



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 28th April 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 Tilly (Hedgehogs) as our May Queen. Aimee (Squirrels) and Liberty (Badgers) were her attendants. Our May Queen was crowned by Holly (Firecrests), the May Queen from



last year, and Louis (Firecrests) was our Lucky Sweep. A great team of Year 2 children kept the John Hampden Morris Men tradition alive.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 20th May—Friends of John Hampden May Fayre. 12.00 noon—3.00pm.

Thursday 25th May— Phonics meeting for Y1 parents 2.30pm in the hall

Friday 26th May—FJH ice cream day and school closes for half term at 3.15pm

Monday 5th June—INSET day

Tuesday 6th June—School re-opens

On Saturday 29th April children from our school took part in the St Mary's 'Pictures, Flowers & Music' Celebration. The Year 2 children performed a number of their favourite songs to an audience of visitors to the event. We were very proud of their excellent show and huge thanks to Mrs Collins for leading them so capably. Once again there are photos and videos on the school website under the 'News' section.

I look forward to seeing you at the Friends of John Hampden May Fayre on Saturday 20th May—let's hope the weather is kind to us!

Thank you for your continued support.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

I have seen a lot of changes to the school since my eldest child started at the John Hampden in 1997. I am pleased to say that I have been party to many of the changes and alterations to the buildings over the years in my role as a Building Surveyor and having also become a Governor back in 2008.

What has always been a determining factor to what maintenance and improvement works can be carried out has been the amount of funding from the local authority and central government. Such funding has been significantly cut back in recent years although we were fortunate to benefit from the construction of the new hall funded by the government and took the opportunity to include some additional improvements. It is now a delight to see how children are able to use the modern facilities of the hall and the safer external play areas which has also been of great benefit to the breakfast and after school clubs.

I also wear the hat of being a Health and Safety Governor and without wishing to bore the readers I can reassure all parents that a vigilant but sensible approach is taken to the management of health and safety. Termly inspections are undertaken by myself and Sue Barnes together with the Caretaker, Ian Redman to whom much thanks is to be given. Since Ian Redman took on the role of Caretaker last year, he has shown great enthusiasm and ability to get on with maintenance jobs that are needed above and beyond what would be expected of him.

As the school buildings and premises evolve to provide a better and safer environment for the children, I am encouraged and see a bright future for our children.



Andrew Robertson

Associate 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 if you would like to raise a matter for discussion

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

REMINDER

With the Year One Phonics Check happening in June, this is a reminder that Mrs King will be running a short meeting for Year One parents in the hall on Thursday 25th May at 2.30pm. At the meeting you will receive information about the format, content and delivery of the statutory phonics check.

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

Our lost property bins are 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.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

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

GARDENING THANKS

Mrs Spencer would like to say a big thank you to the families that attended the school vegetable garden working party a week last Saturday. We were few in number but completed lots of tasks including; weeding and digging over the raised beds and the herb garden, weeding the pathways and preparing the planters ready for sowing potatoes and planting strawberries. The children also did a fantastic job of planting seeds in preparation for the May Fayre.



JOHN HAMPDEN OUT OF SCHOOL CARE VACANCY

We have a permanent vacancy for a Play worker at our Breakfast Club: 7.30-8.45am Monday to Friday and After School Club 3.00-6.15pm Monday to Friday starting September 2017. The applicant would preferably have some experience of working with children and a relevant Level 2 qualification, however this is not essential.

The salary will be within **Bucks Pay Range 1A £14,468 pro rata.**

Closing Date: 5th June 2017

If you are interested in this post please call the John Hampden School office on 01296 622629 or email: office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk or contact the OOSC on 07506195699 or email: OOSC@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk for more information.

4. FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

The May Fayre is happening on Saturday 20th May from 12-3 pm. We have a selection of great entertainment and stalls lined up for the afternoon, including a bouncy castle, crafts, face painting, pony rides, raffle, plant sale, tombola, refreshments and beer tent! The children will be doing their May Pole dance at 1.30 and Simon Says Magic is coming along at 2.15 pm for all to enjoy. There will be plenty to do and lots of fun to be had!

Helpers wanted—If you are able to help please could you let the office or the FJH (Becky on ms83rs@yahoo.com) know. We are still short of volunteers. Thank you.

Mufti day—on Friday 19th May the children are invited to dress in non-uniform. In return we ask they bring along a bottle for the tombola (e.g. alcohol, ketchup, even shampoo!). If glass/alcohol contents, please leave at the school office or pass directly to the teacher. Thank you.

Jam jar tombola—we ask the children to decorate and accessorize an empty (cleaned out) jam jar, filled with anything from a small toy to wrapped sweets (no nuts please).

Refreshment stall—there will be a refreshment stall offering tea/coffee, cakes and savoury options. Any contributions would be gratefully received either on Friday 19th May or early on the morning of the Fayre.

Plant stall—any donations of plants and seedlings please could these be dropped off on Friday 19th May.

Raffle—the raffle will be drawn at the end of the Fayre

Thanks in advance for your generosity and supporting what will be a wonderful day.

