



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 24th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

A Special Visit from Staffordshire Police!



This week, we have been delighted to welcome officers from Staffordshire Police into school to talk to our learners about the important role the Police play in keeping our communities safe. Our learners had a fantastic time exploring the Police car, trying on uniforms, and learning about the flashing lights and sirens! It was a fun and engaging way to learn more about how the Police help us every day. A big thank you to Staffordshire Police for making the visit so memorable — and for inspiring our young learners with such a positive experience!

Academy Photography



Academy Photography will be in school on Thursday 23rd October 2025 to photograph individuals and siblings. Please ensure your child is wearing their normal full school uniform on this day.

Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Collection Reminder



We kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure that children do not use the outdoor equipment during morning drop-off or afternoon collection times. Due to current weather conditions and the lack of supervision during these periods, the equipment may be unsafe. It is your responsibility to ensure your child does not access the equipment at these times. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us keep all learners safe.

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Important Reminder: Earrings and PE Lessons



In line with our uniform policy, we kindly remind all learners and parents that *all jewellery must be removed before PE or active learning sessions*. To avoid any inconvenience, it is **strongly recommended** that learners do **not** wear earrings on days when they have PE or active learning. Learners will be expected to remove their own earrings and watches before participating, and they will be responsible for keeping their belongings safe. Please note that the school **cannot accept responsibility** for any loss or damage to jewellery or watches that are brought in. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and focused learning environment.

Weekly Attendance Celebration!

Every week during our Achievement Assembly, we celebrate attendance across all classes. The class with the highest attendance wins our special Attendance Award - and gets to keep Cyril Squirrel in their classroom for the whole week! Congratulations to Draco Ladon Class who achieved an incredible 98.1% attendance this week - absolutely amazing! Cyril is excited to spend the week with you - well done, everyone!

New School Lunch Menu

With the start of the academic year, Edwards & Ward our catering provider has provided a new visual lunch menu, (please 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 1	Week 2	Week 3
MONDAY	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges Pudding: Chocolate & Vanilla Swirl (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges Pudding: Vanilla Snap (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges Pudding: Lemon Biscuit (Ve)
TUESDAY	Chicken Tikka Masala with Rice Pudding: Apple Cake (Ve)	Italian Sausage Pasta Bake Pudding: Jaffa Cake Sponge (Ve)	Sausage with Mash & Gravy Pudding: Oaty Apple & Rhubarb Crumble (Ve) with Custard (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Pudding: Fruity Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Pudding: Fruity Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Pudding: Fruity Jelly (Ve)
THURSDAY	Homestyle Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy Pudding: Flapjack (Ve)	Cottage Pie Pudding: Flapjack (Ve)	Penne with Beef Bolognese Pudding: Cheese Krispie Bite (Ve)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Pudding: Banoffee Crumble (Ve) with Custard (V)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Pudding: Banana Custard Ice Cream (V)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Pudding: Banana Cake (V)

Autumn/Winter 2025-26

Choice of lighter options also available daily

Ve Vegan
V Vegetarian

Along with freshly baked bread, veg of the day, salad, fresh fruit, yoghurts, jelly and fresh drinking water.

edwards and ward
a recipe for success

MENU
Pink

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Harvest Celebration Assembly - Tuesday 30th September



On Tuesday 30th September we will be holding our Annual 'Harvest Celebration Assembly' in school. This is due to take place in school at 2:30pm in school. We would like to invite you to come along and join in our harvest celebrations. All classes are been busy practicing their harvest songs and poems and are excited to share them with you. We will also be collecting food for our local foodbank so any donations of non-perishable foods e.g. tins, packets or jars of food, with a long shelf life, would be most grateful and much appreciated. All of your donations will be placed on display in the school library until they are collected by the foodbank the following week.

Educational Workshop from Magic Door Education: Reception and Hyrda



On Tuesday 14th October, Reception and Hydra learners will have the opportunity to enhance their learning, as we have invited Magic Door Education into school to deliver a Florence Nightingale Workshop to complement their learning about the life and times of Florence Nightingale.

In order to support the school's budget for learning outside of the classroom, we kindly ask for a contribution of £5.00, payment to be made via ParentPay please.

We very much hope that you will support this event by sending your child to school dressed up as a Victorian Child. You need not go to a lot of trouble or expense, as simple costume will be fine. There are some ideas here, but you can research your own costume too.

NHS Update

Providing NHS services

Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment

- Sinusitis (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- Sore throat (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- Earache (children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- Infected insect bite (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Impetigo (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Shingles (adults aged 18 years and over)
- Urinary tract infection (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service

Visit your Pharmacy First!

