



# The John Hampden School Wendover



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## UPCOMING DATES:

3rd Feb—FJH bags to school collection at 9.00 am

6th Feb—Assessment week and Artists week

10th Feb—FJH ice cream day and school closes for half-term at 3.15

20th Feb—School re-opens

1st March—4pm to 7pm Learning reviews

2nd March—12.30 to 3.30 EY Learning reviews and 4.00 to 7.00 pm FS, Y1, Y2 Learning reviews

3rd March—World Book Day and Work sharing day for EY from 11.45am and for FS, Y1, Y2 from 2.45 pm

## NEWSLETTER

### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Despite having a National Curriculum which directs the content of what should be taught to children at this stage of their education, we are given the freedom to choose how we feel it is best to deliver this content. At The John Hampden School Wendover we try hard to present the content as a linked curriculum whenever possible. This means we choose topics which enable aspects of different subjects to be taught in a meaningful way to the children. So, rather than having a history lesson each week we may choose to block the teaching of this subject into a specific topic. For Year 2 this half term has seen a focus on The Great Fire of London. The history theme lends itself well to the requirement for children to be able to write a recount in English and to produce 3D art work so these things have been linked together. This week their teachers planned an exciting History Day for them and you can read more about it in the Curriculum Section of this newsletter.



At other times we may choose to have specific enrichment days or weeks to focus attention on a particular subject or a particular theme. So far this academic year we have enjoyed a fortnight of Health and Safety. At the end of this half term Miss Webb and Mrs Collins have planned an exciting Arts Week which is a new venture that will involve the children creating 3D art structures based on a mythical creatures theme. This will be enhanced with music, drama and poetry. Later on in the year there will be Enterprise Week, Science Investigation Day and World Weeks to look forward to.

Yesterday the whole school took part in Maths Day which was organised by our Maths Co-ordinator, Mrs Timms. Further details and comments from the pupils can be found in the Children's Section of this newsletter.

We have found that some topics are universally popular with infant aged pupils whilst at other times we take account of particular interests of the children to plan something new. Our teachers work very hard to keep the learning opportunities relevant and interesting for the children so they are motivated and engaged in their learning.

Whenever possible we invite visitors into school or we plan trips to enhance the learning experience. Sometimes we ask the children to come to school wearing costumes to make their learning more memorable. With this in mind I would like to draw your attention to World Book Day which we will be celebrating on Friday 3rd March. Every year we ask the children to dress up as a character from one of their favourite books. We will be celebrating our love of books by providing a range of activities throughout the day including sharing books with Wendover Junior children.

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Governor visit report for 26th January 2017

Yesterday was Maths Day, an event which I had heard about for the past few years when my son was at JHS, he always came home telling me of the fun things they had done that day - which, as a parent you will know, it's quite rare to hear about anything they do!

I was invited to visit different classrooms throughout the morning to see what they were doing. Having been in the school a number of times before it was clear that Maths Day was different, that the school was a bit buzzier and there was a feeling of excitement - both for the staff and children.

In the Hall the Year 1 and 2 classes each got a chance to meet the Maths in a Suitcase man. He comes in each year for Maths Day and has a variety of activities and games for the children. The Year 2 children remembered him from last year and while he was giving them an introduction they were sitting right on the edge of the benches desperate to get up and have a go. I was not surprised when I had a chance to play with some of the games, they were fun, creative and not what I remember from maths at school!

In Year 1, each teacher had an activity and the children got to spend time in all 3 classrooms. In Hedgehogs it was Maths Games, in Badgers it was number line sock puppets and in Squirrels it was outdoor maths. The Maths Games were set up with a variety of activities and the children could choose for themselves. There were learning aids such as number lines and whiteboards for those who needed extra support and whilst the teachers were there to help I was impressed how well they worked independently.

Foundation Stage had suffered from an Alien Invasion the previous night so they were tasked with figuring out who the Alien Invaders were and tidying up their mess. The excitement was obvious when I walked in and got told "there are pants in here!" I was very impressed with the level at which Foundation Stage were working - they were able to tell me about 2D (flat) and 3D (fat) shapes and describe them to each other in a guessing game. They worked with blocks to measure the length of the Aliens footprints and were writing the results on a whiteboard, built 3D rockets and had to work out which numbers the Aliens had stolen in sums. It reminded me that Maths doesn't have to be boring and almost anything can be used as a Maths resource.

