



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## IN THIS ISSUE

## NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs. Barnes 1

### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Governor Section 2

As we head towards December and the end of the Autumn Term we are all looking forward to the enjoyable activities that are a feature of this time of year in an infant school. This week the rehearsals for the FS Nativity have stepped up a gear and rehearsals for the KS1 Christmas performances are being planned. The parties and pantomime are almost organized and very soon everywhere you look in the school there will be further signs that Christmas is approaching!

Important Messages 3

For the Christmas Performances, please note that you will be entering the hall up steps via a side route so please do not even attempt to bring pushchairs into the school. Our pupils and staff work very hard to put on these performances and we would ask you, on this occasion, to make alternative arrangements for all younger siblings as they can find it difficult to sit still and quietly and can spoil the enjoyment for others. Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

Curriculum 4

Pupil's Section 5

The Friends of John Hampden Christmas Fayre is tomorrow - Saturday 25th November, and I am sure that will really start to make us feel festive—my thanks to all the FJH committee for demonstrating, once again, their amazing organizational skills in the run up to this event. Also thanks to all the volunteers, governors and staff who will give up their time to run stalls—we hope to raise lots of money so do come along and support us. Last year much of the money raised by the FJH was used to purchase and install new Interactive Boards across the school. Sadly the new funds generated in this academic year will need to be put towards filling the hole in the school budget so we can maintain the staffing levels we know we need to continue to provide high quality education. We are incredibly lucky to have such an active PTA and we truly do appreciate the time and effort that so many volunteer committee members provide. Many of them are already very busy people and the staff, governors and pupils at the school would just like to say a really big THANK YOU for all their hard work.

School Travel 6

Friends of John Hampden 7

School Improvement 8

Miscellaneous 8

**Christmas parties** are planned for **Monday 18th December**. We invite the children to come to school wearing party clothes and suitable footwear on that day (the children will be going outside at playtimes so clothing needs to be appropriate for colder weather). We will be asking you to provide your child with their own Christmas party packed lunch on this day rather than the hot meal option and, as this is a special occasion, we are happy for them to have any food which you consider to be appropriate e.g. sweets, chocolate etc.

Each year we are amazed by the wonderful lunches that are provided. Lunchboxes are often specially decorated, some even contain Christmas crackers or other Christmassy items.

The Foundation Stage children eat together in the Octagon and the KS1 children join together to eat in the hall which is beautifully decorated by the Friends of John Hampden. If we are lucky, a very special visitor usually arrives carrying a big sack of presents while the children are eating!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday December 1st—INSET Day

FS Christmas performances  
9.30 am on 5th & 6th Dec

KS1 performances 9.30 am on  
13th Dec, 1.45 pm on 14th  
Dec, 1.45 pm on 15th Dec

Christmas parties in school 18th  
Dec

Panto in school 19th Dec

School closes 19th Dec—1.30  
pm

**PLEASE REMEMBER FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER IS AN INSET DAY**

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

For all schools, 'Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare' is a key area. Simply put, if pupils can be shown to be safe, happy, settled and healthy, then they are well on their way to being successful, committed and productive learners in the school setting, regardless of their background or personal circumstances. At John Hampden, our teachers, senior leadership team and governors work hard to embed programmes to generate positive learning outcomes.

Close monitoring of attendance, for example, has a direct influence on how well our pupils can learn, and we place great emphasis on looking at patterns in this area. Similarly, monitoring and improving healthy lifestyles has been proven to effect positive learning outcomes, through physical activity initiatives, healthy eating drives, and increasingly important mental health programmes.

During our Health & Safety Weeks, we have been focussing more and more on mental health in recent years, recognising its importance to the well-rounded and happy child. Our now well-established initiatives, such as the Friendship Bench, School Council and Cosy Corner represent nurturing opportunities for pupils who perhaps need a bit of a quiet time to have a chat or be listened to. Helen Brettell continues to provide pastoral support for children, when needed, and as a given we remain alert to any patterns of bullying of any sort.

Safeguarding is of course critical within a school, and we continually monitor and adjust our initiatives and programmes as necessary to ensure a secure ongoing environment for everyone; from our pupils' perspective, this would include personal safety, in person and online.

