



Dear all,

As is normal at this time during the Autumn term, the pace tends to pick up in many ways. This can make the school seem very busy so it's important now and then to step back and take a view about where we are and to think about how we can further support our children as they learn and grow. I'd like to invite you to talk to your children about the successes that they have enjoyed over the half term as well as how they have faced and overcome challenges.

One thing we are all aware of is the very high rates of covid amongst children. Here in school, we are continuing with our protocols and going beyond the minimum requirements. Regular deep clearing, wearing face coverings, ensuring we maintain ventilation, sticking to seating plans, cleaning hands, voluntary home testing etc, are all part of the package that we have in place to keep children safe and in school.

Because of this, we have managed to keep most of our children in school, on track in their learning and helped keep our community safe. I believe the biggest reason for this success is the support we have had from our families in applying consistent, steady pressure to embed our covid protocols. I wrote out to all families this week to ask that you make sure your children have their own mask and a couple of spares every day. Can I please ask you to continue to check this every morning with the children, whatever age. Overall, I'm very impressed with compliance but generally, the younger children tend to be better at bringing their own face covering with the older children more likely not to. We understand that not everyone can wear a face covering and that there are exemptions. However, I'd like to thank you for continuing to support us in this measure to keep our community safe.

A number of parents have been in touch this week about our catering offer and how we can work with our partners to provide a nutritionally balanced range of food offers across the menu. One of the points raised this week was around the availability of products that are high in carbohydrate and sugar. I've met with our caterers today and agreed that as a first step to a more healthy menu, during next week and moving forward, we will replace at least half of our sweet 'cake' style options with healthier choices which are lower in sugar and are more oat and seed based. We will also increase the availability of fruit and veg, dips and crackers.



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Our principle is to move in a series of stages towards a healthier menu with lower carbohydrates. We have planned a further meeting in December to evaluate the whole menu in collaboration with a nutritional consultant with a view to agreeing the next steps and actions towards this goal. I really appreciate the feedback on this as well as your support at home to encourage our children to eat a healthy diet and to make healthy choices.



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College

Preparing Learners for a Changing World



In the last newsletter I asked for your support in dealing with some isolated incidents of behaviour that our children were displaying in school. It's obvious from the emails that I received from you that many families took this request seriously and had the conversation with their children about appropriate behaviour and how to make a positive contribution. At the moment, we are dealing with an increase in vaping amongst a particular group of our children. Local residents tell us that children are vaping as they come into school and we have identified a small but consistent group of students vaping in the toilets at break and lunch. We are obviously taking this very seriously and are talking to individuals. I'm sharing this with you so that you are aware that the behaviour is being challenged and to again ask for your ongoing support in keeping our children healthy and safe. Having said this and considering the fact that it's week six and the children are getting tired towards the end of the half term, behaviour has been better so thanks for your support. I have started to use the phrase 'gentle pressure, consistently applied' as a way of changing behavioural culture so that our school is a safe, healthy, inclusive and a happy place for all of our children.

Looking out of the window as I write this, I can see a group of our children laughing, enjoying their packed lunch, making tonnes of noise and just being teenagers. It sounds great. Three of them have just knocked on my office window and said 'have a nice weekend'. It's the kind of thing that makes our school and community what it is and makes me happy to serve as the Headteacher here. Near to the end of the half term, I'd like to say a very heartfelt thank you for the support, the quality of objective challenge and the constructive conversations we have had to make our school a better place for our children.

Warm regards

Nigel Bielby
Executive Headteacher



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Year 11 Enrollment to 6th Form 2022

The process of Enrollment to HC6F was launched this week with our Live Virtual Open Evening on Thursday. Over 100 sets of parents and students attended the live talks. Many thanks to Katie Garlick and Myles Grace from the Head Boy and Girl Team who discussed their experiences of HC6F and how the college has prepared them for the next stage of their life. The Powerpoint slides and information from that evening will be posted on the Y11 Enrollment & Virtual Open Evening pages [here](#). Alongside that we have the subject videos from each Head of Subject & Faculty talking about their A-Level and BTEC options and the subject information sheets for that extra level of detail.

We will be opening booking forms for parents and students, who have not seen the 6th form facilities to book onto the Small Group Tours on November Wednesdays (4:00pm-5:00pm). More details will come out on the HC6F school website by Oct 25th. I appreciate that these will be extremely popular and we will endeavour to accommodate as many parents and students as possible.

Please be patient with us and if demand requires extra dates we will endeavour to add those in.

