



Squirrel Hayes First School  
 Springfield Road  
 Biddulph  
 Stoke on Trent  
 ST8 7DF  
 Headteacher: Mrs. E. J. Pickford  
 Telephone: 01782 973820  
 Twitter: @squirrelhayes  
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Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Welcome Back**



We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable October half-term break. Whether you spent time travelling, relaxing at home, or exploring new adventures, we're delighted to welcome everyone back for the second half of the Autumn Term. This half of the term is always a busy and exciting one, filled with learning, creativity, and preparation for the festive season ahead. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

**Poppy Appeal 2025**



Throughout this week, we'll be supporting the **Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal** by collecting donations in school. Learners are **welcome to bring in money to purchase items such as poppies, slap bands, zip pulls, and more** – all in aid of a **very worthy cause**. Every contribution helps honour those who have served and supports veterans and their families. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**Inspire Dance**



Next year we will once again be working in partnership with Biddulph High School in order to participate in the 'Inspire Dance' performance, held at **Biddulph High School**. This will take place in the New Year on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.

The Inspire Dance show:

- Will take place in The Lecture Theatre at Biddulph High School over several dates with different schools performing on different dates.
- Parents form the audience and students would be based in classrooms when not performing where the show will be live-streamed.

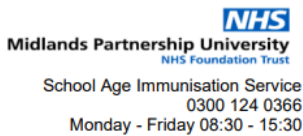
Rehearsals are due to commence on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November in school from 3.15pm - 4.15pm**. The 'Inspire Dance Club' will be run by Dance Leaders from the High school but will also be supervised by a member of our



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school staff. The club is open to learners from Years 1 to Year 4 however; places will be limited to for Health & Safety reasons. There is still time to sign up if your child has not done so already.

**Flu Vaccinations - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025**



The MPFT team are attending Squirrel Hayes First school on Thursday 13th November 2025 to give the flu vaccine. We would like your consent to vaccinate your child. You can give this by filling in our online form (the link is below).

This academic year the School Age Immunisation Service are vaccinating students from **Reception to Year 11 and up to and including Year 13 in special schools**. Any young person who has had a consent form submitted and is outside of these year groups will not be vaccinated, and the consent will be removed. What the vaccine is for This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. Most children are offered a nasal spray vaccine which is a quick and painless spray up the nose. Please answer the questions on the consent form as a small number of children cannot have the nasal spray because of medical conditions or treatments. They can be offered protection through a vaccine injection instead. The nasal spray vaccine is the preferred vaccine. It contains a very small amount of gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine) as an essential ingredient to keep it stable and able to work. For those who may not accept medicines or vaccines that contain porcine gelatine, a flu vaccine injection is available. Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected. Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

For further information see: [www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu) MPFT Vaccination Information Videos (HPV, Flu, Booster) - YouTube How to respond It's important to let us know whether you do or do not want your child to have the vaccination.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCFu0cQSp8cJ1ffsKX4UzDkROfkFtRZ7u>

It will take less than 5 minutes to respond using the link below. **You need to respond by 10AM on the 11/11/2025**  
<https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/?session=6667&code=ST124062-25>

When using this link, you should not be asked for a code however, there have been cases where parents have been asked to provide a code to consent for their child's flu vaccination. If this occurs, then please select your child's school and use the code **ST124062-25**

If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you return this form, please contact the School Age Immunisation Service on 0300 124 0366.

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**Breakfast & Mindful Mornings - Parents & Child Activity Morning in school**



We're excited to invite Parents and Carers to our upcoming 'Breakfast & Mindful Morning Activity session's'. These sessions were originally going to be led by members of our Mental Health Support Team but will now be delivered by our own school staff due to unforeseen changes to Mental Health Support team's schedule. We will be focusing upon the 5 ways to well-being through engaging activities for you to get involved in with your child. You are invited to join us for a relaxed morning where you can enjoy breakfast with your child at 8:30am followed by a number of fun activities. Activities will be based around a Christmas theme and will involve some Christmas craft too.

