



# The John Hampden School Wendover



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## NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

1st October—Harvest Festival

Week commencing 5th October—Parents' Evenings

### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

THANK YOU!

I want to start this newsletter by saying a big THANK YOU to all parents/carers for working with us during these unprecedented times. Your support has meant that the plans we have put in place generally seem to be working well. Your adherence to the timings and signposted routes around the school mean entry and exit procedures are becoming more efficient and it feels like routines are definitely established now. We have reminded the children of the need to stand with you while they wait to enter the classrooms and not to attempt to play with others or use any of the outside equipment. We appreciate your support in ensuring only one adult comes onto the school grounds at drop off and collection times to minimize congestion. Can I also remind you that dogs are not allowed on the school campus and this does include dogs being carried. Please note mobile phones should not be used whilst on school grounds.



In my last newsletter I sent out an S.O.S for a van to collect office equipment and also a request to see if anyone could support us with obtaining hand sanitizer. I am extremely grateful to mums of three children in the school. One put us in touch with the company providing the office equipment, another used her influence at Amazon to get us a van and delivery drivers and the third has donated a large amount of hand sanitizer. We are incredibly appreciative of their help and generosity.

I hope you received the email from the school office informing you that your child's class timetable has been uploaded to the relevant class page of the school website [www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](http://www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk). Each week we will also be uploading a sheet so you can keep up to date with what your child is learning in school. Today further information has also been added in the form of a Powerpoint presentation from the class teacher. Hopefully this will provide you with lots more information about the class, so do take a look. At the moment we cannot invite you into the school building but I am sure you are keen to find out how your child has settled in. For this reason we are bringing forward the traditional timing for the Autumn Term Parents' evening to the week beginning 5th October. Further on in this newsletter you will find more details about how you will be able to book an appointment with the class teacher.

Unfortunately the enhanced cleaning that has to take place in school means we have had to make some, hopefully temporary, changes to arrangements for KS1 children changing reading books. To avoid children from different 'bubbles' mixing in the corridors or too many children attempting to change their books at once we have staggered book change times. Please be aware that your child may change their reading books on a different day to that indicated in the Home School Diary and maybe on a different day to others in their class. Each child will be issued with two books. We also have to clean the books that are returned before other children can borrow them hence the reason why the whole process has had to be reviewed. We will trial our new system for a few weeks and make any necessary changes in due course—please bear with us.

We are gradually finding our way through the issues that are arising as children return to school following a significant break. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to talk to us—we are here to offer help and support.

Further guidance about children and COVID-19 can be found later in this newsletter.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Dear Parents

I trust everyone has had a good summer break and batteries are re-charged in readiness for the new school year. Whether you enjoyed a few nights camping in the back garden or a more adventurous week somewhere.....less wet, I hope you were able to spend some time relaxing with family and friends.

There was extensive disruption to children's education during the Spring and Summer Terms. However, it is evident, even this short way into the school term, that there was obviously a significant amount of quality 'home-teaching' going on, for which you should be suitably proud of (both yourself and your children). For those whose situations made homeschool a less viable option, worry not.... one of the primary objectives for this term is to assess each and every child's progress and determine where extra support might be required. Now that the children are back at school, please keep up the great work with regular reading at home as, particularly at this age, this really does have a huge positive impact on your child's progression.

Whilst the spectre of COVID still looms over us there has, yet again, been an inordinate amount of work put in by the school's teaching staff and Senior Leadership Team to ensure that pupils have as near 'normal' start to the new school year as possible. From what I have seen so far, JHSW is 'Back in Business'...

Similarly, as a parent of two young boys who have now both moved on from John Hampden, I realise the importance of good communication with your class teacher. I would therefore like to reassure all parents that, although the option of a face-to-face within the classroom at the start or end of the day is not currently possible, the lines of communication are very much open and should be used if you have any concerns or worries. The best way to get in touch with your class teacher is to ring or email the school office and the teacher will get back to you as soon as possible.

The school Governors are gearing up for our first meeting of the new school year too. Whilst we are still meeting via Zoom, we continue to support the Senior Leadership Team and teachers through regular correspondence and we hope to resume our school visits as soon as the situation allows.

As I mentioned before we broke up for the summer, we currently have vacancies for both a Parent and Co-opted Governor (the latter being someone from the community, usually not a parent, but often with links to the school), so if anyone would like to become more involved with their child's education and make a long-lasting positive impact on the school - please get in touch with myself or Mrs Barnes.



