



The John Hampden School Wendover

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In an infant school, at the beginning of a new school year, I think it is particularly important for the children to be given time to settle into their new classes, getting to know their new teachers and teaching assistants. We have spent time in the first few weeks focusing on the Golden Rules and reinforcing our core values so that all pupils are fully aware of our expectations. I regularly visit the classes during the working day and it is very encouraging to watch the children adjusting to the routines and expectations of school life. We have a positive approach to behaviour management, and our Golden Rules highlight what children should do, rather than what they should not!

We believe it is important to acknowledge when children do well, and at John Hampden, this is done in a variety of ways. Feedback from teaching staff is the most immediate method, but stickers and pebbles are also used as reward tokens in many of the classes. Children are sent to me to share their learning when they have done exceptionally well and I reward this behaviour with special stickers and a gold star to take home. Each Friday we hold a whole school Merit Assembly, in which one child from each class is chosen to receive a Merit Award. This is awarded by the class teacher and teaching assistant for exceptional behaviour or exceptional learning. Children receiving the Merit Awards are invited to sit on special chairs throughout the assembly, and a star is put onto our Merit Board to remind us of their achievement. Our Midday Meals Supervisors also nominate children to receive a special certificate each Friday. A name is picked from a special box and a certificate and sticker is presented to that child. All children who have been nominated will bring home their purple nomination slip and a sticker so you can see what they have done to impress us.

During Merit Assembly we will also be awarding the 'Golden Boot' to the class who have most children walking to school (this is measured by the Passport Stampers in the Going for Gold initiative which is due to start soon)

Bike It Bears are awarded to the classes who have most children cycling/scooting to school and Mrs Beattie also awards prizes to one lucky cyclist and one scooter rider, chosen at random, from the bicycles and scooters left at school on Thursday lunchtime.

A silver cup is awarded to the 'Class of the Week'. So far Caterpillars, Eagles and Herons have won the cup - I'll leave your children to tell you who won it today!

Finally a relatively new initiative 'The Scroll of Honour' is unfurled. The scroll contains the names of any child in the school who has been spotted by any adult for doing something special. The children are called to the front of the assembly and the whole school sing a congratulatory song to them.

We also like to celebrate achievement outside school and we have a display board in the corridor to showcase the talents of our pupils. If your child is awarded a certificate or an award for swimming, dancing, sport, music etc. we are happy to take a photocopy or photograph and put it up on the board.

Thank you to the large number of you who were able to attend the Mathematics Curriculum Evening yesterday. We hope you found it interesting and informative. Further information about ways to support your child with maths can be found under the Parents Section of the school's website.

Thank you for your continued support.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

4th October—11.30a.m FS Singing followed by FS Phonics/Reading Meeting

6th October—9.30 a.m KS1 Harvest festival Year 1 Parents invited

12th October—Open Morning for prospective families

13th October—Red, White & Blue Day. Donate £1 to wear your own red, white and blue clothes

14th October—FJH quiz night

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

HOT SCHOOL MEALS UPDATE



Many thanks to those parents who took the time to complete the recent Hot Meals survey. The closing date for returning the forms has passed and the data we received is as follows:

	Number opting for Hot Meals	Number opting for Packed lunches
Foundation Stage	31	12
Year 1	36	14
Year 2	63	15
TOTAL	130	41

Your feedback suggests that the majority of parents would like us to provide a hot meal at lunchtime and so we will now be meeting with representatives from the possible providers to ascertain how quickly this can be implemented. We obviously have to choose the most cost effective solution and there will inevitably have to be some alterations to our current lunchtime arrangements to allow all children who have selected a hot meal to have enough time to be served and to eat it.

We hope to provide some tasting sessions for parents soon, so you can make the decision of whether you will definitely be signing your child up for a hot meal. We will provide you with regular progress updates as we move towards implementing the hot meals.

As I mentioned in the survey letter, once we introduce hot meals we will no longer be providing packed lunches for children, so families who would prefer their children to have a packed lunch will need to provide their own but for now the normal lunchtime arrangements will continue.

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 if you would like to raise a matter for discussion

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

SAFETY ON BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS

During assembly on Monday we will be reminding children that they should refrain from riding their bicycles and scooters within the school grounds. Please would you support us by reminding them to dismount as they come through the gate—no one should be cycling or scooting in the cycle/storage area. Thank you

NEW FENCING

We have recently had new fencing erected in various parts of the school. We have had a fence and gate installed to prevent pedestrians from exiting up the school drive. Pedestrian and vehicle routes are now clearly signed. For the safety of everyone we would ask you not to walk your children up and down the school drive for any reason.

