



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

Tuesday 9th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Safer Internet Day - Family online safety plan**



Yesterday we joined many other organisations in supporting 'Safer Internet Day'. This year's theme was "All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online". Learners from across the school took part in a range of activities around 'staying safe on the internet'. The table below shows the different aspects of internet safety that our learners explored.

Year Group	Activities & Aspects of internet safety covered
Nursery	Shared the DigiDuck story - 'The Famous Friend' - discussed knowing whom you are talking to and playing with online.
Reception	Shared the DigiDuck story - 'The Big Decision' - discussed people you can trust online.
Year 1 / 2 (Leonis)	Looked at what is safe to share and what is not safe to share when online.
Year 2 / 3 (Perseus)	Looked at different websites that the learners recognised and play on. Discussed age ratings and rules on how to keep yourself safe when online and gaming.
Year 3 / 4 (Draco)	Looked at different forms of cyberbullying - how this can take place on-line and when gaming.

If you are unsure about any games that your child might be accessing you can gain a greater understanding by clicking on the link below which will take you to the 'Family Video Game Database'. Here you will be able to search for games and look at what they involve, age ratings and other useful information.

<https://www.taminggaming.com/en-gb/>

Please also find attached at the bottom of this letter a 'Family online Safety Plan' that is a good tool to use as a family to look at how everyone in the house can help to keep each other safe online.

**Parent Governor Vacancies Update**



As you be aware from letters sent over the last couple of weeks, 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

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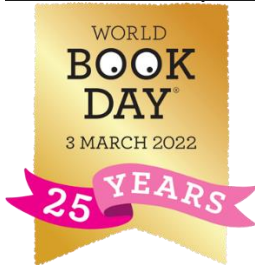




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form that was attached to the bottom of this letter and return it to school no later than Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 by 9.30am. If you cannot print the form and would like a copy. Please ask at the school office.

### World Book Day - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022



Our theme for World Book Day this year is 'Bedtime Story'. On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March children are invited to come to school wearing their pajamas. We would also like them to bring in a story book and soft toy/pillow.

Children will enjoy many different book activities throughout the day and their class teacher will share their favorite childhood story whilst the children enjoy a hot chocolate and a snack.

### Year 4 Leavers Hoodies



Once again, we will be offering our Year 4 pupils the option to order a leavers hoodie. Once again these can be ordered through the Smart School Uniform website by clicking the below link. In order for these to be delivered to school, any orders need to be placed by the end of March 2022.

<https://smartuniform.co.uk/product/squirrel-hayes-leavers-hoodies/>

### Number Day Fundraiser for NSPCC update



## NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

On Friday last week, we joined many organisations across the country to fundraise for the NSPCC through celebrating 'Number Day - Dress up for digits'. As a school, we pledged to raise £100 and have just fallen short of this target to date. If anyone is still yet to bring in their donation and has not yet done so, please could you send it to the school office before Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Any shortfall we will be making up from our school fundraising account.

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### Glockenspiels and Music Update



As you will already be aware, learners from across the school participate in weekly music lessons. Year 2 / 3 are learning to play the records and year 3 / 4 the ukulele. As a school, we 'buy into' Staffordshire Music Service to support our creative curriculum and the school has the loan of recorders and ukulele's as part of this agreement.

Year 1 / 2 are taught music by me and are about to commence learning to play the Glockenspiel. As this is not part of our paid agreement to the music service, the school has to provide its own instruments. I am therefore pleased to inform you that we have just purchased a class set of Glockenspiels thanks to your fundraising at our 'Outdoor Christmas Festival'. Learners from Leonis were very excited yesterday, to help me unbox their new instruments and are looking forward to trying them out this Friday. These instruments will not only be used by Year 1 / 2 but will be used across the school as part of many other creative activities that we have planned.

### Music Update from the Moorlands music Centre

Please see a letter below from the Moorlands Music Centre.

### A MUSICAL INVITATION TO ALL PUPILS

Dear Parents/Carers of Young Musicians and Singers,

I'm Mr Hollingshurst, the Centre Manager for the Moorlands Music Centre. I'm writing to invite your child to join one or more of our FREE music groups/bands.

