



The John Hampden School Wendover

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NEWSLETTER

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

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, Badgers and Squirrels have won the cup - I'll leave your children to tell you who won it today!

Finally, '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 Growth Mindsets Curriculum Evening last Thursday. We hope you found it interesting and informative. The presentation from the evening can be found under the Parents Section of the school's website.

Thank you for your continued support.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

12th October—Open Morning for prospective families
 10th October—Maths Workshops for parents of children in Year 1 @ 2.45pm
 11th October—Maths Workshops for parents of children in FS @ 2.45pm
 12th October—Maths Workshops for parents of children in Year 2 @ 2.45pm
 13th October FJH Quiz Night
 13th October FJH Ice Cream Day
 16th October : Health Week
 16th October: Assessment Week
 20th October—School closes for half term

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Some of you may have noticed that there have been some recent changes to the school's Governing Body. Firstly, Paul Phillips, has moved from the John Colet School and taken up a new challenge as Deputy Head Teacher at a school in Leighton Buzzard. As he is no longer just a stone's throw away and with his new commitments, he felt it appropriate to step down as Chair of Governors. However, he has not escaped entirely and has agreed to remain part of the Governing Body team as Vice Chair. Paul has many years of invaluable experience as both a teacher and governor and we are extremely grateful for his past and ongoing support.

At the end of the summer term we also said goodbye to Alison Collins and John Goodman, both of whom will be sorely missed for bringing their hardworking, dedication and professional attitude to the Governing Body. Never fear, however, as we have recruited two new Parent Governors - Robyn Asprey and Angie Daly - both of whom have pupils at the school. We welcome both Angie and Robyn and hope they will enjoy the rewards and sense of satisfaction that being a governor can bring.

A full list of the school's current Governors, along with details of their key responsibilities, can be found on the school's website. If you would like to know more about the role of the Governing Body, have questions about the way the school is run and funded, or perhaps would like to get more involved in your child's education, we want to hear from you. After all, whilst the Governing Body has a role in the strategic development of the school and in monitoring and evaluating progress, we are also here to represent you - the parents and pupils.

Whilst we are on the subject of funding, the Governors and teaching staff would again like to offer a huge thank you to all those who have already donated to the John Hampden Wendover Learning Trust. Whether via our MyDonate webpage or just regularly using Easyfundraising for your weekly grocery shop (or Amazon purchases...), each and every donation really *will* make a difference.

It was also hugely encouraging to see so many parents attending last week's curriculum evening on Growth Mindsets. The presentations, by Mrs Barnes and Mrs Parkinson, provided an overview of what a Growth Mindset is and how it is being developed at the school. The purpose of these sessions is to help you, as parents, engage in your child's education and I think everyone who attended gained a great deal. As one parent put it so succinctly: *'A very helpful evening allowing us to learn new ways to encourage our children's learning journey.'* For those who were not able to attend, the presentations can be found under the Parents section of the school website.

Personally, the 'practical' element to the evening, where Parents and carers were given practical ideas about how they can encourage a growth mindset with their children, left me with a deep suspicion that I lean more towards a 'fixed' mindset. However, it also provided me with a ray of hope that by embracing imperfections, asking the right questions (and listening to the answers...), and viewing this challenge as an 'opportunity' - I too can nudge the pendulum closer towards the 'Growth' end of the spectrum.

That is, after all, what having a Growth Mindset is all about: abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work... I will be embracing this mindset as I start on my new journey as the Chair of Governors. Wish me luck.



James Edley
Chair of Governors

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 them at the school gate so please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, James Edley, jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk if you would like to raise a matter for discussion

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

SAFETY ON BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS

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. Also, we have had a request from Wendover Junior School, to pass on their concern about the supervision of children whilst waiting for siblings outside their school. Please keep your child/ren with you and do not allow them to ride their bikes and scooters in a way that may cause injury to others.

Thank you

DANGEROUS PARKING

We are aware of another vehicle (a black Ford) that consistently parks illegally on the corner of Icknield Close. If you are the owner of this vehicle please refrain from parking on double yellow lines for the safety of all pedestrians in the area.

ENTRY TO SCHOOL CAR PARK

We have a fence and gate 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

DAHLCIOUS 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 just over £160.00 for this marvellous cause.

RED WHITE & BLUE DAY

Red, White and Blue Day took place on Thursday this week. Mrs Spencer and Helen Brettell led an assembly for the children in which they talked about our Service families and the jobs they do. Many of the parents of our Service children attended. All the children were invited to come to school wearing red, white and blue and donate £1. Proceeds will be sent to the RAF Benevolent Fund.



