon, Ashley delivered two workshops. The first brought together students who had been nominated by their teachers for their flair for creative writing, alongside winners of our 'This is Me' creative writing competition. The level of participation was exceptional, with every student contributing, sharing their work and embracing the opportunity to develop their writing skills. They truly demonstrated the HCCS spirit of creativity, confidence and ambition.

We are incredibly grateful to Ashley for spending the day with us and inspiring our young writers. We look forward to welcoming him back to HCCS in the near future.



01477 689500



Office @hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



PE News

SPORTS DAY

WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY

We are looking forward to our upcoming Sports Day!



To ensure that all children are comfortable and ready to participate, please make sure your child:



Arrives at school wearing their full PE kit.



Brings a water bottle and snack.



Has sun cream applied before school.



Brings a sun hat or cap if the weather is warm.



Does not wear jewellery or additional make up (lashes, nails etc) If your child has pierced ears, earrings should be removed/tape used to cover before school.



No face paint or body paint.



Brings their school bag for the personal development session.



The day will be divided into two sessions: a morning session and an afternoon session. During one session, students will be outdoors taking part in a range of sporting activities, including track events and tug of war. During the other session, students will be indoors completing personal development activities with their form tutor. Groups will rotate throughout the day so that all students participate in both activities.



We encourage all students to try their best, support one another, and demonstrate excellent **sportsmanship** throughout the day.



Thank you for your support in helping your child come prepared. We are looking forward to an enjoyable and successful Sports Day for everyone involved.



We are monitoring the weather forecast closely in the lead up to Sports Day. Should adverse weather conditions require us to make any changes to the arrangements or date of the event, we will inform parents and carers as soon as possible.



01477 689500



Office @hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

PE Celebration EVENING

CELEBRATING COMMITMENT. RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT.

If your child has attended extracurricular PE clubs or practices, or has volunteered to support PE activities this year, they are invited to attend our PE Celebration Evening on

Monday 13th July 2026
at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School.

The evening is to celebrate the commitment and achievements of those students who have supported our extra-curricular activities throughout the year.

TIME 5:00PM – 7:00PM	VENUE Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School	DROP OFF & PICK UP Theatre / Sixth Form Car Park	DRESS CODE Smart / Casual
--------------------------------	--	--	-------------------------------------

COST OF THE EVENING

£15.00 per student £5.00 per student (Pupil Premium)

This will include a pizza or chicken bites and a drink.

A Google Form will be sent to all students on receipt of the payment, please complete this to indicate their food choice.

To confirm your child's place please make payment via Scopay. The deadline for payment is Thursday 2nd July.

We hope that your son/daughter can attend the evening to celebrate a successful year in PE.

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS

THIS WEEK!

FOOTBALL & ROUNDERS

REPRESENT YOUR HOUSE!

- ★ HOUSE CUP POINTS AVAILABLE! ★
Every run scored, goal scored, win achieved and positive contribution will help your house climb the leaderboard.
- ✓ PLAY WITH PRIDE
- ✓ SHOW GREAT SPORTSMANSHIP
- ✓ SUPPORT YOUR TEAMMATES
- ✓ GIVE 100% EFFORT

COME PREPARED!

- SUN CREAM APPLIED BEFORE SCHOOL
- WATER BOTTLE FILLED AND READY
- CORRECT PE KIT

WHO WILL BE CHAMPIONS?

HOUSE VS HOUSE HOUSE CUP POINTS UP FOR GRABS BRAGGING RIGHTS AT STAKE!

MAKE EVERY POINT COUNT!
YOUR HOUSE NEEDS YOU!

The PE Department

Click to enlarge

PE Lessons

In PE lessons this week we have been running Inter-House Competitions in rounders and football, this will continue into next week. Every point earned will contribute towards the House Cup. Well done to everyone!



01477 689500



Office @hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK

29TH JUNE – 3RD JULY



PLAY • COMPETE • INSPIRE

 <p>WORLD CUP TOURNAMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent your House • Compete for glory • Earn valuable House Cup points 	 <p>SPORTS MASTERCLASSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn from experts • Develop new skills • Challenge yourself 	 <p>ATHLETE MENTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet inspiring athletes • Hear their stories • Discover what it takes to succeed 	 <p>TOWN SPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent our school • Compete against local schools • Achieve your personal best 	 <p>SPORTS DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track & Field Events • Team Competitions • Fun for Everyone 
---	---	--	---	--

HOUSE OF THE CHALLENGE

 <p>ARLEY</p>	 <p>CAPESTHORNE</p>	 <p>MORETON</p>	 <p>TATTON</p>
---	---	---	--

EVERY POINT COUNTS TOWARDS THE HOUSE CUP!

“ The power of sport is to inspire, unite and create opportunities for everyone. ”

To celebrate National School Sports Week - we have a number of exciting experiences for students:

- Inter-house/World Cup competitions
- Cricket masterclass
- Rugby masterclass
- Netball masterclass
- Sportsday
- Town Sports - athletics competition
- Open evening sports activities



01477 689500



Office @hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College



Staff Rounders Tournament 2026

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Staff Rounders Tournament. It was great to come together, enjoy some friendly competition, and have plenty of fun along the way!

A huge congratulations to Croatia, who were crowned this year's champions, expertly captained by Mr Mellish!

Well done to all of our teams for getting involved and to our supporters for cheering from the sidelines.

We look forward to doing it all again next year!



01477 689500



Office @hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



Monday 6th July 2026
8:00-9:00pm

Big Changes, Big Feelings: Supporting Young People Through Summer and Into the New School Year

With Consultant Clinical Psychologist Dr Daniel Weisberg

The summer holidays can bring excitement, freedom and fun, but for some children they can also bring anxiety, uncertainty and challenges. Changes in routine, friendship dynamics and worries about September can often lead to increased stress, emotional outbursts and difficulties at home.

Join Consultant Clinical Psychologist Dr Daniel Weisberg for a practical and engaging webinar exploring how parents can support their child through periods of change and help them approach the new school year with confidence.

Overview:

- Managing anxiety and big feelings
- Balancing routine, structure and flexibility over summer
- Supporting friendships and social confidence
- Preparing for a new class, teacher, year group or school
- Building resilience and confidence for September
- Supporting neurodivergent children through transitions

Who can join:

This session is primarily for parents and carers of primary and high school aged children, but the session will also be suitable for teaching staff and anyone who works with children and young people.

[Click here to book your place.](#)

Friends for Leisure
Because everyone needs a friend

SUMMER 2026

Promoting everyday friendship and leisure opportunities for children and young people with additional needs and disabilities.

Are you aged between 5-21?
Do you live in Cheshire East?
Are you registered with Friends for Leisure?
If you'd like to come to any of our activities then please contact us to book your place.

Ages 5-21

01260 275333
info@friendsforleisure.org.uk
www.friendsforleisure.org.uk