



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College

Issue: 169 Date: 15th September 2023



Dear all,

What a great start to the school year! The new year 7 students are settling in well and it's fantastic to see them enjoying lessons and being part of our school. They have quickly adapted to their new learning environment and also to the way in which our school works. Thanks to every family who has been so positive in helping the transition from primary school to run so smoothly. I've had so many positive comments from families and many smiley faces from the children in our new year seven. One particular group in year 7 has made a point over the last week of approaching me for a fist bump and to tell me about their day when I'm on duty which tells me they're a confident and enthusiastic bunch of children as well as feeling comfortable chatting to their Headteacher!



Our examination year groups, 11 and 13 have also hit the ground running and with only thirty or so teaching weeks until the start of the final exams, now is the time for us all to support them, to challenge them to realise their ambitions and to lay down some boundaries and ground rules about balancing the need to revise and consolidate learning as well as to have some fun and relax. The board rule of thumb starts out at an average of two hours per day each week in addition to normal homework. This sounds like a lot but time invested now bears dividends later down the line. The examination prep year goes by very quickly so please have the conversation with your children about this. Encouraging a strong work ethic, diligence, tenacity and commitment might well mean a degree of sacrifice but the smiles on results day for those who apply themselves and do their best are worth their weight in gold. Remember, this year is about our children achieving their own personal bests and being proud and ambitious for their futures.

This is an important year as well for years 8 and 9. These are critical years when our children need to learn to apply themselves to study, to be capable readers and to develop strong attitudes to learning. These are the years when our children learn to manage their emotions as well as grow the skills and competencies that will allow them to be happy, fulfilled and proud of themselves. This doesn't happen by accident though and it is well understood that strong parenting, with appropriate boundaries, challenge, praise and reward is always beneficial to our children..... Even if it does mean the occasional tantrum!



And Finally, our years 10 and 12 who have now embarked on their examination courses. This is a new beginning for them and represents a rite of passage in terms of choosing a pathway that will influence their long term futures. These students have started the year with real vigour and commitment. There is already a sense of ambition and belonging in year 10 and 12 classes and a feeling that they are all focused on doing their very best so that they are proud of themselves and of each other.

Thanks to every family for helping the start of the year to be a successful one. Many of you are members of social media groups. I'd like to invite you to share some positives, some successes and celebrations from the last couple of weeks across your networks so that we can all feel that we are part of a community that values and is proud of the amazing children at HCCS, your children, who are it's beating heart.

Nigel Bielby
Executive Headteacher



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Preparing Learners for a Changing World



Drop offs and pick ups at the start and end of the school day

The approach roads to our school and around the estates are narrow and a number of residents have mentioned that traffic has increased and parking is blocking roads. Some have expressed concerns about road safety. Please be mindful of the amount of traffic at the beginning and end of the day around the school and how you might contribute to this. Encouraging our children to walk to school is a healthy way to start the day and arranging a safe drop off and pick up location a little further away will greatly help ease congestion.

Note that in the interest of keeping our children as safe as possible, the existing policy which has been in place for some time is that no vehicles except for the busses can drive onto the school site between 08:25 and 08:40 and 15:10 and 15:25. Thank You in advance

Lower School Diversity Sessions

This year we are introducing a new programme of tutor time sessions aimed at educating and raising awareness amongst our Year 7 and 8 students around a number of diversity topics. One day per week in tutor time will be dedicated to tutors delivering pre-planned sessions on topics ranging from women's rights to LGBTQ+ rights to race and many others. The aim of this is to inform students about the world around them and create students who embody our school values of belonging and working together. It will allow students to be interactive, debate and attend sessions provided by guest speakers and enrich their cultural knowledge in the safe space of their tutor group.

I have attached the scheme of work that students will be studying over the course of the year. If you have any questions about this please contact me at liam.beard@hccs.info.

