



Miss Fowles and the staff at Coleshill Heath School would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

We break up on Friday 22nd December 2023 and look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Monday 8th January 2024**

NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER AND LEAD LEARNER

Dear Parents and Carers,

After a very long and busy term, we are almost ready for the Christmas break and to spend time with family, friends and loved ones. We hope you have enjoyed the Christmas performances as the children and staff put a great deal of effort into the preparation – as always, we can count on the children at CHS to spread the Christmas cheer! This week, each class has engaged in 'Winter Wonderland' activities and created some beautiful cards and calendars.

Over the last few months, we have been proud to witness the development of our pupils in so many different ways and the level of engagement in wider activities and community events continues to increase term on term. Please do encourage your child to attend the different activities available open to them in order for them to access all of the opportunities school life has to offer.

As many of you know, I have been working across the Local Authority supporting school improvement work and seeing first-hand the brilliant work that takes place in Solihull Schools. This will continue in Spring and Summer 2024 and in my absence [3 days per week], Miss Budd is the Acting-Headteacher and Mr Russell the Acting Deputy-Headteacher. However, I still hold full responsibility so if there are any concerns that do not get resolved, please do request a meeting via the school office. We continue to work alongside Langley Secondary school and some other primary school partners regarding the creation of a new Multi-Academy Trust and will be formally consulting with parents and staff in the Spring term.

Last but not least, please see the section on punctuality [page 2] as we begin to revise our systems around this. At the moment, we are having a significant number of children arriving late and the children find this very difficult. We will be working with individual families in more detail to understand the barriers because the expectation is that we arrive in school on time. We will also be conducting a review of our behaviour and relational policies to ensure all children feel safe in school and we promote a calm and orderly atmosphere.

For now, please have a restful and joyful Christmas break

Miss Fowles

REMINDERS

Events during Christmas Holiday



Fit Kids Zone Solihull HAFs Winter Camp: Tuesday 2nd – Thursday 4th January 9am-3pm at Coleshill Heath School for school aged children in Reception to Year 6.

The Solihull HAF aims to provide life skills and help build confidence, with fun and creative activities and multi-sports. Children will be able to access a nutritious meal, if in receipt of benefit-related free school meals (FSM) and have a HAF code. If you receive this benefit, your child will be eligible to attend HAF sessions for free and will have received a letter confirming eligibility. Children not in receipt of free school meals can still attend for a small cost per day.

Book online at <https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/xOFFCWQ8wcQ8kRh6SLkB?domain=fitkidszone.co.uk>



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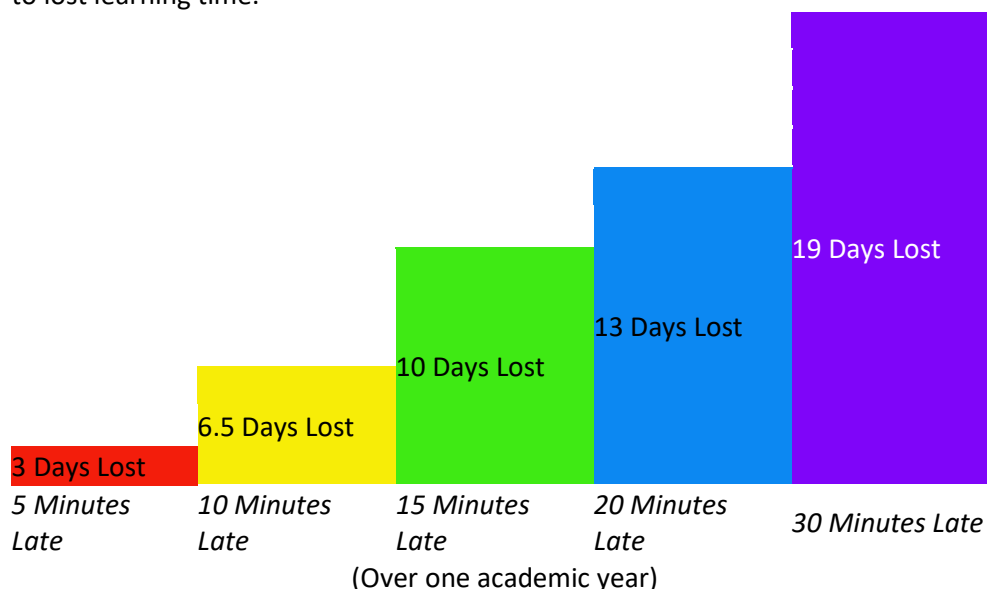




