



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## IN THIS ISSUE

## NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs. Barnes 1

### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Governor Section 2

Important Messages 3

Pupil's Section 4

Curriculum 5

Friends of John Hampden 6

School Improvement 7

School Travel 8

Miscellaneous 9

Many thanks for your very generous Harvest Festival donations. Our Teaching Assistants, as usual, managed to make a really impressive display of the flowers and produce and it made a great backdrop to the performances provided by the Key Stage One children last Thursday. Our Foundation Stage children did a wonderful job of entertaining their parents at their Harvest Festival last Tuesday. All the produce has been donated to the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury, who have written us a letter expressing their gratitude.



On Wednesday 12th October we organised an 'Open Morning' for prospective parents. In total well over 50 families visited the school and were given a short presentation followed by a guided tour of the school by a group of Year 2 ambassadors. Feedback from the event was very positive and it was lovely to be able to show off our school in such a positive way. Here are a few comments from the feedback sheets:

*We thoroughly enjoyed our Open Day visit today. The presentation was very informative and the film at the end was lovely. Our guides, Sophie & Jamie were fantastic! They were very knowledgeable, polite and answered our questions with honesty and were very funny. Thank you very much.*

*Excellent! Loved the involvement of the children who were great ambassadors—excellent behavior, very impressed. Also school building was a warm and happy environment.*

*Really good and informative session. Children were really keen on the tour and seemed really happy.*

*Thank you—it was a very informative and helpful session. The children were fantastic! A great credit to the school.*

We also enjoyed an informative assembly led by Mrs Spencer and Helen Brettell, our Service Children Support Co-ordinator, on Thursday. This was part of the Red, White and Blue Day Charity event. We were pleased to welcome a number of parents who are currently serving members of the armed forces to watch and contribute.

We are really looking forward to Health Week which begins on Monday. Mrs Spencer has put together a really exciting timetable of visitors and activities so do look out for the Health Week passport, letting you know what they have been doing. As part of the Health Week planning, children will be involved in some food tasting next week. **Please make sure you have returned the Food Tasting slip, so your child can participate.**

**Please look out for Parents' Evening letters in your child's book bag today.**

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

HEALTH WEEK: 17th-21st October

Close for half term: 3.15pm on 21st October

Open after half term: Monday 31st October

SAFETY WEEK: 31st October to 4th November

Parents' evenings 8th & 9th November

Hot lunch food tasting -8th & 9th November 4.00pm-6.30pm

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Visit Report to Foundation Stage – 11th October 2016

I visited Mrs Parkinson today who outlined her Action Plan for the School Year 2016/2017. I was pleased to see the Action Plan is comprehensive and will enhance children's learning in the school.

Mrs Parkinson has developed a baseline assessment, specifically aimed to enhance the school's ethos and promote learning experiences for children. I believe the baseline assessment and ongoing tracking provides a firm basis for Foundation Stage, providing every child with an opportunity to progress.

Areas of learning have been purposefully resourced by providing equipment to support and enhance the children's learning. Each area has been thought out providing opportunities for the children to have a 'growth mindset' attitude to learning, enabling them to test themselves and question potential achievement and build their confidence for improvement.

We discussed the school's vision and values, which are taught from a child's first day and adhered to throughout the school. This provides children with continuity and an expectation for them to work towards.

As you are aware, the Foundation Group have two new members of staff. The team are working together to provide the Foundation Children with a stimulating, inviting environment which gives them confidence to try new things. I can see this emerging as I walked around the Octagon and outside areas

The new Foundation Stage children were all engaged in a variety of activities both inside and out. It was lovely to see how well the children have transitioned into the routines of the school. I observed many lovely activities on offer and the majority of the children were in the outside area.

There are some exciting things happening in the Octagon, the computer area is being rearranged into a home corner as the school have new learning pads for the children to use.