Having been a parent at JHS for 4 years and now a Governor I have heard lots of mention of the schools values but it was really evident today how much the children thrive on them and really understand what they mean. I saw great examples of perseverance, collaboration and independence throughout the day and, yes, they really were "Loving to Learn"!!

Daniya Stewart  
Parent 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 or if you just have a query about the school.

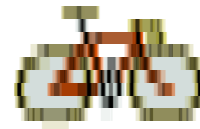
### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

#### School Times

This is a polite reminder that children should arrive at school between 8.45a.m. and 8.55a.m. each day. We have a number of children who are either arriving very early or after 8.55a.m. It is a shame that those children arriving late are often missing the important first instructions of the morning. Please try to ensure your child arrives on time. **The black security gate is locked promptly at 8.55am so if your child is late please accompany them to the main entrance** where we will let them into the school and ask you to complete the late arrivals sheet.

#### Head Lice

Please check your child's hair regularly and treat as necessary. For health and safety reasons long hair should always be tied back at school. Please remind your child that they should not take down their tied back hair when they get to school!



#### Scooters and Bicycles

Please note, scooters and bicycles left at school are left entirely at the owner's risk. John Hampden School accepts no liability for any loss or damage from any cause whatsoever. It really helps if bicycles and scooters are clearly named and we are happy for them to be padlocked to the fence for extra security if you wish. Siblings from Wendover Junior School should not leave their scooters or bikes on our premises.

#### Voluntary Contributions

In our last newsletter we requested a £10 voluntary contribution for each pupil for the Spring Term. I understand that some parents cannot remember whether they paid their contributions for the whole year—we do keep records so do not hesitate to ring the office 01296 622629 or email [office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk) and Mrs Mohammed will check for you.

#### Attendance Letters

Just a reminder that, as mentioned in the attendance letter, one day is two sessions so if your child has had one day off it will be recorded as two sessions absence i.e. morning and afternoon.

#### Scroll of Honour Badges

Our behaviour initiative, which allows any pupil in the school to be nominated by an adult for demonstrating excellent behaviour, appears to be working well. Every child who is nominated has their name included on the Scroll of Honour and is asked to stand up in front of the rest of the school during Merit Assembly on Friday. They are given a yellow 'Spotted for Something Special' badge which they can wear for one week. We are asking for your support in ensuring the badges are returned to school on the following Thursday. This way we can make sure they can be passed to the next set of children who are nominated. We only have a limited supply of the badges and others will be really disappointed if they don't get a badge when it is their special moment. Thank you for your support.

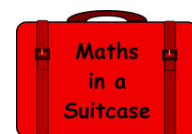
## 4. PUPIL'S SECTION

### MATHS DAY

Thursday 26th January was Maths Day at the school. Mrs Timms, our maths co-ordinator, organised a fun packed day which included a visit from 'Maths in a Suitcase'. Each year group planned a range of mathematical activities for their classes to complete and the feedback from pupils and staff was extremely positive about everything that went on.



I liked measuring the alien feet. There was a giant foot and a teeny-weeny foot—Amelia (Honeybees)  
I liked doing the shapes. I guessed a square and a triangle—Aarush (Honeybees)  
I loved measuring the alien foot prints—Bethan (Caterpillars)  
I liked feeding the aliens. You had to share them out and count and see how many —George (Caterpillars)  
I liked all the aliens maths day activities because the aliens did the wrong things and I had to change it and sort it out—Kai (Ladybirds)  
I liked maths day because I got to build a space rocket using 2D and 3D shapes—Will (Ladybirds)  
I've learnt how to make 10. We went outside and used magic beans and sticks—Rosa (Badgers)  
I enjoyed making my 'maths about me' poster. I learnt how to make a subtraction number sentence that can always end in 1—Joey (Badgers)  
We answered questions and wrote the number sentences to match the answers—it was very good—Jake (Squirrels)  
We had to solve number problems. It was challenging and fun—Kathryn (Squirrels)  
I really enjoyed making the number bond hand puppets because they look pretty but they helped me do tricky number sentences—Eva (Hedgehogs)  
I liked 'maths about Me' because we were detectives working out number sentences to match our answers—Evie (Hedgehogs)  
I really enjoyed 'Maths in a Suitcase'. I loved playing the safe sandwich game with Erin. I also liked challenging myself with the planet puzzle. I felt happy and proud when I completed a puzzle—Olivia (Firecrests)  
I loved the maths man. When I finished the maze I felt proud. I challenged myself on the shape flipping game—Christopher (Firecrests)  
More maths days. I love maths—Evie (Hérons)  
I've enjoyed everything on maths day—Jamie (Hérons)  
I loved the day because it challenged me—Lucy (Eagles)  
The day made my brain think—Summer (Eagles)  
I liked doing all the maths puzzles in the hall—Freya (Red Kites)  
I liked making the square based pyramid and triangular based pyramid with the balls—Charlie (Red Kites)



