



# The John Hampden School Wendover

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### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Governor Section 2

As we reach the end of the first half of the Spring Term we are already looking forward to what the next half will bring. Learning Review Meetings have been included in the school calendar and we have noted previous feedback which appeared to show parents would value having more notice of their appointment time. To this end we sent home the dates and associated times for these meetings last week. We have asked that the reply slips be returned to school by Friday 10th February so we will be able to organise appointments and inform you of your time slot as soon as we return after the holiday. The meetings are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd March. Teachers try very hard to adhere to the ten minute time allocations. If issues arise during the meeting that need further discussion, it may be more appropriate to make another mutually convenient appointment time, as others are affected when appointments overrun.

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#### Parent Governor Nominations

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Before the Christmas holiday we sent home a letter to each family requesting nominations for a new parent governor. Unfortunately no nominations were received so the governing body have co-opted Suzanne Pim as a new governor to join the board. You may remember Suzanne as the previous Chair of the Friends of John Hampden and we are delighted to re-establish links with her as we welcome her to the Leadership Team.

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This week the children have been engaged in a new whole school initiative organized by Miss Webb. Arts Week has seen the children engaged in a whole range of activities with the theme of 'Mythical Creatures'. Over the week 3D structures of dragons, giants and Harry Potter inspired fantastic creatures have been created. On Friday afternoon each class will come to the hall to parade in front of everyone the masks and models that they have made. Alongside all the art work they have also been learning songs, chants and poems to perform. All in all it has been a very creative week. We will put photos of the work that has been produced under the News section of the school website.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

20th Feb—School reopens  
 21st Feb—Sign to sing fundraiser  
 1st Mar—Learning reviews evening  
 2nd Mar—Learning reviews evening  
 3rd Mar—World Book Day  
 Work sharing EY—11.45am,  
 FS, Y1, Y2—2.45 pm  
 9th Mar—Science investigation day

#### Water Bottles

Just a reminder that we encourage all children to bring a named water bottle to school each day. This means they can top up with water regularly throughout the day.

I hope you manage to have a restful half term break and enjoy some quality time with your children.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

### **Pupil Premium Funding**

The funding of our schools has again been in the national news over the last few weeks as the Government has announced more detail about the proposed new National Funding Formula. Irrespective of this current funding debate, what is clear is that school funds remain incredibly tight and this squeeze is only set to continue in the future. One of the main roles of the Governing body is to approve and oversee the annual school budget. A critical area of income for many schools is that of 'Pupil Premium'. This is particularly true for our school, being located in an area with 2 large military bases nearby. Pupil Premium is the funding the Government gives to schools to help children from either lower income or Service families to do their very best in the difficult circumstances they sometimes face.

### **What is Pupil Premium?**

The Pupil Premium is allocated to children from low-income families who are currently known to be eligible for Free School Meals or children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months. In 2012-13 the government extended this to pupils who have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years. For every child registered for Free School Meals at John Hampden School, the school receives £1300, which could be used to provide additional learning support, extra-curricular opportunities and/or additional resources for the qualifying child.

### **What is the Service Pupil Premium?**

The Department for Education introduced the Service Pupil Premium in April 2011 in recognition of the specific challenges children from Service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the armed forces covenant. It is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need and is currently worth £300 per Service child who meets the eligibility criteria, which includes being registered as a 'Service Child' at any point since 2011.

### **How Service Pupil Premium differs from the Pupil Premium?**

It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium funding is spent, since teachers are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils within their responsibility. The Service Pupil Premium is there for schools to provide mainly pastoral support for Service children. We are fortunate to have hired the services of Helen Brettell to provide our specialist pastoral care to our Service children, and also use some of the Service Pupil Premium money towards our annual Red, White & Blue day, the deployment board on display by the school hall and the coffee mornings run for Service families. The Pupil Premium was introduced to raise attainment and accelerate progress within disadvantaged groups, and the school accurately records how this money is spent. More information, and an annual report, is available on the school website.

## Eligibility criteria:

Pupils attract Pupil Premium funding if they meet one of the following criteria:

Pupil premium	Service Pupil premium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Income Support</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>They have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point since 2011</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Income-related Employment and Support Allowance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Universal Credit</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Child Tax Credit except if you meet <u>ANY</u> of the following criteria –<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li><li>entitled to working tax credit (regardless of income)</li><li></li><li>have an annual income in excess of £16,190 (Please note that this figure changes in April each year – check with the school office for latest figure).</li><li></li></ul></li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit</li></ul>	

## How does it work?

First, check if you qualify – please look carefully at the eligibility criteria above. Registering is really quick and easy. If you think you qualify, contact the office at the John Hampden School and we will help you to register. It really is as simple as that. The information will be treated in the strictest of confidence - no-one will know that you have registered. This additional money is spent very carefully and for the maximum benefit of those children it is directly intended for.

