



The John Hampden School Wendover



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NEWSLETTER

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

During the past two weeks pupils at John Hampden have had several chances to show off their skills — these opportunities have been very successful and enjoyable.

On 1st May our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils performed to a large audience as part of our traditional May Day Celebrations. Without exception the children performed beautifully and even the grand finale - a Maypole dance by the teachers and teaching assistants went to plan! You can see more photographs of the event on the school website in the news section. We were fortunate to have Mr Rory Duff, Town Crier for Bidford-on-Avon, to introduce the individual dances and, as usual, this made the whole celebration even more special.

The children in the Year 1 classes were responsible for choosing Mia (Squirrels) as our May Queen. Miley (Hedgehogs) and Betsy (Badgers) were her attendants. Our May Queen was crowned by Tilly (Firecrests), the May Queen from last year, and Joey (Red Kites) was our Lucky Sweep. A great team of Year 2 children kept the John Hampden Morris Dancing tradition alive.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 12th May—Friends of John Hampden May Fayre. 12.00 noon—3.00pm.

21st May—Assessment week

25th May—FJH ice cream day and school closes for half term

27th May—Wendover Celebrates

4th June—INSET DAY

5th June—School opens

5th June—World Week

8th June—FJH Fruity Friday

By the time this newsletter is sent to you we should have had the new Year 1 block handed over to us and there will be clear signs that the next phase of the project is about to commence. There is a new pathway for children to access Crickets, Ladybirds and Caterpillars classes and Honeybees are beginning to use their new door. Thank you for your patience while this work takes place.

It is not too late to sign your child up to participate in the Wendover Celebrates parade on 27th May. Logging into ParentPay and making a £5.00 donation towards the cost of their costume will guarantee them a place. Further details will be sent in due course. Closing date 17th May.

I look forward to seeing you at the Friends of John Hampden May Fayre on Saturday 12th May—let's hope the weather is kind to us!

Thank you for your continued support.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

When I was primary school age, my knowledge of the different parts of the world was formed by a single Spanish holiday, some TV programmes set in America, a computer program called 'Capitals of Europe' and trying to work out which page to stick stamps in to a Stanley Gibbons collectors album. Access to information has changed dramatically in the 20 (ish) years since I left primary school and teaching Geography has had to keep up with the times.

Geography is taught to the EYFS children as part of the Knowledge and Understanding of the World part of the curriculum and for KS1 children as part of focussed topics across a half term covering the Geography KS1 curriculum. The curriculum aims to ensure the children develop knowledge of physical and human geography and children are competent in collecting, analysing and communicating a range of data and interpreting a range of sources of geographical information. Geography teaching in the school responds to a diversity of culture, faith, ethnicities and family backgrounds.

Geography is also incorporated into a number of other subjects across the curriculum. Children enjoy writing about other parts of the world and are encouraged to use extended technical vocabulary in their descriptions. They will read a variety of texts to find out about different places and apply comprehension to draw inference and locate information. Geography in school also involves collecting numerical information, data processing and using computing skills and resources to locate, explore, analyse and present information in different ways.

Geography also has a very strong connection with Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) knowledge. John Hampden's children are encouraged to discuss and appreciate the beauty, scale and influence of geographical and natural phenomena on our environment. Human Geography covers aspects of social, cultural and moral understanding of the world through accepting and respecting diversity and how different communities and societies function. Geography leads to a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them.

My children have access to videos, images and information about parts of the world I didn't even know existed when I was their age. In many ways the world seems to have become a much smaller place with the amount of information available to our children. The high quality of Geography teaching in the school guides our children through this information and allows them to understand their place in the world.

David Wheeler

Co-Opted Governor (Geography subject link)



The Governing Body is 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, James Edley, on jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk if you would like to raise a matter for discussion

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

SUN PROTECTION

As the warmer weather appears we are keen to see children wearing named sunhats . We have a stock of John Hampden caps available from the school office. Parents are reminded that they should apply their child's long lasting sun cream before school but, if there are special cases where the cream needs to be applied more frequently, parents should contact the class teacher to make suitable arrangements. We are fortunate to have many shady areas and we try to minimise the amount of time children are exposed to the sun. For health and safety reasons, children should always come to school wearing socks.

WATER BOTTLES

We encourage our pupils to bring a water bottle into school which can be stored on their table and accessed when necessary. Bottles must only contain water—no juice or squash as this can become very sticky and is attractive to ants!

LOST PROPERTY

Since the Easter break our lost property bins are already overflowing with un-named jumpers and cardigans as well as a range of other items of clothing that we are unable to return to their rightful owner. Please take time to name your child's clothes even if you just use a biro to write their name on the label.