Anecdotally, our school receives frequent feedback from visitors on how friendly and well-behaved our pupils are, and what a welcoming, well-run and nurturing environment we have in place. Most of all, and overarching all of these things, they comment on how happy our children seem to be, and we hope that this directly reflects our 'Loving to Learn' philosophy.

Continual improvement is our ongoing aim at John Hampden, and by working with parents and carers on all aspects of school life, we would like to think that this indeed happens. To this end, thanks in advance for any feedback you feel able to share with us, whether informally or through our regular questionnaires.

Dr Gordon Wong



Equalities, Diversity and Community Cohesion 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, James Edley, [jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](mailto:jedley@johnhampdenwendover.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

#### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

At this time of the year many pupils wish to send Christmas cards to their friends in the school. We accommodate this by installing two Christmas post boxes which will be in position from Monday 4th December. One is positioned in the Foundation Stage Octagon area and the other one, for Key Stage One pupils, is positioned near the school office. If your child would like to send some cards this year please would you check the envelopes to ensure the cards can be easily sorted and delivered by our Year 2 postmen.

**Each envelope needs to have the name and class name of the recipient clearly written on it.**

Unfortunately we are not able to provide parents with class lists, but I am sure your child will remember the names of their very close friends.

We will encourage all children who bring cards into school to post them in the post boxes because the children are always very excited when the Christmas Post arrives in their classroom. Regular deliveries are made in the days leading up to the end of term.

The following information may help you with envelope writing!

Foundation Stage	Year 1	Year 2
Caterpillars - Mrs Nelson	Squirrels—Mrs Beattie	Firecrests - Mrs McNally/Mrs Timms
Ladybirds- Mrs Mills	Hedgehogs - Mrs King	Hérons - Mrs Tysoe/Mrs Grimsdell
Honeybees—Mrs Shrimpton	Badgers—Mrs Brannan	Red Kites - Mrs Spencer

#### **REQUEST FOR CDs**

If you have any free sample CDs or CD roms you may have collected in a magazine etc that you no longer require, please could you send them into Herons class. Thank you.

#### **FUNDRAISING**

Many thanks for supporting all the recent charity fundraising . Pupils at John Hampden managed to raise £273.62 for Children in Need, £227.67 for Red, White and Blue Day and £126.34 for the Poppy appeal.

#### **Adverse Weather Conditions**

If we need to close the school this winter due to adverse weather conditions the following procedures will be used to inform parents.

1. A decision will be made about the school closure by 7.30am. This decision will be based on health and safety grounds, which may include not having enough staff at school to supervise our pupils.
2. By 7.45a.m the school website home page will be updated with closure details. MIX 96 will have been contacted and should announce our school closure at regular intervals throughout the morning. The County Council's website will also list our school closure:  
[www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk)
3. If the notices listed above have not been implemented then you are to assume the school will remain open.
4. With these three methods of communication in place, there should be no need for you to telephone the school asking whether we will be open or closed.
5. Should the school open but need to close earlier than 3.15p.m, we will contact you via text or telephone.

**Please be assured that school closure will always be a last resort.**

**It is entirely the responsibility of the parent/carer to decide whether it is safe to travel to and from school in inclement weather and we respect the choices you make. As usual please inform the school by telephone or in writing if your child will be absent from school.**

#### **SICKNESS & DIARRHOEA**

Sadly we have had a number of children suffering with sickness in the last week. Please remember that children should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of illness. This way we can be sure that your children will not pass on their germs to others. Please ensure we have up to date contact numbers for you and any other emergency contacts as poorly children need to be collected as soon as possible.

#### **SCOOTER WHEREABOUTS**

John Colet School have in their possession a black stunt scooter with blue hand grips and blue/black wheels. If you think this may belong to your child please pop into their school office.



## 4. CURRICULUM

E-safety is obviously of paramount importance to us and Mrs Shrimpton, our Computing Co-ordinator, spent time during Safety Week teaching the children about the need to use the internet safely. Following this session we sent home our Pupil Acceptable Use Policy. We would be grateful if you would remember to send back your signed copy of this document—it came to you on purple paper!

