



Squirrel Hayes First School
Springfield Road
Biddulph
Stoke on Trent
ST8 7DF
Headteacher: Mrs. E. J. Pickford
Telephone: 01782 973820
Twitter: @squirrelhayes
Facebook: facebook.com/squirrelhayes

Friday 29th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Peak Wildlife Educational Visit – Nursery/Reception (Columba & Columba R) – Thursday 5th December 2024



This term learners in Columba (Nursery and Reception) will have the opportunity to enhance their learning with an educational visit to **Peak Wildlife Park**. This will take place on **Thursday 5th December 2024**; learners will need to arrive in school at 8:45 for a prompt 9:30am set off. We will return to school at approximately 1:30pm. In order to support the school's budget for learning outside of the classroom, we kindly ask for a contribution of **£10.00** to be paid via ParentPay.

Nursery learners coming on the educational visit will need to provide their own packed lunch. When we arrive back 1:30pm. Your child will either need to be picked up or booked into Space Cadets.

Nursery Admissions



Please be reminded that we have three Nursery intake's per year: (September, January and April)

Your child can join our nursery for 15 hours free education from the term after their 3rd birthday. If you have a child that will qualify or know anyone that does, please make them aware and ask them to contact the school office on 01782 973820 or email admin@squirrelhayes.staffs.sch.uk

Christmas Fair – Wednesday 4th December 2024 3:30pm – 5:00pm



This year we will be hosting our Annual Christmas Fair on Wednesday 4th December from 3:30pm – 5:00pm. Entrance to the Fair is FREE. As usual there will be a variety of stalls and games on offer as well as the Christmas Raffle, refreshments and the always popular 'Bouncy Castle'.

If you would like to donate any items for the fair, these would be very much appreciated. Please send the following items into school with your child/children:

- chocolate and bottles
- toiletries
- cakes and biscuits (in packets please)



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Christmas Celebrations/Concerts Update

This year we have made some changes to how we organize our Christmas Concerts/Celebrations. As we are now a much smaller school we have taken the decision to try and include the 'whole school' where possible and appropriate in our key Christmas events.

In response we will now be celebrating Christmas at St Lawrence's Church with a 'Whole School Carol Concert Celebration', inviting all Parents/Carers to join us and get us into the festive spirit. Our Christmas Performance held in school, will also now include learners from Reception - Year 4 for both the afternoon and evening performances. Please see below for further details.

Reception, Hydra (Year 1 / 2) and Draco (Year 3 / 4) Christmas Performance - Tuesday 10th December 2024 Afternoon and Evening



On Tuesday 10th December 2024 Reception, Hydra (Year 1 / 2) and Draco (Year 3 / 4) will be performing in their Christmas Production. This year it is called 'A Midwife Crisis'. Tickets will cost £3.00 each. A letter has already been sent out. Please return the slips & make payment to parent pay by Friday 6th December 2024.

There will be two performances on the 10th December, one during the school day at 2.00pm and one in the evening at 6.00pm. More details to follow.

Christmas Carol Concert at St Lawrence's Church - Wednesday 18th December 2024



On Wednesday 18th December all of our learners from Nursery to Year 4, will be participating in a Christmas Carol Concert Celebration. Parents and Carers are invited to attend St Lawrence's Church to join in the Christmas Celebrations. The children will be transported by coach to and from the church and the 'Carol Concert' is due to commence in the afternoon of the 18th December at 1.30pm. There will be no charges for this event, although there will be the facility to leave a donation for the church. Nursery learners will be invited to stay for lunch and will be transported with our other learners.

Wakeup Wednesday - 27th November 2024



#WakeupWednesday - Snapchat has been available for almost 14 years now 📱 It's expanded plenty in that time - adding new features, and with them, new risks ⚠️ This **#WakeupWednesday**, our guide and podcast are revisiting this messaging app, letting you know how to keep younger users safe.

Download here >> <https://ow.ly/tjPc50UfXWj>

Listen here >> <https://ow.ly/5L9k50UfXWk>



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Christmas Lunch Celebrations - Tuesday 17th December 2024



This year, we will be holding our traditional 'Christmas Meal' on Tuesday 17th December 2024. Once again, we would like to invite you as Parents/Carers/Grandparents to come and enjoy a lunch with your child or children in your family.

In order to cover all supplies the cost to attend this event will be £3.00 per child and £4.00 per adult. A letter has already been sent out. Please return the slips & make payment to parent pay by Friday 6th December 2024.

Space Cadets - Before and After School Club (based at Squirrel Hayes First School)



We understand that working around the school day can sometimes pose a challenge with the increasing demands of work and home life. Space Cadets is based at Squirrel Hayes First School and runs a before and after school club for school aged children aged 4 to 11 years old. Breakfast club runs from 7.30am - 8:45am (Squirrel Hayes children can just turn up so long as they are registered with Space Cadets). After school club runs from 3.15pm-6.00pm (needs to be pre-booked). Space Cadets also run a holiday club available from 7.30am to 6.00pm. For further information please either speak to the office or call Krystle 07500803876.

What's going on in Biddulph

- Biddulph Christmas Lights switch on - Saturday 30th November at 6pm



Biddulph Christmas lights switch on will be held on Saturday 30th November including a market which will start at 4.30pm followed by the Christmas lights switch on at 6pm which will include face painting, glitter tattoos, lucky dips & Santa visit.

- FREE Family Christmas Pizza & Movie Night - Friday December 6th at 6pm



Biddulph town hall are holding a family Christmas pizza & movie night based at Biddulph town hall on Friday 6th December at 6pm. If you are interested in this even please call 01782498480 to book your place or email office@biddulph-tc.gov.uk



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Important Dairy Dates



Please find below a table of events that have been planned for the Autumn Term. Please note that we always try our best to stick to the planned dates and times but on occasion's changes have to be made due to unforeseen circumstances. If this is the case, we will always try to give you as much notice as possible. *Please note dates in blue have been added or changed:*

DATE	EVENT	CLASS
Tuesday 3 rd December 6:00-8:00pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governors
Wednesday 4 th December 3:30pm - 5:00pm	Christmas Fair	All classes
Thursday 5 th December	Peak Wildlife Educational Visit	Nursery and Reception
Tuesday 10 th December 2:00pm & 6:00pm	Christmas Performance	Reception, Hydra & Draco
Monday 16 th December 3:30-4:30pm	Christmas Disco	All classes
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch - Parents/Carers invited	All classes
Wednesday 18 th December 1:30-2:30pm	Whole School Christmas Carol Concert St Lawrence's Church	All classes
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Party day	All classes
Friday 20 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All classes
Friday 20 th December	School closes for the Christmas Holiday at 3:15pm	All classes
Monday 6 th January 2025	School opens at 08:45am at the start of the New Year	All classes

Yours sincerely,
 Mrs E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team