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

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

CONTEXT:

Mrs Barnes recently conducted a survey with representatives from each class about pupil's perception of behaviour and safety at the school. The findings from this were then used to pose questions to all pupils via a Class Council Circle Time. The School Council Representatives in each class were then tasked with deciding on some actions as a direct result of the feedback from their classes.

Meeting Date: *Tuesday 2nd May 2017*

Present: *All Class Representatives, Freya (Chairperson), Mrs Spencer (Facilitator)*

Minutes taken by Caelan (Squirrels Class)

1. Welcome

Mrs Spencer welcomed all Class Representatives to the meeting & fruit was offered.

2. Visitor Speaking to the Council

Mrs Barnes talked about children who keep losing Golden Time.

3. Views of School Council

- We think that if a child loses Golden Time 6 times or more they should lose out on something else. 10/10 agreed*
- Mrs Barnes will find out what those children would hate to lose and take that away instead. 10/10 agreed*

4. Minutes from the last meeting were shared and agreed

5. School Council recited the John Hampden ethos 'Loving to Learn'

6. Mrs Spencer told the group she will be creating a School Council Display board in school

7. Mrs Spencer read through the most recent Class Council Circle Time feedback—the main topics for discussion were behaviour and safety on the playground.

8. Actions suggested by the School Council:

- 'Kindness' poster competition. Winning entries made into posters around the school. 9/10 agreed*
- Playground monitors to be introduced. They should wear caps so everyone knows who they are 10/10 agreed*
- Game of the Week to be introduced*

9. Other issues

- A wish list to be written for playground equipment*
- Badges for the School Council Representatives*

10. Mrs Spencer thanked everyone for attending.

11. Freya (Chairperson) thanked everyone for attending and thanked Caelan for taking the minutes

12. Evie will be the Chairperson next time and Jack will take the minutes.

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 Action Research 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 decided that now is the time 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 will be introducing a consistent reference point in each classroom linked to the message we shall be reinforcing regularly. You will be able to see a display linked to this as you enter the school.



SCHOOL TRAVEL



Walk to School Week - 15th May - 19th May

Sustainable travel is very important to our school and as May is National Walking Month I would like encourage as many children and adults as possible to take part in our 'Walk to School Week'.

We know that walking to school makes children feel healthier and happier, while reducing congestion and pollution outside the school gates and it is pleasing to see so many children are regularly having their passports stamped in our Go for Gold passport scheme.

To mark our 'Walk to School Week' I would like children to come in brightly coloured socks every day they walk, bike or scoot to school. There will also be a special sticker for all children that walk, bike or scoot to school.

Walk to School Poetry Competition.



Buckinghamshire County Council's Sustainable Travel Team in association with Living Streets, is launching a poetry competition to coincide with

Walk to School and I would like to invite all children that walk, bike or scoot to school to take part in the competition. The poems (pictorial poems for EYFS) must reflect what the author thinks about their walking, scooting or biking journey to school.

Categories	
Key stage - Early Years and Foundation Stage	A picture, no larger than A4
Key stage 1	A poem -maximum two side of A4

I am able to send **two entries per key stage** to Bucks County Council and the prizes are £20 in High street vouchers for the overall winner in each category. In addition the winners' schools will each receive £100 vouchers for library resources.

Before I send the two entries to BCC I will judge them at school first and award a small prize to one winner from each class. These prizes will be given out in Merit Assembly.

Please hand your entry to your class teacher by Friday 26th May 2017

I look forward to seeing lots of colourful socks in school next week and some interesting pictures and poems for the competition!

Parking Promise

Thank you to the families that have signed up for our Parking Promise - I still have lots of car stickers to hand out so if you haven't already done so please fill in the form from previous newsletters and I will send you a car sticker.

Thank you for supporting sustainable travel to and from school.

Heather Beattie

School Travel Coordinator.



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. To this end the Governors have looked closely at the contracts and leases and have made changes to both the cleaners and the grounds maintenance arrangements. A new cleaning company, providing more cleaners and a far better service, have started work at the school whilst our grounds maintenance will now mainly be carried out by our excellent caretaker, Mr Redman. These two changes have saved the school money yet improved the standard of the school environment—examples of how we are examining every aspect of school life to ensure financial security.

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 evenings 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. This week we have introduced a 'Game of the Week' as a direct result of the School Council feedback. It has been lovely to watch groups of children collaborating successfully in group 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 next week the whole staff has been 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. This week at the staff meeting, teachers were moderating writing 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 without levels. 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



the secret life of...

Channel 4 series 'the secret life of...' is returning to follow new groups of four and five year olds as they take their first steps towards independence.

The series will follow their development from the moment they meet for the first time, through their forming of friendships, learning social rituals and friendly competition. The entire process will be observed and monitored by leading scientists and child psychologists who will provide occasional comment on the children's stages of development.

We are currently looking for groups of **four and five year old children** and their parents to take part in this programme for Channel 4.

Your child would be needed for up to three weeks of filming during the summer holidays.

If you are interested please go to the below link to fill out our online application form

<http://bit.ly/sloyoapply>

*We are committed to promoting inclusion and welcome applications from parents of children living with a disability.
All communications with us will be treated in confidence.*

Any information you give us will be kept securely and confidentially and in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998 (and your right of access to the information is as provided under that Act).



