



The John Hampden School Wendover



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1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Governor Section 2

Many thanks for your very generous Harvest Festival donations. We managed to make a really impressive display of the flowers and produce and it made a great backdrop to the performances provided by the Key Stage One children. Our Foundation Stage children did a wonderful job of entertaining their parents at their Harvest Festival too. All the produce was donated to the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury, who have written us a letter expressing their gratitude.



Important Messages 3

On Thursday 12th October we organised an 'Open Morning' for prospective parents. In total well over 60 families visited the school and were given a short presentation followed by a guided tour of the school by a group of Year 2 ambassadors. Feedback from the event was very positive and it was lovely to be able to show off our school in such a positive way. Here are a few comments from the feedback sheets:

Pupil's Section 4

Curriculum 5

Very informative, lovely visit with very helpful Year 2 tour guides. Really hoping my daughter can attend here.

A really helpful and informative morning. Talks were useful and provided all the information we needed. Tours with children were brilliant - children really proud of the school. Thank you.

Friends of John Hampden 6

The open morning was very insightful and we were very impressed with the children involved and how comfortable they were to speak in front of a hall of adults - the whole environment was very welcoming. Thank you.

School Improvement 7

Really informative, loved hearing from the children - the warmth and positive ethos

Miscellaneous 8

I loved that the children showed us around. I felt the Powerpoint presentation covered a lot of useful and inspiring information. Very impressed with the school - it is tidy, children are polite. A credit to the staff.

Tour guides were absolutely delightful. Such a testament to what you are doing here. Love the fact that you focus on the values and the learning with the results being secondary. No wonder they are so good.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Close for half term: 3.15pm on
20th October

Open after half term: Monday
30th October

SAFETY WEEK: 30th Oct –
3rd November

Parents consultation evenings
on 8th & 9th November

Thinking Day—13th November

FJH Christmas Fayre—25th
November

We have also enjoyed an informative assembly led by Mrs Spencer and Helen Brettell, our Service Children and Nurture Support Co-ordinator, as part of the Red, White and Blue Day Charity event. We were pleased to welcome a number of parents who are currently serving members of the armed forces to watch and contribute. Enormous thanks to governor, Matt Glanville, who organised a surprise at the end of the assembly when the children were taken outside to watch an impressive drill by some RAF recruits. This can be viewed on the school website under the News section.

We have had a really exciting week for our Health Week which began on Monday. Mrs Spencer put together a really exciting timetable of visitors and activities for the children so do look out for the Health Week passport, letting you know what they have been doing.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

The Foundation Stage Children have settled into full time school beautifully and are already a credit to John Hampden. During Health Week so many visitors have commented on their good manners and independence that they already show - two of our values. So far the first half term has involved Class Induction Meetings with parents, a Growth Mindset Curriculum Evening, Open Morning for prospective parents, Maths Workshops, Roald Dahl Dress Up Day, Red White and Blue Day, Harvest singing for Foundation Stage, Ice Cream Day and linking with the community during Health Week and the upcoming Safety Week.

30 Hours

Next half term we look forward to organising our Early Years Class for January. The Early Years Class offers children who are four, or who will be four in the Spring Term, 15 hour funded sessions Monday to Friday from 8.45 am - 11.45 am. In addition to this, if numbers permit, we will offer 30 hours which includes afternoon provision and a chargeable lunchtime. There is also the option for additional paid sessions for parents who do not qualify for 30 hours funding. The afternoon session will finish at 3.15pm. The Early Years Class has been established for many years now - we are very excited at the prospect of extending it. We welcome enquiries as there are a few places available for January.

Steph Parkinson—Staff Governor

The Governing Board are always willing to listen to parental queries and to explain in more detail what the Governing Board 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 if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Scroll of Honour Badges

This is a polite reminder that the yellow badges we issue to anyone who has been named on the Scroll of Honour, must be returned to school the following week. These are not gifts—they are borrowed for the week and then returned ready to be passed on to others who have been nominated in future weeks. We really don't want to run out of these special badges so if you do have any at home, we would love to have them back. Many thanks.

