

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parent and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely summer break and managed to get some down time and rest. However, I am sure many of you are glad we are back to school and getting some routine back! I appreciate this is a long letter but wanted to ensure that you all had the information needed for the start of this academic year.

Attendance

Attendance is a key priority to ensure that children have the best opportunities to make progress and achieve exceptional outcomes. Therefore, your child needs to attend school consistently and arrive on time each day. Research shows that children missing more than 10% of their schooling, or being consistently late, achieve significantly lower than their peers. Ensuring your child is in every day enables your child to have the best education. I appreciate that there are times when your child is ill and guidance about whether your child can still attend school can be found on the [NHS website](#).

Any child whose attendance falls below 90% is deemed a persistent absentee. If your child's attendance begins to cause a concern, you will be contacted to attend a meeting in which we can discuss support to ensure that the attendance can be improved. You can check your child's absence via the Arbor App.

The National target for attendance is 95%. We made great progress in improving the attendance last year and we need that to continue. Below is a table to show the attendance of each year group last academic year; we need to get the attendance to above 95%! We are off to a good start as this week's school attendance is 98%!

Class	Early Years	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	School	Target
22 - 23	93.5	93	95.5	94.5	93.1	93	94.2	93.6	95%

Reading at Holne Chase



This week, the children have completed a short reading assessment in order to determine an appropriate book for them to bring home for them to read. Your child should be reading this book daily and this should be recorded in their Reading Record.

Children continue to have access to Reading Buddy and their login details are in their Reading Record. Children will receive a token for the times they read and the class with the most tokens at the end of each half term, wins a prize!

In Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2, this book will be changed twice a week but children are encouraged to read their book frequently to improve their fluency. KS2 can change their books independently once they have finished the book they are reading.

Each class will attend the library once a week and bring home a library book, which is a book that you can read to them. This again can be recorded in the Reading Record. Please ensure that your child brings back their library book on the day they attend the library.

Library Days

RNB	1AA	2EC	3GH	4CB	5AW	6EH	6FH
Monday	Wednesday	Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Friday

PE Days

See below for when your child will have PE starting from Monday. Children can come to school in their PE kit on their PE days. Y4 will also have Swimming on Thursday starting from the 21st September; please see additional letter for further information.

RNB	1AA	2EC	3GH	4CB	5AW	6EH	6FH
Tuesday Friday	Wednesday Thursday	Monday Wednesday	Thursday Friday	Friday	Monday Tuesday	Wednesday Friday	Monday Wednesday

Communication

A reminder to check your emails every Friday for a weekly newsletter and any other information from the school. Any short messages or reminders will be sent via an InApp message via the Arbor App so please ensure that you have this downloaded. Please update any information on Arbor including ensuring there are two emergency contacts. Arbor have recently updated the App so you should not have to login each time. If you have any issues with the App, please contact the school office.



Below is a list of contacts should you need to contact a member of staff directly. Please be mindful that staff are directed to only reply to emails during their working hours, when they are not teaching a class.

Staff	Email
Mr Killick	office@holnechase.org
Office	office@holnechase.org
Year 1	year1@holnechase.org
Year 3	year3@holnechase.org
Year 5	year5@holnechase.org

Staff	Email
SENCo	senco.hc@holnechase.org
Early Years	reception@holnechase.org
Year 2	year2@holnechase.org
Year 4	year4@holnechase.org
Year 6	year6@holnechase.org

Parent Meetings

Following the Parent Survey, we want to ensure you have the opportunity to find out what your children will be learning during their time at Holne Chase. Therefore, we will be holding Parent Meetings in which you are invited to your child's classroom to find out what they will be learning this academic year. These meetings will take place at 3:30pm and your child can also attend. Each year group dates are listed below

Class	Date
1AA	Monday 18 th September
3GH	Tuesday 19 th September
5AW	Wednesday 20 th September

Class	Date
2EC	Monday 18 th September
4CB	Tuesday 19 th September
Year 6	Thursday 21 st September

Curriculum



At the end of last academic year, the leadership team and I worked on enhancing the curriculum to ensure that all children achieve the best possible outcomes in all areas of their learning. Each half term, you will receive a newsletter from your child's class teacher with updates on what the children have been doing and what their next learning will be. This will allow you to have a full understanding of everything your child will be studying at school.

Staffing Updates

As the new year starts, we welcome a number of staff to the Holne Chase Team. I am sure you join me in providing a warm welcome to Miss Nicole Bray (Early Years), Miss Anila Abbas (Year 1), Mrs Lyndsay McKenna-Gibbons (Year 1), Mrs Kirsty Miller (Office) and Miss Amy Latham (Senior Leader). Attached to the email is the staffing structure for this academic year.

PROUD TO BE PART OF



Registration No 08282041

Breakfast and After School Club

We still have spaces in our Wrap Around provision, which you can book for regular sessions or ad hoc sessions. To book, you need to download the Childcare Bookings app and follow the instructions. Morning sessions run from 7:30am – 8:30am and cost £5 a session. After school sessions run from 3pm – 5:45pm at a cost of £8 per session.

We are still finalising other Extra-Curricular activities and hope to set this up and get this to you in the next couple of weeks, once we are all settled in.

Equipment from Home

A brief reminder that children are not to bring things in from home. We have ensured that every child has a pencil case with all the stationery they need for their learning. Any other resources that are required to support their learning will be provided by school staff or following discussions with individual parents.

Good to be Green

We are continuing with our Good to be Green behaviour system this year, which was extremely successful in improving school behaviour. This week, the children's behaviour has been exemplary and I am so proud of them. We are slightly adapting our reward system, which we shared with the children today. More information will be provided to parents in future newsletters.

Families in Partnership

We are continuing with our Families in Partnership meetings this year, which provide parents for the opportunity to meet with school leaders to discuss progress the school is making and areas we are focusing on this year in order to support within continued school development. It also provides an opportunity for you to share any ideas with us. Our first meeting will be held on Monday 2nd October at 7pm.

Friends of Holne Chase

The Friends of Holne Chase did an outstanding job of providing amazing opportunities for our community to fundraise for the school last year. I am sure you will all agree that it ended perfectly with a brilliant Summer Carnival, which raised £1750! Emma (Chair of Friends) and I will be meeting next week to discuss plans for this academic year. If you would like to support the team, please contact them on fohc@holnechase.org



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Event	Date	Time
Year Group Workshops	w/c 18 th September (see above)	3:30pm
Families in Partnership Meeting	Monday 2 nd October	7pm
Y6 Local Walk	Monday 9 th October	1pm – 3pm
Books Over Breakfast	Friday 13 th October	8am – 8:30am
Black History Month Celebration Day	Friday 13 th October	All Day
Holne Chase Art Gallery	Wednesday 18 th October	1:30pm onwards
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 th October	3pm / 3:10pm
HALF TERM: Monday 23 rd October 2023 – Friday 28 th October 2023		