Parents using the Out of School Care facility should not use the staff car park at any time

ADDITIONS TO SCHOOL LUNCHES

As stated in a previous communication to parents, we would ask that you do not send in items of food to supplement the school lunches that are provided. We changed our policy on this at the beginning of this academic year because we were being left with a huge number of uneaten items which we were required to throw away. Parents must opt to either accept the school lunch in its entirety or provide their child's own lunch. If you decide your child no longer wishes to receive the school lunch and you are providing their packed lunch, please can you inform the office so we can cancel the school lunch. Thank you.

DAHLICIOUS DRESS UP DAY

Many thanks for the amazing effort that went into producing costumes for the dress up day last Friday. The children looked truly fantastic (further details in the Pupil's Section) and the staff looked great too. We managed to raise nearly £200 for this marvellous cause.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Voluntary Contributions—each term we ask for a voluntary contribution of £10 to help us pay for additional activities that the school budget does not allow us to provide. The contribution is voluntary and no child would miss out if their parents opted not to pay. However, the more contributions we receive, the more we can provide. Providing a termly contribution means that parents will not be asked for several smaller voluntary contributions throughout the term. Contributions should be sent in an envelope via the class teacher or directly to the school office. It is possible to pay £30 for the whole year if this is more convenient. Thank you

RED WHITE & BLUE DAY

Red, White and Blue Day will take place on Thursday 13th October. On that day we will think about our Service families and remember the jobs they do. All children are invited to come to school wearing red, white and blue and donate £1. Proceeds will go to the RAF Benevolent Fund. Mrs Spencer and Helen Brettell will be leading an assembly for the children. The parents of our Service children are welcome to attend from 9.15 am.



Help Needed—Thursday, 20th October and Friday, 21st October

All children will be making a healthy snack on Thursday 20th or Friday 21st October as part of Health Week. If any parents are able to come in and help on either/both days we would really appreciate it. If you can help please see Mrs Spencer or Mrs Mohammed.

Out of school care playworker

We have a permanent vacancy at our Breakfast Club and After School Club starting as soon as possible. Additional hours may be required to cover staff sickness. The salary will be within Bucks Pay Range 1A (£14275 pro rata). If you are interested in this post please call the school office or the OOSC on 07506195699 to get an application form.

4. CURRICULUM

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This week, staff and children are beginning to prepare for the upcoming harvest celebrations.

Foundation Stage children will be celebrating Harvest Festival on **Tuesday 4th October at 11.30am** and their parents are welcome to attend. A Harvest Festival for **Year One and Year Two** children will be held at 9.30am on **Thursday 6th October**. Year One parents are warmly invited to attend. Year Two parents will be invited to share our May Day celebrations later in the year.

As usual we are asking the children to provide food/flower donations which are used to form a beautiful backdrop to the harvest celebrations. We welcome any flowers, fruit, vegetables or tinned goods.

Donations should be taken to the classroom on the morning of October 4th or 6th and will be displayed in the hall. The donations are then sent to the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury and they are always very gratefully received as they rely on donations to run successfully. Thank you in anticipation of your support.



TOPIC GUIDES

Year group topic guides are now available under the 'Classes' tab of the school website.

This half term Foundation Stage have a topic called 'Magical Mel'

Year One have started with 'Tell Me a Story'

and Year Two's topic is called 'Gobblefunk'

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

On Friday 23rd September we celebrated Dahlicious Dress Up Day. The annual Dahlicious Dress Up Day raises money to help provide Roald Dahl nurses and family support to children in the UK living with serious, rare and undiagnosed conditions. We really appreciate your support in raising funds for this charity and your children looked fabulous in their costumes.... the staff looked pretty good too! There are more photos under the News section of the school website.



SCHOOL TRAVEL

Walk to School - Go for Gold

I am very pleased to say that our 'Go for Gold' walking initiative will soon be ready to start. Our two new co-ordinators are preparing the passports ready to go out in time for our Annual Health and Safety Weeks.

It has been super to see so many children already walking, scooting and biking to school each day with their parents and carers and you will soon be able to start having your passports stamped to earn prizes and stickers.

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.