Holmes Chapel 6th Form Virtual Open Evening 2021 - Subjects





Preparing Learners for a Changing World



Reflecting on our attitude and learning in The Lower School

Overall, the attitude of our students in The Lower School has been fabulous during this half term. The number of expected and exceptional behaviours demonstrated in lessons is increasing and students are getting used to communicating with us in The Lower School Hub, visiting us to discuss their experiences and help us to brighten up the space further.

Towards the end of this half term, we are introducing two new resources designed to help our younger students reflect on their attitude and knowledge across the school.

Firstly, we have introduced "Less than expected" reflection sheets for any student who may receive any score of less than 2 in a lesson. As shown in our behaviour poster on the right, we hope that students will receive scores of 2 or 1 in their lessons. Although rare across the school, if students do make mistakes or demonstrate behaviour choices that are less than we expect, it is important that a conversation takes place so that any inappropriate behaviour choices can be explained. This allows inappropriate behaviour choices to be rectified and repaired, hopefully with a result of immediate and longer term improvement. You should also be able to see the scores that your child receives throughout the day via your 'My Child At School' app. If a child receives 3 or more 3s or any 4s or 5s, they will be required to spend time at school reflecting on, repairing and making positive steps forward to improve their future behaviour choices. In any of these instances, you will also be contacted. We would appreciate it if similar conversations could be happening at home so that children understand the importance of meeting our behaviour expectations.

Attitudes for Effective Learning



SCORE	Behaviour Choice	Outcome
1	Exceptional - You actively engage in learning, demonstrating excellent behaviour and attitudes. You challenge yourself and consistently demonstrate exceptional progress. You support others in their learning.	Success, Progress, School Prizes, Postcards Home.
2	Expected - You quickly follow instructions, demonstrating politeness and respect to others. You are focussed on your work and you are making progress.	Success, Progress, Postcards Home.
3	Lost Learning - You are misusing learning time and you have to be reminded about how to behave in order to meet expectations. Your behaviour is having a negative impact on your progress.	Discussion with teacher. Catch up with work missed.
4	Disruption - You are disrupting the learning of others or you are demonstrating a lack of respect.	Discussion with Head of Faculty. Catch up time. Contact home.
5	Defiance - You are demonstrating serious defiance or disruption, or your behaviour is having a negative effect on the safety and wellbeing of yourself or others.	Discussion with hub or senior leader. Contact home.

Please click the poster for a full size download

Secondly, next week and over half term, we will be asking our lower school students to complete a learning reflection as part of their Lower School Learning Passport. It is split into 2 parts with their first interim report (which you will receive on Wednesday 8th December) sandwiched in between. The first part is designed to allow students to reflect upon the knowledge they have acquired this half term.

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & Sixth Form College
HCCS Lower School Learning Passport

Term 1 Progress report Part 1: Reflecting on my experience and capturing my knowledge
To be completed by 1st November 2021

This term, I have enjoyed...

I have been proud of...

	I have been learning...	Evidence of my learning can be found...
Art		
Computer Science		
Design Technology		
Drama		
English		
Food Technology		
Geography		
History		
Maths		
Modern Foreign Languages		
Music		

Please click the image for a full pdf download

This will be introduced through tutor time next week and will be set as homework with a deadline of Tuesday 2nd November. Following this and the publication of their interim report, we will ask you to work with children to complete the second part. We will remind you of this nearer the time.

Thank you for your support in helping to ensure that our children are reflecting upon their attitude and learning in order to pave their bright futures.



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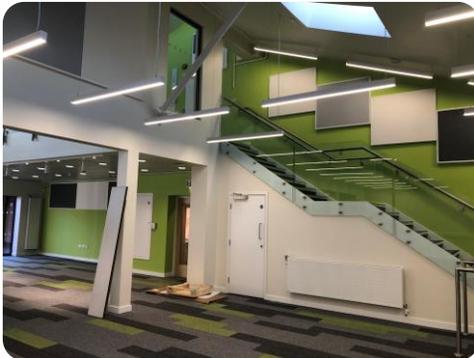
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Preparing Learners for a Changing World



As our new Learning Resource Centre gets set to open, we have to say a fond "Goodbye!" to the old one.

Over the past few months we have been working with our contractors to convert what was the old drama theatre into a two storey Learning Resource Centre. The LRC is set to open on Monday 8th November and is the result of an investment of around £500,000. We are so proud of the investment made into a new LRC that places reading, literacy and community at the centre of our school.