## Why is this important?

Pupil Premium funding is a critical element of our annual school budget, and in these increasingly financially difficult times the school needs to ensure it is claiming every single pound available. With your continued support we can ensure those pupils who are eligible for this additional funding receive it and directly benefit from it. If you think your circumstances qualify your child/children for any of this additional funding then please contact the school office to ask for more information. The staff will be only too happy to talk you through the eligibility criteria and complete the simple application form with you.

Matt Glanville  
Co-opted Governor

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

### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

#### HUGE THANKS

We are hugely grateful to the parents who regularly provide help in school—their reliability and commitment to us is truly appreciated. If you have any spare time and would like to consider volunteering in the school do come to the school office and let us know.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank some other parents who have recently offered their support to us by completing projects at home. Mrs Merchant (mum of Noah) and Mrs McEvoy (mum of Tara) and team have produced the most amazing teepee for our 'Cosy Corner' - the children absolutely love it!

Mrs Williams (mum of Wilbur) has also helped to provide us with a new resource and you can read more about this in the Pupil's Section of this newsletter.



#### Sign to Sing



You may be aware that your child has recently been learning some sign language at school. This is because we are taking part in SignHealth's national fundraising and deaf awareness event, sign2sing, and we need to practise for it.

On Tuesday 21st February our school, and hundreds of others, along with businesses and choirs across the UK and abroad, will sign and sing. Sign2sing is also a fundraiser, raising money to transform the lives of Deaf children and adults. On the day we hold our sign2sing event, SignHealth would like your child to show their support by wearing a scarf and we would invite you to donate £1 or more.

With your support SignHealth will continue to transform the lives of Deaf children and adults. If you would like more information about the work of the charity or the songs your children are learning, please visit [www.sign2sing.org.uk](http://www.sign2sing.org.uk).

Thank you for supporting this exciting challenge and for helping to make a difference.

#### P.E. Kit

Your child will be bringing home their P.E. kit to be washed during the half term holiday. Please could we remind parents that kits must be returned to school on the first day back because P.E. lessons start immediately and your child cannot participate if they do not have the proper kit. Long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons.

#### Reminder

World Book Day is coming soon (March 3rd). Children are invited to come to school dressed as a their character from their favourite book or nursery rhyme.

#### Achievements Outside School

We are always keen to hear of your child's achievements outside school. In fact we have dedicated a special board in the corridor to display photocopies of certificates or photographs of children receiving special awards. If your child would like to bring in any such items we would be happy to put them on the board to help celebrate their success. Equally if you feel your child has a particular strength or talent that they demonstrate outside school we would be glad to hear about it—it helps us to build a picture of the 'whole child'.

#### Head Lice

This is another request for you to check your child's hair regularly and treat as necessary. The problem is particularly prevalent in Caterpillars Class at the moment.

#### Scroll of Honour

We are all proud when children get noticed for something special and are rewarded by having their name put on the Scroll of Honour. Straight after half term we will have a week where we are particularly hoping to spot good manners—something to practice over the half term break!

#### Art Shirts

If anyone has any old unwanted adult shirts which we could use as art shirts please could they bring them in for Year 1. Thank you.

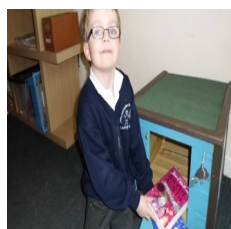
## 4. PUPIL'S SECTION

### CLASS COUNCIL CIRCLE TIME

This week the termly Class Council Circle Time has taken place. Mrs Spencer co-ordinates this initiative whereby the children in each class are asked their opinion about a specific aspect of school life. Each class is asked to discuss the same question and to give their views. These are collated and then shared with the Senior Leadership Team and the whole school via an assembly. We aim to take notice of the comments that are made and to act, where possible, to improve things in the school. This time the children have been asked their views about the hot meals that were introduced in January. The main questions for discussion were:

What do you think about the choice and quality of hot meals?

What further improvements could you suggest?



### 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. Mrs Williams, Wilbur's mum, has 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. So far there are some David Walliams books and Francesca Simon ones) 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 above the Book Box or 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 (template found on the website) to Mrs Mohammed in the School Office. She will then scan the review and put it on the website for all to read.