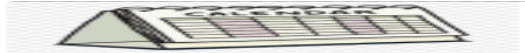
*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied

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Important Diary Updates

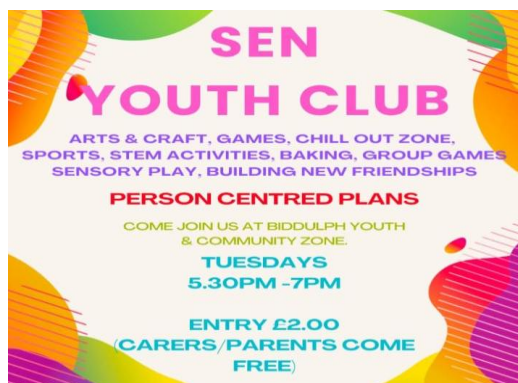


Please find below a table of events that have been planned for the Autumn term. Please note that we always try our best to stick to the planned dates and times but on occasion's changes have to be made due to unforeseen circumstances. If this is the case, we will always try to give you as much notice as possible. *Please note dates in blue have been added or changed:*

Autumn Term 1sthalf 2025

DATE	EVENT	CLASS
Monday 15 th September 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Street Dance club - led by Miss Bennett commences	Year 1, 2 ,3 & 4
Tuesday 30 th September 2:30pm	Harvest Assembly (Parents/Carers invited)	Rec, Year 1, 2, 3 & 4
Wednesday 8 th October 1:00pm	City 7 Assembly (Stoke Football)	All classes
Tuesday 14 th October	Florence Nightingale Workshop in school	Reception & Hydra
Tuesday 21 st October 6:00pm - 7:30pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governors
Wednesday 22 nd October 3:15pm - 4:30pm	Spooky Disco	All classes invited
Thursday 23 rd October	Academy Photography	All classes
Friday 24 th October	3:15pm School Closes for October half Term Break	All classes
Monday 3 rd November 2025	8:45am School opens for the second Half of the Autumn Term 2025	All classes

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



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Please see below useful updates from Staffordshire Moorlands Hub



Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub

September 2025

Here at Staffordshire Moorlands Hub we aim to provide activities and support for children and young people 0-19 and their families to keep them happy, healthy and safe. We aim to provide 'The Right Help at the Right Time and in the Right Place'.

Our friendly team of staff are here to help you find the right support and answer any of your questions as well as tell you about the range of services and activities offered in Family Hubs. The activities we provide are delivered across the Moorlands area, including Biddulph, Leek and Cheadle.

Please feel free to contact us via Facebook or by calling the Hub or why not drop in.
01782 297970

Activities listed as FPC are discounted for valid Free Pass Card holders.



Coming Soon



We've teamed up with Caudwell Children and are offering a FREE Coffee Morning for parents and carers.

Would you like to know about the services they offer?

Autism Services	Equipment	Family Support	Sensory Packs
Shaping Futures	Short Breaks	Therapy	Treatment

When: Wednesday 17th September
10am - 12noon

Booking Essential

Please call 01782 297970 to book your place

Where: Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, Albert Street, Biddulph, Staffordshire, ST8 6DT

Caudwell Children exists to make life fair for disabled and autistic children.

BLOOM BABY CLASSES



♥ **TUESDAYS IN BIDDULPH** ♥
 Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, Albert Street Biddulph, ST8 6DT
 10:00am - 10:45am 0m - walkers
 11:15am - 12:00pm 0-6m
 FROG and book booking
 @bloomnorthstaffordshire
 haley@bloombabyclasses.com 01742563959

Monday

Little Doves Under 5s Playgroup FPC
Waterhouses Methodist Chapel, ST10 3HN
Fun & Friendly baby & toddler group. Free play, craft, dancing and bubbles!
Drop In 9.15AM - 11.00AM
0-5 years £2.00 per family
For details go to @Little Doves Under 5s Playgroup Waterhouses

Little Bees Craft & Play
Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT
An interactive themed session each week for parents and carers with little ones aged 0-4 years.
9:30PM-11:00AM
FREE-DROP IN SO NO NEED TO BOOK
For details call: 01782 297970
Kindly sponsored by Biddulph Town Council

Craft & Play
St Giles The Abbott Cheadle ST10 1HU
Come and join us for a morning of crafts and play. Suitable for Pre-school children with parents/carers.
10:15AM- 11:45AM
FREE - TERM TIME ONLY
Tel: 01538 387231

Biddulph Breastfeeding Group
Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT
Parent Led Support Group. A chance for mums to meet other mums. Refreshments provided.
FREE
10:00AM-11:30AM Call 01782 297970 for details

Monday

****Starting in September****
Pram to Primary-Virtual Online
Are you struggling with your child's behaviour? If your child is aged between 0-11 years, then this programme could be for you.
****BOOKING ESSENTIAL****
Email: Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk

Mini Messy Makers FPC
Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT
Do you love messy play with your little one, 6 different themed sensory tuff trays per week.
£6.50 per child, Block booking also available.
6 months old to preschool
Contact Alex book or for more information.
Mini.messy.makers101@gmail.com

If you need to speak to a Health Visitor please call the Hub on

0808 178 0611



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Thursday	Weekly	Daily	Venues														
<p>Stay & Play Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy ST8 6LW Join us for a relaxed session with fun activities for you & your child 2:00pm-3:00pm (under 4s) For more information call 01782 512644</p>	<p>School Nurse Drop In Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Drop In-2nd Monday of each month No appointment needed 1pm-4.30pm For all enquiries call 0808 178 0611</p>	<p>Wild and Free Adventure Playground Leek FPC</p> <p>Opening Times</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Monday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Tuesday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Wednesday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Friday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Sunday</td><td>10:00 - 18:00</td></tr> </table> <p><small>We reserve the right to close for private parties and SEN sessions. Please check out our Facebook page or give us a call on 01539528440 to confirm opening. Thanks Wild and free. Cross Street Mill Leek ST13 6BL</small></p>	Monday	10:00 - 18:00	Tuesday	10:00 - 18:00	Wednesday	10:00 - 18:00	Thursday	10:00 - 18:00	Friday	10:00 - 18:00	Saturday	10:00 - 18:00	Sunday	10:00 - 18:00	<p>Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, Albert Street, Biddulph, ST8 6DT</p>
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Sunday	10:00 - 18:00																
<p>Friday</p> <p>Wake Up Shake Up Breakfast Club Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Stay and Play includes Breakfast. For parents and carers with little ones aged 0-4 years. Fun and friendly group with lots of toys and soft play 9.30am-11:00am FREE For details call 01782 297970</p>	<p>3-4 month & 2 year Development Checks Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Monday and Wednesdays Appointment only For all enquiries call 0808 178 0611</p>		<p>All Saints (CE)V First School, Kids Club Room, Chedley Road, Leek, ST13 5QY</p>														
<p>Leek Breastfeeding Group Homestart Staffordshire Moorlands ST13 6JT A parent-led breastfeeding support group. A relaxed and friendly environment within which to discuss issues and develop confidence. 1.00PM - 2.30PM 0 - 5 years FREE Facebook: @leekbreastfeeding Tel: 01782 297970</p>	<p>Well Baby Clinic Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Drop In Thursdays 1.30-3.30pm For all enquiries call 0808 178 0611</p>		<p>Kingsfield First School ST8 6AY Oxhey First School, SY8 7EB</p>														
<p>Reading Fairy FPC Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Each session develops the building blocks for learning to read through a range of play-based language activities. For children aged 1 year + Toddler Tales from 1 years + at 9:30am Story Stars from 2 years + at 10:30am £5:00 per session To book call 07725 691627</p>	<p>Speech & Language Therapy Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays Appointment Only</p>		<p>Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands, Earl Street, Leek, ST13 6TJ Endon Village Hall ST9 9DR</p>														
		<p><small>Our Sensory Room has had a little makeover! Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub ST8 6DT</small></p>	<p>Waterhouses Methodist Chapel, Leek Road, Waterhouses, ST10 3HN</p>														
			<p>St Giles The Abbott Chedley ST10 1HU Wild & Free Adventure Playground Leek ST13 6BL</p>														
			<p>Kingsley Holt Centre ST10 2BQ Biddulph Youth and Community Zone ST8 6NE</p>														
			<p>Please check out our Facebook page for updates and changes. Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub</p>														