PUNCTUALITY

Please let's start the New Year with better attendance and time-keeping.

It is important that pupils are punctual so that they do not miss out on the beginning of each school day. Children must attend on time to be given a present mark for the session. If a pupil arrives late to school every-day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



Our allocated CSAWS Attendance & Welfare Officer, Mrs Redpath will be conducting occasional late gates to speak to all parents who bring in pupils late (**after 9.00am**)

Medical and Dental Appointments:

- Where possible such appointments should be booked outside of school hours
- Pupils are expected to attend school prior to the appointment and return to school after the appointment. Any absence outside of the appointment/travel time will be unauthorised.

CONCERNS – SAFETY OF PARKING/ENTRANCE ACCESS – WE NEED YOU TO:

Again, we have had complains and concerns from local residents about driving at speed, not stopping at junctions and parking. In particular, Beech Avenue, Hatchford Walk, Alder Drive, Lime Grove. We need you to:

- **Reduce your speed** in and around the school site. The speed limit is 5mph on school property. Be observant when reversing and when driving through the walkway at each entrance.
- **Park legally, and with consideration to residents and others**, leaving access to the school, resident's driveways and public pathways free. The blocking of pavements means parents with pushchairs having to walk in the road, an accident waiting to happen. It's also a hazard for emergency services.
- **Keep music and noise down** as some residents work shifts so may be trying to sleep.
- Do not park under the barrier or on the curved part of the front entrance, delivery vehicles need to have access and this causes a safety hazard. If you park in this way and your vehicle is damaged the school is not responsible.
- Ideally, park away from the school site and walk in, this will ease congestion.

We all have a responsibility and nothing comes before the safety and well-being of the children and school community. Please help us to be a safe and happy community, give a bit of thought and show respect and kindness to others, but more importantly think of the lives and safety of young innocent children.

Thank you for your support in this matter.





INFORMATION REGARDING ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

All applications for school places for September 2024 have to be made via the Council website: <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions>. If you live outside Solihull you must apply to your local council even if you want to include Solihull schools on your application.

Information for Year 6 Parents – applying for a Secondary School place for September 2024

Children with a date of birth between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 (current Year 6) transfer to secondary school in September 2024. **Offer day is 1st March 2023.**

Information for Nursery Parents – applying for a Reception place for September 2024

Children with a date of birth between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 start full-time school in September 2024. This first year is called 'Reception'. Please ensure that you apply online before the closing date which is **15th January 2024** via the Local Authority that you pay your council tax to, if this is not SMBC. **Offer day is 16th April 2024.**

Applying for a Nursery school place

We currently have spaces available in our Nursery for children who have turned 3-years-old. Children can start with us the term after they turn 3 years old and they are entitled to 15 hours of Nursery education (AM or PM daily sessions). You can also apply online for 30 hours of free Nursery education via the Government website at <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare> (certain criteria apply).

Please note that all admissions are now completed online (with the exception of Nursery). If you do not have access to a computer you can visit any library and use the computers there. To ensure your space, please do not miss the deadlines specified and please ensure that you complete the appropriate admissions forms.