For beginners and younger musicians (from Year 3 and above), we currently run STRINGSTERS (our Training String Orchestra for any violin, viola, cello and bass players) and the Training Wind Band (for all wind and brass instruments and drummers). Both groups are perfect for young beginner musicians. For all those who love to sing (Y3 and older)...we also have our Centre Choir.

Membership of all our groups is completely FREE. We meet once or twice a month on Saturday mornings, at Blythe Bridge High School, ST11 9PW. Rehearsals for the instrumental groups are from 9.30-11.30am, with the choir following from 11.30-12.15pm...instrumentalists are very welcome to stay on for choir and non-instrumentalists are welcome to join the choir too of course! All groups are led by very experienced instrumental/vocal teachers. Once pupils have played with us for a while, it is also possible for all our musicians to progress to our senior level groups. We usually hold two concerts a year, and occasionally perform at other local events when we are invited to.

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Our next rehearsal is this coming SATURDAY 12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY and your son/daughter would be very welcome to come along. In order to join, pupils will need to bring their instrument, but we do have some available to loan too. During the morning rehearsals we have a Tuck Shop break, so pupils might like to bring a small amount of money to spend (snack prices range from 20p to £1). Parents/carers then collect their children at the end of the rehearsal, at 11.30am. (or 12.15pm if they are in the choir).

Music-making is such a social activity - Moorlands Music Centre gives your child the chance to meet and perform with other like-minded young musicians from across North Staffordshire, in an inclusive and nurturing environment, but one which seeks and achieves high quality musical outcomes for all pupils and groups. Put simply, playing music with others is not only a great way to become a better musician, it's also much more fun!

I really hope to see your child soon at Moorlands Music Centre. If you can't make this Saturday's rehearsal, our next will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March. If you have any questions about the Centre or our rehearsals, please don't hesitate to contact me via email (contact details below) or see the attached music centre information leaflet.

Kind regards,

**Dan Hollingshurst**

Centre Manager - Moorlands Music Centre  
Entrust Music Service Staffordshire  
The Music Partnership

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The \_\_\_\_\_ family online safety plan



Look around your home. Search for all the devices which connect to the internet and record here:



We have  devices which connect to the internet in our home.



**It's time to talk**

How do we use the internet as a family? (e.g for entertainment, for research...)



**How can we keep our family safe and happy online?**

What can we use our devices for?

What can't we use our devices for?

Where will we keep our devices?

When can we use our devices?

What should we do if something worries, upsets or confuses us online?



**Our next steps**

Adults' next steps:

Young people's next steps:

Date:

Signed by:

This plan has been shared with:  
(grandparents, aunts, uncles, childminder etc.)

Family Online Safety Plan

#SaferInternetDay

www.saferinternetday.org.uk

**PARENTS AND CARERS**



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### Appointment of Parent Governor - Nomination Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child(ren) and Class \_\_\_\_\_

#### Candidate Information:

Please state, **as briefly as possible**, the contribution you feel you could make to the governing body.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent proposing the nomination: \_\_\_\_\_(Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Sign)

Name of parent seconding the nomination: \_\_\_\_\_(Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Sign)

Please return this form to the school office no later than Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 – 9.30a

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## FEBRUARY HALF TERM MULTI-SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUBS

Come and join us for some sports, games and activities from February 21 - 25. Our action-packed program gives children the chance to remain active, develop skills and make new friends within a safe and secure environment.

**BIDDULPH  
KINGSFIELD  
FIRST SCHOOL  
ST8 6AY**

- Combat Sports
- Multi-Sports
- Alternative Sports
- Booster Events
- Arts & Crafts
- Team Building

Register or Sign in to your MyASM account to locate and book the venue in your area.

**FULL DAY** from **£15.00**  
Full Week & Sibling discount applied

First Half \* 9:00 - 12:15  
Full Day 9:00 - 15:30  
Second Half \* 12:15 - 15:30

Kick Off 8:00 - 9:00  
Extra Time 15:30 - 17:00

\* 4 year olds eligible for half day options only

Visit: [asmsports.co.uk](http://asmsports.co.uk) Call: 01782 366 332 Email: [info@asmsports.co.uk](mailto:info@asmsports.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team

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