HEAD LICE

We are aware that there are cases of head lice in our Year 2 classes. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat as necessary. It helps to prevent the spread of headlice if children with long hair have it tied back during the school day. Thank you for your support.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR TRIPS

Just to remind you that the **deadline for payment** for the Year 1 trip to Whipsnade Zoo on 18th June and the Year 2 trip to Collings Hanger Farm on 19th & 20th June is **Monday 28th May**. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions by 28th May we will have no option but to cancel these trips. Please make payment via Parent Pay. If you have already paid via Parent Pay—thank you.

PARKING ON WHARF ROAD

We have recently been made aware of an incident involving a resident's parked car on Wharf Road. The car was hit and damaged by another car during the morning school drop-off period. We would once again please ask you to drive considerately on the campus roads. Thank you.

SCHOOL LIBRARY GRANT

We are delighted to be able to announce the extremely kind donation of a grant for £1000 to support our school library from The Lionel Abel-Smith Trust. This trust was created by Lionel Abel-Smith, Lord of the Manor of Wendover.

4. FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

May Fair Saturday 12th May - 12 noon - 3pm

We have a selection of great entertainment and stalls lined up for the afternoon, including crafts, face painting, pony rides, raffle, plant sale, tombola, refreshments (chilli and sausages) beer tent and hopefully a fire engine - emergencies permitting! There will be plenty to do and lots of fun to be had!

The May Day dance demonstration will be held at **1.30pm** on the main playground whilst Mr Marvel entertains us throughout the day in the hall. Why not come and throw a wet sponge at a Governor or PE teacher too!! Many thanks for the fabulous raffle prizes that have been donated. It's not too late to drop a prize into reception for the attention of Helen Hill.

We are still short of volunteers to help out on the stalls - please could you drop Anne-marie an email on foster.annemarie@gmail.com if you are able to help in any way.

REFRESHMENT STALL - Any contributions gratefully received and can be brought into school early on the morning of the Fayre.

PLANT STALL - now Spring has well and truly sprung, we welcome any donations of plants and seedlings for the plant stall and these can be brought into school early on the morning of the Fayre.

RAFFLE - please remember to bring your raffle ticket money and stubbs in. Extra tickets can be found in reception- we have a great selection of prizes - please see our FB page 'JHS Parents'.

SHED TIDY last week a team of parent volunteers helped to tidy and organise the PTA shed, where we stock all our event content. Everything is now sorted, labelled and easier to find, this will hopefully be the case for this Saturday's Fayre..!

Just wanted to say a big thank you to Hollie, Kate, Nadine, Charlotte, Rebecca, Lula and Chrissie. Many hands made light work and we got everything done in just over an hour. Your time was invaluable - Thank you!

Easyfundraising

We have 179 supporters - have you found it yet? If you've not signed up yet, please click on to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fjhwendover/> before you start searching for all your summer accessories online shopping from many companies from Amazon to John Lewis, M&S to Halfords, eBay to Boots - all add a donation it's simple and **costs you nothing**..DON'T FORGET EVERY LITTLE PURCHASE ADDS UP!!



Your cause has raised

£2,339.15

£112.01 in the last 30 days

Save the Dates

Summer BBQ

Friday 6th July

End of Term picnic

Tuesday 24th July

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

Our School Council held it's meeting on Tuesday this week. Mrs Spencer has been at the forefront of work to develop this team to ensure the pupil voice is heard and has an impact on school improvement. There is a display outside the school hall which features the work of the School Council but we thought you might like to read the minutes of their latest meeting.

The John Hampden School Council Minutes

Meeting held on: Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 10.15am

Present: All Class Representatives from FS, Years 1 & 2, Chloe (Chairperson), Evie (Minutes Secretary) Mrs Spencer (Facilitator)

1. Welcome – Mrs Spencer welcomed all members to the School Council meeting
2. The School Council recited The John Hampden Ethos (Motto)
3. The School Council read the School Council Aims
4. Minutes from the last meeting were shared by Chloe and agreed by all
5. Mrs Spencer said that feedback from School Council about how pupils can help themselves to make better progress, was shared at a staff meeting as well as with all classes
6. Mrs Spencer reported that the School Council suggestion that classes who get 5 balls in a week for lining up at lunchtime should choose their own treat, has now been put in place
7. Evie asked the SC some questions to talk about:

Question 1 asked of the School Council – Life at John Hampden School – how is it going? What is working well? What could be done better?

- > Behaviour is good, we keep looking at the Golden Time Sun, Cloud & Rain cloud in our classrooms
- > School Council suggested that children could help their friends to listen better
- > Behaviour on the playground is better. Friends are letting others join a game – good manners
- > Some classes are lining up well although, a few children are spoiling it by not lining up nicely
- > School Council asked if more could be done to help these children to line up better
- > Behaviour on the football pitch has improved (since teachers spoke to classes about it)
- > School Council considers that classes are working hard – concentrating better

Question 2 asked of the School Council – What would you like to say during the school assembly next week, about the School Council and the building project?