Thank you to Mrs Williams for giving up your time and to Wilbur for being the first 'Book Swapper.'

## 5. FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

### Parents evening - refreshments

We will be selling coffee and cookies at the next parents evening so bring your purse if you fancy some refreshments whilst you're waiting.

### Guilty Pleasures Disco

Thank you to Sophie, Lucy, Natalie, Stacey & Sarah for organising the legendary Guilty Pleasures Disco. A special thanks to Neil Johnston for volunteering his DJing skills. The evening raised over £1,300 – what a lot of orange juice!

### Bag 2 School

Thank you for all your donations & to Hollie for co-ordinating

### Ice-Cream Day

Thanks to Becky for co-ordinating & the volunteers for serving the ice-cream treats today – there were a lot of happy, messy faces!

### Easyfundraising

We have no new supporters but we've raised **£910** 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



Your cause has raised...

**£910.09**

No. supporters

**72**

### Save the Dates

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

We were delighted to welcome Co-opted Governor, Gordon Wong, his wife and children to lead an assembly for KS1 children on Friday 27th January. The theme was 'Chinese New Year' and the children were so interested to hear from our visitors about this festival and the customs associated with it. They found out about the Chinese calendar, the lucky food, and the various celebrations and traditions of the lunar festival. Some children even got the chance to try out various Chinese puppets. The children were fascinated to see a real Chinese dragon and they were keen to ask lots of questions. Our grateful thanks to them all for their contribution—it received a spontaneous round of applause from the audience.



Children in Foundation Stage have also been learning about the Chinese New Year, finding out about the story of the animal race which dictates the name of each new year. This year will be the year of the rooster.

### Voluntary Contribution

In order to provide motivating and inspiring experiences for the pupils, each year group has an annual budget which helps to provide extras like cooking ingredients, art and craft materials and visiting performers. Parents are currently asked to contribute a fixed termly amount of £10 to this budget. Whilst it is hoped that parents will contribute, it is a voluntary contribution. Obviously, the more parents who are willing to pay, the greater the range of additional experiences we are able to offer. As the school fund is a registered charity we are able to claim from the Inland Revenue an additional 28% of the value of your donations if you make them in the form of Gift Aid.

Very occasionally it may be necessary to seek further voluntary contributions for specific school performances, visits etc. No child would be treated differently because of non-contribution, although activities may have to be cancelled if there are not enough contributions to make the activity viable.

The school has a charging policy, in line with statutory requirements, which is available on the school's website.

### ARTS WEEK

The children really appear to have enjoyed arts week. The aims were:

- To have quality time to celebrate the 'arts' and to visually promote creativity within our school.
- To explore different beliefs, traditions and cultures—thinking about the origins of myths and legends
- To explore, create and perform poetry
- To ensure an integrated approach to learning music, art, literacy and dance
- To engage all pupils in creative processes
- Collaboration—encouraging pupils to work independently and in teams
- Critical Thinking
- Freedom to create rather than recreate
- To capture a feeling of belonging to a whole school project

## 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**

Our Out of School Care provision continues to be a very successful enterprise. Over the past few years the club has undergone a number of changes and their move to the new hall a year ago has proved to be a positive one, allowing the children more space in which to play and eat. This week we received an unannounced visit from the Environmental Health Team, who awarded us a five star rating for the Out of School Care Club food standards. This is in no small part due to the strong team of staff, led by Mrs Sharon Cottle, who provide high quality care for a very reasonable cost. Parents of children using the provision always respond very positively and the club is planning another open evening in June to share the work that they do. Co-opted Governor, David Wheeler, takes a particular interest in the provision and his link with the club ensures the Governing Body have a clear understanding of how it all works.

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

The first half of the Spring Term has provided lots of memorable learning opportunities for the pupils in the school- we work hard to make the experiences we offer enjoyable and engaging. The Early Years class have taken every opportunity to get engaged in their first topic. Foundation Stage pupils have been inspired by their topic of 'Explorer What Can You See' and so much good learning has taken place. Year One have been out and about in Wendover which has inspired their topic work. Year Two have found Samuel Pepys' buried treasure in the school grounds which led to them learning so much about the Great Fire of London. The whole school has spent time creating 3D art work while maths day was another real success. Such a lot has happened in just five weeks and two days!

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

We continue to be pleased with the excellent response from pupils to the 'Scroll of Honour' initiative. We are consistently noticing more children taking the initiative to offer help to others or to tidy up or to demonstrate the school values in action without any prompting. We are delighted that a whole range of adults in the school spot this type of behaviour and we hope that this will further enhance the ethos of respect for people and property.