Spare Clothes

We are always happy to receive any unwanted underwear which we can use in case of accidents so if you have anything you would like to donate, please bring it to the school office. If your child does come home in some of our spare clothing please could you wash and return it as soon as possible. Thank you

Volunteer Helpers

Grateful thanks to all those who returned a pink slip informing us that they are available to volunteer help in the school. We will be contacting you individually if we can take up your offer of support. For those that are able to complete activities at home, we will contact you as and when needed. Sadly, with the financial difficulties we are currently facing we are not able to complete DBS checks for anyone who is not able to guarantee consistent help in school. The checks cost £67.00 per person so we need to be able to rely on the people we are paying for. If you wish to gain experience in school and would be prepared to fund your own DBS check we would be delighted to hear from you!

Head Lice

We are aware of a few cases of head lice in the school. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat accordingly to avoid any further spread. It really helps if children with long hair have it tied back.

Coats and Water Bottles

As the colder weather approaches please make sure your children bring a warm coat to school everyday. Also, we do encourage KS1 children to bring a water bottle to school each day so they can access a drink easily during the school day. No juice please as it tends to make everything very sticky! FS stage children have access to water all day in their learning environment.

Wendover CE Junior School

Wendover CE Junior School will be running tours for Year 2 parents at 1.45pm and 2.15pm on the following afternoons next half term: Monday 6/11, Thursday 9/11, Tuesday 14/11, Thursday 16/11 and Tuesday 21/11. Places must be pre-booked by phoning the WJS office on 01296 696822. Mr Mirams and the Year 6 prefects look forward to welcoming you at one of these sessions.

Good luck wishes

Mrs Donna Webb left yesterday to start her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best and we will let everyone know when her baby makes an appearance.

4. PUPIL'S SECTION

Our wonderful Year 2 ambassadors gave fantastic guided tours of the school during our recent Open Morning. Below are some of their comments about the experience:



I enjoyed showing the parents around the school because I liked showing them the different parts of the school especially the classrooms. Alex (Herons)

I enjoyed going around the school with the parents because in Foundation Stage the parents really liked the water area. Kate (Firecrests)

I liked it when the parents said me and Kate were good tour guides. I felt really proud of myself being an ambassador. Jack (Firecrests)

I liked it when all the adults said Rose and me were smashing tour guides. William (Firecrests)

I really liked being an ambassador because it was quite a lot of fun. I enjoyed doing the tours most of all. Francesca (Red Kites)

I liked talking in front of the adult audience. I said, 'I like the John Hampden School because we get to do lots of playing and fun activities.' Liberty (Red Kites)

I really liked showing the parents around the school because it was fun. I liked showing off the playground and I told them that you are not allowed to step on the wooden seating. Harry (Red Kites)

I felt very proud doing something for my school. Joey (Red Kites)

I liked it when the people asked me questions and I was able to answer them really nicely. They asked me what my favourite thing was in the playground. Rose (Firecrests)

I liked all of it and I really liked it when I got to show the people around and they asked me what happened in the library? Caleb (Herons)

I enjoyed showing the parents around because I could tell them all about my school. Evie (Herons)

I enjoyed it because I like showing people around. I think they liked seeing the playground. Eleanor (Herons)

5. CURRICULUM

Red, White and Blue Day is run jointly by ABF The Soldiers' Charity, The RAF Benevolent Fund and The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity. Each of these three charities is responsible for the welfare of soldiers, sailors and airmen and their families. On Thursday 5th October our school chose to support this national initiative. We currently have 32 children from Service families in the school and Red, White and Blue Day was a chance for our school to show support for the huge number of Service families in the UK by dressing in red, white and blue for a contribution of £1 to go to the charity.

We raised a fantastic £227.67 for this fantastic charity.



Mrs Spencer and Helen Brettell, our Service Children and Nurture Support Co-ordinator, led a special assembly to celebrate the contribution of our Service families within the Community. All our Service families were invited to attend the assembly and Mrs Spencer and Mrs Brettell shared an informative presentation highlighting the work of the Army, Navy and RAF as well as sharing experiences of Service Children and their families in our school. We thank Mr Martin, a parent currently serving in the RAF, for contributing to the assembly too.