- > We agreed on what we would say during the assembly
- > A power point was requested, to include photos of the SC visit to visit the building project
- > It was agreed that we would share recent School Council decisions that have led to changes concerning how the school is run (including; kindness posters on the playground, how pupils can help themselves to make better progress, rewards for lining up at lunch time and sharing important views with a School Governor)
- > We will finish by answering questions that anybody would like to ask us

8. No other issues talked about this time

9. Mrs Spencer said that all suggestions made about the questions asked, will be talked about at the next SLT meeting with Mrs Barnes and Mrs Parkinson

10. Mrs Spencer said thank you to all members for coming to the meeting and told them what an important job they are doing, especially Chloe as Chairperson.

11. Chloe thanked everybody and especially Evie for doing her job as Minutes Secretary so well.
Meeting closed at 10.50

Fruit & Water were handed round.

Next meeting: Thursday 10th May for Year 2 & Year 3 (WJS) representatives focusing on transition in preparation for September.

Chair: Jack

6. CURRICULUM

The Topic Guides for the new themes this half term have been put on the school website under the Classes Section. These are designed to give you an insight into what your children will be learning this half term and they also include some useful suggestions of how to support learning at home.

This half-term the topics are:

Foundation Stage—'Stories from Around the World'

Year 1— 'Living & Growing'

Year 2 — 'In an English Country Garden'

GROWTH MINDSETS



The ethos of 'Loving to Learn' has been strong at John Hampden for many years and it was established following an Action Research project about metacognition completed by Mrs Barnes. Over the years we have designed our curriculum to include opportunities for children to learn to question (P4C) and to provide security for children to make mistakes safely and learn from them. Research that underpins this approach is based on the work of Dr. Carol Dweck. Over 30 years ago, she and her colleagues became interested in pupils' attitudes about failure. They noticed that some pupils rebounded while other pupils seemed devastated by even the smallest setbacks. After studying the behaviour of thousands of children, Dr. Dweck coined the terms fixed mindset and growth mindset to describe the underlying beliefs people have about learning and intelligence. When pupils believe they can get smarter, they understand that effort makes them stronger. Therefore they put in extra time and effort, and that leads to higher achievement. At John Hampden, we are constantly telling the children that effort leads to success and we have worked hard to provide a consistent approach to teaching about 'Growth Mindsets' across the school. Mrs King is leading the work and she has co-ordinated staff training which has led us to the point where we have introduced a consistent reference point in each classroom linked to the message that we reinforce regularly. You will be able to see a display linked to this as you enter the school.



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

Ensuring we get the best value for money is certainly on our minds as we look to see how we can make the necessary savings required to allow us to continue to provide a high quality education for the pupils at our school. The County Council's decision not to move us to four form entry from September 2018 means that the additional funding, which extra pupils would bring, is no longer available to us in the immediate future. To this end the Governors have looked closely at the budget situation and we are having regular visits from the Finance Team at Bucks County Council to try to gain the best advice as to how to move forwards. We hope to launch a new fundraising initiative in the near future. Please note that the current building project is fully funded by Bucks County Council. It is cost neutral to the school budget.

GOAL B: TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT

At this time of the year our thoughts turn to the Phonics check which takes place in June. This check of our Year 1 pupils is designed to measure the success of the phonics teaching in the school. Under the expert leadership of Mrs Parkinson we have seen the standard improve each year and we are keen that this should continue. The daily teaching of phonics can be helpfully reinforced at home and we are pleased that so many parents are taking the time to do this with their children.

To this end we have offered phonics meetings for parents and we also provide ideas about how to help and support the development of phonics at home through the topic guides and through additional activities to complete at home, if necessary.

GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE

The Pupil's Section in this newsletter provides evidence that we are working hard to make sure we are engaging pupils in the school improvement cycle and taking actions as a result of their feedback. Since returning from the Easter break week we have introduced a range of activities for the children to access at lunchtimes as a direct result of the School Council feedback. It has been lovely to watch groups of children collaborating successfully in games which give them the opportunity to play something different and new. Ensuring children are happy and occupied helps us to continue to improve personal development, behaviour and welfare.

Staff well-being is also monitored annually and in the next few weeks the whole staff will be invited to complete a well-being survey. The results of this survey are analysed and compared to findings from previous years to help to maintain a happy and motivated workforce.

GOAL D: PUPIL OUTCOMES

Now is the time when so many of the statutory assessments are about to start. Last week at the staff meeting, teachers were asked to consider standards of presentation across the year groups and we were impressed to see the pleasing standards that children are attaining as they progress through the school. Writing assessment provides an interesting challenge for us and we are pleased to note significant successes in the way we have adapted to the relatively new system of assessment in this area. It is clear to see how strong teaching in Foundation Stage and Year 1 leads to the pleasing progress so many children are making as they near the end of their time in Year 2.

