



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College



Issue: 193

Date: 12th September 2025



Dear all

At the end of the second week of the new term, I would like to say a massive thank you to you all for your support and trust you have freely given to our school. The start of the academic year is always a busy time, and the transition for our students, particularly those new to our school, has been remarkably smooth. Our new year 7s are already beginning to feel at home and getting used to the massive shift from their primary setting to a big secondary school. Our year new 12 students are digging into their post 16 subjects and settling very well into college life.

The positive energy in the corridors and classrooms as well as lunch and break is a testament to their readiness to learn and grow. We've seen our school values of learning, ambition, belonging, and pride truly come to life. This is especially the case in the children who have reached year 11 and 13. The next five months or so are critical for these children who are working towards their terminal exams which begin in the early summer next year. In terms of teaching (not including school holidays), there are around 28 weeks to go until the start of the final exams. Year 11 and 13 sees a significant step up in terms of knowledge development, work rate, exam practice and homework. It is a reflection of the ambition we all share for our children and the learning they need to do to achieve their very best outcomes.

The next few months will be challenging but manageable. I would like to remind all families that serious revision and working on areas of weakness is something that is engaged with at home. In school, we will obviously guide and support our children but the act of revising is something that takes place in addition to homework and outside of normal lessons. In my many years of experience, those who start revision early and under their own steam (or are made to do so by their families) always find the exam season less stressful, more fulfilling and achieve their target grades. Years 11 and 13 are not always easy but with effort and hard work, coupled with support from the adults around them, they are very rewarding for our children. There is nothing like seeing all of those smiles on results day and sharing the feeling of success that they have earned.

I have visited a lot of lessons in the last two weeks. Many of our students have demonstrated a real passion for learning, engaging enthusiastically in their subjects and embracing new challenges. Their ambition is clear in their commitment to their studies and many are enthusiastically exploring our extracurricular opportunities. I am so proud to be a part of their journey and being in their lives at this exciting time. There is also a strong sense of belonging among the students, who are building new friendships and supporting one another, creating a welcoming and inclusive community. Finally, the pride they take in their work and in our school is evident every day.

As a quick reminder, our school operates a ban on children having a mobile phone during the day. All tutor rooms now have a bank of safe, secure, lockable lockers for each child with their own combination code for the lock. All children are required to lock their phone away at tutor time and collect it again at the end of the day. There is plenty of time for this to happen and not miss their bus. The ban on phones has had an enormously positive impact on behaviour and the children are more social with each other, talk and play more. Furthermore, they are able to concentrate more in lessons and are free of the negativity caused by social media. I need your full support in making sure this ban continues to be successful so that our children are safer and free, even for just a few hours, of the addictive distraction caused by that little blue screen.

I know that a strong home school partnership is key to our children's success, happiness and fulfilment, and I deeply appreciate the trust you place in us at HCCS to educate and care for your children.

Thank you once again for everything you do to support us and your child.

Nigel Bielby
Executive Headteacher



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



Curriculum Matters

To help the school and you, our parents and carers, work closer we have worked hard within our curriculum teams on establishing how we best share with you:

1. What your child will learn this year
2. What specific knowledge he/she needs to be able to remember, in order to succeed
3. What she/he needs to do at home to support what they learn in their lessons
4. What will be assessed and when
5. How it will be reported to you

In our information evenings for students in Year 8-11, your child's head of year shared some key information in response to all of these questions (You can revisit the slides from the evenings by clicking the images below or by visiting our parents section of the website [here](#).) and promised you more information as part of this newsletter:



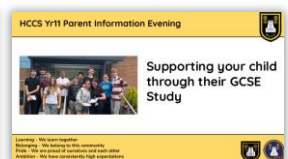
Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



Year 11

How will you find what information your child will learn this year?

All of the information about what your child will learn, in Years 7-13, can be found on the curriculum pages of our website: <https://www.hccs1978.co.uk/our-curriculum>. At each key stage, you can choose the subject you are interested in. As you scroll down, you will see the 'road map' which outlines the topics your child will learn this year and when they'll learn it. When you open this document, you will see that each unit has a link directly to the Knowledge Organiser for that unit. This is a single-page document that consolidates the key facts, concepts, vocabulary, related to a specific topic or unit of study. This is the knowledge students must know and will form the basis of all of their assessments. You should help them revise for assessments by testing them on its content - in most subjects they'll also have a copy in their books. These will be updated through the year, to tie in with students' progress through the curriculum; if it's not there yet, it will be.