Liam Beard

Diversity and Inclusion Lead

Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	
Unit Title:	Unit Title:	Unit Title:	Unit Title:	Unit Title:	Unit Title:
Women's rights	LGBTQ+	Race	Faith	Men's mental health	Disabilities
Lesson 1 - Introduction to key issues/why we are studying this	Lesson 1 - Introduction to key issues/why we are studying this	Lesson 1 - Introduction to key issues/why we are studying this	Lesson 1 - Introduction to key issues/why we are studying this	Lesson 1 - Introduction to key issues/why we are studying this	Lesson 1 - Introduction to key issues/why we are studying this
Lesson 2 - History of the issue	Lesson 2 - History of the issue	Lesson 2 - History of the issue	Lesson 2 - History of the issue	Lesson 2 - History of the issue	Lesson 2 - History of the issue
Lesson 3 - Case study example	Lesson 3 - Case study example	Lesson 3 - Case study example	Lesson 3 - Case study example	Lesson 3 - Case study example	Lesson 3 - Case study example
Lesson 4 - Pit stop assessment / MCQs	Lesson 4 - Pit stop assessment / MCQs	Lesson 4 - Pit stop assessment / MCQs	Lesson 4 - Pit stop assessment / MCQs	Lesson 4 - Pit stop assessment / MCQs	Lesson 4 - Pit stop assessment / MCQs
Lesson 5 - Link to literacy	Lesson 5 - Link to literacy	Lesson 5 - Link to literacy	Lesson 5 - Link to literacy	Lesson 5 - Link to literacy	Lesson 5 - Link to literacy
Lesson 6 - Appropriate language lesson	Lesson 6 - Appropriate language lesson	Lesson 6 - Appropriate language lesson	Lesson 6 - Appropriate language lesson	Lesson 6 - Appropriate language lesson	Lesson 6 - Appropriate language lesson
Lesson 7 - positive posters/displays to be created	Lesson 7 - positive posters/displays to be created	Lesson 7 - positive posters/displays to be created	Lesson 7 - positive posters/displays to be created	Lesson 7 - positive posters/displays to be created	Lesson 7 - positive posters/displays to be created



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my child at school.com

Please [click here](#) for a guide on how to use My Child At School via the website or the App for information on your child's progress at HCCS as well as timetable information and attendance. Plus more.



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'Careers Corner'

The careers programme for this year for Years 7-11 can be viewed on the school website using the route: **curriculum & learning/careers/programme.**



Attention all Year 11s!!!!

Year 11 Careers Morning Thursday 21st September

On this day, Year 11 students will be involved in a number of activities in preparation for their next steps at the end of this academic year. Representatives from local colleges/universities/apprenticeship co-ordinators will provide useful information about post 16 opportunities and how they can be accessed. The school's Head of Sixth Form, Ms Jo Camm and, the school's Careers Adviser, Mrs Emma Jackson will also be delivering important information. A special feature will also include a talk from a local business person who will be discussing entrepreneurship to the would-be business leaders of the future!!

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARENT GOVERNOR?



We are looking for anyone with parental responsibility for a child at this school to join our Board of Governors.

We are currently recruiting for 3 parent governors to join our Board.

Your input on areas such as finance, behaviour & wellbeing, teaching & learning and site development will help to influence and improve school performance.

No previous experience is needed as free training is available to develop skills and provide support.

If you are Interested, please **click here** or check out the Governor pages on our website.

Please contact Pauline Challinor, Clerk to the Board of Governors on 01477 410500 for further information.

Deadline for nominations is Friday 29TH September 2023 at 12 noon.



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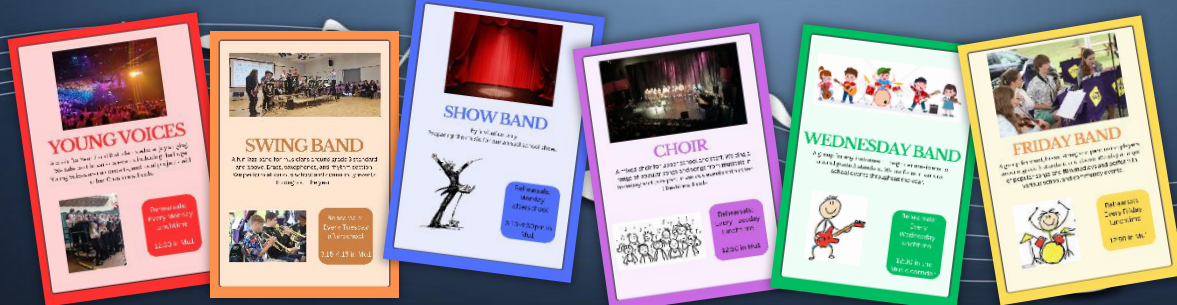
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Music Activities

More details can be found in the Music department, and on the school website – **Click here** to read more





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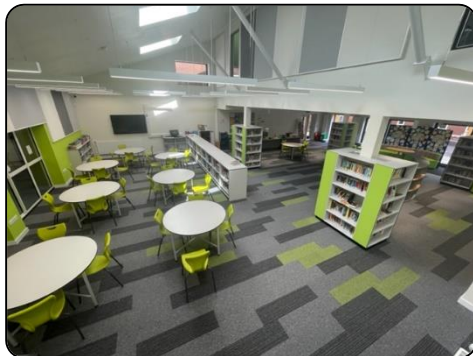
Welcome to The Learning Resource Centre

Here at HCCS we are lucky enough to have a wonderful Learning Resource Centre (LRC) that is at the heart of our school.