So the time has come to say goodbye to the current LRC as we arrange the movement of our valuable resources and establish the new space in a way that provides the best experiences for our community.

This will mean that from today (**Friday 15th October**) at **15:30**, we will be **closing the current LRC**. There will be no access to the area after this time. We will operate without an LRC for 2 school weeks (next week and the one following half term) allowing us time to move out and set up the new centre ready to welcome students from Monday 8th November 2021. Lessons that usually take place in the LRC have been retimetabled into classrooms for that 2 week period.

Thank you in advance for your support and understanding as we make the move. We cannot wait to welcome you into our new LRC as soon as it is open for use!

During the half term break, work will start on the development of the new Resource Provision which will be located in what was the old LRC, Finance Office and Computer room 5. The new facilities will provide a supportive environment for 14 children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. Recruitment for the additional staff needed to support these children has already started and the service is expected to be up and running by April 2022.



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First Aid Awareness

During our first Curriculum Enhancement Morning of the year, our Year 12 students took part in 'Emergency First Aid' sessions. These covered learning about the recovery position, CPR, choking and minor injuries. Mrs Cliff, School Medical Officer said, "This was a successful morning where the 6th form gained valuable skills and knowledge about what to do in an emergency situation".



Year 13 Mock Exam Week - coming up

Year 13s embark on their assessment week from next week. These mock exams are vital to their progress and act as an opportunity to provide the right level of support and intervention to all individuals. Year 13 have reading/ revision days on Monday and Tuesday, then exams from Wednesday to Friday. The study facilities are open to all students from 8:00am - 5:00pm everyday if students wish to come into school to revise.



Charity Fancy Dress Success

This Friday was Charity Fancy Dress Day for the 6th Form. An amazing response from all the 6th form and lots of money raised for the Remembering Nell Foundation and the Bat Conservation Society. It was a great way to add a little energy and colour at the end of a hardworking first half term. More details to follow!



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All About **ME** :Ricardo Lamperez



iHola! I wish I could write this in Spanish, but I guess I have to use my second language (again). My name is Ricardo but everybody calls me Ric, and I am a languages teacher. If you know me you will already know that I am Spanish, and if you don't know me... well, I am so sorry for you.

I was born in a beautiful city in the north-east of Spain called Zaragoza. I studied Journalism and Media Studies, but after that I did two masters focusing on communication, sociology and audiovisual industries. I moved to Madrid when I was 21 years old and I started working as a journalist and as a Spanish teacher. Well, I also worked in IKEA during the weekends (if you need help with a Billy or a Kallax bookshelf, call me).

I have lived in Zaragoza, Madrid, Liège (Belgium), Kortrijk (Belgium), Silvolde (The Netherlands) and now I live in Manchester. My parents and my brother (aged 33) still live in Zaragoza, and going back for Christmas or Easter is one of my favourite things to do. This might be a cliché, but I have the best friends and the best family someone can ask for; and I miss them every day.



I like to travel and I love to learn about new cultures and different people. I love to explore the world, to know new places and to try new food! I recently bought a book of Asian recipes and I am obsessed with it.

If I am not teaching or planning lessons; you will find me walking around the city, discovering new restaurants or buying tickets for the next gig in town. I love cinema, theatre, languages, politics, indie music, art, nice and clean places, happy people and Spanish food. I also love to sing, to play the guitar, to write songs and to discover new bands that no one knows. I actually used to have a band in Spain and I was the lead singer, but let's pretend this never happened (please).

My friends would tell you that I am the life of the party, but I like to describe myself as a happy and outgoing person doing happy things in happy places: at least, that is what I am looking for. As my father told me once: "everybody is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be kind. Always". Since that day, being nice to people has always been my number one priority.

This is something that I try to teach during my lessons (I also teach languages, of course) and I can't wait to continue doing this in HCCS.



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A quick reminder that Our preferred method of payment is Scopay - by using this facility you can also monitor how much your child is spending and top up accordingly

Students must have their lunch cards to purchase food/drink

If you wish to discuss any dietary requirements please contact our catering manager at sodexo@hccs.info or call 01477 410534



Year 9 Parents' Online Consultation Evening

You and your child/children are invited to take part in the Parents' Online Consultation Evening on **Thursday 4th November** to discuss your son/daughter's progress with his/her teachers. The online appointment booking system for Year 9 will become "live" at 7pm on Monday 18th October. The system will close at midnight on Sunday 31st October. Appointments can be made between 4 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.