James Edley (Chair of Governors)

The Governing Board is 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 them at the school gate so please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, James Edley, on [jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](mailto:jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk) if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

#### Voluntary Contributions

Arrangements for Voluntary Contributions— Each parent will soon receive a letter which includes an itemized list of the cost of activities which the teachers are planning for the term. Parents can then sign in to their Parentpay account to make the payment. This is a voluntary contribution and there is no obligation involved but unfortunately we may have to cancel activities if not enough parents opt to pay. We try to arrange as many activities as possible in school to avoid the additional cost of coaches but from time to time we will take the children slightly further a field so future termly payment requests may reflect this.

#### Morning Snack

Fruit/vegetable deliveries have resumed at school so we would ask that you no longer provide a mid-morning snack for your child to eat. There is a range of fruit/veg available and we do encourage the children to have some. Often watching others enjoying eating it can be a real incentive to those who are reluctant to try (or say they don't like it!)

Also, it is still possible for parents to register their child for the 'Cool Milk' scheme. You can collect a form from the school office or you can register online at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com).

#### THANKS

On behalf of Mrs Spencer and everyone at the school we would like to extend our thanks to everyone who helped to maintain and water the school garden over the summer holiday. Your effort is greatly appreciated by all of us.

#### Nuts

We do have several children in the school with a severe allergy to nuts and sesame seeds. We would be grateful if you would refrain from providing nuts or foods containing nuts/sesame seeds in lunchboxes to reduce the risk of allergic reactions. We also ask that there are no sweets or fizzy drinks in lunchboxes. We would also ask that children DO NOT bring in sweets/treats for their classmates when it is their birthday. Thank you

#### Naming Belongings

After the first few P.E lessons, it is clear that many children have clothing that is not named and this is causing real difficulties for staff. Please would you ensure all belongings are named and that children are aware of where the name is on their things. It is obvious that some children would really benefit from having some extra practise when dressing/undressing independently and keeping their clothing in neat piles, socks in shoes etc. We would really appreciate your support with this.



Friends of John Hampden would like to thank Cherry Tree House Care Home for their sponsorship of the smart new tabards that will be used by the Year 2 lunchtime monitors, when they are appointed.

#### Packed Lunches

Our meal provider, Chartwells, will start delivering packed lunches to school from Monday. You have been sent the details of how to order lunches so if you do wish to place an order you need to log in and select your choice by midnight on a Tuesday for lunches to start the following Monday. If you do not place an order you need to continue to provide a packed lunch each day.

#### Message from John Colet School

John Colet School have closed off a gap in the hedge between their two car parks. This is for safety reasons as they would like to see parents and children using the paths rather than cutting through the car parks at the busy start and end of each day. Parents should note that the car parks are not for use during school hours and parents should also not be double parking outside the memorial hall as it blocks it for buses getting in and out.

The campus barrier will be down soon so unauthorised access to the campus will hopefully be reduced.

## **PARENTS' EVENINGS—5th to 8th October 2020**

The Autumn Term parents evenings will be held from Monday 5th to Thursday 8th October. Next week your child will be bringing home a letter with a login and password for you to access the e-schools platform which will enable you to book a slot to speak to your child's class teacher. If you have more than one child at the school, the oldest child will be bringing home the letter and your login and password will allow you to access both/all your children's parents evenings appointments. The appointments will be for 10 minutes per child and we ask that only one parent in each household books the appointment. The booking system will open at 9.30 am on Thursday 24th September and will close at 3.00 pm on Wednesday 30th September. It will confirm your appointment/s date and time. We will not be issuing paper appointment letters or confirmation of appointment slots.

## **LOOKING FOR A NURSERY/ RECEPTION PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2021?**



**THE JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER**

## **VIRTUAL OPEN MORNING - EARLY YEARS (NURSERY) & RECEPTION PLACES**

The John Hampden School Wendover is a large infant school for children aged between four and seven years. We also have a thriving 26 place Early Years Provision for 3-4 year olds and offer the 30 hours flexible free entitlement for pupils in this class. We are justifiably proud of our excellent reputation in the local community and we work hard to provide children with an outstanding start to their school life.