8. MISCELLANEOUS



**Sunday 27 May
2018**

An entire day of fun for all the family

Village Parade - Two stages featuring non-stop music - Entertainment from Colonel Custard - Vintage Cars - Have a go with the local Football, Netball, Cricket Tennis & Squash clubs - Take part in artistic & sporting workshops Show your strength in the tug of war - show off your musical talents at one of the "busk stops" - enter your four-legged friend into the dog show

All this plus a large range of Catering outlets, craft and charity stalls, inflatables and outdoor games all finishing off with a fabulous firework display.

Tickets available from:

www.seaty.co.uk/wendovercelebrates18

or in person from

Fiona Faber Floral Design, 13 High Street, Wendover

www.wendovercelebrates.com



@wendovercelebrates

wendovercelebrates2018@gmail.com



LINDENGATE FAIR



SATURDAY 9 JUNE
12noon - 4.30pm

A fun day out for all the family!

Craft and Conservation Stalls - BBQ - Cakes

Hot and Cold Drinks - Raffle and Tombolas - Competition

Children's Activities - Storyteller - Circus Workshops

Magician - Archery - Donkeys - Free Bike Checks

Plant and Produce Stall

*The Old Allotment site, Wyevale Garden Centre, Aylesbury
Road, Wendover, HP22 6BD.*

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email james@everyball.net or
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sessions each weekday after
school and on Saturday
mornings, we look forward
to seeing you with us soon.



LINDENGATE COMPETITION



'Mindful Message' Competition
*Using words & pictures show how
 contact with nature helps wellbeing.*
Entries by 1 June

Lindengate challenges you to use your imagination and creativity to help us show the link between nature and wellbeing. It's up to you what you use: paintings, drawings, photographs, collages cartoons ... but it must be A4 size and include some well-chosen words. The rest is up to you!

- Free entry
- Entry categories: Under 10 , Under 16, Adult, Group/Organisation
- Make sure your Name, Category (Age, Adult or Group), Contact details (email and phone number) are on the back of the artwork or in your email with artwork attached
- Competition closes 1 June 2018
- Judging at Lindengate Fair

Emailed entries to competition@Lindengate.org.uk or post to Lindengate, The Old Allotment site, Wendover Rd, Weston Turville, Aylesbury, HP22 6BD.

Full instructions and competition rules on the Lindengate website.

Lindengate Fair 2018
'Mindful Message' Competition

Welcome to the Lindengate 'Mindful Message' Competition. At Lindengate we know from experience how contact with nature, flowers, trees and plants in a friendly social environment boosts mental and physical health. Our competition challenges you to use your imagination and creativity to help us tell everyone how good nature is for wellbeing. It's up to you what you use: paintings, drawings, photographs, collages cartoons ... but it must include some well-chosen words. The rest is up to you!

What you need to do:

Create an A4 artwork with words to illustrate the link between nature and wellbeing.

Entry is free

Entry categories: Under 10 , Under 16, Adult and Group/Organisation

Make sure your **Name, Category** (Age, Adult or Group) , **Contact details** email and phone number are on the back of the artwork or in your email with artwork

Send your entries by Friday June 1 2018.

Email to: competition@Lindengate.org.uk

Post to: Lindengate, The Old Allotment site, Wendover Rd, Weston Turville, Aylesbury, HP22 6BD.

Results of the competition will be announced at the Lindengate Fair on Saturday 9 June 2018.

Winners will be listed on the Lindengate Facebook page and website

Thank you for entering this competition. We hope you will enjoy being creative and mindful.

Good Luck!

The Lindengate Fair Organising Team.

Terms and Conditions

Submission

Entries must have the following contact and entry details written on back of artwork or attached in same email as the entry. Listing : Name, Category (Age, Adult or Group) , Contact details email and phone number

Images must be blind, i.e., they must not contain any information identifying entrant(s) on display.

Electronic submissions are made via email adhering to the following instructions:

Maximum file size is 2Mb

It is the responsibility of the person submitting the entry to ensure that it will be able to be viewed for judging Preferred file types are pdf and jpeg; please check other formats with organisers

Should a poster contain any form of potentially offensive material or be otherwise inappropriate for public display it will be excluded from presentation and will take no further part in the competition. The organisers reserve the right to withhold any Projects from public display at their own discretion.

Size

Entries must be A4 and one-sided.

Words must be in English

Artworks must be the original design and creation of entrants and must cite any content obtained from existing sources, abiding by copyright.

Use

All entries become the property of the competition organisers and will not be returned.

Any entry of sufficient merit may be used by Lindengate

By submitting an entry entrants or their guardians give permission for their work to be displayed at events, in publications and promotional material, and in electronic format on the internet