This video - an example for Year 11 Physics - shows you how to do this. We know that there are one or two subjects at KS4 that don't have all of this information yet - but we thought it most important to share the website now to support your child in the vast majority of their subjects.

What will be assessed and when?

Within each subject page is a tab entitled Assessment. This sums up what will be assessed and when for each subject.

As parents and carers you may find it more useful to see what is being assessed and when across a range of subjects. At KS3, this is what will be used to build the evidence for your child's interims. As a Key stage 3 parent, you might want to visit [this page](#), and click on the key assessment dates for your child's year group. This will take you to a document which you can print out and which tells you when each subject will assess the students. They will be assessed based on the information shared in the curriculum journey and knowledge organiser.

For students in Key Stage 4 and 5, we will be updating this information later this month, so that you know how to support your child's preparation for mock exams, which are more 'formal' than our KS3 assessments and frequently take place in a large exam venue.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

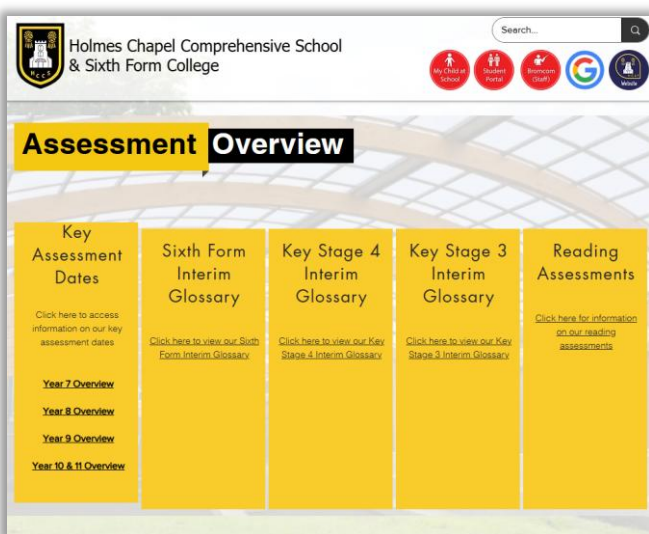
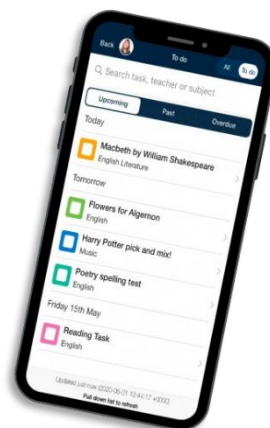
Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College



How do I know what homework my child should be doing?

On the curriculum page for each subject, you will see their homework policy - this tells you what homework your child can expect to be set and how often at each Key Stage.

This year you will be able to monitor your child's homework via the [Satchel One App](#). You can download this now from the Google or Apple app store (or access it via the online portal). Next week we will be sending you your log in details and you will be able to log in. From Monday 22nd September, you will be able to see the homework your child has been set in every subject. This means you will no longer need to be monitoring Google Classroom for homework - instead, all homework in every subject will be sent directly to you. This means you can support your child by ensuring they are aware of the homework and that they are completing it.



How will I receive information on my child's progress?

At the information evenings, heads of year shared a list of key dates. That information can be found in the overview document on the ['Key assessment dates'](#) tab.

At Key Stage 3, students are assessed on a 9 band system and you will receive this information at interim 2 and 3 this year. Students in Key stages 4 and 5 receive data based on the grading for the qualifications they are sitting. (GCSE, BTEC or A level grades). Information about all of this can be found in the ['glossary'](#) tabs on the assessment pages.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

Nut Allergies - Reminder

Nuts, or any foods containing nuts or nut products must not be brought into school under any circumstances. A number of individuals at our school have a very severe and potentially life threatening nut allergy. For these people, exposure to even a small amount of nuts or nut products can trigger a life-threatening allergic reaction, known as anaphylaxis. This can cause swelling of the airways, a drop in blood pressure, and in some cases, death.