For your information our internet rules are displayed next to each computer workstation in the classrooms and in the ICT teaching area. The rules were discussed with the children and look like this:



### John Hampden School Wendover Internet Rules

	We only use websites our teacher/teaching assistant have shown us.
	We only click on buttons and links when we know what they do.
	We only use search engines our teachers have chosen and when an adult is with us.
	We always say when we get lost on the Internet. If we see anything that upsets us we will tell an adult. We immediately close websites we don't like.
	We only send and open emails when an adult is with us. We never include our home address or our telephone number.
	We only send polite and friendly emails to people we know or when we have been asked to.

## 5. PUPIL'S SECTION

This time of the year provides us with a perfect opportunity to develop and enhance performance skills. Tweaks to the timing for the FS and KS1 performances have helped us to ensure that every child in the school, from the youngest to the oldest, is given a moment to shine on the stage. It is clear that some children have real strengths in terms of their ability to speak, sing or perform a dance in front of an audience but every child is given the opportunity to collaborate and take part.

### Schools Linking Project

We are very excited to inform you that Badgers Class have been accepted to take part in a 'Schools Linking Project' devised by Buckinghamshire County Council. Their class will be linked with a Year 1 class from Waterside County Combined School, Chesham. Both classes have the same number of pupils who will meet together and explore four key questions:-

Who am I?

Who are we?

Where do we live?

How do we all live together?

The children will participate in activities which develop problem solving skills through teamwork as well as practical hands-on activities such as circle games to identify similarities between each other. For example, favourite foods, interests in and out of school, what games and activities they play with their friends and what clubs they belong to in their community, e.g. Judo, Street Dance etc.

How will the Schools Linking Project work?

1. The teachers from both classes will discuss the 'Schools Linking Project' with their classes, sharing thoughts and ideas. The teachers will meet and pair their children up as buddies. Each class will send a whole class photograph to the other school to introduce the children to each other. The children will make information passports to be sent to their buddies detailing information about themselves, what their favourite lesson is, their favourite colour and who their friends are etc., to introduce themselves to their buddy prior to their first meeting.
2. The first link meeting will take place on 28th November, when the children will meet up and participate in team building and problem solving activities.
3. During the Spring Term Waterside School will visit The John Hampden School for more exciting challenges and activities that they will work on and solve together.
4. Badgers Class will visit Waterside School in the Summer Term for their final activity and to evaluate their experiences of linking up with children from Waterside School.

Who knows what friendships will be made?



## School Travel News 'WOW!'

We have started our WOW walk to school initiative this week and the children have enjoyed using the new interactive classroom 'Travel Tracker' to log their daily journeys to school. If your child completes one active journey during our 'Walk to school Week' (20.11.17 - 24.11.17) they will receive their first badge. Remember active journeys can include: walk, scoot, bike, or park and stride. The WOW Travel Tracker is replacing the old Go for Gold scheme. Strider, the WOW mascot was a special guest at Monday's assembly. Look on the school website to see a short video of Strider visiting the children.

### 'Walk to School' Drawing Competition

I am inviting all children at the John Hampden School to take part in our drawing competition. Please print off the competition template page and draw, colour or paint a picture showing a healthy way to travel to school. Then complete the form and return to your class teacher by **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December**. I will award a prize to one winning entry from each class. From those winning pictures, two will be selected to be used for a special project being launched in the new year (more information to follow soon).

### Parking Promise

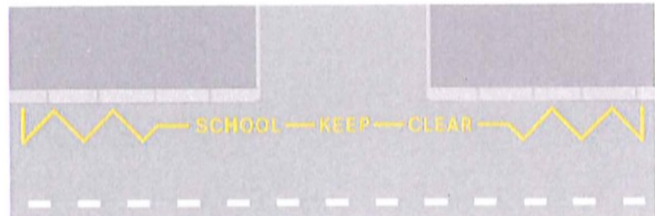


The area outside our school is busy in the morning and at the end of the school day. Parents who park close to the entrance of the campus road or in the campus road itself are not parking responsibly, potentially placing children in danger. The 'School Keep Clear' Zig Zags should maintain an area free from parked cars. This allows children and parents walking in and out of the campus entrance to cross safely, where they can see and be seen by approaching traffic.