Half Term Holiday Camps



Our aim is to guarantee your child a huge amount of fun. Children will be active while developing sporting skills for life with our expert Activity Professionals. Giving you the piece of mind you need when you entrust your child into our care.

Where



SCHOOL BASED HOLIDAY CAMPS

Manor Farm Junior School, Hazlemere (MF)
Bishop Wood Junior School, Tring (BW)
Great Kingshill Combined School (GK)

Times & Prices

8am - 5:30pm	£17.00
9am - 3:30pm	£14.00
9am - 1.00pm*	£9.00 (suitable for 4 year olds)

Activities

Football	Archery	Arts & Crafts
Basketball	Fencing	Athletics
Gymnastics	Golf	Dodgeball
Street Dance	Rounders	Cycling/Scooters
Nerf n Strike	Cheerleading	Tag-Rugby
Netball		

Where



PREMIER SPORT HQ

Wendover Youth Centre (WYC)
We will also visit - Wendover Pool,
Wendover Woods & John Colet Sports Hall

Times & Prices

8am - 6:00pm	£25.00
9am - 3:30pm	£20.00
9am - 1.00pm*	£12.00 (suitable for 4 year olds)

Activities

Swimming	Street Dance	Rounders
Football	Archery	Arts & Crafts
Basketball	Fencing	Golf
Gymnastics	Cooking	Athletics
Adventure Walks*	Toast Breakfast	Dodgeball
Cheerleading	Hockey	Table Tennis
Dance	Drama	Nerf n Strike

Sibling & Early Bird Discount

Receive 15% off by booking two weeks in advance of the course start date or by booking a sibling at the same time

Plan Ahead...

All 2017 holiday camp dates are now online at premiersport.org

When

May Half Term	Manor Farm	Great Kingshill	Bishop Wood	Wendover Youth Centre
Tues 30th May	✓			✓
Weds 31st May	✓			✓
Thurs 1st June		✓	✓	✓
Fri 2nd June		✓	✓	✓
Summer Holidays	Manor Farm	Great Kingshill	Bishop Wood	Wendover Youth Centre
Mon 24th July	✓			✓
Tues 25th July	✓			✓
Weds 26th July		✓	✓	✓
Thurs 27th July		✓	✓	✓
Fri 28th July		✓	✓	✓
Mon 31st July	✓			✓
Tues 1st Aug	✓			✓
Weds 2nd Aug		✓	✓	✓
Thurs 3rd Aug		✓	✓	✓
Fri 4th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Mon 7th Aug	✓			✓
Tues 8th Aug	✓			✓
Weds 9th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Thurs 10th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Fri 11th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Mon 14th Aug	✓			✓
Tues 15th Aug	✓			✓
Weds 16th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Thurs 17th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Fri 18th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Mon 21st Aug	✓			✓
Tues 22nd Aug	✓			✓
Weds 23rd Aug		✓	✓	✓
Thurs 24th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Fri 25th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Mon 28th Aug	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday
Tues 29th Aug	✓			✓
Weds 30th Aug		✓	✓	✓
Thurs 31st Aug		✓	✓	✓
Fri 1st Sept	No Camp	No Camp	No Camp	No Camp

*Please note children attending the offsite Adventure Walks need to be 8 years old and over. Swimming is not included as this takes place in the afternoon. We operate a no Nut policy on all of our venues For full terms and conditions visit premiersport.org.



WIN A FREE DAY!

Like us on facebook/Premier-Sport-Buckinghamshire and win a free day on camp.

Childcare Vouchers

If you would like to book using childcare vouchers we accept these at our Wendover Youth Centre Venue. To book please email akempton@premiersport.org with the dates required and your childcare voucher provider company name.

What Do You Need To Bring...

- Packed Lunch
- Water Bottle
- Weather appropriate clothing
- Trainers

To Book
www.premiersport.org
01953 499 040

Enquiries
akempton@premiersport.org
01296 620 097

facebook/Premier-Sport-Buckinghamshire
@PS.Buckingham



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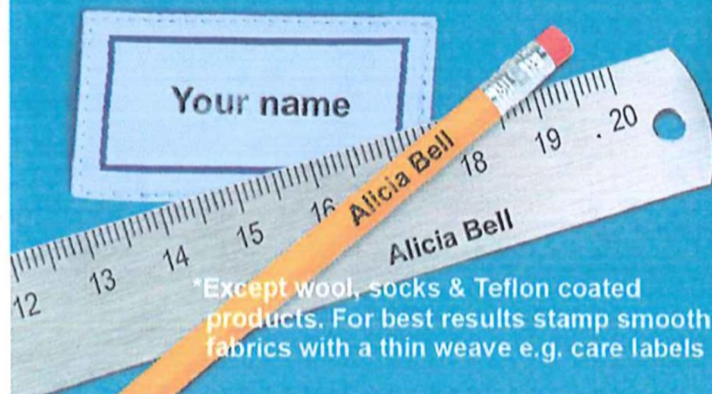
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