Michelle Russell

Co-opted Governor

The Governing Body are always willing to listen to parental queries and to explain in more detail what the Governing Body does. They do realise, however, that it may not always be appropriate to speak to us at the school gate so please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, Paul Phillips, on [p.phillips@johncolet.co.uk](mailto:p.phillips@johncolet.co.uk) if you would like to raise a matter for discussion

### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

#### **Parent Fitness Session**



As part of Health Week we are offering our parents the chance to get involved too. Your children will be involved in a range of fitness activities through the week. Jo Beardsmore-Dilks, has offered to run a Box Fit session for parents on Tuesday 18th October from 9.15am -10.00am. This session will take place within the school and if you are interested in taking part please leave your name at the school office to give the instructor an idea of numbers. If there are any queries about the session please contact Jo Spencer (Squirrels Class teacher)

#### **Spare Clothes**

We are always happy to receive any unwanted underwear which we can use in case of accidents so if you have anything you would like to donate, please bring it to the school office. If your child does come home in some of our spare clothing please could you wash and return it as soon as possible. Thank you

#### **Volunteer Helpers**

Grateful thanks to all those who returned a pink slip informing us that they are available to volunteer help in the school. We will be contacting you individually if we can take up your offer of support. For those that are able to complete activities at home, we will contact you as and when needed.

#### **Clubs**

We have now sent out all the letters regarding clubs this term. Unfortunately we had three completed forms sent back to us without a child's name on so we have been unable to allocate them a place in a club. Gardening club was very over-subscribed and places were filled by children whose forms were returned first. There will be more opportunities later in the year.

#### **Head Lice**

We are aware of a few cases of head lice in the school. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat accordingly to avoid any further spread. It really helps if children with long hair have it tied back.

#### **Boxes and Tubes**

Foundation Stage staff are collecting cardboard boxes and tubes for children to construct and build with. If you have any spare boxes and tubes please pass them to the Foundation Stage staff or to the school office.

#### **Climbing Fences**

If you are waiting for older siblings from Wendover Junior School please watch your children carefully at the end of the school day. We are noticing quite a few trying to climb the fence around our car park.

#### **Coats and Water Bottles**

As the colder weather approaches please make sure your children bring a warm coat to school everyday. Also, we do encourage children to bring a water bottle to school each day so they can access a drink easily during the school day.

#### **Hot school meals—taster session**

At our Parents Evenings on November 8th and 9th, Chartwells, our preferred hot meal provider will be in school to give parents a taster session of some of the menus that they are able to provide. They will be here from 4.00pm to 6.30pm each evening and parents are warmly invited to try the food on offer.

#### **Tours at Wendover CE Junior School**

Parents of children currently in Year 2 are warmly invited to visit Wendover CE Junior School to meet the Headteacher, Mr Mirams, and have a tour of the school led by the Year 6 prefects. To allow them to cater for expected numbers, they ask that you book a place on your chosen session by calling the school on 01296 696822 by Friday 4th November.

#### **Sport Relief 2016**

Just to let you know that we raised a fantastic £244.32 for Sport Relief 2016.

## 4. PUPIL'S SECTION

Our wonderful Year 2 ambassadors gave fantastic guided tours of the school during our recent Open Morning. Below are some of their comments about the experience:

*It felt a little bit like you were going to a new school yourself because I had never been an ambassador before but I did enjoy it. Lucas*

*It was good because you got to meet new people and you got to show them around the school. They were nice people. Alastair*

*I was quite nervous because you had to speak in front of parents but they were really nice and I enjoyed showing a little girl around and showing her all the things she could play with. Jessica*

*I was excited to meet all the new people who came into our school. Sophie M*

*I thought it was nice to take people around the school. They said thank you at the end. Jamie C*

*I thought it was a bit of a surprise that I was chosen but I quite enjoyed it. I was proud. Liam*

*I enjoyed showing people around. I liked showing them my Year 2 classroom. They liked it too. Lili*

*I enjoyed showing the people the Octagon. They said our school was fabulous. Krissy*

*It was exciting seeing all the people and taking people to places around the school like the library. Dan*

*I liked showing people around because I got to meet some of the children who might come to John Hampden School and I felt special. Emily*