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

#### Assessment Week

This week the children have been busy providing us with further evidence of what they have learned since the last 'Assessment Week' at the end of the Autumn Term. The children complete a range of tasks and activities to help teachers confirm their judgements about progress and attainment in the core subjects. Assessment is an on-going process in our school but these special weeks give our staff and pupils the opportunity to spend slightly longer gathering more evidence to confirm their judgements. Learning Review meetings take place during the week beginning 27th February. Teachers will share with you, their observations and assessments of your child, at this time. They will also hand you a sheet outlining some targets which could be worked on at home as well as in school.



## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

Buckinghamshire Healthcare



NHS Trust

### Children's Occupational Therapy Training Talks for 2017



The Children and Young People's Occupational Therapy Department  
is offering informative talks to parents, staff working with children  
and staff supporting parents.

We will cover the following three topics:

#### Transition to Secondary School

- ☺ **Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> April (6–8pm)** The Oakridge Centre, High Wycombe
- ☺ **Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April (6.30-8.30pm)** Rayners Hedge, Croft Road, Aylesbury HP 21 7RD
- ☺ **Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> May (7-9pm)** Amersham Hospital Education Centre Conference Room 1

#### Understanding sensory techniques & the 'Alert Principle'

- ☺ **Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> March (6-7.30pm)** The Oakridge Centre, High Wycombe
- ☺ **Tues 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017 (7-9pm)** Amersham Hospital Education Centre, Conference Room 1
- ☺ **Wed 11<sup>th</sup> October (7-9pm)** Rayners Hedge, Croft Road, Aylesbury HP 21 7RD

All of our  
informative  
evening talks are  
**FREE!**



#### Tips for developing handwriting skills

- ☺ **Wed 8<sup>th</sup> February (7-9pm)** Rayners Hedge, Croft Road, Aylesbury HP 21 7RD
- ☺ **Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (7-9pm)** Amersham Hospital Education Centre, Conference Room 1
- ☺ **Mon 25<sup>th</sup> September (6.30-8pm)** The Oakridge Centre, High Wycombe

Please call or email to book your place or for more details of the above talks

**Aylesbury- 01296 566045 Amersham- 01494 732962**

**High Wycombe- 01494 426976**

Email – [CYPOT@buckshealthcare.nhs.uk](mailto:CYPOT@buckshealthcare.nhs.uk)

Visit our website [www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/CYP](http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/CYP)

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Email: [foodshow@crackitproductions.co.uk](mailto:foodshow@crackitproductions.co.uk)



0203 761 4715







# February 2017 Half Term Family Activities at Bucks County Museum and Roald Dahl Children's Gallery

## A week of crafty fun for all the family



### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February: *Fantastical Feathery Birds*

~Create your own beautiful bird using clay and craft materials



### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February: *Terrific Treasury Boxes*

~Decorate your own mini wooden hinged box, ready for trinkets or pirate treasure..



### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February: *Brillianticus Book Bags*

~Use inks and sparkles to design your very own book bag



Visit [buckscountymuseum.org](http://buckscountymuseum.org) for more details!

All activities are **£3 per child - No need to book.**

Adults not making anything are **FREE!**

Drop in between 10am and 12 noon or 1pm and 3pm.

All children must be accompanied by an adult for all activities



**Bucks County Museum & Roald Dahl Children's Gallery**  
Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP  
Facebook.com/BucksMuseum  
[www.buckscountymuseum.org](http://www.buckscountymuseum.org)

Tel: 01296 331441

@BucksMuseum





**SATURDAY 8TH APRIL 2017**

# **BARNDANCE**



**WENDOVER  
MEMORIAL HALL  
7PM-10PM**

**BRING YOUR OWN  
FOOD & DRINK**  
TICKETS ADULTS £10 CHILDREN £5

**Tickets available from:**

**Dead Universe Comics, Bourbon St.  
Memorial Hall, Wendover  
or call 07500 091474**



Order online or visit our shop  
to see our fabric,  
indie patterns,  
haberdashery and  
sewing supplies.  
Take a class or join  
a club at our sewing  
studio, Make HQ.

# FABRIC HABERDASHERY PATTERNS CLASSES

Layby Farm  
Old Risborough Rd  
Stoke Mandeville  
HP22 5XJ

01296 615212  
[hello@fabrichq.co.uk](mailto:hello@fabrichq.co.uk)  
[fabrichq.co.uk](http://fabrichq.co.uk)