By not bringing nuts or any food containing nuts or nut products to school, the risk of exposure is significantly reduced, creating a safer and more inclusive environment for everyone. However, for this to work, and to keep everyone safe requires the full cooperation of the entire school community, including parents, students and staff to ensure that no nut-containing products are brought onto the premises. Please support us in this by carefully checking the ingredients on any food items and leaving them at home.

Thank you in advance for your full cooperation with this and for keeping our school as safe as possible for everyone





NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

Stranger Danger Concerns

Some of you maybe aware that in recent days, there have been reports of attempted abductions of teenagers in other parts of our region. In Northwich last week, the Northwich Guardian reported details of two attempted abductions of teenage boys on their way home from school. You can read the report here: [Northwich Guardian Article](#)



We have recently been made aware of another similar situation at one of the schools more local to us, and felt that it was important to draw your attention to this. As a school, we are keen to ensure that we do all that we can to promote safe behaviours both in and out of school, and feel that it is important for the whole school community to be aware of the concerns that have been raised with regards to these concerning reports.

Please have conversations with your child about the potential dangers of interacting with strangers on the way to and from school. In particular, it is worth talking through the following guidelines, taken from [Safe Schools](#) and [Police guidance](#) when having these discussions with your child.

Personal Safety

- **Plan a Safe Route:** Parents are advised to help their children choose a safe and well-lit route, avoiding isolated areas like alleys, parks, or quiet car parks.
- **Walk with Others:** The "buddy system" is encouraged, where children walk with a friend or in a group whenever possible.
- **Stranger Danger:** This advice focuses on teaching children not to talk to or accept lifts or gifts from strangers. It's often recommended that parents and children have a "code word" for pick-ups.
- **What to Do if Unsafe:** Children are taught to trust their instincts. If they feel they are being followed, they should cross the road, move towards a busy area, and tell a trusted adult what is happening.
- **Emergency Contacts:** Children should know how to contact their parents or another trusted adult in an emergency. In case of immediate danger, they should know to call the police on 999.
- **Communicate Regularly:** Parents are advised to maintain an open line of communication with their children, so they feel comfortable talking about any concerns they may have about their walk to school.

If you have any further concerns or information to share, please don't hesitate to contact us on office@hccs.info

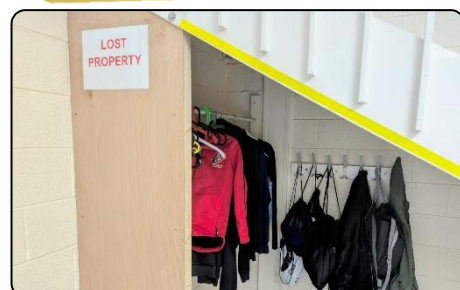
Reception Information

Lunch cards

Each student is given one for free at the start of school. If they are lost they can request a new one from reception but there is a charge for non pupil premium students of £1.50 per lunch card.

Coats

In lost property, we now have a collection of over 30 coats, currently stored in reception without names on. If any parents would like to call in between 8am-4pm they are very welcome to come and identify their child's coat. If they are unclaimed by the end of the month, they will be taken to Holmes Chapel Library for their coat rack.





Upper School Hub News: Prioritizing Punctuality for Student Success

We hope you're having a great start to the term! We're writing to you today about a topic we believe is crucial for your child's success, not just in school but also in their future lives: **punctuality**. As you know, the years leading up to GCSEs are pivotal. These are the years when students are working toward exams, and every minute of learning counts.

The Importance of Being On Time

Being on time is a core life skill that goes beyond simply not being late. It teaches **responsibility**, **respect for others**, and **self-discipline**. When a student is late, it's not just a minor inconvenience; it disrupts the entire class. It can break a teacher's flow and distract other students who have already begun their work. Most importantly, it means the late student misses out on key instructions and important parts of the lesson. This can have a knock-on effect, impacting their understanding of the subject and, ultimately, their academic outcomes. We want to ensure that every student has the best possible chance to succeed at their GCSEs.



A Renewed Focus on Punctuality

To this end, we will be placing a greater emphasis on punctuality. **Starting this term, teachers will be diligently recording student arrivals for every lesson.** This will give us a clearer picture of attendance patterns and allow us to address issues proactively. We want to work with you to instill the importance of being on time.

