



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 14th May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Special Menu - Thursday 15th May School Lunch Menu



On Thursday 15th May 2025 the kitchen will be offering a 'Special menu'. If your child would like the following for lunch please let one of the teachers know in the morning when dropping your child into school so we can get them a lunch ordered.

Attendance - Hydra Class - Congratulations



Congratulations to our Hydra Class!

We are thrilled to announce that our Hydra class has won this week's attendance achievement with an impressive 98.1%! 🏆 Attendance is incredibly important for our learners' success. They will enjoy having 'Cyril the Squirrel' with them for the week to help them celebrate.

Reception - Height & Weight Checks



This is a reminder that, as in previous years, the Families' Health and Wellbeing (0-19) Service has once again been commissioned by Staffordshire County Council to deliver the National Child Measurement Programme. They will be visiting our school on **Monday 19th May 2025** to carry out this important programme.

'Try it' Sports Festival - Tuesday 20th May at James Bateman Middle School, 3:20 - 5:00pm.

Try it! Sports and Activity Fair

The event is FREE to attend and open to pupils and parents from all schools.

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Free Event

TRY IT!
SPORTS & ACTIVITY FAIR

OPEN TO ALL SCHOOLS

Come along, look around, have a go, and see what's on offer in your area.

**Local Clubs
Fun Activities
Organisations
Win prizes
Sports**

James Bateman Middle School
Tuesday May 20th
3.30-5pm

Walk to school week - Monday 19th June 2025

Walking Warriors

We're excited to announce that our school will be taking part in Walk to School Week, a national campaign that encourages families to make walking to school part of their daily routine. This year's theme is "Walk with Wonder", inspiring children to enjoy the journey, notice nature, and start the day with energy and enthusiasm.

Walking to school is a fantastic way to:

- Boost physical and mental wellbeing
- Reduce traffic and pollution around the school gates
- Spend quality time together as a family
- Arrive at school refreshed and ready to learn.

We'd love for as many families as possible to take part—whether you walk the whole way, park and stride, or scoot or cycle part of the journey. Every step counts!

How you can get involved: Plan your walking route over the weekend, set off a little earlier to enjoy a relaxed walk, talk about what you see on the way—birds, flowers, signs of spring!



Mental Health Awareness Week 12th - 16th May 2025



This week we are joining many organisations in supporting 'Mental Health Awareness Week'. This year's focus is on the power of 'Community'. As a learning community we are keen to explore this theme with our learners and help raise awareness of how being part of a community can make life feel more meaningful, enjoyable and help us to feel safer and happier. All of this helps to support and improve our 'Mental Health and well-being'.

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Children across the school will be exploring 'The power of community' over this week and the following week and we hope to share some of our learning with our community which of course includes you as Parents and Carers.

The following links will take you to the Mental Health Foundation Website where you can find ideas about how 'community' can support your mental health and well-being.

https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week/how-community-benefits-your-mental-health?utm_medium=email&utm_source=email_nl_may&utm_campaign=mhaw_how_community_blog&utm_source=MHF+main+audience&utm_campaign=0b08c74885-MHAW2025_weektogo_070525&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-6ceae178a6-333359855

We will be sharing more details and useful links on this half terms 'Safeguarding, Health & Safety and well-being' letter coming out later this week.

Year 4 Leavers Hoodies



Reminder: Year 4 learners are welcome to wear their Leavers hoodies to school after the May Half Term break when they return to school for the last half of the Summer Term on the 3rd June 2025. Please ensure that your child does not wear their Hoodie to school before this date.

Safeguarding Awareness Week 19th - 23rd May 2025



Next week both staff and learners will be promoting and participating in 'Safeguarding Awareness Week'. This year's theme is 'Empowering and protecting students in a digital world'. Learners across the school will be thinking about digital safety and how they can keep themselves safe in our digital world.

On Wednesday 21st May children will be joining in 'Wear a hat to school day!' They are invited to wear a hat of their choice to school as a symbol of how to protect themselves in the digital world, just like a hat is worn to protect the head.

I am excited to see the many different styles and choices and sharing them with our learning community.

WCET Celebration Concert 2025



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As you will already be aware, as part of your child's curriculum they have been learning to play a musical instrument. Hydra have been learning to play the Recorder whilst Draco have been learning to play the Ukulele. Letters have been sent home regarding the learner's participation in a Music performance at the Symphony Hall Birmingham on the 16th June 2025 and how to order tickets if you want to go and watch the performance.

Letters with further details have already been sent out to parents and carers. If you have any questions or require additional information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

SEND Coffee Morning - Parents/Carers only - Thursday 5th June 2025- 1:30pm -3:30pm

James Bateman Middle School are delighted to be hosting a SEND Coffee Morning. This event is open to our Parents/Carers. Karen Mellor (an Education Mental Health Practitioner) will be visiting.

SEND & Wellbeing
Coffee Afternoon

A great opportunity to meet and catch-up with other parents, check-in with staff and discuss SEND & Wellbeing Support!

Open to all parents of all year groups!
Year 4 Parents invited too!
No need to book, just show up!

Thursday 5th June
1:30pm - 3:30pm at
James Bateman Middle School's
Canteen

Special Guest: Karen Mellor!

Education Mental Health Practitioner

I support pupils with:

- Worry management / Anxiety
- Panic management
- Low Mood
- Sleep
- Problems solving

The poster features a cup of coffee with a heart on top, a shield with a dragon, and a small graphic of a person with a speech bubble.

Changes to contact details



Please can we remind parents that if any circumstances change i.e. phone numbers, emails or address details please could you let the school office know so we can update the system and have the correct details on file. We always need two contact numbers in case of an emergency.

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Important Diary Updates



Please find below a table of events that have been planned for the Spring 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:*

SUMMER TERM 1st Half 2025

DATE	EVENT	CLASS
Wednesday 14 th May	NSPCC - Workshop for Year 2	Year 2
<i>Week beg 12th - 16th May</i>	<i>Mental Health Awareness Week</i>	<i>All classes</i>
Monday 19 th May	School Nursing Team - Height & Weight checks	Reception Class
<i>Week beg 19th - 23rd May</i>	<i>Safeguarding Awareness week</i>	<i>All classes</i>
Wednesday 21 st May	<i>Wear a hat to school day - Any style hat welcome! To support Safeguarding Awareness Week</i>	<i>All Classes</i>
Tuesday 20 th May 6:30pm - 7:30pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governors
Friday 23 rd May	School closes for staff and pupils at 3:45pm for the May Half Term Holiday.	All classes
Monday 2 nd June	INSET DAY - school closed to pupils	All classes
Tuesday 3 rd June	School re-opens to staff and pupils at 08:45am	All classes

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team

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