*It was fun showing the people around because I met new people that I didn't know and I showed them around the school with Hannah. Charlie*

*I enjoyed being an ambassador but I was a bit nervous at the beginning because I wasn't sure I would be able to do it but I found out that I actually found it quite exciting. Hannah*

*It was a bit strange to be able to go out of class two times to show people around but I think they liked it. I was a bit nervous. Jamie F*

*It was really fun because you got to meet new people. We showed them all around and to Badgers Class and the Octagon. I think they thought it looked fun. Elsa*

*I liked it because I saw a few people I already knew and now they know me a bit more and know that I am a good person to take people on tours. James*

*It was very surprising that I was chosen as an ambassador. It was a bit embarrassing for a minute but then I found it quite exciting to do and lots of fun. Sophie*



## 5. CURRICULUM

Red, White and Blue Day is run jointly by ABF The Soldiers' Charity, The RAF Benevolent Fund and The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity. Each of these three charities is responsible for the welfare of soldiers, sailors and airmen and their families. On Thursday 13th October our school chose to support this national initiative. We currently have 26 children from Service families in the school and Red, White and Blue Day was a chance for our school to show support for the huge number of Service families in the UK by dressing in red, white and blue for a contribution of £1 to go to the charity.



Mrs Spencer and Helen Brettell, our Service Family Co-ordinator, led a special assembly to celebrate the contribution of our Service families within the Community, on Thursday at 9.30am. All our Service families were invited to attend the assembly and Mrs Spencer and Mrs Brettell shared an informative presentation highlighting the work of the Army, Navy and RAF as well as



sharing experiences of Service Children and their families in our school.



Children dressed in red, white and blue  
Helen speaking to the children



## 6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

### Quiz night – 14 October

We hope you've been revising for the quiz tonight – we look forward to seeing you there.

### Christmas Cards

The templates have gone off to the printers – look out for your proof in the book bags just before we break up. Orders will need to be returned to the school by 4<sup>th</sup> November with cheques made payable to 'Friends of John Hampden'

### Christmas Fayre - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 12 – 3pm

Save the date for the usual fun at the fayre. A letter will be coming out in the book bag soon detailing the donation requests and plea for volunteers.

If you have friends of family that would like to have a stall – please ask them to email [helenwood30@hotmail.com](mailto:helenwood30@hotmail.com).

Could your employer offer a prize for the raffle?

### Easyfundraising

Thank you to the 45 parents that have signed up to Easyfundraising – you have raised £593.79 for the school. If you've not signed up yet, please click on to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> – it's simple and costs you nothing.

## Your cause



Your cause has raised...

**£593.79**

No. supporters

**45**

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### FJH meeting

The next FJH meeting will be held Tuesday 18 October in the Shoulder of Mutton at 8pm, please come and join us.

## 7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We are embarking on our new school improvement plan and displays will soon be starting to develop further around the school to highlight the areas we have chosen to focus on. We are setting ourselves goals which link with the four key aspects of the Ofsted inspection framework —these have been selected as a result of the feedback we have gained from our stakeholders as well as analysis of a great deal of data.