HELP NEEDED—Thursday 19th October and Friday 20th October

All children will be making a healthy snack on Thursday 19th or Friday 20th 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.

SPARE LEGO

If you have any spare Lego base boards or Lego people—we would love to take them off your hands. Please bring them to the school office. Thank you

Stampers needed!

Dear Parents / Carers,

We will soon be starting this year's 'Go for Gold' walk to school incentive scheme. However, we desperately need more volunteers to help stamp the children's passports in the mornings.

If you could help for one, two or more mornings each week (for about 15 minutes) then please let me know. Ideally a team of ten people would be best, but the more people we can recruit the better.

If you would like to become part of this popular scheme then please complete the form below and return to school as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance

Yours sincerely,

Heather Beattie

School Travel Co-ordinator

I am able to help stamp passports.

I am available on these mornings:

Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

BOOK SWAP

THE RETURN OF 'THE BOOK SWAP'

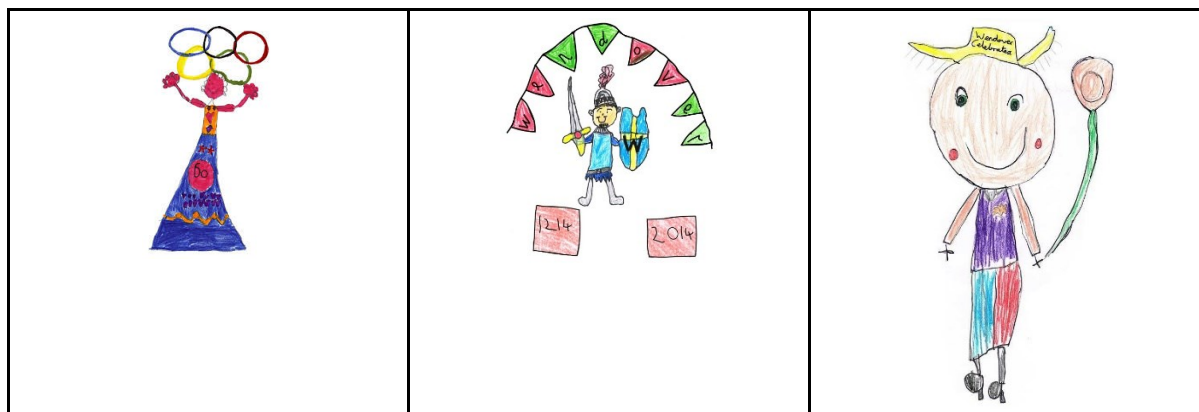
Last year as part of our Year of Reading campaign, we organised a 'Book Swap' where each child brought in a book that they didn't want anymore and swapped it for a book of their choice. This proved very successful with some classes carrying it on throughout the year.

We wanted to continue this year by offering the same opportunity. Last year, Mrs Williams, Wilbur's mum, very kindly and creatively decorated a 'Book Swap Box' with characters from Roald Dahl's stories (John Hampden's Favourite Author). It has been placed in the front entrance. Anyone who wants to swap a book can do so before school or after school. Please remember that if you take a book out, you need to put one in. When you have finished reading the book, why not swap it again? Anyone who swaps ten books can fill in the Book Swap Challenge Card (located on the school website—Parents Section) and will receive a certificate from Mrs Parkinson. It would also be very useful to write a Book Review. Not only is this a fabulous way to sharpen reading skills, it can also introduce others to writers whose books they might not have tried otherwise. Book Review Templates can be found on the school website under the Parents Section. Please hand in completed Book Reviews to the School Office. We will then scan some of the reviews and put them on the website for all to read.



WENDOVER CELEBRATES LOGO COMPETITION

Wendover Celebrates will be held on the 27th May 2018 and event organisers are busily planning the celebrations. In the past Wendover Celebrates have run a competition where children have been asked to design a logo based on the theme of Wendover Celebrates. Here are the winners from the past:



This time, Wendover Celebrates would like a permanent logo. If you would like to enter the competition please design a logo and hand it into school no later than 20th October 2017.

It must:

- Reflect Wendover
- Be simple
- On A4 paper

GOOD LUCK!! IF YOU WIN YOU WILL BE FAMOUS IN WENDOVER **FOREVER!!**

4. CURRICULUM

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 Me!'

Year One have started with 'Marvellous Me!'

and Year Two's topic is called 'Gobblefunk'

EQUALITY

Mrs Spencer led an assembly for Years 1 and 2 about the importance of equality of opportunity for all and mutual respect while playing football at playtimes and lunchtimes. The assembly took place on the football playground and involved role-play and a discussion about fairness.