*'Staff at The John Hampden School have created a delightful learning environment in which all pupils can thrive and flourish.'* Ofsted

**The staff and governors of the school warmly invite parents of prospective pupils to access a virtual open morning via the school website from Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020**  
**[www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](http://www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk)**

## 4. PUPIL'S SECTION

The pupils have now been at school for two and a half weeks and I can report that for the Autumn Term all Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 places have been allocated so there is no capacity for further children in these year groups.

We thought you might like to hear from some of our children about what they are enjoying in their new classes.



Lily said "I like playing with the cars"

Lyla said "I like playing together with friends"

Felix said "I like the bikes!"



Grace said "I like having my lunch in the dining hall with my friends"

George said "I can play with the number blocks as I like numbers and counting"

Max said "I like doing PE!"



Jessica said "I like playing outside on the climbing frame and swinging on the bars"

Toby said "I like seeing my teachers"

Sid said "I made a robot out of shiny things"



Jack said "I love sitting on the story chair outside and telling Mrs Shrimpton a story!"

Ethan said "I love all the different types of books that we have in the classroom. There's only one that I knew before!"

Romilly said "I love making the skeletons out of the plasticine and seeing the x-rays"



Ella said "Everything is new. I like to draw pictures and going outside is fun because there's lots to do"

William said "We can learn outside and inside. I have made some books and written a story"

Woody said "I like playing at lunchtime. I like the outside things because they are fun"



Maya said "I have loved meeting the new teachers. It is nice to have new teachers in Year 1"

Charlie said "I like making things especially painting the monster"

Phoebe said "I liked making my squirrel. It was fun mark making my squirrel and I also learnt quilling which was to make the tail"



Penelope said "We do lots of learning outside"

Zach said "We do reading and writing words"

Alabama said "We sing songs like the Pirate one"



Ernie said "The teachers are so nice"

Callie said "It's really fun especially the art"

Wilbert said "I love to learn about the maths in Year 2 because it's my favourite"



Jake said "We do lots of activities. We learned about penguins who live in the south pole"

Freja said "We've been doing maths and taking away 10 using a 100 square"

Tyler said "I'm learning lots of new things, doing activities inside the classroom and outside"



Joanie-Jo said "We learnt about animals in science and built them and their habitat in lego"

Samuel said "In maths we have learnt about 1 more and 1 less and 10 more and 10 less indoors and outdoors. It was fun!"

Ella said "We looked at the story of 'A little bit brave' and we did some lovely art about bunnies"



## 5. CURRICULUM

Despite all the constraints we are having to work within, we are continuing with a virtual weekly Merit Assembly followed by Golden Time. The 'Scroll of Honour' will soon be reinstated, providing opportunities for children to be spotted for doing something special. We have seven Golden Rules that underpin our Behaviour Policy. Children who consistently follow the Golden Rules will be rewarded each Friday afternoon with approximately 45 minutes of 'Golden Time'. Golden Time gives the children the chance to use special resources or engage in a special activity. Children who have lost some minutes of their Golden Time will spend time talking to Mrs Barnes and missing some of the special time the others are enjoying. We hope that the appealing activities will be a real incentive to encourage everyone to follow the Golden Rules.

Within each class we also include a 'Thinking Mat' which, if necessary, children are asked to sit on to reflect on their behaviour.

All pupils are following a carefully designed 'Recovery Curriculum' for at least the first half of the Autumn Term. We hope that a timetable which allows time for staff to ensure children are settled and getting used to the regular routines and expectations, will be beneficial for all. There is a big focus on Personal, Social, Emotional and Health education in these first weeks and regular reinforcement of the school values.

Philosophy sessions/activities continue to be a regular feature. This may sound rather ambitious but children are naturally curious and educational research suggests that encouraging children to ask questions and to listen to other people's ideas helps them to understand their thoughts and how they affect their lives.

It is fascinating to hear the children's thoughts and we find that from one starting point many more questions are posed. The only thing to remember with philosophy is that there are no right or wrong answers— just the opportunity to hear, develop and value different viewpoints.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL



Staff and children are beginning to prepare for harvest celebrations in a slightly different way this year. The Harvest Festival is due to take place on Thursday 1st October but sadly we will not be able to invite any parents to watch this year. Instead each class is learning something to perform. Their performance will be videoed and then shared with the rest of the school.