There was a maths competition too and we were very impressed with the number of entries. After careful consideration the lucky winners were:

Shanbi R (Honeybees), Huw G (Ladybirds) and Ruby G (Caterpillars)  
Harry G (Squirrels), Daisy D (Hedgehogs) and Holly P (Badgers)  
Owen L (Red Kites), Evie J (Hérons), Emily H (Firecrests) and Oli S (Eagles)

## 5. FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

### Children's New Year Disco

They danced, glowed, coloured, ran around, drank, ate, watched, played and laughed (and that was just the parents!) Thank you to Chrissie and the team for organising the event – the children seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Thank you for all of your generous donations - we will have made around £900 for the school.

### Guilty Pleasures (adult) Disco – Saturday 4th February

Don't forget to book the babysitter and order your tickets – it's your turn to hit the dance floor! Drop your tune requests on an email to Sophie on [mrandmrspalmer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mrandmrspalmer@hotmail.co.uk). Tickets will be sold outside school this Friday (27th Jan), last orders taken on the 1st Feb.

### Bag 2 School Friday 3rd February

If possible please fill the white Bag2School with any unwanted adults' and children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys and bring to school by 9am on Friday 3rd February (there will be a tarpaulin on the grass by the scooter park from 7.30am). The school then gets money by weight of the collection. Thanks!

### Ice-cream day Friday 10th February


It's cold outside; time for an ice-cream! The children will get to enjoy an ice-cream at school. No need to do anything if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. A letter will go out in the book bags to the new starters in Crickets.

### Easyfundraising

Thank you - another parent signed up to Easyfundraising during the last fortnight – we have now raised £890 for the school. If you've not signed up yet, please click on to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> before you start booking your summer holidays – it's simple and costs you nothing.

### Your cause

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Your cause has raised...

**£890.51**

No. supporters

**72**

#### Save the Dates

- |                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Guilty Pleasures Disco (parents) | Saturday 4 February |
| • Spring Cake Sale                 | Friday 17 March     |
| • Spring Run                       | Sunday 23 April     |
| • May Fayre                        | Saturday 20 May     |
| • Bag to School                    | Wednesday 14 June   |
| • Summer BBQ                       | Friday 7 July       |



## 6. CURRICULUM

History came alive for Year 2 this Tuesday, 24th January when they all stepped back in time and took part in the events of The Great Fire of London from 1666 as part of their 'History Day'. The children were asked to come to school in Tudor costume and they all looked fantastic in a variety of attires from King Charles II, maids, Samuel Pepys, bakers, and chimney sweeps. Each class experienced historical events such as baking bread, hot seating, re-enacting scenes through drama and creating a colourful poster to record the main events. The feedback from adults and children was very positive.

### Activity 1: Drama

The children entered the room and were given an old fashioned name and they chose their own occupation from a selection that were common at the time. They went on to imagine what it would have been like to wake to find the fire raging. They had to try to escape their homes before trying to put out the fire with squirts, pull down the buildings with hooks and escape via the river.



### Activity 2: Hot seating and confirming known facts about the fire.

Children took the role of different characters who were prominent at the time. The others then asked them questions to establish the facts about the fire from their perspective.