**If you have not already done so please sign the Parents' Parking Promise and make your children's school a safer place.**

Please help us by completing the tear off slip below.

By returning this you are undertaking to keep parked cars away from the area outside the school, therefore protecting the lives of all the children who attend the schools.



If you return this slip we will issue you with a car sticker which shows your commitment to the **Parents' Parking Promise**. Hopefully your example will encourage other parents to do the same.

**Thank you for signing the Parents' Parking Promise**

I will protect the safety of children at my school by being a thoughtful driver.

Thank you for supporting sustainable travel to and from school.

Heather Beattie (School Travel Coordinator)

I will try to use my car as little as possible for school journeys.

I will not park on the 'School Keep Clear' Zig Zags or on the campus road.

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



## Healthy ways of getting to school?

### School Travel



Bus



Bike or Scooter



Walk



Park & Stride

I get to school by .....

Write down why you think this way is healthy? .....

.....  
.....

Name: .....

My drawing:



**John Hampden School Wharf Road Wandover**

# **Christmas Fayre**



**Saturday November 25th 2017**  
**12 - 3pm**

Santas Grotto . Jam Jar Tombola . Face Painting  
Christmas Crafts . Bottle Tombola . Raffle  
Lucky Dip . Mulled Wine . Mince Pies  
Refreshment plus many more games and stalls!



**£1 per Family**



## 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 made progress linked to the actions outlined below:

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

The Leadership Team are beginning to work even more collaboratively with the other local primary schools. The Head Teachers are working together on a joint project which aims to support some of the most vulnerable children in our schools. Our Governing Boards are also about to embark on a joint project to improve their efficiency and effectiveness.

The building project is now well underway and the new MUGA is almost finished and ready for use at playtimes and lunchtimes. This will provide much needed additional hard surface play space.

Our plans to offer the 30 hour extended free entitlement are now organised and we have the details of all the children who will be starting with us in Crickets Class from January 2018. Please contact the school if you know you have a child who is eligible as we may be able to accommodate them in the class.

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

Work scrutiny of English and Maths books has been completed by the relevant subject leaders. Marking and feedback continues to be an area for development as we recognise that effective feedback is the best way to enable children to make progress. As you looked at your child's work at the recent Consultation Meetings, I hope you noticed the marking symbols being used in your children's books. These symbols are consistent across the school and pupils are familiar with the meanings of the different marks used by the adults working with them. Pupils are also starting to be given time to reflect and respond to the marking and feedback symbols we are using and we can see the difference that these opportunities are making. However, we are not complacent and following the work scrutiny of pupil's books we will continue to adapt our policy and practice to raise standards further.

The quality of the learning environment was monitored following the first half term and class teachers will be given feedback regarding strengths and areas for further development.

To ensure consistency of assessments across the local area our staff recently attended Liaison Group moderation sessions where writing from each year group in the schools was shared and agreement was reached on the age related expectations at this time of the school year.

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

We firmly believe that happy children will learn well but it is equally important that we have a happy and motivated team of adults in the school. We are currently looking closely at the data we gained from the annual staff well-being survey and planning actions to address the lowest scoring areas. These actions include individual job chats, snap shot observations of staff at work and professional dialogue linked to well-being and worklife balance. We are continuing to build regular links with Wendover Junior School and there is a determination from the leadership teams in both schools for us to continue in this way. For the pupils it means that there are opportunities to visit one another in our respective schools and an example of this is the sharing of the KS1 and Year 3 Christmas Performances which will take place in the next weeks.

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

Subject leaders responsible for the core subjects of English and Maths are required to complete regular monitoring and evaluation activities. This week our Maths, English and Presentation Co-ordinators, completed their termly work scrutiny of a selection of children's books. This enables us to ensure consistency in terms of presentation, marking & feedback, differentiation and planning across the year groups. The findings will be disseminated to staff and strengths and areas for further development will be shared and discussed.