As usual we are asking families to provide donations. We welcome any flowers, fruit, vegetables or tinned goods. There will be a container to collect all the donations outside each classroom on the morning of 1st October.

The donations will then be collected by representatives from the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury and they are always very gratefully received as they rely on donations to run successfully.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

## 6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

The Friends of John Hampden (FJH), would like to offer you a warm welcome to John Hampden School. We're the school's dedicated Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) made up of a parents and teachers who work together to raise funds for the school and develop the school community through socials, events and communication.

As parents or carers of a child at John Hampden Infant School, **you are automatically a part of the FJH**. But we invite you to get involved as much as you can to help our organisation to be as successful as it can be. Whether you choose to take on a lead role in organising our events or are happy to be called upon on an adhoc basis, there is a role for everyone at FJH.

The FJH have 3 focuses:

There are lots of things you can do to help FJH!

<h3><u>Funds</u></h3> <p>Our funds are used to buy new equipment that our children can use at school to enhance their learning experiences. In the last 2 years we have raised almost £30,000 which has bought laptops, interactive whiteboards, playground equipment and new materials for Early Years (and much more!).</p>	<h3><u>Joining together</u></h3> <p>Our warm, supportive school community is one of the things that makes John Hampden so special. Our <b>Facebook Group, JHS Parents</b>, is an easy way to connect to the wider school community. For reminders about non-uniform days or school events or to ask a quick question visit <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/263833573776169/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/263833573776169/</a> or <b>search JHS Parents</b></p>	<h3><u>Happenings</u></h3> <p>The FJH Events are always warmly received and strongly supported, but this year our usual cake sales, fayres and Quiz Nights are unlikely to occur. We are already looking at creative ways that we can raise funds and boost our school community during these challenging times and are keen to welcome new ideas!</p>
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**Join in with our organised events!** Even if you can't volunteer, the people who support our events are just as important. Buy a raffle ticket, enter a competition, Like a Facebook Post – it all helps!

**Appoint a CLASS REP.** The class rep(s) are a crucial liaison between parents and the FJH, helping to publicise events (as well as sending crucial reminders!) Ask the Class rep(s) to drop us an email at [FJHVolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:FJHVolunteers@gmail.com) so we can stay in touch.

**Use Easyfundraising Online** - If you're buying anything on line, click on [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and over 2,700 retailers will donate a percentage of the order to the school. **You don't pay anything extra.** We have about 200 members so far who have helped to raise nearly **£4000** – which has cost them nothing!!

**Buy a weekly £1 ticket for the Aylesbury Vale Lottery** which donates 50p to FJH and you could win!

<https://www.valelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-john-hampden-school>

**Sponsorship** – selling your home with Christopher Pallet? Tell them you have a child at our school, and they will donate £100 to the school for every completed sale!

**Join us** – Every parent/carer of a child enrolled at John Hampden is automatically a member of the Friends. We also have a **committee of volunteers** who plan, review and organise all of our activities, and we're always keen to have new members!

### Join us

As an officially registered charity, FJH have a full committee. We are...

Chair Person: Sophie Hughes, mum to Florence in Firecrests and Will in Crickets

Secretary: Laura Croker, mum to Ella in Hedgehogs

Treasurer: Rebecca Sackman-Smith, mum to Romilly in Honeybees

Treasurer: Anne Carruthers, mum to Elliot in Honeybees

Plus a lot of regular faces 😊

If you would like to **find out more** about what we do, how you can **help**, or give us your **suggestions**, why not come along to one of **our meetings**? This term we'll be having smaller scale socially distanced meetings or larger Zoom meetings rather than our usual meet ups at the pub! But however we meet, we guarantee a warm welcome and a listening ear for ideas and suggestions.

Please send us an email at [FJHVolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:FJHVolunteers@gmail.com) to join our email list and we'll keep you updated with our plans for the next meetings!

Let us know your name plus your child's name and class.

**Thank you in advance for all your support. Let's make 2020-21 a brilliant year for John Hampden School and the Friends of John Hampden!**

## 7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

As the new academic year begins we are embarking on actions linked to our new School Development Plan 2020-2021 which aims to guide improvements to the school over this time. In deciding the areas to focus on we took into consideration many factors e.g. stakeholder views expressed in questionnaires and comments, learning from the lockdown/partial re-opening situation, feedback from other outside agencies, data analysis, Government policy etc.