The impact was immediate; during the next lunchtime, one Midday Supervisor commented that 'it was lovely to see so many different boys and girls playing football during lunchtime today'. One of the teacher's observed that her class were keen to share what they had learnt about how the golden rules and school values are important when playing football.

Year 2 pupils said;

'I think I might try playing football now, I haven't played it before'.

Liberty

'I thought it was good to see different people playing football'.

David

'I thought it was exciting to try it out'.

Rosa

'It was great to have an assembly outside, I think everybody should play football who wants to and everyone should have fun'.

Jack



Year 2 trip to Bucks County Museum

On Monday 2nd October our Year 2 classes visited The Bucks County Museum & Roald Dahl's Children Gallery in Aylesbury. This term the children learnt all about 'Roald Dahl' linked to our History topic about a famous, local person. They learnt so much about the author and his life and it was fabulous to see and hear the children share all their knowledge with the museum staff as well as learn some more facts they didn't already know! As always, the visit was a huge success and the children were extremely well-behaved modelling our John Hampden School values and following our Golden Rules.

The children completed a workshop in Roald Dahl's Children Gallery. They heard all about the 'disgustorous' Twits in their filthy upside down room; acted out a scene from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory where poor Augustus Gloop fell into the chocolate river and got stuck in the bubble tube; investigated underground treasures by crawling through Fantastic Mr Fox's tunnel; discovered the world of James' Giant Peach; explored sounds with the BFG; boggled their eyes with optical illusions. They even got shrunk by Mr Wonka's television Machine just like Mike Teavee!

In the second workshop, the children did the BFG Dream Bottle workshop where they created their own dream bottles inspired by their favourite museum objects. They decorated a special label and dream bottle creating a beautiful souvenir to take home. Some have gone home. Some are on display in their classroom.

The whole day was a wonderful experience and we say a big thank you to all those who were part of the trip.

Jude said about the trip "I loved it when I went into Fantastic Mr Fox's tunnel. It was fun!"

Chloe said about the trip "I loved the Willy Wonka Show. Ella was Willy Wonka and William P was Augustus Gloop!"



5. PUPIL'S SECTION

On Friday 22nd 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.



6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

Class Reps

A huge thanks to those parents that have agreed to be class reps - we really appreciate all your help. Please do track your rep down if you haven't given them your details it really does help with class logistics! Please contact me if you don't know who your rep is on [Christina edley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Christina_edley@yahoo.co.uk)

Going for Gold

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!!!

Going for gold will be starting up again after half term, a scheme that encourages healthy attitudes towards travel/safety and rewards the children for walking to school.

The children really enjoy collecting stamps to receive prizes and in addition children will be eligible for other rewards, such as a free swim, visit to Zoomania or Rogue Bowling on completion of their passport.

Further details of the scheme will be sent in your child's book bag.

To help make this happen, we do need stampers in the morning, arriving at 8:30am to set up and stamp the children's passport

Please can you offer a little extra time in the morning to make this scheme work?

If you would like to help, please contact Lisa Corr on 07966025719 or email lisa.corr@hotmail.co.uk

Quiz Night 13th October

Tables are filling up nicely for the annual Quiz Night – it's not too late to get your ticket – get your team organised and drop your registration form into the office. If you don't have a full table we can match you up with others. Get your thinking caps on!

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 – we know we are a few short!

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 left some extra templates in the office so that you could involve any siblings at home if you wish. If you created your own design, please ensure you return any completed templates by today—6th October.

Chairperson – Sophie Palmer

You may be aware that Sophie Palmer our chairperson is standing down from the role – as of Christmas – please let us know if you are interested on taking over this role leading us through the school year of fun filled activities and developing new fundraising ideas....Sophie would love to pass the role on with a cross over period if possible. Do get in touch with myself [Christina edley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Christina_edley@yahoo.co.uk) or Sophie on mrandmrspalmer@hotmail.co.uk if you would like more info.

Easyfundraising

Don't forget to use www.easyfundraising.org.uk everytime you shop on line

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fjhwendover/> - raising money without costing you anything!

Your cause



Your cause has raised...

£1,207.71

No. supporters

100

NEXT FJH Meeting

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 17th October 8pm** in the Shoulder of Mutton – back room area – please come and join us – whether its your 1st or 21st meeting!

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 you might like to see the results of the questionnaire. 130 parents responded.