Reading is a key focus for all of our students and we have a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books which are constantly updated and refreshed with new titles for our students to enjoy.

Students are encouraged to use the LRC within their free time allowing opportunities to browse and read books, use the chromebooks and/or computers to complete homework, study using the desks available or use it as a quiet space to play with the available board and card games.

Throughout the year there will also be numerous activities and clubs which students can enjoy such as draw along sessions and author workshops.



LRC OPENING TIMES

BEFORE SCHOOL: 8:20AM - 8:40AM
 BREAK: 10:10AM - 10:30AM
 AFTER SCHOOL: 3:15PM - 4:15PM

MONDAY LUNCH: 12:30PM-1:10PM
 TUESDAY LUNCH: 12:30PM-1:10PM
 WEDNESDAY LUNCH: 12:30PM- 12:50PM
 THURSDAY LUNCH: 12:30PM-1:10PM
 FRIDAY LUNCH: 12:30PM- 12:50PM



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Recommended Reads

With the latest Barbie film still going strong in the UK Box Office we have a selection of Barbie Careers in Books recommendations for September.

According to Mattel, Barbie has historically had over 200 careers!

Students are able to pick up any of the recommendations below from our display at the front of the LRC.





Preparing Learners for a Changing World



A fantastic start to the year with confirmation that ten of our students have been selected for publication in the Young Writers' latest anthology, 'Unsolved - Thrillers from the UK'.

At the end of the Summer term, students were invited to write their own mini saga (up to 100 words) inspired by the crime and mystery genre.

A huge congratulations to the following pupils:

Claire B Y10, Jessica E Y10, Emily E Y10, Hannah R Y10, Peter I Y10, Scarlet RC Y8, Bea Hutchinson Y8, Grace Mc Y10, Lottie C Y10 and Marley PL Y10.



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School Equipment Checklist

School Bags

Medical opinion advises that rucksack type school bags, worn with the straps over both shoulders are the least likely to cause back problems.

General

- ✓ Black, Red and Purple pen (an ordinary biro will be fine)
- ✓ Pencil (can be purchased from Maths Faculty Office)
- ✓ Pencil sharpener
- ✓ Rubber (can be purchased from Maths Faculty Office)
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ Glue stick
- ✓ All students require a reading book
- ✓ A notebook to write reminders and notes in.

Mathematics

- ✓ Protractor
 - ✓ Calculator
 - ✓ Pair of compasses
- All of the above can be purchased from Maths Faculty Office

Art

- ✓ A4 Art Sketchpad of cartridge paper – MUST be spiral bound
- ✓ Apron or old shirt
- ✓ Drawing pencil (s)
- ✓ Fine writer pen – black

Food Preparation and Nutrition.

- ✓ Oven-proof dish 30cm square or rectangular, clearly labelled with the student's full name.
- ✓ Cake tin - 20cm any shape, clearly labelled with the student's full name.
- ✓ Plastic lidded container 30cm by 25cm (approximately), clearly labelled with the student's full name.
- ✓ Hair bobbles, for students with long hair.



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Request from the HCCS Data Team: Contact details

At the start of this new school year, we would like to take this opportunity to ask parents to ensure that the contact details we hold for you are correct. If you could please take a few moments to check your contact details on **MCAS** and, if anything has changed, please amend them. You can do this either on **MCAS** or by clicking on **'Update Contact Details' on the Parent Hub on our website**. Many thanks for your cooperation.



Important information regarding children's Nasal Flu Vaccine – FLUENZ



The children's nasal spray flu vaccine is safe and effective. It's offered every year to children to help protect them against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Children can catch and spread flu easily. Vaccinating your child also protects vulnerable family members and friends. Please [click here](#) for more information

COLOUR RUSH – SUNDAY 24th September 2023

We are delighted to be back at the fantastic Dorfold Hall, Nantwich for the brightest event in our calendar! Run the rainbow of colours at our 'Colour Rush' Fundraiser.

Taking place on the showground at Dorfold Hall, Nantwich this is an event you won't want to miss. Whether you run, walk, hop, dance or skip around the course, it's guaranteed to be a fun day out for the whole family!

[Click here](#) to read more and book.



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12-17 YEARS

YOUR FUTURE IS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Develop your **cyber skills**

CYBER CHOICES

[Click here to read more](#)

HOLMES CHAPEL BOXING CLUB FEMALE OPEN DAY

The club has an active female membership across competitive, boxing fitness and female only sessions, Girls Class and Ladies That Punch. Feedback is amazing but we want to encourage more female members.

Come along; meet female boxers and coaches, chat to other members, have some fun hitting the bags.