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Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>LittleFeet Gymnastics FPC Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Semi structured gymnastics class for confident walkers upwards 9:30AM - 10:15AM £5.50 per session To book a place and for more information contact Jodie on littlefeetgymnastics@yahoo.com or call 07793063393</p> <p>Craft & Play Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands ST13 6JT Come and join us for a morning of crafts and play. Suitable for Pre-school children with parents/carers. 10:00AM- 11:30AM FREE - TERM TIME ONLY Tel: 01538 387231</p> <p>Childminders Networking Group Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT A group for local childminders and their minded children to meet up and play. 9:30AM - 11:30AM 0-5 years FREE Tel: 01782 297970</p> <p>Bloom Baby FPC Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT Multi-award winning baby development classes for babies aged 0-6 months and 6-15m. 10am - 10:45am 6m - wobbly walkers 11:15am - 12:00pm 0-6m To book your place call 07542 563919 Or go to: www.bloombabyclasses.com/north-staffordshire/classes-and-timetable</p>	<p>Simply Play for Babies **New course starts September** Leek Wow Hub ST13 5DS Spend time with your baby, have fun and try out lots of different activities and learn about your babies development. 10 week course. 1PM-2:30PM FREE 0-12 months **BOOKING ESSENTIAL** Email: Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>First Friends Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands ST13 6JT Come and join us for an afternoon of play. Suitable for children under 1year with parents/carers. 1:30PM- 3:00PM FREE - TERM TIME ONLY Tel: 01538 387231</p> <p>Pram to Primary- **Coming Soon** Starts September Are you struggling with your child's behaviour? If your child is aged between 0-11 years, then this programme could be for you. 6pm-8pm**BOOKING ESSENTIAL** Email: Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Endon Little Learners-Wednesdays and Thursdays Endon Village Hall, ST9 9DR Play and Learn session 9:30am-11:30am 0-5 years Voluntary donation of £2.50 and 50p per additional child Tel: Kate on 07921 253749</p> <p>**Coming Soon** Starts September Talking Teens Free online course for parents of teenagers aged 13-18. 12:30pm-2:30pm For enquiries contact: Carol.boon@staffordshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Play and Learn Oxhey First School ST8 7EB Make Friends and have fun with a different nature theme each week. Includes a drink for adults and children with toast and a biscuit too! 9:45am-11:00am £2.00 donation For details and to book your place call 01782 513000</p> <p>Simply Play All Saints Kids Club ST13 5QY Spend time with your little one, have fun and try out lots of different activities and learn about your child's development. 10 week course. 10:00am-11:30am FREE 0-4 years **BOOKING ESSENTIAL** Email: Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk Or call Carol 01782 297970</p> <p>Craft & Play Kingsley Holt Centre ST10 2BQ Come and join us for a morning of crafts and play. Suitable for Pre-school children with parents/carers. 10:00AM- 11:30AM FREE - TERM TIME ONLY Tel: 01538 387231</p> <p>Latte and Latch The Snug Suite 1, The Old Talbot, Watt Place, Cheadle, ST10 1NY Peer Support Breastfeeding Group 2:00pm-6:00pm Drop In so no need to book Facebook.TheSnugStavandLay</p>
		<p>Thursday</p> <p>Baby Massage / Mum & Baby Yoga FPC Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT 10:00AM - Mum & Baby Yoga 11:30AM - Baby Massage For details: Call Emma on 07825 302481 or Email: emma_snape@outlook.com</p> <p>Pregnancy Yoga FPC Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub, ST8 6DT 7:00pm-8:00pm For details: Call Emma on 07825 302481 or Email: emma_snape@outlook.com</p>	
	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>Toddler Stay & Play Kingsfield First School ST8 6AY Crafts, Messy Play, Stories and Singing. Different nursery rhymes each week with a chance to get to know the staff at Kingsfield First School. 9:00AM-10:00AM £2.00 PER CHILD For details call: 01782 973800</p>		

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Financial support for Families	Family Support	General
<p>Staffordshire County Council <small>Funded by UK Government</small></p> <p>Household Support Fund</p> <p>Financial Wellbeing Workshops Funding available subject to eligibility.</p> <p>Are you struggling with your personal finances or concerned about the cost of living?</p> <p>If you would like to join us, please scan the QR code, or copy the link below into your browser which will take you to our workshop sign up form</p> <p>https://forms.office.com/e?2ANFUYTKPP?origin=qrLink</p> <p>For any additional support, please contact - financialwellbeing@staffordshire.gov.uk</p> <hr/> <p>Do you know about our Free Pass? You may be eligible to attend some of our sessions for FREE!</p> <p>For more information, please call our friendly team on 01782 297970 or ask at Reception</p> 	<p>Home Start Staffordshire Moorlands</p> <p>Being a parent is a tough job and all we need is a little help sometimes. Home-start offers support to parents to improve their confidence and build better lives for their children. For more information call 01538 387231 or visit www.homestartsm.org.uk</p> <p>The Early Help Team</p> <p>The Early Help Team are available to talk to you about any concerns you may have about your family or child. We can offer support or signpost you to other services available in our area. Don't sit and worry have a chat with a member of the team. Contact 01782 297810</p> 	<p>Staffordshire Moorlands has a range of support for you and your children. Please checkout Staffordshire Connects where you will find a wealth of local services to support you and your family, from financial advice and mental health services to activity listings and SEND support.</p> <p>www.staffordshireconnects.info</p>  <hr/> <p>Staffordshire County Council Family Hub Staffordshire</p> <p>VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME</p> <p>Session Lead Session Support Community Champion Centre Volunteer Admin Support Maintenance Volunteer</p>  <p>Do you have a few hours to spare each week? Would you like to come and volunteer in your local Family Hub? We have opportunities for volunteers to come and support our delivery across the Staffordshire county. If you would like to find out more please contact Debbie Burgess or scan the QR code above to apply now</p> <p>Call 07704 798133 * Email debbie.burgess@staffordshire.gov.uk</p>

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