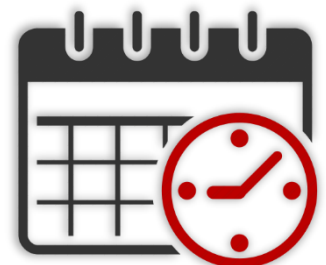
For any late arrivals without a valid reason, we are implementing a new system:

- **Next-day Reset Detention:** If a student is late to a lesson, they will be given a 'reset detention' the following day during **break time**. This brief, focused detention is designed to be a quick correction, ensuring they don't miss any valuable lesson time.
- **Escalation for Repeated Lateness:** We understand that a one-off issue can happen. However, if a student receives multiple lates, we will escalate the consequence to include a 'reset detention' during **lunch time**. This will provide a stronger deterrent and a more significant opportunity for reflection on the importance of punctuality.

Our goal with this system is not to punish but to correct. We believe that by holding students accountable, we can help them develop the habits that will lead to greater success in their academic life and beyond. By addressing lateness quickly and consistently, we aim to prevent any lost learning and support students in achieving their full potential at GCSE.

We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing the importance of being on time with your children. A simple conversation at home can make a world of difference. Together, we can help our students build the foundational skills they need for a successful future.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



Raising Attainment Update

The raising attainment update will be a regular feature in this year's newsletter. Over the year we will look at how we work as a school alongside parents/carers to support all of our students' academic attainment. In this edition, we want to share key dates for Years 13 and 11 coming up this term.

Year 11

Interim 1	15 th October	A review of the end of last year's results with updates based on attitude to learning and progress since 2nd September
Parents Evening	16 th October	Online parents evening. To give time for student actions prior to the mocks
Mock Exams	1 st – 15 th December	Formal mock exams in exam venues

Year 13

Mock Exams 1	5 th November	Formal mock exams in exam venues
Exam Results Issued	26 th November	
Parents Evening	27 th November	In school parents evening

Study Base:

Following the successful launch of our 'study base' last year, our study base for Year 11 students will launch on Monday 22nd September. It will initially run from 3.30 to 4.30, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in CR1. All Year 11 students are invited to come and revise/study in a silent, focused venue overseen by senior staff. Mr Sneddon will share more information with the students next week.

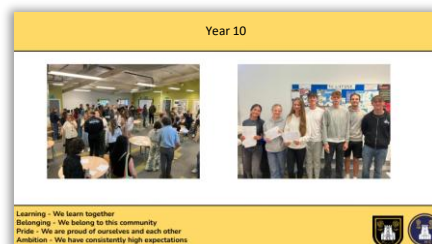
Alongside this, Ms Connolly will be overseeing a study base for Year 10 students in the same venue on a Thursday, 3.30 to 4.30. In her assembly this week, she invited all students to come along as they start their GCSE and BTEC courses.

Year 10 and 11 Study Assemblies

On Monday this week, Mr Munro delivered raising attainment focused assemblies to Year 10 and Year 11. Year 10's assembly concentrated on the need to give maximum attention in every lesson and to homework - and the link to the assembly is here. With Year 11, he emphasised the messages from Mr Sneddon's information evening: Every minute matters - ensuring students are on time, working hard in lessons and have a clear revision plan (and that revision and homework are different things).

The link to the assemblies are here. [Year 10](#) – [Year 11](#)

Please take the time to discuss the relevant assembly with your child.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Many students find the return to school challenging especially those with SEN. I have seen many students struggle the past two weeks and spoken to many parents who feel at breaking point and don't know what to do next. I wanted to reassure you that you are not alone.

Routine is so very important, avoiding school provides temporary relief but perpetuates a cycle that hinders the development of coping skills, getting them into school every day is really important. These students need to rebuild their trust in staff and the school again. Unfortunately it's like the start of year 7 all over again!

There is no 'one fix' for school based anxiety, everyone is individual and every approach needs to be tailored to that individual child, but the important thing is that we work together as parents and professionals as we both want the same outcome, for your child to be happy and thriving at HCCS.

Be strong, persevere and we will ride this wave with you.

Some useful website:



Year 7 News – Online Behaviour

We have recently become aware of a large year-group WhatsApp group where some students have been making unkind and verbally abusive comments about their peers. This kind of behaviour is unacceptable and deeply concerning.