We are also honoured that our friends and huge supporters of the club Savannah Marshall and April Hunter will be part of the coaching team for the day.

Savannah is the current unified and undisputed Super Middleweight Champion of the World. April is one of the brightest prospects in Female boxing, ranked no1 in the World and preparing for a European Title fight later this year.



SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER
1:00 PM – 3:00PM

WWW.BOXINGCHAPEL.CO.UK @BOXINGCHAPEL

STATION YARD, HOLMES CHAPEL CW4 8AA

[Click here to expand and read more](#)



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FREE GIFTS FOR THE FIRST 100 ADULTS AND KIDS - LIVE FOOTBALL AND FUN FOR THE FAMILY



30TH SEPTEMBER | WOOD PARK | ST7 2DP

NUFAN

AFC CREWE COMMUNITY MATCH DAY

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES - SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ALSAGER TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB - ST7 2DP

FROM 11AM

FREE PIE & PINT/NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINK FOR THE FIRST 100 ADULTS
 FREE CAN OF POP AND SWEETS FOR THE FIRST 200 KIDS
 LIVE FOOTBALL FROM AFC CREWE KICKING OFF AT 2PM
 FOOD STALLS (PIZZA, ICE CREAM, COFFEE & CAKE CONFIRMED)
 BAR, RAFFLES, KIDS FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS WITH PRIZES, BALLOON ARTISTS, FACE PAINTING AND MORE

COME AND JOIN US FOR A GREAT DAY OF FOOTBALL, FOOD AND FUN
 FOLLOW THE EVENT PAGE ON FACEBOOK FOR UP TO DATE INFO AND EXCITING UPDATES

Click here to expand and read more

WE WANT YOU!

Cheshire East Youth Council

You can now apply to become a Cheshire East Member of Youth Parliament for 2024-2026

If you are interested in having a say, making a difference and representing young people in your area there is a selection event taking place during October half term

Dates and Venues:
DAY 1 - 24th October 2023, 10:30-3:30 at Crewe Family Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, CW1 2BB OR Macclesfield Youth Hub, 33 Great King Street, Macclesfield, SK11 6PN (please book on to the venue that you live closest to)
DAY 2 - 25th October 2023, 10:30-3:30 at Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

TAKE ACTION

LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Please note to apply to become a Member of Youth Parliament you must be aged 11-16 and attend BOTH selection days.

To book a space or to hear more information contact the Participation Team on participation@cheshireeast.gov.uk or 07890 321 844



Click here to expand and read more



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Upcoming Parent Carer Workshops

Workshops held at Visyon (Fellowship House, Congleton, CW12 1DP)

For further information/and or to book a place, please email the FamiliesandCommunitiesTeam@visyon.org.uk

(Please detail the Workshop name in the subject box of your email and provide a contact number).

Helping support a child's worries and anxieties, 7-week programme. All 7 weeks to be attended consecutively. 10:30 - 12:00 each week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27/09/2023 - week 1 04/10/2023 - week 2 11/10/2023 - week 3 18/10/2023 - week 4 Break 25/10/2023 for half-term week 01/11/2023 - week 5 08/11/2023 - week 6 15/11/2023 - week 7
Supporting a child with their sleep workshop	10.10.2023 - 10:00 - 12:00
Connecting with and supporting a teenager workshop	16.10.2023 - 13:00 - 14:30
Supporting a child with their emotions workshop	30.10.2023 - 13:00 - 14:30
Supporting a child with additional needs	25.10.2023 - 10:30 - 12:00
Supporting a child with the world of social media workshop	07.11.2023 - 10:00 - 11:30
Understanding self-harm workshop	22.11.2023 - 10:30 - 12:00
Supporting a child with bullying workshop	27.11.2023 - 13:00 - 14:30
Supporting a child's development workshop	29.11.2023 - 10:30 - 12:00
Supporting a child with anxiety workshop	05.12.2023 - 10:00 - 11:30
Supporting a child with parental separation workshop	11.12.2023 - 13:00 - 14:30
Supporting a child with loss and bereavement workshop	13.12.2023 - 10:30 - 12:00

If you believe you would benefit from one of our Workshops, but the dates/timings are not convenient, please get in touch as above. These workshops are free of charge.

Click here to find out what workshops are upcoming with Visyon

Visyon's Families and Communities Team (Autumn Term)

We offer a wide selection of parent carer workshops to local families for children aged 0-16 with an aim to help. We focus on what we know each parent, child and family can do to help with any difficulties. We focus on what we know each parent, child and family can do to help with any difficulties. We focus on what we know each parent, child and family can do to help with any difficulties.

These workshops are FREE OF CHARGE and open to all families in Cheshire East.