In the next newsletters I will share a summary of the new priorities for the school plan so you can see what we are aiming to achieve.

However, during the summer holiday and over the next weeks/month, works to develop and improve the school environment are on-going:

During the holiday:

- The Year One and Year Two outside learning areas were developed through resourcing, tidying and installation of new gazebos—funded by the FJH.
- The 53 year old boilers were replaced— this is definitely Mr Redman's legacy—we look forward to trouble free heating throughout the winter months from now on!
- The School was re-organised to allow for separate 'bubbles' of 30 children to operate
- Deep cleaning took place
- The school garden was maintained by a team of committed waterers!
- Two skips were filled!



## 8. MISCELLANEOUS



**Wendover  
Junior  
Football  
Club**



**BUCKS SPORT  
ACADEMY**



[@WendoverJuniorFootball](#)



[@Wendover\\_Juniors](#)



[www.wendoverjuniorfootball.org.uk](http://www.wendoverjuniorfootball.org.uk)

**Wendover  
Junior Cubs**

Wendover Junior Football Club are delighted to work in partnership with Bucks Sport Academy to bring you fun football for boys & girls aged 2.5 up to and including Reception/Foundation stage. This is a fun, friendly learning environment for your child to be introduced to playing football and the partnership with Bucks Sports Academy provides quality coaching from top FA-qualified coaches.

The sessions last one hour, from 9.30am—10.30am every Saturday and are designed to improve your child's:

Social Skills

Imagination & Creativity

Counting, Colour and shape recognition

- Balance and Coordination through dynamic movements
  - Kick, throw and Catching skills

Spatial awareness

Sessions are great value at only £4 a session and during Sept, Oct, Apr, May, June. July, Aug are held outdoors on the John Colet School Field. During Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March these sessions move indoors to the John Colet School Sports Hall.





Taster session is **FREE**. Once you have booked your taster session you are free to turn up on a Saturday of your choice. Following your taster should you wish to enrol please sign up using the apply & pay online section on the website below.

To find out more please visit <https://www.buckssportacademy.co.uk/community/wendover-jnr-cubs/> or email [info@buckssportacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@buckssportacademy.co.uk).



# COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

## A quick guide for parents/carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child shouldn't attend school</li><li>• Child should get a test</li><li>• Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test results</li><li>• Inform school immediately about test results</li></ul>	<p>...if a child's test comes back negative and symptom free for 48 hours. The child should not be tested again unless they develop new symptoms*</p> <p>If the test result is positive, then see below.</p>
 ...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child should not attend school</li><li>• Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms)</li><li>• Inform school immediately about test results</li><li>• Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</li><li>• Other household members should not get tested unless they develop symptoms because even if they tested negative, they must still isolate for 14 days</li></ul>	<p>...after 10 days has passed so long as the child is feeling better and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours.</p> <p>They can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.</p>
 ...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child shouldn't attend school</li><li>• Household member with symptoms should get a test</li><li>• Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result</li><li>• Inform school immediately about test results</li></ul>	<p>...if the household member test is negative, and the child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*</p>
 ...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child shouldn't attend school</li><li>• Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</li><li>• No need for the child to get tested unless they develop symptoms</li></ul>	<p>...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they tested negative during the 14 days</p>





...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms\* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) - even if they tested negative during those 14 days
- Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too

...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they tested negative during those 14 days



...we/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine

- Do not take unauthorised leave in term time
- Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advise when booking travel
- Provide information to school as per attendance policy

**Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:**

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Whole household self-isolates for 14 days - even if they test negative during those 14 days

...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days



...we have received advice from a medical/official source that my child must resume shielding

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Contact school as advised by attendance officer/pastoral team
- Child should shield until you are informed that their restrictions are lifted, and shielding is paused again

...when school/other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again



...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Only people with symptoms\* need to get a test
- People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tested positive

...when conditions above as matching your situation, are met

\*Symptoms include a high temperature, a new continuous cough and loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

For further information: [gmhscp.contracttracing@nhs.net](mailto:gmhscp.contracttracing@nhs.net)  
[www.gov.uk/backtoschool](http://www.gov.uk/backtoschool)

#### **New Government Guidance:**

Only six people from multiple households can now meet up for social gathering, both indoors and outdoors. For more information please visit: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)



**Buckinghamshire  
Council**



**Stay safe, protect Bucks**