[Click here](#) for more information



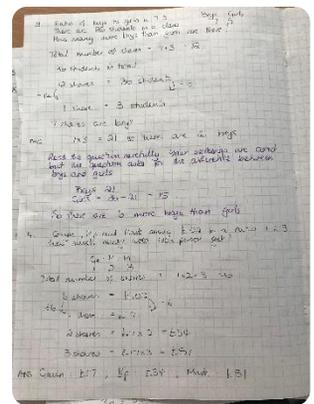
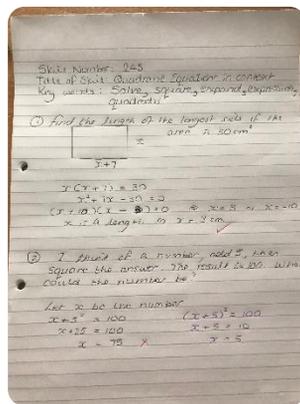
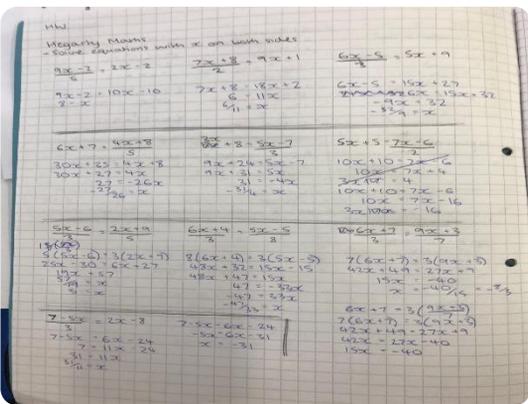
This year the Maths Faculty have invested in a new online homework platform called Hegarty Maths. This platform provides 925 videos in order to support students with their Maths in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. Teachers are setting homework on this platform. Here is a guide from Hegarty Maths that you can use to find out how to complete the homework successfully. <https://help.hegartymaths.com/help/how-do-i-do-my-hegartymaths-homework>

This homework is not designed to be just online, students complete written work in their book to show that all important working out. This work should be completed in their Maths book so that teachers can see their quality of written work.

Students can also use Hegarty Maths for their revision and to consolidate classwork. They do not have to wait for work to be set, they can search for a topic and complete as many tasks as they need to. All students have a Hegarty login so even KS5 students can update their skills should they need to.

Students will also be set regular Memory tasks. These are specific to a particular student as the platform chooses tasks based on the students past performance.

Here are some examples of student work to show what is expected when students are set Hegarty homework so that the students gain the most from the platform.



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Maths Star of the Month

The maths department has started a Star of the Month Award. All the maths teachers were asked to nominate students in each class whom they felt had demonstrated an exceptional attitude to learning, and had achieved excellent results and progress in the month.

From the nominations, a student was selected at random for each year group (so a nomination is a great achievement). The lucky winners for September are displayed on the maths noticeboard.

Nominations for September were as follows:

Year 7:
 Charlie Astles
 Shane Dolan
 Aurelia Pemberton
 Ole Mann
 Luciana Whiakier
 Tilly Mallon
Winner: Immy Ranfield

Year 8:
 Lily Wood
 Zlatan Etuhu
 Evie Maltby-James
 Isabelle Morton
 Holly Thompson
Winner: Meida Grusaite

Year 9:
 Hattie Walsh
 Elizabeth Smith
 Emily Heald
 Rocco Wortley
 Taylor Gladas
 Summer Keeling
 Emily Butler
 Mistique Owen
Winner: Nathan Mahan

Year 10:
 Jack Davies
 Ethan Diosdado-Boyle
 Luis Mayes
 Tabitha Alcock-Bailey
 Sam Bradbury
 Amelia Palmer
 Anwen Brierley
 Maddy Hollingworth
 Isabelle Cruttenden
Winner: Ollie Whitby

Year 11:
 Amelie Curzon
 Callum Brougham
 Hudson Walmsley
 Sam Berry
 James Mills
 Oscar Nicholson
 Joe Barker
 Molly Bradley
 Charlotte Goodwin
 Hannah Garlick
 Holly Kay
Winner: Gareth Jones



Huge congratulations to all the nominees and the lucky winners. On to October!

Let's get reading!

Year 7 have discussed and chosen the books they would like to read as a tutor group. We hope they enjoy them!



Freya Williams Rowe 9AC...