GOAL TITLE	SUCCESS CRITERIA 2016-2017
Goal A LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT	The school meets the criteria to be judged as outstanding in all areas during the next Ofsted inspection
	If pupil numbers justify it, appropriate consultation and planning processes facilitate a well-designed and carefully managed building project to provide the necessary space to accommodate four classes within each year group.
	Following appropriate consultation the school will offer a cost neutral, nutritionally balanced hot meal to all eligible pupils, the provision of which is efficient and does not detrimentally affect the smooth running of the school.
	Staff well-being, as measured by the scores for each of the different teams within the school, improves in identified key areas through the effective use of performance management and targeted support by line managers
	An accurate and regularly updated Governing Body self-evaluation informs and directs the development, effectiveness & impact of the Governing Body within the school
	The Leadership Team thoroughly explores the benefits of close working relationships with others, considering the Multi Academy Trust agenda in the process The school provides training opportunities for other professionals The school budget is enhanced by regular financial contributions for the letting of the school hall by appropriate hirers for the benefit of the local community
Goal B TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT	Marking symbols are fit for purpose and are used consistently across the school Work scrutiny evidence suggests that marking and feedback is effective in raising standards and guiding children to make progress
	The KS1 assessment cycle is clearly communicated and progress measures reflect local/national guidance Tracking systems and formative & summative assessments inform planning and teaching to ensure high standards and high expectations for all Moderation opportunities reflect a consistency in judgements across the school and across the Liaison Group, especially with WJS
	Monitoring and evaluation of teaching & learning, assessment, planning, work scrutiny, pupil views and subject leader actions reflect clear differentiation in English and Mathematics teaching and learning that allows all pupils to deepen their knowledge, understanding and skills at a challenging level appropriate to their needs External validation confirms that differentiation is evident and effective in enhancing learning opportunities for all pupils.
Goal C PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE	Pupils who are not benefitting from regular learning support at home are identified and arrangements are in place to ensure they have similar opportunities as their peers
	There will be a strong, visible school council with a clear remit for pupil initiated school improvement actions There are a range of opportunities for pupil voice to be heard and a structure by which pupil contributions are valued and acted upon where appropriate
	The learning environment reflects and celebrates the cultural diversity within the school and the wider community. Pupils are respectful of all adults and pupils with positions of responsibility within the school
	Children are regularly made aware of appropriate e-safety guidance and families are supported in ensuring their children are safe online The anti-bullying message is clearly communicated and understood by all pupils in the school
Goal D PUPIL OUTCOMES	There is a clear and shared collective understanding of what constitutes expected and better than expected progress using nationally agreed progress measures High standards in all core areas of the curriculum are maintained
	Regular opportunities for high quality summative assessment of Reading, Writing, Maths and phonics allow achievement and progress to be measured (in line with Monitoring and Evaluation Policy and Assessment Policy)
	Outcomes for identified groups of pupils reflect diminishing differences when compared with all other pupils nationally

## 8. SCHOOL TRAVEL

### School Travel

#### Walk to School Week

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

I am very pleased to say that our 'Go for Gold' walking initiative will start next week. Your child will bring home a new passport which can be stamped each morning they walk to school.

#### Important Information.

If the weather is particularly wet, stamping will not take place that day - however, the stamping team will ensure your child receives two stamps the following day.

I am also holding a 'Walk to School' week starting on 17<sup>th</sup> October. This would be an ideal opportunity for your child to start using their new bronze passports. To make their walk to school even more enjoyable, I am attaching a 'Scavenger Hunt' sheet to this newsletter which can be completed as you make your way to and from school. Any completed sheets can then be handed into the class teacher on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

A raffle like draw will take place after half term of any completed Scavenger Hunt sheets. A prize will be given to one child drawn from each class. Further details can be found on the attachment.

Remember, you don't just have to walk to school, but you could come on your bicycle, scooter or drive part of the way, park away from the campus and then walk the remainder of your journey. Don't forget, the more stamps in the passport, the more prizes can be won.

There are many benefits to walking, scooting or biking to school: it keeps you healthy, there is less traffic on the campus road, making the journey to school much safer for pedestrians and it is good for the environment too.

Our 'Go for Gold' scheme is very important to the school and I am happy to hear from anyone who would like to join our team of stampers.

I would like to remind children that they must wheel their bike or scooter on any of the school's paths and not attempt to ride them once they are inside the school's gates.

Thank you for your continued support.

Heather Beattie

School Travel Plan Coordinator



## Bike Breakfast

To coincide with the school's Health Week, we are holding our first Bike Breakfast of the year for our **Year Two children**. This will take place on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016**. The Bike Breakfast gives your **Year Two** child the opportunity to receive a breakfast when they arrive at school, if they have travelled by bike. We would be happy for younger siblings to attend as well (assuming they travelled by bike or scooter).

The breakfasts will be served from **8.15 - 8.40**. The breakfast available will be cereals with milk, croissant with a variety of spreads and fruit juice. We would appreciate a contribution of **£1.00 per child** sent with the reply slip to help cover the cost.