CHS offers Nursery Provision for Children aged 2-4 Years

Nursery 2-Year-Old Provision

Children who are 2 years old may be entitled to a free nursery place for up to 15 hours per week. Please use the following link to check if you are eligible:

<https://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/Synergy/Live/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx>

Nursery 3- and 4-Year Olds

All children aged 3 to 4 years are entitled to 15 hours of early education funding per week the term after their 3rd birthday.

Extended childcare is also available between the hours of 8.00am-5.15pm for nursery children at an additional cost.

For more information or to apply for a place please email 15admissions@chs.solihull.sch.uk

REPORTING BACK

Poppy Appeal



The Royal British Legion would like to thank you very much for helping with the Poppy Appeal. It continues to be a difficult time with collections so without your help, they would be unable to continue their vital welfare and benevolent work.

#KINDNESS

CHS Governors

We would like to welcome Ms Whiting and Mrs Izzard onto the Governing Board as Co-opted Governors and Ms Charlotte Yates as the new Parent Governor. Information about the CHS Governing Board can be found on our website.



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Children in Need



Thank you to everyone who donated to Children in Need. We raised an amazing £240.80 for this worthy cause.

#KINDNESS

Christmas Fair and Raffle

We would like to say a big thank you to you all for your contributions and support towards the Christmas Fair. We do hope you managed to join us. We raised a fantastic grand total of just under £1,800.

The winner of the raffle ticket competition, who sold the most raffle tickets, was Leighton Wells-Richardson - Class Churchill. On doing so he won a £25 gift card, well done!

Congratulations to the people below who have won Christmas raffle prizes:

Nathalie Lawson (£100 Gift Card); Cara Tanner (Colour Printer); Marie Flynn (Mini Photo Session); Mr Millsy (Booze Hamper). There were also many other winners of smaller prizes.

We would like to thank Midshires, Zest Education, ASDA, Imaging Eye Photography and all the other organisations and staff who kindly donated prizes.

#KINDNESS

Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children

On Friday 8th December we held Christmas Jumper Day and raised £137 for “Save the Children”. Thank you for your support.

#KINDNESS



PARENT INFORMATION

Could your child be eligible for extra funding?

Please click on the link and complete the online application for Free School Meals / Pupil Premium to find out:

www.solihull.gov.uk/fsm

School Meals

Reception, Years 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal regardless of a parent's income. Year 3 upwards, as you are aware, are now required to pay for your child's school dinners as they will no longer qualify for the Government's Universal Infant Free School meals programme. Some families may be entitled to continue claiming free school meals depending on family income - if you would like to apply for free school meals, please do so via the Solihull council website at: <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/fsm>. Families that do not qualify will be charged for each school meal their child has; payment is to be made online via ParentPay or at any PayPoint. A school dinner for one child will cost: £2.70 per day / £13.50 per 5-day week.

Dinners/Trip Payments



Please could we remind you that dinners should be paid for in advance. Any outstanding debts should be paid as soon as possible. Any debts move through the school with the child, thank you. Please discuss if you are in need. School dinners are £2.70 a day.





Unwanted Good Quality Uniform

School Uniform!



If you have any unwanted good quality uniform can you please pass this to the class teacher or the school office so we can make it available to other families. This is something the government have asked schools to implement, thank you.

This FREE pre-loved uniform is available at publicised events throughout the year.

School Uniform Suppliers

Uniform can be purchased through **Brigade** or **Mansuri Schoolwear**. Please see details below:



Brigade

Order your school uniform online from

Log on to:

www.brigade.uk.com

Enter Coleshill Heath School (delivery to school service) and select the school from the drop-down list provided.



Mansuri Schoolwear

163 Yew Tree Lane

Yardley

Birmingham B26 1AY

Tel: 0121 784 4230

Please telephone before you visit to see if they stock what you require (Jumpers/Cardigans/PE tops, book bags)

SATs for Pupils in Year 6

Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May 2024 are the provisional dates for Year 6 SATs. Please make a note of the dates in your diary. As you know Year 6 is a critical year for pupils and excellent attendance is expected.

