



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

Monday 9th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back



Welcome back to school and the start of the Autumn Term 2024. I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer break and managed to make the most of the sunny weather while it lasted. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces on Wednesday morning as the children arrived back. Everyone has settled in well and are getting used to their new routines.

School Uniform and PE Reminders



It was fantastic on visiting all classes to see our learners looking smart in the correct school uniform. As you will be aware on PE days and on 'Fitness Friday' your child will need to come to school in their school PE Kit. The following tables are a reminder of what uniform is required and on what day for each class.

PE Kit	
Pale blue polo shirt	Purchased from a store of your choice
Black Shorts/leggings/joggers	Purchased from a store of your choice
Indoor pumps and outdoor trainers	Purchased from a store of your choice
Plain Black Hoodie or Tracksuit Top (For outdoor wear when weather is cooler)	Purchased from a store of your choice

Please see below for the designated PE days for the different classes when your child needs to come to school wearing their PE kit.

Class PE Days	
Columba (Nursery and Reception)	Friday
Hydra (Year 1 / 2)	Thursday & Friday
Draco (Year 3 / 4)	Tuesday & Friday

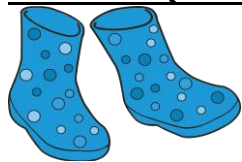
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Columba R (Reception) Wellie Wednesday



Come rain or shine, learners from reception class will need to bring in a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat each Wednesday. You can bring a pair of wellies and leave them at school. Please make sure your child's name is in all items.

Asda Rewards (helping schools)



Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024, every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app, you can choose a primary school to receive a percentage of the spend. And that's not all – every time a customer chooses us! Asda will donate £1 to your school's Cash pot, plus a further £50 when your first customer shops.

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024, every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app, the supermarket will donate 0.5% of the value of their shop to their chosen primary school. Please support Squirrel Hayes First School in this venture.



It's as easy as 1,2,3 for parents and carers

1. Download the Asda Rewards app and sign up
2. Select your primary school of choice
3. Shop in-store or online at Asda.com

Academy Photography



Academy Photography will be in school on Thursday 24th October 2024 to photograph individuals and siblings. Please ensure your child is wearing their normal full school uniform on this day.

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Illness/Lateness



Please can we remind everyone that if your child is poorly/absent from school or late you must contact school to provide a reason for their absence/lateness. If no reason is provided or approved then the absence will be marked as unauthorized. Please be mindful that the official start to the school day is 8.45am therefore any arrival after this time will be classed as late and anything after 9.05am will be classed as unauthorized as this is when the registers officially close.

Parking and School Safety



Please can I remind all Parents/Carers about parking safely when dropping off and picking up your children both before and after school. Please do not park on the zig-zags or pull up in the school drive area as this is not a suitable or safe area to park. Please can you also avoid blocking driveways of the residents who live on the roads near the school. I appreciate that this is a very busy and hectic time of the day for many Parents and Carers but the safety of our community remains a priority. Your support in keeping our community safe is much appreciated.

Data Collection and Contact/Permissions Information



It is that time of year again when we need to ensure that we have the correct contact details and vital information regarding your child and their care needs. Your child has been sent home with an envelope containing the 'data collections sheets' to be completed and returned to school by **Friday 15th September at the latest**. It is vital that we have the correct information available should we need to contact you in an emergency or need to check on any key information about the safety and care of your child whilst in school. If you require any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

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New School Website



We are thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new school website! 🎉

Our team has been working diligently to create a more user-friendly and engaging online experience for everyone. Here are some of the exciting new features you can look forward to:

- 1. Improved Navigation:** Finding the information you need is now easier than ever with our streamlined menu and intuitive layout.
- 2. Mobile-Friendly Design:** Access our website seamlessly from any device, whether you're on a computer, tablet, or smartphone.
- 3. Enhanced Content:** Stay up-to-date with the latest news, events, and announcements with our regularly updated blog and news sections.
- 4. Interactive Calendar:** Keep track of school events, holidays, and important dates with our new interactive calendar feature.
- 5. Resource Hub:** Easily find and download important documents, forms, and resources in our comprehensive resource hub.

We invite you to explore the new website and discover all the improvements we've made to better serve our school community. Your feedback is important to us, so please don't hesitate to share your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to connecting with you through our new digital home!