Freya Williams Rowe not only plays football for Cheshire County Schools u14 girls, but also has a contract with Blackburn Rovers RTC u14 girls.

In addition, Freya attended the ENGLAND FA girls' Summer Camp at Warwick University for three days during the summer holidays in August of this year.

As well as this, Freya has been nominated for trials at Newcastle upon Tyne University for the North Region u15 girls'.

This is an incredible achievement Freya...and we all wish you well with the trials going forward.



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Laurence Manley – Year 13

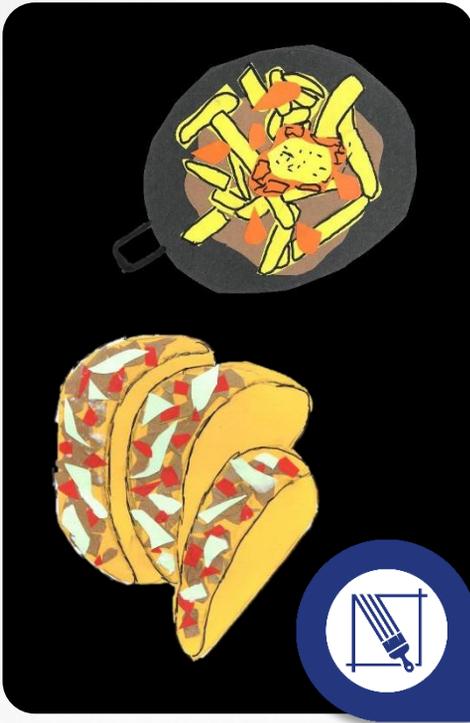
Laurence Manley in Year 13 completed the London Marathon last week in 3 hours 6 seconds raising over £2000 for Whizz Kids. He was one of (if not) the youngest runners on the day!!

You can still support the charity by visiting the Virgin Money Giving page [link here](#). The charity supports disabled people within society and helps to provide everyone with an equal chance in life. Your money will go to transforming the lives of wheelchair users across the UK, supporting them to become confident and independent young adults.



Art Club

Currently in Art Club some of our students are experimenting with collages. See the samples below.



Cross Country

Another excellent performance from Holmes Chapel students at the second league meeting at the South Cheshire Cross Country this week. First place again for Sofia Preece. Also pictured are Olivia and George Bagley.



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We currently have the following job vacancies:

- **Estates & Facilities Officer**– Part time (23 hours)
- **Director of SEND**
- **General Teaching Assistant** – Long Term Temporary – Immediate Start

[Click here](#) for more information



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Primary School Netball Festival

The Netball Primary Festival was well supported by our local primary schools this week. The main objective was for Year 5&6 to be given the opportunity to participate and have fun. Our sports leaders were a credit to the school with their coaching and umpiring skills. Thanks to our Sixth Form Sports Leaders Grace Van Oss and Rachel Van Tonder for running the score table, to Mr Mitchell for organising all of the admin and to Mrs Mee and Mrs Thomas for running the event on Wednesday evening.



Before starting out, make sure that you are confident of your ability to ride safely on the road. Obey the rules of the road and Know the Highway Code

6 SAFETY POINTS For Children While Out Riding Their Bikes

Use helmets with built in red lights to be seen easily and make sure it fits correctly before setting off.

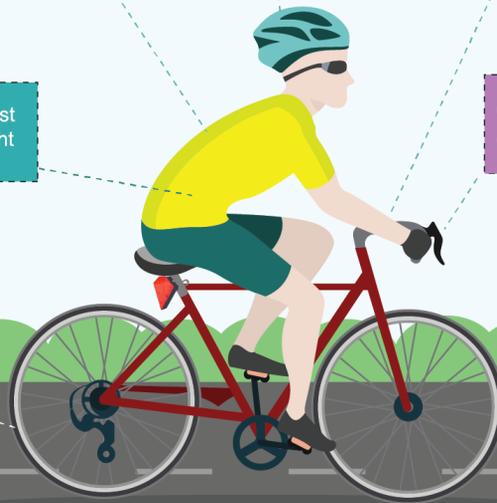
Hi-visibility reflective jackets are a great way to be seen while out riding in winter

Always have a bright white light at the front and a red light with red reflector at the rear

Using a highly reflective vest will make you visible at night

Check your brakes before every ride

Make sure the tyres are not soft and pump up if necessary before setting off.



Little Pro Cycling Gear For Remarkable Kids
<https://www.littlepro.co.uk>



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Thank you, from all of us at HCCS & HC6F