Last week we received a new style of report from the Government which compares the performance of our school to that of other schools nationally. We have spent time analysing this data and comparing it to previous years and other annual attainment and progress measures. We are delighted to be able to report that the results data from statutory assessments for 2016-2017 has been judged to be well above national figures in all areas—Reading, Writing and Maths. Our Phonics data showed a further improvement and a significantly large number of our pupils achieved a good level of development during their time in Foundation Stage.



# STARTING SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME

**WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN  
1 SEPTEMBER 2013 AND 31 AUGUST 2014?**

Application  
deadline is  
3pm  
15 January  
2018

If yes, Buckinghamshire parents can apply online for a school place from  
6 November 2017. Visit our website [www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk) to apply for a school place.

You must apply even if your child is at the nursery attached to the school you would like them to go to.

Helpful information about starting school for the first time is in the 'Starting School and Moving to Junior School' guide for parents which will be available on the web from the end of October.

If you cannot apply online you can fill out a paper application form.

Open days for primary school are available now on our website at  
[www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk)

**PLEASE DO NOT MISS THIS IMPORTANT DEADLINE**





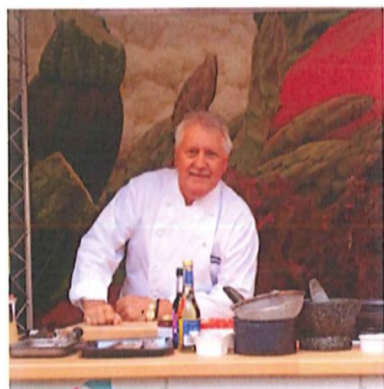
No2  
POUND  
STREET  
WINE&FOOD  
ESTD 2010

FREE  
ENTRY

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NIGHT

# Christmas on The Manor

*Under a starlit marquee on the Manor. Waste  
from 4pm - 9.30pm Friday 24th November*



Celebrity chef Brian Turner CBE said: No2's Christmas shopping night will showcase some of the Chilterns best producers and shops. Make sure that you are "Ready Steady" for the 24th of November. The event is in support of The Medical Detection Dogs.

Make room for great artisan hot foods and lovely Christmassy cocktails and beers to enjoy on the night!

Live music, food for all including free tastings. Pop in to No2 for a free coffee with this flyer\* to find out who's coming and more...

\*valid until 23/11/17

No2 Pound Street Wendover, Bucks, HP22 6EJ

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Footprint Dance







## Wendover Tennis Club, Everyball Tennis

### John Hampden School Outreach Program Spring Term 2018

Wendover Tennis Club and Everyball Tennis are delighted to be working in partnership with John Hampden School to provide an exciting lunchtime tennis club for the Autumn Term held on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Reception, Years 1 and 2.

TERM BEGINNING W/B 11/09 EXCLUDING HALF TERM (W/B 23/10)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLACES	DAY	TIME	DATES	Weeks in Term	COST
JHS2	Reception	20	Tuesday	12.45pm – 1.15pm	09/01-27/03 (excl 13/02)	11 weeks	£40.00
JHS3	Year 2	20	Thursday	12.15pm – 12.45pm	11/01-29/03 (excl 15/02)	11 weeks	£40.00
JHS4	Year 1	20	Thursday	12.45pm – 1.15pm	11/01-29/03 (excl 15/02)	11 weeks	£40.00

#### Application form and payment options

1. PAYPAL – complete your application form online and pay via PAYPAL at  
<http://everyball.uk/club-venues/aspire-reach-wendover>

2. Cheque - Send the form to us and make cheques payable to Everyball Tennis, c/o Halton Tennis Centre, Chestnut End, Halton Village, Bucks, HP22 5PD.

To guarantee your place on the course and to enable us to plan appropriately, payment is required two weeks before commencement

NAME:		D.O.B
COURSE CODE(S)		
TOTAL DUE		
ADDRESS LINE 1		
ADDRESS LINE 2		
POST TOWN AND CODE		
PRIMARY PHONE		
SECONDARY PHONE		
E MAIL		
MEDICAL INFO		

Everyball Tennis, c/o Halton Tennis Centre, Chestnut End, Halton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5PD  
T: 01296 623453 E: [info@everyball.net](mailto:info@everyball.net)  
[www.haltontennis.co.uk](http://www.haltontennis.co.uk)