### Activity 3: Writing Fire of London Posters



### Activity 4: Making bread



Comments about the History Day from Year 2 are as follows :

Red Kites class—

I liked it because we were allowed to dress up as any character from the Great Fire of London—Ellie

I liked going into Eagles class and acting out what happened—Jayden

I liked the baking and getting all messy—Ryan

I enjoyed the hot seating because you could ask lots of different questions—Kaya

I enjoyed everything, it was nice doing all the different activities because it wasn't like being at school but we were still learning—Hannah

I liked looking at all the different costumes—James

Firecrests class—

I liked the drama because we had to get into character back in the time of the Great Fire of London—Molly

I enjoyed making the bread. It was quite easy to do—Robert

Eagles class—

I enjoyed going back in time in drama because I actually felt like I had been in The Great Fire of London—Toby

I loved wearing old costumes. Everyone looked really good—Grace

I liked going round the classrooms because each time we learnt more things about The Great Fire of London—Lucy

Hérons class-

I loved today because we did different activities and my favourite thing was baking bread—Lili

It was amazing! - Josh

I loved today it was fantastic. Thank you—Kali

It was good because we went into all different classes and do activities—Teddy

## 7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We aim to keep you fully informed of our actions linked to the school improvement plan. Since the last newsletter we have:-

### **GOAL A: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT**

The leadership team at the school are committed to working collaboratively with others for the benefit of the children at John Hampden. The Governing Body are proactively seeking more information regarding the Multi-Academy Trust agenda which continues to be an area requiring our attention. We already work very closely with our Liaison Group of schools and we are, as a team, working together to ensure our governing bodies have all the information they require to be able to make an informed decision about the future direction of our schools.

Steph Parkinson has, once again, joined the team of EYFS County moderators. She will be visiting a number of other schools in the area to moderate their judgements linked to the EYFS profile to ensure consistency across Buckinghamshire.

### **GOAL B: TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT**

School trips and exciting enrichment activities in the last two weeks have helped to make the learning come alive for children in all year groups.

The assessment week data from before the Christmas holiday has been entered onto the tracking sheets and individual teachers have planned future teaching and individual/small group interventions for any child/group who is not on track to make expected progress during the year. We have a focus on making sure our most able children are appropriately challenged and the introduction of 'Challenge Lights' to our marking and feedback policy enables children to indicate how challenging they found the work that was offered to them.

### **GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE**

Parents recently received a letter informing them of their child's attendance figure for Autumn 2016. Analysis of whole school data tells us that 91 children (32%) had 100% attendance and 98% of children had an attendance percentage of over 80%. 81% had above 95% attendance (the expected figure) Punctuality data was also analysed. As a rule punctuality is very good but we do have a small number of families who are regularly arriving later than 8.55am. We will continue to monitor attendance and punctuality regularly.

We have introduced a new set of lunchtime monitors who are responsible for ensuring all children have someone they recognise who can help and support them at this time of the day. Our monitors wear special tabards so they can be easily identified and their photos are proudly displayed in the corridor. We are keen to ensure our pupils are given these types of roles of responsibility and there are further opportunities being planned including the introduction of a School Council to work alongside the current Class Council arrangement.

### **GOAL D: PUPIL OUTCOMES**

Following the assessment week at the end of the Autumn Term pupil attainment has been entered onto our school tracking system. For key stage 1 pupils this has allowed us to measure progress since the end of Foundation Stage or the end of Year 1. End of year targets are then set and teaching and interventions are planned to meet the learning needs of all.



## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

### **Sainsburys vouchers**

Sainsburys will be starting up their voucher scheme again next week. If there is anyone able to offer some time, after half-term, to help us count the vouchers please could you let the school office know and we will get in touch once we have some to count. Thank you.