I am very grateful to those people who have come forward to join the stamping team, but we would love more people to help.

Ideally we would like two volunteers from each class to help, but the more the merrier! If you have a few minutes to spare on any morning please come forward.

To make it easier for stampers and children we will be setting up stamping stations for each year group in different areas to ease congestion.

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. Thank you for your continued support.

A reminder to all children that bike and scoot to school

For safety reasons please do not ride your scooter or bike on any of the school paths. Once you reach the school gate get off your bike or scooter and wheel it to the parking area. At the end of the day please also walk your bike or scooter to the gate before you start to ride. Thank you.

Heather Beattie
School Travel Plan Coordinator



6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

Class Reps

The following parents have volunteered to be your class reps this year. If you need their contact details, please get in touch via email helenwood30@hotmail.com.

Name	Class rep 2016/17
Jo Currell	Honeybees
Lucy Johnston	Honeybees
Caroline Benson	Caterpillars
Sophie Palmer	Caterpillars (support)
Emma Child	Ladybirds
Hollie Richards	Squirrels
Anna Morley	Badgers
Sophie Palmer	Badgers (support)
Becky Brocklehurst	Hedgehogs
Chrissie Edley	Hedgehogs
Andrea McEvoy	Red Kites
Suzy McAthy Williams	Red Kites
Rebecca Matthews	Eagles
Mandy Rushton	Eagles
Helen Hill	Firecrests
Natalie Ward	Eagles
Sarah Jordan	Hérons
Emily Harris	Hérons

Quiz Night 14th October

Don't forget to book your table – teams will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If you don't have a full table – your class rep may be able to help get a team together or the FJH will place you in a team.

Ice Cream Days

Please remember to complete & return the ice-cream slip even if your child isn't having an ice-cream – this way we know that we've not accidentally missed a child – helps to avoid unnecessary tears!

Christmas Cards

Your child has already designed a Christmas Card at school which will be sent to you as a proof, so that you can choose whether to order a pack or other gifts with their design on. This year we have left some extra templates in the office that you can pick up if you would like to design something at home with other siblings. If you would like to create your own design, please collect a template and return your completed design by 7 October.

Foundation Stage 'Cheese & Wine'

Thank you to all the Foundation stage parents and FJH committee that came along to the Shoulder of Mutton at the beginning of term. It was great to meet so many new members of the school community. We hope that you enjoyed it too!

Chairperson – Sophie Palmer

We are pleased to announce that Sophie Palmer has kindly agreed to take on the role of FJH Chairperson this year. We look forward to working with her to deliver another fun packed successful year.

7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

In July we sent home a questionnaire for parents to gain their views about the school. The results were collated and the findings have been used to inform future actions within our school improvement plan. We thought

QUESTION	TOTAL EY+FS+ Y1+Y2	No. Agree or Strongly Agree	No. Disagree or Strongly Disagree	No. Don't Know	% Agree or Strongly Agree
The school helps my child to develop skills in communication, reading, writing and mathematics	154	154	0	0	100%
My awareness of how to help my child learn is enhanced through information given by the school - meetings, curriculum evenings and written information	154	151	2	1	98%
I feel that I have a shared responsibility for my child's learning and I do all I can to assist the school	154	151	1	2	98%
I am made aware of my child's strengths and areas for development at parent/teacher meetings	154	146	3	5	95%
I am kept well informed about how my child is getting on through Parents Evenings, reports, informal conversations with teachers	154	146	4	4	95%
The school achieves high standards in reading, writing and mathematics	154	144	0	10	94%
The school has high expectations for my child	154	148	1	5	96%
The school sets my child realistic learning targets	154	146	1	7	95%
I am satisfied with the education my child is receiving at the school	154	154	0	0	100%
My child was helped to settle in well when he/she started at the school	154	151	0	3	98%
There are good transition arrangements as children enter a new class	154	139	3	12	90%
My child's needs are being met by the school	154	153	1	0	99%
Academically, my child is making good progress at school	154	154	0	0	100%
Socially, my child is making good progress at school	154	153	1	0	99%
My child enjoys school	154	152	2	0	99%
My child enjoys learning	154	141	1	12	92%
My child is taught well	154	144	1	9	94%
My child's homework is useful and enjoyable (please also consider homework to include suggestions in topic booklets each half term)	154	149	1	4	97%
The school actively seeks pupils views	154	147	0	7	95%
The school provides a rich, stimulating and memorable curriculum for my child	154	151	0	3	98%
The work of all children is celebrated throughout the school	154	148	1	5	96%
The school promotes equal opportunities	154	148	4	2	96%
The school encourages my child to be independent	154	153	0	1	99%
The school environment, inside and outside, is safe, comfortable and secure	154	146	0	8	95%
The resources, inside and outside, are well maintained and suitable	154	152	1	1	99%
The school offers pupils access to a range of technology, including computers and Interactive Whiteboards	154	151	0	3	98%
The school contributes to my child's health and well-being	154	148	0	6	96%
The school encourages pupils to become ecologically aware	154	153	0	1	99%