We believe that a strong partnership between home and school is crucial to addressing these issues. We ask that you please check your child's phone and have an open conversation with them about their online interactions.

Here are a few things we recommend discussing:

- **The importance of kindness:** Remind them that the same rules of respect and empathy that apply in person also apply online.
- **The permanence of digital content:** What they post or share, even in a private group, can be saved and shared with others, and it can have lasting consequences.
- **The courage to speak up:** Encourage them to tell you, a trusted teacher, or another adult if they are seeing or experiencing unkind behaviour online.

We understand that these are challenging conversations to have, but your vigilance and support are essential in keeping our children safe and promoting a positive digital environment.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Sincerely,
The Year 7 Team



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College

Year 7 News Continued - Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Jack W (7HR) for his phenomenal performance at the recent Winford Swimming Club championships! Jack's hard work and dedication paid off as he was crowned **Club Champion**, a fantastic achievement he earned by winning an impressive range of events.

Jack dominated in multiple strokes, taking first place in the 50m and 100m backstroke, the 50m breaststroke, and the 100m individual medley. His incredible stamina and speed were also on full display in the freestyle events, where he won the 50m, 100m, 800m, and 1500m races.

We are so proud of Jack's success and his commitment to swimming. His accomplishment is an inspiration to all of us and a great example of what can be achieved with focus and determination. Well done, Jack!



A Fantastic Start for Our Year 7 Students

We would like to give a huge shout-out to our amazing Year 7 students

For their incredible start to the school year! They have shown so much **resilience** and have adapted brilliantly to life here at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School. The politeness and respect they've shown each other and our staff are a true testament to their hard work and commitment to our school values. We are so proud of how they have embraced this new chapter.

A Note on Punctuality

As we move forward, a quick reminder that all students must be on time for every lesson. Starting this **Monday**, there will be no grace period for students who are late. All lates will be documented and noted on **My Child at School**.

Thank you for your support in ensuring our students develop excellent habits for success.

The Year 7 Team



Learning
Belonging



Pride
Ambition



Learning - We learn together

Belonging - We belong to this community

Pride - We are proud of ourselves and each other

Ambition - We have consistently high expectations



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

Year 8 News

We have had a great start to the new school year. It was good to see many of our Year 8 parents and carers supporting our recent information evening, I hope that you found the evening valuable. If you were unable to attend, the slides from the evening have been published on the school website. There is a link to input questions, which will be answered by the team.

Lower School - values and behaviours



Positive Start to school:

- Settling back into school life
- Working as a team to help each other
- Building new friendships
- Overcoming the challenges of their new timetable, classes, rooms
- Uniform standards - ready to learn
- Engaged and focused in lessons - positive approach to learning



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College

Year 8 News Continued

It has been great to see the students settle back into school life, building new friendships and supporting each other with their new timetables, lessons and classrooms. I have been particularly proud of how they have assisted our new year 7's, helping them to get to their lessons and looking out for them at breaktime and lunchtime.

On the whole, uniform standards have been very positive, with very few students attending school wearing incorrect uniform. Please continue to work with us by reinforcing this at home and reminding students to pack their full PE kits.

I have enjoyed visiting Year 8 lessons and personally teaching our Year 8 students, they have been engaged and ready to learn.

Attendance at extra-curricular has been excellent, it was great to see so many students at Netball and Football practice this week. Fixtures will be starting again in the coming weeks, please keep your eye out for notifications on the google classroom.



We had two surprise visitors in one of our PE lessons. Jack Wint and Sam Garskarth, former students at HCCS, joined a year 8 football lesson to talk to the students about their journeys and experiences. Sam is going to study a Sport Science degree at Leeds Beckett University after taking a year out where he will travel to Australia and Southeast Asia. Jack plays for Manchester City U21's. They led an inspirational question and answer session with the group.

satchel:
one

A Reminder:

- Satchel One will be launched on 15th September (homework App)
- If you have any subject queries please contact the subject leads.



