



Monday 23rd March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Staffing Update



Last week we said goodbye to Miss Heath, who has now moved on to a new chapter in her career. We are incredibly grateful for her hard work and dedication during her time with us, and we wish her every success in her next adventure. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Percival, who is returning from maternity leave to resume her role as Hydra Class Teacher. Mrs Percival will remain supported by Mrs Miller and Miss Moore who work in the Hydra classroom.

Mrs Preston who has been working in Hydra covering part of Mrs Percival's maternity cover will also be having a change after Easter. Mrs Preston will be working in partnership with Mrs Oakes in Draco Ladon class in the mornings and will remain teaching within the Early Years all day Friday and in the Early Years within the afternoons.

Easter Fun Day - Thank You!



Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the Parents and Carers who joined us for our Easter Fun Day. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, and your support truly helped make the day special.

We are incredibly proud of our learners, who put so much creativity and effort into designing their Easter bonnets and Easter egg scenes. Every single one looked absolutely amazing, and it was clear how much hard work went into them!

A big thank you also for your generous donations—your kindness helps us continue creating memorable experiences and activities for our learners. We are pleased to share that we raised £401.63 through our fundraising activities on the day. This money is going towards the replacement of the 'Outdoor' play



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

equipment that had to be removed for safety reasons. We are in the process of getting updated quotes and are well on our way to achieving this goal thanks to your continued support and fundraising support.

We hope you all had a fantastic time, and we look forward to more fun events ahead!



Hair in School - Reminder



It has recently been brought to our attention that some children have been coming into school with their hair down which is not in line with our Uniform Policy. To ensure that we have a consistent approach please ensure that all **long hair (longer than shoulder length)** is fully **tied up each day** for school. This is in line with our **school policy** and helps us maintain a safe, tidy, and comfortable learning environment for all learners. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



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

Height & Weight Checks (Reception Class)



As in previous years the Families' Health and Wellbeing (0-19) service has been commissioned by Staffordshire County Council to deliver the National Child Measurement Programme.

We have arranged for members of the Families' Health and Wellbeing team to visit the school on **Monday 13th April 2026 to complete the height and weight measurements for children in Reception class.** The checks will be carried out sensitively and in line with the school and local authority's safety control measures. The enclosed pre-measurement letter (PDF) and animation and leaflet links below provide further information regarding the programme.

[NCMP Pre-measurement Leaflet for Parents. School height and weight measurements \(mpft.nhs.uk\)](#)

[NCMP Process Animation](#)

We thank you in anticipation of your support with the programme.

If you would not like your child's height & weight checked then please complete the OPT OUT form at the school office.

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.

Inspire Dance - Wednesday 25th March 2026 - Biddulph High School





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

We are delighted to share that our much-anticipated Inspire Dance Show will take place at Biddulph High School on Wednesday 25th March 2026. This exciting event promises an evening filled with creativity, talent, and the dedication of our wonderful learners who have been working incredibly hard in preparation. Separate letters were sent out containing full details regarding timings and arrangements. Please check these carefully to ensure you have all the information you need for the event.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our learners the very best of luck with their performances. Their commitment and passion have been exceptional, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

We look forward to seeing you there for a fantastic celebration of dance and achievement!

HAF (Holiday, Activities & food) - Easter Holidays



If your child is eligible, they can have up to **16 free places** on the summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

Eligible children will have received a 'HAF' school code. There is one 'HAF' code per school. This code will be the same for siblings at the same school. Please enter the 'HAF' school code exactly as shown to register your child and then view the activities.

You can mix and match activities using different holiday clubs, or book with just one club. We want as many children as possible to enjoy the limited places on offer; please think of others and do not book your child on two activities on the same day, as this could prevent another child from getting a place.

<https://eequ.org/staffordshirehaf>

Monday 13th April - Music Concert



On Monday 13th April all classes will be enjoying a Musical Concert presented by the Music Service in the afternoon. This is a wonderful opportunity for our learners to see a variety of different musical instruments being played and musical genres explored.



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

Easter Holidays



- School will close at the usual time of 3:15pm on Friday 27th April 2026 for the start of the two-week Easter Holiday.
- School will re-open to both staff and learners on Monday 13th April at 08:45am.

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:

Tues 24 th March 6:00pm - 8:00pm	Full Governing Body Meeting	Governing Body
Wednesday 25 th March	Inspire Dance Show at Biddulph High School	Inspire Dance Learners
Thurs 26 th March	Educational Visit to Bernard's Farm	Reception Class & Hydra
Friday 27 th March	SCHOOL BREAKS UP FOR EASTER HALF TERM	All Classes
Monday 13 th April	SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO ALL PUPILS	All classes
Monday 13 th April	Height & Weight Checks	Reception Class
Monday 13 th April	Music Concert - LA Music Service (Afternoon)	All Classes
Monday 20 th April	Academy Photography in school (Class, Leavers & Reception graduation) photos	All Classes
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	All Classes

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



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

SPORTS COACHING

Spring into ACTION

MULTI-SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES HOLIDAY CLUBS

31ST MARCH - 10TH APRIL **FREE HAF SPACES**

MOVE PLAY EXPLORE

BOOK HERE
 FOR THOSE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FREE HAF SPACE, IT'S ONLY £12 PER SESSION

DETAILS

- BIDDULPH YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ZONE
- 9:30AM - 1:30PM
- FREE HOT LUNCH INCLUDED IN HAF BOOKINGS

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS AND TAX FREE SCHEME ACCEPTED | SPORTS | DANCE | BASKETBALL | FOOTBALL | POOL | THEME DAYS | EASTER CRAFTS AND MORE...

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD | Staffordshire County Council | Ofsted Registered

EGG HUNT

The Zone Biddulph Youth & Community Zone | **SPORTS COACHING GROUP**

SPRING INTO ACTION

EASTER MULTI-SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES HOLIDAY CLUB

FIFA TOURNAMENTS | POOL COMPETITIONS | 5 A SIDE FOOTBALL | DANCE | CRAFTS | CRICKET | BASKETBALL | FOOD AND MORE...

FREE HAF SPACES

WHEN
 FOR TEENS AGED 11 - 16 YEARS OLD | 1ST, 2ND, 8TH and 9TH April | 1:30PM TO 3:30PM

BIDDULPH YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ZONE

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD | Ofsted Registered | Staffordshire County Council

MORE INFO AT 01270 449770 | sportcoachinggroup.co.uk

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.