### **Ollie's New Year Raffle**

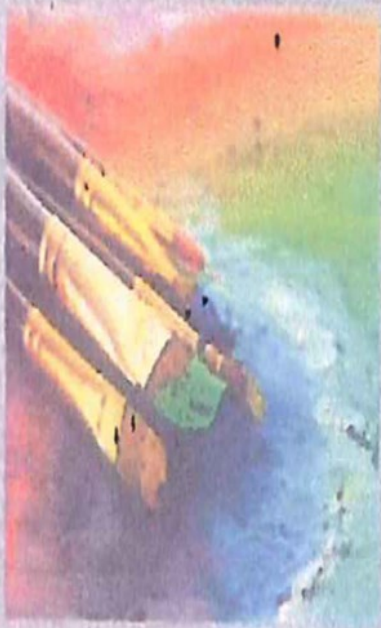
Following on from the massive success of Wear it Blue for Ollie, the fundraising team have organised a New Year raffle. There are over 70 fantastic prizes to be won (a full list of prizes can be viewed on [www.olliesfund.com](http://www.olliesfund.com)) and if anyone would like to buy a raffle ticket we have books available here in the school office. The money and ticket stubs do need to be back here with us by Wednesday 1st February. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Packed lunches and hot school meals**

Just a polite reminder that if you have ordered hot school meals for your child, please don't send them in with a packed lunch as well. If your child doesn't want to continue with hot school meals, please contact the providers, Chartwells on 01908 615705. Thank you.

## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

# Painting, Pudding & Prosecco



Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February at the Shoulder of Mutton pub. 8pm-10. Theme of buttons and hearts. Make 3 items to take home with a glass of prosecco and pudding included in the price.

Tickets £20. You can book through my facebook page The Creation Station Bucks Wendover or E mail [Nicolacliffe@thecreationstation.co.uk](mailto:Nicolacliffe@thecreationstation.co.uk)



# February Half-Term Swimming Lessons

Aylesbury Grammar School, Walton Rd, Aylesbury

## 5 Day Intensive Courses

ONLY  
£75

Maximum 6 children per class  
Children aged 3 to 12 years  
Beginners, Improvers & Advanced  
Structured, safe & most of all FUN!

Book Online:

[www.seriouslyfun.com](http://www.seriouslyfun.com)

or call: 01753 364 364

UK Franchise Opportunities Available



# February Half-Term Course

Intensive courses are great for building confidence!

**Did you know?** It has been shown that children learn and retain new skills more easily over short, intensive periods of time.

## February half-term course

**Venue:** Aylesbury Grammar School, Walton Rd, Aylesbury

**Age:** 3 to 12 years (Beginner to Advanced)

**Dates:** Mon 13th to Fri 17th February

**Times:** 10am to 12pm (30 minute lessons between these times)

**Fees:** Only £75 per child!

## We also run weekly term time courses

Baby and Children's weekly swimming lessons during school terms

**Swim Babies:** Age 4 months to 3 years (structured Swim Babies programme)

**Venues:** The Thames Club, Staines • Burnham Beeches Hotel, Burnham • Manor Green School, Maidenhead

**Juniors:** Age 3 to 12 years (Beginners to Advanced)

**Venues:** Teikyo Japanese School, Wexham • St. Piran's School, Maidenhead • Maplewood School, High Wycombe • Manor Green School, Maidenhead • The Thames Club, Staines • Aylesbury Grammar School, Aylesbury

Teaching YOUR child to swim in a safe and FUN Way

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[www.seriouslyfun.com](http://www.seriouslyfun.com)

or call: 01753 364 364



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## EVERYBALL TENNIS HALF TERM TENNIS CAMPS AT WENDOVER TENNIS CLUB

Come and join our February half term holiday tennis camp.

It's an ideal way to try out tennis for the first time, or get practising those tennis skills in a fun action packed camp.

Activities both on and off the court with refreshments provided.

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

### **Mini Tennis Camp**

**Bring a packed lunch**

		<b>Age</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Cost per day</b>	
Thursday 16th February	Friday 17th February	4-8 years	9am - 12pm	£21 members	£24 non mem

### **Junior Tennis Camp**

		<b>Age</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Cost per day</b>	
Thursday 16th February	Friday 17th February	9-17 years	1pm - 3pm	£15 members	£16.50 non mem

**BOOK ONLINE:** [www.everyball.uk](http://www.everyball.uk)

**OR EMAIL:** [INFO@EVERYBALL.NET](mailto:INFO@EVERYBALL.NET)



[www.facebook.com/EveryballTennisWendover](https://www.facebook.com/EveryballTennisWendover)



Wendover Squash & Tennis Club – Dobbins Lane – Wendover – Bucks – HP22 6BU

