

Autumn newsletter

September 2023



Welcome everyone to Academic Year 2023-2024

We hope that you have all had a lovely summer with time to relax and had time to make some new memories! It is a very exciting time in school with all our children getting to know their new teachers and making new friends, whilst catching up with old ones. We are also looking at the year ahead and the many adventures we all have to look forward to!

Each half term a newsletter will come out with lots of information in for the coming weeks. There will be useful links to the school website where there is lots more information. We welcome any input into these letters if you have something you feel would be useful to share with the school community. Please contact the school office.

Here's to 2023-24!



Friends of Holmesdale

We now have an active and enthusiastic group of parents who throughout last year helped to raise some much needed funds for our school. They are always looking for new members to help them out. Don't worry if you can't commit to

all the events, helping out at just one is so much appreciated. If you are interested then please come along to the meeting on **October 4th @2.15pm** in school. You will be very welcome!

THE SUMMER FAIR RAISED OVER £800 - THANK YOU! PLEASE SEE THE PHOTOS OF THE EYFS CLASSROOMS TO FIND OUT WHAT WE HAVE SPENT IT ON.



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Attendance

Good attendance at school is really important for your child to develop and learn well. At Holmesdale we strive for the minimum attendance to be 96%, this works out at less than one day a month off school. Regular attendance and good punctuality enables your child to make solid friendships, build resilience and perseverance, have continuity in their learning and feel less anxious about coming into school each day. Please only keep your child at home if they are unwell and please do not take holidays in term time as we will not authorise them and you could be fined. This term we will be giving stickers out for arriving on time on a random day each week. We will announce which class was the most punctual. Arriving on time is also very important, as it means that your child starts their day with all their friends and knowing what the day has to bring. If you are struggling in anyway to get your child to school please do come and have a chat, there are many ways we can support you and your family. **REMEMBER THE NEW START TIME IS 8.50AM AFTER THIS TIME A CHILD IS MARKED AS LATE!**

Staffing Autumn 1

Ash Class - Miss Farmer

Oak Class - Miss Hibberd
(Aut1)

Chestnut Class - Mrs Wignell

Maple Class - Miss Westwood

Willow Class - Mrs Maybury &
Miss Brown

ParentPay

As

many of you are already aware we have set up an online payment system called ParentPay. We still need approximately 60% of you to set up your online account. You received an email in July (all parents) with instructions, usernames and passwords on. **Please do look for it and get set up**, as we will be asking for all payments and permissions using this method for the coming year.



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Events

We have so many exciting and amazing events for the children and yourselves to experience throughout this year. The yearly events diary has already been shared with you and is on the school website. Please do look at it and save the important dates for your families in your own personal diaries. Reminders and further information about each event will be shared on Parent Hub. Link below to Yearly Event Diary on the school website:

<https://www.holmesdale.derbyshire.sch.uk/School%20Events%20Diary%202023-2024.pdf>

Evidence Me

All parents have access to an 'Evidence Me' account where you can receive & send messages, photos and learning directly to & from the class teacher. Year 1 & 2 parents should already be using this but if you are having any problems please call into school for help. Our new reception parents should have just received an email from:

noreply@evidence.me

& a letter with instructions to follow to set up an account

EYFS Provision

We have been working very hard to renew and improve the classroom environments in the EYFS. The staff have all worked really hard over the summer and begged, borrowed and bought lots of wonderful things. The £800 that the PTA raised at the summer fair was also spent on new items for Maple and Willow classrooms.

We are continuing this improvement to all our classrooms throughout the year which means any money raised from events will be used on the continuing improvements.

Thank you.

