



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

Friday 28th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Safer Internet Day



On Tuesday 8th February we will be joining many other organisations in supporting 'Safer Internet Day'. This year's theme is "All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online". Learners across the school will be taking part in a range of activities around 'staying safe on the internet'. Please use the link below for more information and useful hints and tips for parents/carers around internet safety.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022/advice-for-parents-and-carers>

Parents Evening



We would like to invite you to attend our Spring Term Parents Consultation Afternoon/Evening. Appointments can be booked for Wednesday 9th February 2022 from between 1.30pm - 4.30pm and 5.30pm - 7.00pm.

We very much view successful learning as a partnership between home and school and see this as an important opportunity for you to come along with your child in order to celebrate their achievements to date and discuss their future learning targets and developments.

More details about how to book your appointment will be sent out shortly.

Free School Meals



If your child qualifies for 'Free School Meals', this unlocks additional funding for schools to help your child. Please see the information below to see if you qualify.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



You can only apply online if you meet the [low income criteria](#). Remember, you can only claim free school meals if your child is going to be in Reception year or above when the meals begin. It is worth applying to check if you qualify by clicking the below link: the system will give you an instant decision:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>

COVID-19 Update



As you will be aware as of Thursday 27th January 2022 the government has introduced further changes regarding COVID-19. As a Staffordshire, school we will continue to follow advice and guidance from the Local Outbreak Team when positive cases are identified in school. The current rules around self-isolation and testing remain the same:-

People who test positive for Covid-19 are expected to self-isolate for 10 days. They [have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral Flow Test on both day 5 and then on day 6 and have no temperature.](#) If you keep getting positive lateral flow test you must remain in self-isolation for the full 10 days

In school if your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive they will be asked to take a lateral flow test each morning before coming to school for 7 days. If your child's lateral flow results in a positive reading you should keep them at home and start their self-isolation period. For learners under 5 it is recommended that the rest of the household take lateral flow tests and if negative then school can be attended.

We understand that this is frustrating at times for parents but it is necessary to help us to keep the transmission of covid-19 down in school and to stay open and fully operational. We have reviewed and updated our COVID-19 risk assessment in line with the latest advice and guidance. You can find a copy on the school website through the link below:

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/squirrel/UploadedDocument/88f25ec1-157d-438a-aa04-b9d8d0277dc8/270122-covid-19-risk-v9-27.01.2022.pdf>

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Parent Governor Vacancies



As you be aware from letters sent out yesterday, we have two Parent Governor Vacancies on our Governing Body. If you would like to stand for election as a parent governor, please complete the nomination form that was attached to yesterday's letter and return it to school no later than Monday 7th February 2022 by 9.30am. If you cannot find the form and would like another copy. Please ask at the school office.

If you require any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team

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