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New School Lunch Menu

With the start of the academic year, Edwards & Ward our catering provider has provided a new lunch menu, (see below). Please can we remind all parents that if your child/children would like a school meal then please inform your teacher at the start of the school day. If any learners have any food intolerances please visit www.edwardsandward.co.uk/special-diets/
To register your child/children with any dietary needs.

	WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE
MONDAY	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) or Beany Burrito with Jacket Wedges (Ve) Veg of the Day Vanilla Shortbread (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) or Deep Filled Jacket with Veggie Bolognese (Ve) Veg of the Day Chocolate Shortbread (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) or Veggie Chow Mein (Ve) Veg of the Day Sultana Shortbread (Ve)
TUESDAY	Pork or Chicken Sausages with Mash & Gravy or Veggie Sausage with Mash & Gravy (Ve) Veg of the Day Apple Sponge (V)	Cottage Pie or Vegan Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy (Ve) Veg of the Day Carrot Cake (V)	Chicken & Vegetable Pie with Mash or Butternut Squash & Lentil Curry with Rice (Ve) Veg of the Day Pineapple Upside Down Cake (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Loaded Yorkshire with Roasties (V) Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Sweet Potato Crumble with Roasties (Ve) Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Cheese, Leek & Potato Pie with Roasties (V) Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve)
THURSDAY	Beef Lasagne or Rainbow Vegetable Stir-Fry (Ve) Veg of the Day Sultana Flapjack (Ve)	Chicken Korma with Rice or Mac & Cheese (V) Veg of the Day Apple Flapjack (Ve)	Penne with Beef Bolognese or Vegetable Lasagne (V) Veg of the Day Flapjack (Ve)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips or Vegetable Fingers with Chips (Ve) Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips or Vegetable Fingers with Chips (Ve) Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips or Vegetable Fingers with Chips (Ve) Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V)
	2/9/24, 23/9/24, 14/10/24, 4/11/24, 25/11/24, 16/12/24, 6/1/25, 27/1/25	9/9/24, 30/9/24, 21/10/24, 11/11/24, 2/12/24, 23/12/24, 13/1/25, 3/2/25	16/9/24, 7/10/24, 28/10/24, 18/11/24, 9/12/24, 30/12/24, 20/1/25, 10/2/25

V - Vegetarian - Ve - Vegan

Choice of **Filled Jacket Potatoes** and **Sandwiches** also available daily along with freshly baked bread, salad, fresh fruit, yoghurts, jelly and fresh drinking water.

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:

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DATE	EVENT	CLASS
Week beg 16 th Sept - 20 th Sept	Travel Wise Week	All classes
Tuesday 1 st October 2024 2:40pm	Harvest Celebration Assembly (Parents/Carers invited to attend)	All classes
Monday 21 st October 2024 3:30pm - 4:30pm	Spooky Disco	All classes
Tuesday 22 nd October 6:30-8:00pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governors
Thursday 24 th October 2024	Academy Photography (Individual & siblings photographs)	All classes
Friday 25 th October	School closes at 3:15pm for the Half Term break	All classes
Monday 4 th November	School opens at 08:45am for all children following the half term break	All classes
Monday 4 th November 09:00am - 9:30am & 5:00pm - 5:30pm	MTC (Multiplication Times Tables Check) workshop/Information session for Parents/Carers	Draco class
Thursday 8 th November	NHS Flu Team in school all day	All classes
Sunday 10 th November	Remembrance Parade - Biddulph	Year 4 Representatives
Monday 11 th November 09:00am - 9:30am & 5:00pm - 5:30pm	Phonics Screener workshop/information session for Parents/Carers	Hydra class
Wednesday 13 th November 2:40pm	Anti-bullying Assembly - Parents/Carers invited Odd Socks Day	All classes
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need - themes day for charity	All classes
Wednesday 27 th November 1:30-3:00pm & 3:30-6:30pm	Parent Consultations	All classes
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
Tuesday 10 th December 2:00pm & 6:00pm	Christmas Performance	Hydra & Draco
Thursday 12 th December 1:30-2:30pm	Whole School Church Performance & Carols	All classes
Monday 16 th December 4 3:30-4:30pm	Christmas Disco	All classes
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch - Parents/Carers invited	All classes
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Part 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

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