



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

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back



Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. As ever, we have lots of activities planned for our learners and are looking forward to working in partnership with you.

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March 2026



This Year we will be joining many schools in celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday 5th March 2026**. As part of our celebrations, we would like to invite our learners to come to school dressed as one of their most loved story characters. You do not have to buy any fancy costumes as we also love to see your own 'creations'. To help families prepare for our upcoming World Book Day celebrations, we are supporting a **World Book Day Costume Donation and Swap**. If you have any preloved costumes, you no longer need, donations can be dropped off at Biddulph Library from **Saturday 7th February**. Families will then be able to browse and swap costumes from **16th February to 5th March**. This is a great way to recycle, save money, and support our school community. Even if children aren't dressing up this year, we would still appreciate any costume donations.





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

Edwards and Ward Catering Firm Update



Unfortunately, we have been made aware that the catering company that provides lunches for the school is due to increase their meal prices due to cost pressures. See below:

Effective from 1st April 2026 school meal prices will increase from £3.20 to £3.25 this change will not come into effect until 1st April 2026.

Educational Visit - Bernard's Farm (Reception & Hydra Class) - Thursday 26th March 2026



This term children in Reception & Hydra Classes will have the opportunity to enhance their learning with an educational visit to **Bernard's Farm**. This will take place on **Thursday 26th March**; learners will need to arrive in school at 8:45am for a prompt 9:30am set off. We will return to school at approximately 3:00pm. In order to support the school's budget for learning outside of the classroom, we kindly ask for a contribution of **£5.00** to be paid via ParentPay.

The children will need to be wearing their **Squirrel Hayes school uniform jumper** so they are easily identifiable and **warm tracksuit jogging bottoms**. **Warm coats, waterproof clothing and wellington boots** are required all year round on a working farm, as well as **gloves/hats** in winter. Please wear suitable footwear for travelling in, and bring a pair of **wellington boots** in a **named carrier bag** so that they can be worn during the farm visit. Bernard's Farm does have PPE that will be worn, but cannot provide waterproofs and wellingtons.

Star Week & Assessments and Parents Consultations



This week along with the next couple of weeks, staff will be busy working alongside your child to assess their current knowledge, skills and understanding against the different areas of the curriculum.

Information gained through these assessments will support your child's on-going assessment for learning and will inform their personalised learning plan and next steps.

We will be holding 'Parent Consultations' on Wednesday 11th March 2026 for Columba, Columba R, Hydra, Draco & Draco Ladon classes where you will be able to book an appointment with your child's class teacher/teachers to discuss their learning to date and their next steps for development.



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

A separate letter will be sent home and e-mailed out following this letter so that you can book your appointment times.

Red Nose Day (Friday 20th March) – Get Quizzical Challenges!



Get quizzical

On Friday 20th March we will be fundraising for 'Red Nose Day' by getting 'Quizzical'. We will be inviting our learners to 'Think you Nose it all!' and test their knowledge through fun team quizzes. Donations can be made through the following link.

Just giving page for Squirrel Hayes First School - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-squirrel-hayes-first-school>

Leavers Hoodies 2026



We're excited to announce that **Smart School Uniform** will once again be supplying this year's **Leavers Hoodies for the Class of 2026!**

These hoodies are a fantastic way to celebrate your time at school and create a lasting memory with your classmates.

Price: £18.50 + optional £3.50 if name on front of hoodie

How to Order: Visit the Smart School Uniform website using the link below.

<https://smartuniform.co.uk/product/squirrel-hayes-leavers-hoodies/>

**PLEASE ENSURE ALL SQUIRREL HAYES LEAVERS HOODIE ORDERS ARE PLACED BY 20/03/26
ALL ORDERS WILL BE DELIVERED FREE OF CHARGE TO YOUR SCHOOL ON 30/04/26**

Easter Bonnet & Fun Day Celebrations



On Thursday 19th March we will be holding an Easter Fun Day in school from 11:20am onwards. We will be inviting Parents/Carers to join your child/children in a number of fun Easter themed activities. The event will commence with our 'Easter Bonnet Parade & Craft Exhibition' followed by an 'Picnic lunch with

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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

families'. In the afternoon we will be putting on Parent/Child Easter craft activities followed by a Fundraising activity with the Bouncy Castle, Face Painting and, Tombola and Easter Raffle. More details will be shared in a separate letter.

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:

Mon 23 rd Feb	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS	All classes
Thurs 5 th March	World Book Day	All classes
Weds 11 th March 1:30pm - 6:30pm	Parent Consultations	All classes
Week beg 16 th March	INSPIRE Dance - rehearsal and show	Dancers involved
Tuesday 17 th March 1:00pm	Visiting James Bateman Junior High School to watch their School Performance	Year 4 learners
Thurs 19 th March	Easter Bonnet & Easter Fund Day - Times & details to follow	All classes
Friday 20 th March	Red Nose Day - Lets get Quizzical Challenges	All classes
Tues 24 th March 6:00pm - 8:00pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governing Body
Thurs 26 th March	Educational Visit to Bernard's Farm	Reception Class & Hydra

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

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.