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	130	129	1	0	99%
My awareness of how to help my child learn is enhanced through information given by the school - meetings, curriculum evenings and written information	130	126	3	1	97%
I feel that I have a shared responsibility for my child's learning and I do all I can to assist the school	130	127	3	0	98%
I am made aware of my child's strengths and areas for development at parent/teacher meetings	130	127	0	3	98%
I am kept well informed about how my child is getting on through Parents Evenings, reports, informal conversations with teachers	130	125	3	2	96%
The school achieves high standards in reading, writing and mathematics	130	119	2	9	92%
The school has high expectations for my child	130	120	4	6	92%
The school sets my child realistic learning targets	130	126	1	3	97%
I am satisfied with the education my child is receiving at the school	130	127	1	2	98%
My child was helped to settle in well when he/she started at the school	130	126	3	1	97%
There are good transition arrangements as children enter a new class	130	117	2	11	90%
My child's needs are being met by the school	130	127	2	1	98%
Academically, my child is making good progress at school	130	125	2	3	96%
Socially, my child is making good progress at school	130	126	2	2	97%
My child enjoys school	130	128	1	1	98%
My child enjoys learning	130	126	2	2	97%
My child is taught well	130	128	1	1	98%
My child's homework is useful and enjoyable (please also consider homework to include suggestions in topic booklets each half term)	130	119	8	3	92%
The school actively seeks pupils views	130	115	2	13	88%
The school provides a rich, stimulating and memorable curriculum for my child	130	128	1	1	98%
The work of all children is celebrated throughout the school	130	120	5	5	92%
The school promotes equal opportunities	130	120	5	5	92%
The school encourages my child to be independent	130	128	0	2	98%
The school environment, inside and outside, is safe, comfortable and secure	130	129	1	0	99%
The resources, inside and outside, are well maintained and suitable	130	127	1	2	98%
The school offers pupils access to a range of technology, including computers and Interactive Whiteboards	130	126	0	4	97%
The school contributes to my child's health and well-being	130	128	1	1	98%
The school encourages pupils to become ecologically aware	130	114	2	14	88%

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.</i> clubs, activities	130	126	1	3	97%
I am aware of the school's policy on behaviour, including Golden Rules, rewards and sanctions	130	129	1	0	99%
There is a good standard of behaviour at the school	130	128	1	1	98%
My child is safe and well cared for at the school	130	129	1	0	99%
The school is friendly and welcoming	130	129	1	0	99%
There is a good feeling in the school between staff, pupils and parents	130	129	1	0	99%
The school is led and managed well	130	130	0	0	100%
The school deploys all staff effectively	130	114	1	15	88%
I am comfortable about approaching the school and know my concerns will be listened to	130	129	0	1	99%
The school deals effectively and promptly with problems as they are made aware of them	130	119	1	10	92%
Staff are approachable and helpful	130	130	0	0	100%
I feel I am given the opportunity to be involved in the school's activities and functions	130	130	0	0	100%
The school has an effective governing body	130	111	0	19	85%
I feel I can approach a governor about any issues that concern me	130	106	2	22	82%
The school has an ethos and climate within which pupils can grow and flourish	130	129	1	0	99%
The school has a clear direction and is constantly developing	130	125	0	5	96%
The school communicates its improvement plans to parents	130	127	1	2	98%
The school has high expectations for all	130	126	1	3	97%
The school has a good reputation in the local community	130	129	0	1	99%
I am pleased that my child attends The John Hampden School	130	129	0	1	99%
The school uniform policy is reasonable	130	125	1	4	96%
The uniform sold in school is reasonably priced	130	113	8	9	87%
The uniform sold in school is of a good quality	130	123	1	6	95%
The school aims to foster good links with the local community	130	124	0	6	95%
The Home/School diary is an effective communication tool	130	127	2	1	98%
The school website is useful and informative	130	124	4	2	95%
The school communicates effectively with parents <i>e.g.</i> regular newsletters, information from teachers, Home/School Agreement etc.	130	127	3	0	98%
The school actively seeks the views of parents	130	128	1	1	98%
I am aware of the school's values	130	128	1	1	98%

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Dogs on Campus

Please note that dogs are not allowed anywhere on the school campus.

Health week—Zumba for Foundation stage

As part of our Health week activities, on Tuesday 17th October, from 8.30am to 8.45am there will be a zumba session on the playground for parents, children and siblings of those in our Foundation stage classes. If you wish to take part please come to the main school entrance and follow the path around the side of the building to the playground at the back.

Thank You!

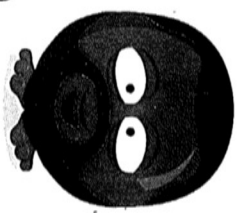


John Hampden School Wendover

for raising an amazing

£282.83

for Red Nose Day 2017



Sir Lenny Henry

Sir Lenny Henry

You're a
bunch of
superstars!

Totally
Magic!

You're
helping lots
of people!





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or complete the booking form on reverse

part of the