Year 8 Tutors



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College



Year 8 News Continued

Tutor Email Addresses

8SA	suzanne.asbridge@hccs.info
8TG	tom.gamble@hccs.info
8SP	stewart.pirie@hccs.info
8FO	fabienne.ogarr@hccs.info
8RM	robert.Milson@hccs.info
8SF	sapphira.fisher@hccs.info
8AL	abi.Lloyd@hccs.info
8DT	dan.tilstonehallam@hccs.info

Key Dates

Term 1

- Parents info Evening – 4th September
- Interim 1 – 24th October

Term 2

- Showcase Evening – 12th March
- Interim 2 – 12th Feb

Term 3

- Interim 3 – 3rd July
- Celebration Evening – 11th June

Learning Resource Centre News

Welcome to our LRC

We're excited to welcome all students to the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) for another great year of learning. The LRC is open every day from 8:20am to 4:15pm, providing a quiet and supportive space for study. Computers are available for anyone needing to complete homework or research, and students are encouraged to drop in during break and lunchtime.



Book Recommendations

This newsletter's book recommendations are specially chosen for our new Year 7 cohort. Featuring a mix of fiction and non-fiction, these titles are perfect for supporting students as they navigate the transition to secondary school, offering both inspiration and reassurance during this exciting new chapter.



SPARX Reader

Year 11 pupils will be starting their SPARX Reader homework next week. It will be set on a Wednesday and due on the following Tuesday. It is essential they complete it as some of the books are on their exam and therefore important revision.

Year 10 pupils will be completing their SPARX Reader homework once their Sparx Reader test is completed over the next two weeks.



Sparx Reader



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College



Accelerated Reader

Our KS3 students are required to quiz **at least once** on Accelerated Reader **every fortnight**. This could be the book they have been reading for pleasure, a super readable from the LRC or an article on Accelerated Reader.

[Renaissance Learning](#) can be accessed through the student portal on our website. Students have their own individual log in, which they will have used in their LRC lessons previously.



Please note: Our Year 7 students will be introduced to the programme in their LRC lessons week commencing Monday 15th September 2025. We do not expect our Year 7 cohort to complete until they have completed their first introduction lesson in the LRC.

If students have any issues logging in please contact literacy@hccs.info, one of the team will be able to assist to resolve any issues.

STAR Reading Test

KS3 students are currently completing their first STAR Reading test of the academic year. This assessment provides us with a clear starting point to understand your child's current reading level.

Intervention support is offered to students who receive a National Reading Standardised Score (NRSS) below 100, which is considered the national average. If your child is identified as needing additional support, you will receive an email within the next week with further details.



**PLEASE
RETURN
YOUR
LIBRARY
BOOKS**

Book Returns Reminder

It's that time of year again when we need to collect all books loaned out before the summer break. If your child has an overdue book from the LRC, they will have received a reminder during Tutor time last week, as well as an email to their school account on Monday. We'd really appreciate your support in helping to locate these books at home and ensuring they are returned as soon as possible.



Musical Instrumental & Vocal Lessons

Do you want to learn how to play an instrument, or learn how to really sing? Playing an instrument can not only be fun, but also teaches you how to apply yourself, organise your time and improve your memory!

Here at HCCS we have 12 visiting teachers who provide both instrumental and vocal tuition. Lessons take place throughout the school day and last 30 minutes each.

If you would like to apply for these lessons or for more information [click here](#).



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



[@hccs1978](#)



hccs1978.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College

After School Sports Clubs - Volunteers

Dear Parents of Holmes Chapel,

Are you a sports enthusiast with some experience in coaching or refereeing? The PE department at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School is looking for dedicated volunteers to help with our after-school sports clubs.

We're hoping to expand our offerings and provide even more opportunities for our students to stay active and develop their skills. We need your expertise to help coach and/or referee various sports, including football, netball, rugby, trampolining and more.

Your support would make a huge difference to our students and help us create a vibrant and successful sports program. If you're able to spare a couple of hours after school on a regular basis, we would love to hear from you.

If you have the qualifications and the passion to help out, please get in touch by responding to this email. rachel.mee@hccs.info

Kind regards,
Mrs R Mee



Kenya Expedition

This summer, 39 students along with four members of staff, headed off to Kenya for a month-long expedition with CAMPS International. Students worked really hard to fundraise prior to the expedition, and all their hard work gave them a trip of a lifetime!

First stop was at the Wildlife Foundation camp near Nairobi National Park. After an initial culture shock, students quickly got used to the outdoor showers, wooden hut accommodation, the noises of bushbabies and lions during the night, and absolutely no wifi!

