



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 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Remembrance Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024, representatives from our Year 4 class accompanied Mrs. Johnson-Allen in Biddulph Town Centre to participate in the Remembrance Parade and wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph. A two-minute silence was undertaken in order to reflect and remember those who sacrificed their lives to secure and protect our freedom.



In school, poppies have also been on sale in support of the remembrance period and a two-minute silence was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 11:00am across the school.

**Snow/Adverse Weather Conditions Procedures**



The health & safety of your child is of paramount importance to all the staff here at Squirrel Hayes First School. Please see separate letter e-mailed out and sent out today detailing our Adverse Weather procedures. **Any decision taken to close the school due to snow or dangerous weather conditions will be considered very carefully following health and safety guidance.**

If the school has to be closed due to health & safety reasons surrounding snow or adverse weather conditions then you will be informed as soon as possible through the following:

- Text message on your mobile
- Message on the school's website

**Parent Consultations/Evening - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November (1.00pm - 3.00pm and 3.30pm - 6.30pm)**



You are invited to attend our Autumn Term Parents Consultation on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. **Appointments can be made from 1.00pm - 3.00pm and from 3.30pm - 6.30pm.** A separate letter has been e-mailed out and sent home with details on how to book your appointment.



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

**Peak Wildlife Educational Visit – Nursery/Reception (Columba & Columba R) – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:admin@squirrelhayes.staffs.sch.uk)

**Christmas Fair – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 3:30pm – 5:00pm**



**This year we will be hosting our Annual Christmas Fair on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> 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:

- **Week beginning the 18<sup>th</sup> November – chocolate and bottles**
- **Week beginning the 25<sup>th</sup> November – toiletries**
- **Week beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> December – cakes and biscuits (in packets please)**

**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.



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

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 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Afternoon and Evening**



On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> 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 detailing how to purchase tickets will be sent home shortly.

There will be two performances on the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024**



On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Christmas Lunch Celebrations - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024**



This year, we will be holding our traditional 'Christmas Meal' on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 with further details about how to order your meals will be sent home next week with your child and e-mailed

In order to prepare and ensure that an appropriate amount of ingredients is ordered, we will need to **receive all return slips and payment via parent pay by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**



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

**Extra-Curricular Learning and After School Clubs**



There is still time to sign up to the following after school clubs:

- **Choir Club (Year 1 - Year 4) Commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November from 3:15pm - 4:15pm (20 spaces)**
- **Board Game Club (Reception - Year 4) Commencing Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 3:15pm - 4:15pm (16 spaces)**

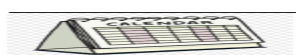
Letters have been sent out for your child to sign up to.

**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.

**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
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 1:30-3:00pm & 3:30-6:30pm	Parent Consultations	All classes
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 6:00-8:00pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governors
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 3:30pm - 5:00pm	Christmas Fair	All classes
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Peak Wildlife Educational Visit	Nursery and Reception
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2:00pm & 6:00pm	Christmas Performance	Reception, Hydra & Draco
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 3:30-4:30pm	Christmas Disco	All classes
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch - Parents/Carers invited	All classes



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

Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 1:30-2:30pm	Whole School Christmas Carol Concert St Lawrence's Church	All classes
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party day	All classes
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day	All classes
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes for the Christmas Holiday at 3:15pm	All classes
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	School opens at 08:45am at the start of the New Year	All classes

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