Cycle Parking is available in the shelter round the side of the school and in the 'scooter' area.

If your child will be attending the Bike Breakfast, please complete the slip below and return to the school by **TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2016**. If parents would like to pop in for a fruit juice before they return home or go to work, they would be most welcome. Any offers of help would also be gratefully received!

Heather Beattie  
School Travel Co-ordinator



### Bike Breakfast Permission Slip for

My child \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert name) in Class \_\_\_\_\_  
will be attending the bike breakfast.

Their brother or sister \_\_\_\_\_ will also be attending.

I would like to pop in for a fruit juice too,

Yes

☐

No

☐

Does your child/ren have any food allergies? (please note below)

.....

I am able to help at the bike breakfast.

Yes

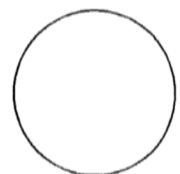
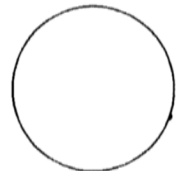
☐

No

☐

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**I enclose a £1  
(per child)  
contribution**



**(Please return this slip to the school by TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016)**

## 8. SCHOOL TRAVEL

### Walk to School Week - Scavenger Hunt






Monday 17th October - Friday 21st October 2016

Name.....

Class .....

Tick the box each time you see one of these things on the way to and from school.

GOOD LUCK!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1. Cat 					
2. For sale sign 					
3. Bus or coach 					
4. Wooden gate 					
5. Squirrel 					
6. Post box 					
7. White van 					
8. Dog on lead 					
9. Red car 					
10. Bicycle 					

Please help your child to answer these questions.

What did you enjoy most about our Walk to School Week?

What didn't you enjoy?

Do you usually walk to school or did you make a special effort this week?

Do you have any ideas for future walk to school weeks?

Completed sheets can be given to your teacher on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Good luck and have fun walking to school!

## 9. MISCELLANEOUS

### National non-uniform day

Please see below details of the national non-uniform day that we will be taking part in on Friday 21st October 2016. There will be a voluntary £1.00 donation per pupil for this fundraising event in aid of Cancer Research UK and Stand Up To Cancer.

**THE CANCER FIGHTERS**

**JOIN THE CANCER FIGHTERS IN A  
NATIONAL NON - UNIFORM DAY FOR  
STAND UP TO CANCER**

All schools and school children Nationwide  
are invited to unite in the fight against cancer

**NON UNIFORM DAY  
FRIDAY 21 OCTOBER**

**Voluntary £1.00  
donation**

**100% of proceeds goes to  
Cancer Research UK**

**Kids & adults t shirts, all styles, colours &  
sizes, plus hoodies, hats, bags & more see  
[www.thecancerfighters.co.uk](http://www.thecancerfighters.co.uk)**

**Buy The Cancer Fighters new song  
'We are The Cancer Fighters'  
for 99p from iTunes Google Play or Amazon  
Watch the video on  
[www.thecancerfighters.co.uk](http://www.thecancerfighters.co.uk)  
100% profit goes to SU2C**

**CANCER RESEARCH UK**

**STAND UP TO CANCER**



# October Half-term

Check website for times and more details [nhm.ac.uk/tring/whats-on](http://nhm.ac.uk/tring/whats-on)

## Owl Pellet Dissection

**Monday 24 October**

45-minute dissection

Tickets £4, advance booking required

## Apple Bird Feeders

**Tuesday 25 and Thursday 27 October**

30-minute workshops

Tickets £2

## Apple Pressing and Juice Tasting

**Tuesday 25 and Thursday 27 October**

Drop-in demonstration

Free

## The Big Draw:

### Our Big Bird is Back!

**Wednesday 26 October**

Drop-in

Celebrate the return of our giant moa by helping to create a massive masterpiece.

Suitable for all ages

Free

## Museum by Torchlight

**Friday 28 October**

Dress up and bring your torch for a spooky time in the galleries where you can add to your costume with ghostly animal face paint.

Suggested donation £2 per person