At this camp, we took part in a range of projects to support the local wildlife, including gabion making, building predation mitigation bomas and clearing nature trails for the rhinos.

We were so impressed with how students threw themselves into each task, some of which were truly backbreaking! The walking wildlife safari was a real highlight at this camp, and the excitement when we saw giraffes, zebras, crocodiles and vultures roaming free in the wild was unforgettable. On the final evening, members of the local community performed a traditional dance for us, and in return students taught them the macarena and cha cha slide, which even the elders joined in with! The evening was filled with singing and dancing and this was a truly memorable experience for all.



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



[@hccs1978](https://www.hccs1978.co.uk)



[hccs1978.co.uk](https://www.hccs1978.co.uk)



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College



Kenya Expedition - Continued

The next day, we set off on the very long (and bumpy) journey to Camp Tiwi situated on the coast near Diani Beach. The camp was set right on the sand and was a little piece of luxury, with villa accommodation and incredible sunrises. Here we took part in a community project in the small village of Maweni, where we helped to build a home for a local woman and her children using traditional construction methods - which involved lots of mud throwing!



Our third week was spent at Camp Muhaka, situated right in the centre of the small local community. Digging foundations, making bricks, building walls and laying concrete floors, students enthusiastically committed to improving the school building. The local children were desperate to join in and any time our tools were down, they appeared ready to play games and sing songs. When the weather halted building work for an afternoon, dancing in the rain with the children quickly took priority - an unforgettable moment for everyone. Additionally, we had the chance to learn about the local way of life during a forest walk led by a village elder. Highlights included a demonstration on how to climb coconut trees and a cooking class with the village mamas.



Our final stop was at Camp Tsavo, a truly beautiful camp located high up on a hill with views over Tsavo East National Park. The remaining days of the expedition were spent trekking up the Marungu hills, where we learnt bush survival skills, visiting the Maasai tribe and spent time with the Tumani Women's Group. This group, headed up by Mama Mercy, supports local women to become independent and self-sufficient within their communities, an inspirational group of women. The students particularly excelled during the goat deworming activity, where after initial hesitation goats were caught and medicine administered at record speed by all! To conclude what had been an incredible experience, we headed out on safari where we managed to see three of the 'big five', including a lion! Our final evening was spent around the campfire, celebrating the successes from the month while watching the sun setting over the national park.



Every student who took part in the expedition pushed themselves out of their comfort zones, embraced every opportunity (even the long drop toilets) and should be very proud of all they have achieved.

A huge thank you to Mr Bell, Miss Daly and Miss Walker for all their hard work and enthusiasm throughout the whole expedition. An incredible trip, with memories that will last us all a lifetime.

Well done Team Nyuki!

Miss Rogers





NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive
School & 6th Form College

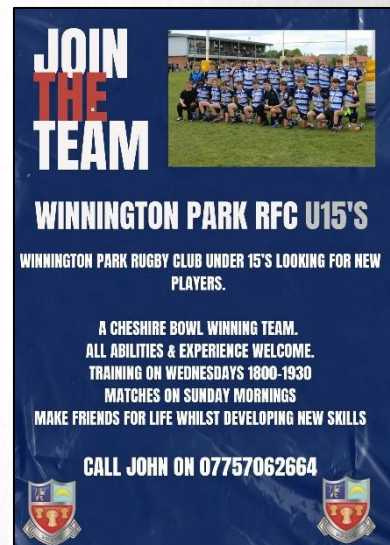
Great North Run for The Christie

Last weekend, two of our wonderful students participated in the Great North Run. Brothers, George and Sam Stockton in Years 11 and 12, completed the run to raise money for The Christie.

George completed the junior GNR, doing so in a really good time.

This year Sam completed the full GNR as he was old enough to participate by 3 days. It was Sam's first ever half marathon & he did really well. He has raised over £400 so far with more sponsors yet to come for The Christie Hospital Charity as he wanted to give something back for the vital treatment that his grandad received there last year!

The sponsorship link is provided should anyone be able to donate to a very very worthy charity. <https://ajbellgreatnorthrun2025.enthuse.com/pf/sam-stockton>



Click the images to expand



01477
689500



Office
@hccs.info



@hccs1978



hccs1978.co.uk