The first session will be held on Tuesday 11th November for families in Hydra classes, and the second on Tuesday 18th November for families in Draco classes. Further details will be sent out soon.

**Remembrance 11th November 2025**



On Sunday 9th November representatives from our Year 4 class will be joining Mrs Johnson-Allen in attending the Remembrance Parade in Biddulph.

**Anti-Bullying Week - 10th to the 14th November 2025**



During the week beginning the 10th of November we will be joining schools across the country in supporting 'Anti-Bullying week'. This year's theme is the 'Power for Good'.

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We will start the week on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> of November inviting our staff and learners to come to school wearing 'odd socks', this is to celebrate what makes us unique. Throughout the week the learners will be looking at different aspects of 'Anti-Bullying'.

You are invited into school on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November to join us for our Anti-Bullying and Well-being Assembly at 9:00am. In this Assembly our classes will be sharing what they have been thinking about and will be promoting key messages about stamping out bullying and celebrating the 'Power of Good'. We will also be sharing our on-going focus on mental health and well-being, including sharing our classes 'play lists' to support well-being that they designed following 'World mental Health Day'

**Children in Need 2025**



This year's theme for Children in Need is "Challenge Yourself". During the week beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> of November we will be taking part in a 'Strictly 25 step dance challenge'. Each day the children will learn 5 minutes of a dance routine which they will then perform on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November (Children in Need Day).

We will be inviting our learners to come to school wearing something bright and/or sparkly on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November and to give a donation of their choice to 'Children in Need'. Parent & carers can now make donations to parentpay.

**Important Diary Updates**



Please find below a table of events that have been planned for the Autumn term 2<sup>nd</sup> half. 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.

**Autumn Term 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2025 - Please note dates in blue have been added or changed:**

DATE	EVENT	CLASS
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Parade Biddulph - am	Y4 Reps
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Inspire Dance Rehearsals	Inspire Dancers
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks Day - Come to school wearing odd socks.	All classes
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 8:30am - 11:00am	Breakfast & Mindful Morning	Hydra & Parents/Carers invited

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Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 9:00am - 9:30am & 5:00pm - 5:30pm	MTC Information Session for Parents/Carers & Children	Draco & Draco Ladon
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November pm	Draco class to James Bateman Junior High - Cooking	Draco & Draco Ladon
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Immunisation Team in School - am	Reception - Year 4
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying and Well-being Assembly	All classes & Parents/carers invited.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need - Come to school wearing bright and/or sparkly clothing "Strictly 25 Step Dance Challenge"	All classes
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 8:30am - 11:00am	Breakfast & Mindful Morning	Draco & Draco Ladon & Parents/Carers invited
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Draco class to James Bateman Junior High - Science	Draco & Draco Ladon
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 1:00pm - 3:00pm & 3:30pm - 6:30pm	Parent Consultations	All classes
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December Church - am Christmas food & fair on return to school following the carol concert in the afternoon	Carol Concert - St Lawrence's Church followed by Christmas celebrations 'Winter Lunch' and 'fair/Christmas activities fundraiser'	All class, Parents/Carers invited
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 6:00pm - 8:00pm	Ful Governing Body Meeting	Governors
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December During the school day	Biddulph Grange Santa Visit	Nursery & Reception
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December Afternoon -2:00pm - 2:45pm Evening- 6:00pm - 6:45pm	Christmas Performance 'The Mouse in Santa's House'	Reception - Year 4 Parents/Carers invited
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 3:15pm - 4:30pm	Christmas Disco	All classes
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 11:30am onwards	Christmas Lunch	All classes, Parents, Carers invited
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Day - Learners invited to wear their party clothes	All classes
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day	All classes
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 3:15pm	School closes for the Christmas Break	All classes
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	School opens for the new Spring Term 2026 08:45am	All children & staff

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

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