School closure due to weather or an emergency

Should the school need to close, we would like to remind you of ways of securing the correct information.

- ◆ Dojo system
- ◆ School texting service: We will send the first contact on our database, a text with the necessary information. Please keep your 'phone turned on and make sure you update the office with any change of mobile number, thank you.
- ◆ Coleshill Heath Twitter Site: log-on to Twitter.com, search Coleshill Heath, click on Coleshill Heath to view our "tweets".
- ◆ Coleshill Heath School website – google Coleshill Heath
- ◆ Search www.solihull.gov.uk internet site.
- ◆ Listen to FREE or Heart FM radio stations where announcements on school closures will be made.

CHS is a Nut-Free Zone



We have a few pupils at CHS who are allergic to nuts so for the safety of our children we have made CHS a nut free school. No nuts or any snacks/food containing nuts are permitted in school ie peanut butter or chocolate spread. Thank you for your co-operation.



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New Zebra Crossing



SMBC will be installing a zebra crossing on Moorend Avenue, near to Willow Way in the Spring.

Improving Communication Links with School

To keep your child/ren safe and ensure their well-being, we are constantly looking for ways to improve our links with you and keep everyone up-to-date and well informed. As sending written information home is sometimes unreliable; we are continuing to use Schoolcomms, an electronic school communication system. This will enable you to receive all your information from school quickly and reliably. We can send letters by email to your inbox and short messages directly to your mobile phone as a text message, or if you have an Apple or Android mobile phone, by app message. In addition to Schoolcomms, we also use ParentPay for trips, dinner money etc and Class Dojo for communicating with parents.

URGENT: Keep the office informed of your current mobile number and email address. *If you are not receiving communication by these sources please contact the school office and they will look into the reason why.* Help us to help you, thank you. Limited information can also be found on our website and noticeboards around school.

Solihull Family Hubs



Solihull Council have opened some new Family Hubs across the borough. These important new centres will give children, young people and their families access to the best health and family support services from pregnancy to 25 years, alongside social activities at places that are most convenient for them.

If you have any questions, please email: familyhubs@solihull.gov.uk

For more information about the Family Hubs please visit:

<https://www.solihull.gov.uk/news/new-family-hubs-solihull>

TERM DATES - Academic School Year 2023/2024

Spring Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8th January 2024
Half Term Holiday: Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024
Monday 19th February 2024 (INSET Day)
Term Ends: Friday 22nd March 2024

Summer Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8th April 2024
Half Term Holiday: Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024
Term Ends: Monday 22nd July 2024 (INSET Day)

Inset Days

Monday 19th February 2024

Friday 21st June 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Bank Holiday (May Day)

Monday 6th May 2024

All holidays should be taken during the 13 weeks that the school is closed



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Dates for your Diary: Spring Term (1) - January to March 2024

22.12.2023	End of Autumn Term
Monday 25th December 2023 to Friday 5th January 2024	
January 2024	
08.01.2024	Start of Spring Term (1)
	Musician of the Month – Jimi Hendrix
11.01.2024	KS2 (Year 6) - SATS Parents Meeting (3.20pm)- Year 6 Classrooms
11.01.2024	NSPCC – Speak out Assemblies
12.01.2024	Years 1&2 – Infant Agility (9.30am-11.30am) – NSSC
12.01.2024	NSPCC – Speak out Lessons
15.01.2024	Year 1 – Get Pedalling
15.01.2024	Nursery – Dental Workshop – in Classroom
15.01.2024	KS1 (Year 2) – SATS Parents Meeting (3.20pm) – Year 2 Classrooms
16.01.2024	Year 1 – Get Pedalling
17.01.2024	Year 1 & 2 – Road Safety Theatre Group
19.01.2024	Parent Voice 9.00am
23.01.2024	Nursery – Police Role (PCSO)
24.01.2024	Year 4 – HAL Project: Scene of the Crime
25.01.2024	Year 5 – Girls Basketball (3.45pm-5.30pm)
25.01.2024	SchemaPlay – Nursery & Reception Parents’ Meeting (3.30pm-4.00pm)
29.01.2024	National Storytelling Week (29.01.2024-02.02.2024)
29.01.2024	Year 5 – Boys Basketball (3.45pm-5.30pm)
31.01.2024	Years 5&6 – Netball Skills (1.00pm-5.00pm) - NSSC
February 2024	
	Musician of the Month – Hans Zimmer
02.02.2024	NSPCC Number Day
05.02.2024	Years 5&6 – Maths Quiz (3.30pm-5.00pm) – Kingshurst PS
05.02.2024	Reception – Dental Workshop (9.45am) in Hall
06.02.2024	Year 3 - Gymnastics Competition (9.30am-11.30am) – The Coleshill School
09.02.2024	Chinese New Year Culture Day
09.02.2024	Break Up for Half-Term
Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024	