QUESTION	TOTAL EY+FS +Y1+Y2	No. Agree or Strongly Agree	No. Disagree or Strongly Disagree	No. Don't Know	% Agree or Strongly Agree
The school provides a range of extra-curricular activities <i>e.g. clubs, activities</i>	154	147	1	6	95%
I am aware of the school's policy on behaviour, including Golden Rules, rewards and sanctions	154	154	0	0	100%
There is a good standard of behaviour at the school	154	154	0	0	100%
My child is safe and well cared for at the school	154	154	0	0	100%
The school is friendly and welcoming	154	154	0	0	100%
There is a good feeling in the school between staff, pupils and parents	154	154	0	0	100%
The school is led and managed well	154	154	0	0	100%
The school deploys all staff effectively	154	150	1	3	97%
I am comfortable about approaching the school and know my concerns will be listened to	154	153	0	1	99%
The school deals effectively and promptly with problems as they are made aware of them	154	147	0	7	95%
Staff are approachable and helpful	154	154	0	0	100%
I feel I am given the opportunity to be involved in the school's activities and functions	154	152	0	2	99%
The school has an effective governing body	154	147	0	7	95%
I feel I can approach a governor about any issues that concern me	154	146	0	8	95%
The school has an ethos and climate within which pupils can grow and flourish	154	154	0	0	100%
The school has a clear direction and is constantly developing	154	153	0	1	99%
The school communicates its improvement plans to parents	154	152	0	2	99%
The school has high expectations for all	154	153	0	1	99%
The school has a good reputation in the local community	154	153	0	1	99%
I am pleased that my child attends The John Hampden School	154	154	0	0	100%
The school uniform policy is reasonable	154	152	2	0	99%
The uniform sold in school is reasonably priced	154	146	8	0	95%
The uniform sold in school is of a good quality	154	149	5	0	97%
The school aims to foster good links with the local community	154	154	0	0	100%
The Home/School diary is an effective communication tool	154	147	4	3	95%
The school website is useful and informative	154	152	0	2	99%
The school communicates effectively with parents <i>e.g. regular newsletters, information from teachers, Home/School Agreement etc.</i>	154	154	1	0	100%
The school actively seeks the views of parents	154	152	0	2	99%
I am aware of the school's values	154	154	0	0	100%

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Judo club

There are still some places available for Year 1 children in the judo club. If you think your child may be interested please contact Alan at alanscottjudo@me.com

Lost property

At the end of each half-term the friends of John Hampden will be donating any un-named uniform in our lost property to charity so if you have lost any items of uniform, do please come and check regularly to see if it has been found.

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. Tours are available on Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th or Thursday 10th November either 1.30pm or 2.15pm.

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.

**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

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
100% profit goes to SU2C

In aid of
**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

**STAND
UP TO
CANCER**



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OCTOBER HALF TERM TENNIS, SQUASH & CRAFTS CAMPS AT WENDOVER TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB

Come and try out our unique holiday camps where you can combine tennis with arts and crafts, squash or just play tennis!

It's an ideal way to try out some racket sports as well as embrace your creativity with **The Creation Station** all in one location.

Our highly experienced team of tennis and squash coaches guarantee to give you a fabulous experience, enhancing your skills, in a fun and social environment.

Activity	Dates		Age	Time	Cost per day	
Tennis & Crafts	Monday 24th October	Tuesday 25th October	4-8 years	9am - 12pm	£18 members	£21 non mem
Tennis & Squash	Monday 24th October	Tuesday 25th October	9-17 years	1pm - 4pm	£18 members	£21 non mem

BOOK ONLINE: www.wendovortennisandsquash.co.uk

OR EMAIL: INFO@EVERYBALL.NET



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