Helen speaking to the children



Mrs Spencer leads the assembly



Children dressed in red, white and blue



Joined by some of our service families

Mr Martin talking to the children



5. CURRICULUM

MATHS WORKSHOPS

In the afternoons last week parents from FS and KS1 were invited into our classrooms to share in our maths lessons. First the Teachers taught the class while the parents watched and then the children went and worked with their own parents showing them how to do it. The children loved having their Mums and Dads in to share their maths workshops. Here are some of their comments:-

It was fun. I liked playing the dinosaur game. Mummy lost 5 times! - Alice (Honeybees)
I liked the lego tower game. I built the biggest tower rolling the dice—Charlie (Honeybees)

I thought it was funny because my Dad didn't know anything about maths so I could teach him some things—Rosie (Squirrels)

I liked it because I played a snakes and ladders game with my Daddy. I taught my Daddy the game. I thought it was really good because I could teach my Mum lots of things—Ava (Squirrels)

It was exciting as lots of Mums and Dads came. Maths is my favourite lesson—William T (Firecrests)

My Dad tried to fill in a 100 square using a 5 minute timer. He did it easily! - Tilly (Firecrests)

6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

Ice Cream Day

Another success enjoyed by the children – the joy of ice-cream served by parents on a Friday! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped it run so smoothly. Please note if you have not yet paid – please could you drop cash to the school office.

Quiz night – 13th October

A huge thank you to Andrew and the team for coordinating the Quiz night – I think it was fair to say a good-night was had by all and the ‘braincells’ were challenged by the standard of questions – thanks to Anthony (Esme’s Allstars). We are awaiting the final totals but think we made approximately £1000 from the evening – HUGE thanks to all the parents and teachers who attended!

Christmas Cards

The templates have gone off to the printers – look out for your proof in the book bags in the first week back after half term. Orders will need to be returned to the school by Monday 6th November with cheques made payable to ‘Friends of John Hampden’ or correct cash only – no change will be returned.

Secondhand Uniform sales

A stall will hopefully be available at Parents evening and at the Christmas Fayre – if you are needing extra supplies – just don’t forget to check lost property first!

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 25th November 12 – 3pm

Save the date for the usual fun at the fayre. A letter will be coming out in the book bag after half term detailing the donation requests and plea for volunteers.

If you have friends of family that would like to have a stall – please ask them to email

Christina_edley@yahoo.co.uk

Could your employer offer a prize for the raffle?

Thinking of investing in a micro-scooter for Christmas??

Follow this link -

<https://www.micro-scooters.co.uk/community/2017/05/scooters-for-schools/>

and 10% will go directly to the school – costing you nothing. The activation code will be emailed out shortly.

Easyfundraising Thank you to the increasing number of parents who have signed up to Easyfundraising – If you’ve not signed up yet, please click on to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> – it’s simple and costs you nothing. Please remember to use for all your online Christmas shopping – so easy when you set up the ‘donation reminder’ tab.

Your cause



Your cause has raised...
£1,245.79

No. supporters
121

Chairperson – Sophie Palmer

You may be aware that Sophie Palmer our chairperson is standing down from the role – as of Christmas – please let us know if you are interested on taking over this role leading us through the school year of fun filled activities and developing new fundraising ideas....Sophie would love to pass the role on with a cross over period if possible. Do get in touch with myself Christina_edley@yahoo.co.uk or Sophie on mrandsrpalmer@hotmail.co.uk if you would like more info. We legally need a Chair to function as a registered Charity.

You don’t have to have had lots of experience on the PTA – we have lots of keen and enthusiastic volunteers to support you – we just need someone who is keen to lead and good at communication – or wants to learn!!!

FJH meeting

The next FJH meeting will be held Tuesday 9th January in the Shoulder of Mutton at 8pm, please come and join us.

7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We are embarking on our new school improvement plan and displays around the school help to highlight the areas we have chosen to focus on. We are setting ourselves goals which link with the four key aspects of the Ofsted inspection framework – these have been selected as a result of the feedback we have gained from our stakeholders as well as analysis of a great deal of data.

Over the next year we hope to have achieved the following:

GOAL TITLE	TARGETS 2017-2018
Goal A LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT	To achieve an Ofsted judgement of outstanding in all areas.
	To work in partnership with Bucks County Council to undertake building work to expand and have the capacity to become a four form entry infant school by September 2018
	By April 2018 to generate £50K to cover the shortfall in the school's budget share for the 2017-2018 financial year
	By July 2018 to collaborate effectively and profitably with others in order to enhance the skills, reputation, resources and future financial security of the JHSW
	By July 2018 to fully explore the possibility of extending our Nursery offer from 15 to 30 hours of provision for individuals each week
Goal B TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT	By July 2018 to increase the use of 'modelling' to improve the quality of teaching and learning in writing
	By July 2018 to ensure consistency of assessments in reading, writing and maths across the Liaison Group of schools
	By July 2018 to ensure learning opportunities within the EYFS and National Curriculum are appropriately differentiated to challenge and meet the needs of the <u>least able</u> pupils
	By July 2018 to ensure adults within the school are deployed in a cost effective manner to effectively meet the needs of all pupils
	By July 2018 to ensure complete consistency of approach and application of key school policies by all teams and members of staff
	By July 2018 to firmly embed a consistent approach to teaching 'Growth Mindsets' in order to further develop a learning orientation in our pupils
Goal C PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE	By July 2018 to engage further with targeted 'hard to reach' parents to ensure pupils are well supported in their learning
	By July 2018 to develop a culture of mutual respect for each other by introducing systems so older children can nurture younger pupils in the school
	By July 2018 behaviour monitoring records reflect a reduction in the number of incidences of children breaking the Golden Rules: Do be gentle Do be kind and helpful
	By July 2018 to have engaged in a Schools Linking Project designed to develop mutual respect and an understanding of the context of both schools
	By July 2018 to improve the responses in the four lowest scoring areas of the annual staff well-being survey by taking actions to address the key issues identified within them
	By July 2018 to further improve transition arrangements for pupils as they move into a new year group to ensure pupils, staff and parents feel they are well prepared for a smooth changeover
Goal D PUPIL OUTCOMES	By July 2018 to maintain and, where possible, improve the consistently high pupil outcomes achieved at JHSW, as measured by statutory assessment during EYFS and KS1.
	To ensure that at least 90% of pupils who have spent their whole time at JHSW make expected progress from the end of EYFS, in Phonics, Reading, Writing and Mathematics
	To ensure that our least able pupils without SEN and any PP pupils with SEN receive the appropriate support and interventions to enable them to make expected progress.
	By July 2018 to ensure that there are high expectations and levels of support for identified groups of pupils (PP, EAL, Most Able, SEN) to ensure diminishing differences when compared with all other pupils nationally

8. MISCELLANEOUS

October Half Term holiday activities

Please take a look at the Buckinghamshire County Council website and Buckinghamshire Family Information Service for the great selection of local activities that are on for you and your children over the October half-term.

Aylesbury Women's Aid

We have received a lovely thank you letter from Aylesbury Women's Aid—the charity we supported this year with our Harvest festival donations. They will use a lot of the non-perishable items to stock up their food store for women and children who come to them with no money to be able to buy food with. The fresh items have already been gratefully received by the families who are currently staying with them.

Mix 96—Box of Bras appeal

To help local radio station, Mix 96 Box of Bras appeal, we are collecting old bras for this very worthy cause. So over half term please have a rummage in your drawers and bring all your old bras to school. There will be a breast cancer bag in the reception area. Thank you all for your help—from Mrs Collins.

Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity

We have had a lovely letter from the charity thanking us for raising a fantastic £162.85 for this marvellous Children's charity. Our donation will help them to continue to work supporting seriously ill children in our region and across the UK through their Roald Dahl Nurses and Family Grants programmes.



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RED
WHITE
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DAY



Thank You

John Hampden Infant School Wendover

for being so generous and raising £227.67
for Red, White & Blue Day 2017

Your donations will help support the work of the three national military charities:



SUPPORTING EVERY MEMBER OF THE MILITARY FAMILY

redwhiteblueday.co.uk

October half term activities

Check the website for times and more details nhm.ac.uk/tring/whats-on.



Dangerous and Deadly trail

Saturday 21 October-
Sunday 29 October

Trail sheet £1

Explore Spooky Skeletons

Monday 23 and
Friday 27 October

30-minute handling workshops

Suitable for ages 5+

Tickets £2

Wall of Eyes Art Attack

Wednesday 25 October

Drop in, 10.00-16.00

Suitable for all ages

Free

Messy Apple Bird Feeder

Tuesday 24 and
Thursday 26 October

30-minute workshops

Suitable for ages 5+

Tickets £2

Apple Pressing and Juice Tasting

Tuesday 24 and
Thursday 26 October

Drop-in demonstration

Suitable for all ages

Free

Museum by Torchlight

Friday 27 October
17.00-20.00

Suitable for ages 5+

Suggested donation £2 per person