Dates correct at time of print (18.12.2023)

Information to follow regarding the above events

If children are receiving an award, parents will be sent a text





Dates for your Diary: Spring Term (2) – February to March 2024

February 2024	
19.02.2024	Start of Spring Term (2)
19.02.2024	INSET Day
20.02.2024	Nursery – Animal in Hands
22.02.2024	Year 4 - Kidzania
23.02.2024	Parent Voice 9.00am
23.02.2024	Young Voices – Choir
23.02.2024	Years 5&6 – Athletics (9.30am-11.30am) - NSSC
26.02.2024	Governor Review Day
26.02.2024	Years 3&4 – Maths Quiz (3.30pm-5.00pm) – Kingshurst PS
27.02.2024	Birmingham City Mission Assemblies
28.02.2024	Year 5 – HAL Project: Composing and Creating
29.02.2024	Years 1&2 – Gymnastics (9.30am-11.30am) - CHS
March 2024	
	Musician of the Month – Lucy Horsch
01.03.2024	Secondary School Offer Day
04.03.2024	Science Week (04.03.2024-08.03.2024)
04.03.2024	Sign Language Week (04.03.2024-08.03.2024)
04.03.2024	Year 1 – Dinosaur Visit (Life Long Ago)
06.03.2024	Year 6 – Health Questionnaire – School Nurse (9.30am)
07.03.2024	World Book Day
07.03.2024	KS2 - SEND Archery (3.45pm-5.15pm) – Grace Academy
08.03.2024	International Women’s Day
16.03.2023	Nursery – Year 6 - Mother’s Day Workshops (11.00am and 2.30pm)
08.03.2024	Whole School - Biggest Ever Football Session
11.03.2024	Year 2 – Dean Glover Pastor – RE Sessions
11.03.2024	Year 2 – Maths Quiz (3.30pm-5.00pm) – Kingshurst PS
12.03.2024	Dean Glover Pastor – Easter Assemblies
12.03.2024	Year 3 – My Common Wealth Personal Best (9.30am-11.45am) NSSC
13.03.2024	Year 4-6 - HAL Project: Extravaganza
15.03.2024	Comic Relief Red Nose Day
15.03.2024	Parent Voice 9.00am
18.03.2024	Autism Awareness and Acceptance Week (18.03.2024—22.03.2024)
18.03.2024	Shakespeare Week (18.03.2024-22.03.2024)
18.03.2024	Easter Egg Entries in School
18.03.2024	Year 4 – Easter Assembly (2.30pm)
19.03.2024	Easter Egg Prize Assembly (2.15pm and 2.45pm)
20.03.2024	Attendance Assembly (9.00am and 2.30pm)
21.03.2024	World Poetry Day
21.03.2024	Tea with Me (2.00pm)
22.03.2024	Champion Learner Assembly (9.00am and 2.30pm)
22.03.2024	Break Up for Easter Break
Monday 25th March 2024 to Friday 5th April 2024	

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