



The John Hampden School Wendover



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NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

3rd October—Foundation Stage Harvest Festival at 9.30am

4th October—Key Stage One Harvest Festival at 9.30am (Y1 parents invited)

9th October—Open Morning for prospective parents to EYFS

10th October—Red, White & Blue Day –children come to school dressed in red, white and blue

17th October—Curriculum Evening for parents

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

It has been good to see many parents attending the class induction meetings that have taken place over the past fortnight, we hope you found them useful. I do understand that the timing is not convenient for everyone, so class teachers have put details of the information covered under their class section of the school website.

www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk

Mrs Parkinson or I have attended each meeting to welcome parents and to provide some extra information. In addition to this, please note:

Emergency Contact Details—please do remember to inform the school if any of your emergency contact details have changed recently. It is vital that we hold the most up to date information for you.

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 termly payment requests may reflect this.

Save the date:

We are delighted that so many parents are keen to encourage their child's learning at home and we would like to offer some support in helping you to do this. On the school calendar you may have seen that we were planning to hold a Curriculum Evening for parents on Thursday 26th September. This has now been postponed until **Thursday 17th October**. The meeting is intended to give help and guidance to parents in terms of how best to support success at school. You will receive a letter about this in your child's book bag nearer the time.

Thank you for supporting the Dahlicious dress-up event last Friday—the children looked amazing and we managed to raise £202.50 for this good cause. We will put some more photos on the website.

LOOK 4 A BOOK

John Hampden School Wendover are proud to support 'Look For A Book, Wendover'. Children's books have been hidden around Wendover to be found, read, re-hidden and posted on Facebook—Look For A Book Wendover.

We are taking book donations! If you have any children's books you would like to donate, please place them in the 'Look For A Book' box in reception.

Alternatively, if you would like to hide any books yourself, please take a note to go with your book. It will need to be hidden in a waterproof folder.



2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is always a pleasure to welcome pupils, both new and old, and their families to John Hampden. I trust everyone had a great summer and are now ready and raring to get going on your learning adventure.

Starting a new school is a big step and change can be tricky for pupils of any age, especially younger children. The school dedicates a significant amount of time to the transition process (i.e. moving to a new school, or moving up to a new school year), both at the end of the Summer Term and also moving forwards in September. As a result of this, hopefully, by now, everyone is starting to settle into their new classes, getting used to their new routines and making lots of new friends. However, if your child is experiencing on-going worries, please do let your class teacher know. Ensuring and promoting happiness and positivity is one of our key priorities at John Hampden, Wendover.

One of our aims, as Governors, at the start of a new academic year is to improve our contact with parents, carers and friends of the school and raise awareness of the work we do. The governing board can often appear remote from everyday school life and for many parents the role we play is often not obvious. As way of introduction, we are a group of volunteers who help to set the strategic direction, aims and objectives of the school, and evaluate educational performance and the progress of its pupils. We act as a 'critical friend' to challenge and support our Head Teacher, Mrs Barnes, and the other members of the Senior Leadership Team. We also oversee the financial performance of the school, ensuring its money is well spent, and provide support in the performance management of staff.

It's not all budget analysis and progress reports though (thankfully!). We are all assigned a specific subject (or two) and a liaison teacher, from which we base our school visits. We are also encouraged to visit the school for some of the fun stuff, such as Harvest Festival, the Nativity Plays and Christmas Fayre. I hope that by the end of the Autumn Term you feel you have a better understanding of who we are and what we do. However, if you have any questions about the school or the role the Governors, come and say hello at one of the school events. You can also contact Mrs Barnes or myself at the address below.

Finally, I'd also like to highlight the amazing work that the PTA does for the school. Each and every year the Friends of John Hampden run a huge number of marvellous events aimed at pupils, parents and carers. Whilst they are always a lot of fun, these generate an amazing amount of additional funds, that allows the school to purchase a great number of 'wish-list' items that our stretched County budget just cannot afford -such as new playground equipment and the latest smartboards and robots for coding. Next time you are in school look around and judge for yourself how much of a difference these improve the effectiveness of our teaching staff and enhance your child's day-to-day learning environment. All this takes an enormous amount of work, so in addition to taking part in these events, please do consider volunteering an hour or two of your time to help out. 'Many hands' and all that...

That's it from me. I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the Autumn Term.



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 if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

School Times & Behaviour

- This is a reminder that pupils should not arrive in school before 8.45a.m each morning when the classroom doors will be opened. Pupils may arrive at anytime between 8.45 and 8.55a.m and we hope this slightly staggered start will ease congestion at one of the busiest times of the day. We would also remind parents/carers that they should be at school at 3.15pm to collect their child. We obviously understand if there are unforeseen circumstances that mean you may be late on rare occasions and we will always supervise children if they have to wait. However, we would ask you to make alternative childcare arrangements if late collection is a regular occurrence.
- Also please could we ask you to reinforce our clear message to the children that they should not attempt to play/climb on any of the equipment/ramps or railings outside their classrooms as they arrive or leave school. These areas are not supervised by school staff at these times and we obviously don't want children to be hurt or equipment to be damaged.

Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

Milk

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.



School Bank

School Bank runs every Wednesday outside Mrs Barnes' office.

Children can pay in as much or as little as they like, a great way to start learning the importance of saving and watching their pocket money grow.

You can open a Young Savers account in the Wendover branch (in Back Street). You will need a birth certificate or passport along with proof of address and the parent signing the application forms will need their driving licence as this will also cover the signature ID.

Alternatively, you can visit our lucky dip stall (all proceeds go to the school) at the Christmas Fayre on 30th November and sign up there, as long as the signing parent has a driving licence on them, the school will then verify the child's details.

All new Young Savers will receive a Harpenden piggy bank. For more details, contact the branch on 01296 623595.

Water Bottles

We do encourage children in Year One and Year Two to bring a water bottle to school each day. This is in addition to their lunchtime drink. Your child will have easy access to their water bottle throughout the day. Children are reminded to take their water bottles home each night to be refilled. Please do not put squash or juice in these bottles as it is less healthy and can also be very sticky! Foundation Stage children have access to water all day so should not bring a water bottle to school. Thank you

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. We would be grateful if you would refrain from providing nuts 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/ clubs, 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.

Book Bags

Please could children refrain from hanging numerous keyrings/toys from the handles of their book bags. One 'flat' keyring is acceptable for identification purposes.

Wendover Junior School—Year 2 parent tours

Wendover Junior School have arranged the following dates for Year 2 parents to have a tour of the school.

Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th November, 2pm

Presentation by Headteacher, followed by tour of school with our Y6 prefects

Places must be booked via the school office - 01296 696822, admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk

OOSC—Please remember to inform the OOSC provision if your child will not be attending for any reason.

SCHOOL TRAVEL NEWS

We are nearly ready to re-introduce our walk to school initiative called 'WOW'. The charity 'Living Streets' has encouraged many schools across the UK to sign up to this initiative. We have been taking part for a couple of years now and it has been well received by the children and their parents and carers within the school.

Pupils log their daily journeys to school each day on the WOW interactive Travel Tracker in their class and those that walk, scoot or bike to or from school at least three times a week for a month earn a WOW badge.

(From September 2019, your child will have the chance to earn all 11 badges on offer).

I know there are concerns about plastic in the environment, but our badges are made from recycled yogurt pots and can be recycled again. We are looking into having a recycling point at the school so please read future school newsletters to see when this is up and running if you wish to recycle the badges. Our interactive travel tracker also means we are not using hundreds of paper resources either!

Walking to school helps children feel happier and healthier and even do better in class because they arrive fit, refreshed and ready to learn. More families walking means fewer cars on the road during the school run, helping to reduce congestion and pollution around the campus road and surrounding streets.

If you live too far away or don't have time to walk the whole way to school, you can Park and Stride and it still counts as an active journey. Park at least ten minutes away from the school and walk the rest of the way, or park at a friend's house and walk the rest of the way.

The WOW travel tracker will be up and running from Monday 23rd September.

We would love you to join us, thousands of schools and around one million pupils enjoying the benefits of walking to school across the UK.

For more information about WOW or Living Streets, please visit: www.livingstreets.org.uk/walktoschool.

Let's swap those school runs for school walks.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers again, not to use the staff car park, either to park or to enter or exit the school. This also applies to the Breakfast and After School club families.

As part of our Health and Safety education we teach the children that this is not somewhere they should be walking so please respect this request and keep your children safe by using the paths to enter and exit the school premises at all times.

Thank you for your co-operation.

A reminder to all children that bike and scoot to school

For safety reasons please do not ride your scooter or bike on any of the school paths. Once you reach the school gate get off your bike or scooter and wheel it to the parking area. At the end of the day please also walk your bike or scooter to the gate before you start to ride. Thank you.

**Heather Beattie
School Travel Co-ordinator**

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 we currently have 292 pupils on roll.

Being an infant school, our pupils are fortunate to have the opportunity to take on roles of responsibility earlier than in some combined schools. This year we have chosen to focus on providing as many opportunities as possible for our oldest pupils to nurture and support the younger children in the school. This started on the very first day of term when we selected a number of Year Two pupils to support the Foundation Stage pupils as they stayed for lunch at school for the first time.

They were encouraged to offer their assistance in the dining hall, supporting the Foundation Stage classes in different ways. These included; accompanying them back to their cloakroom to fetch coats, putting lunchboxes away, reminding them of where to find the toilets and directing them to the playground. They also offered a helping hand to those in search of a friend.

They did a marvellous job and we are very proud of the school values they demonstrated while performing this role.

This is what the Year Two lunchtime monitors said;

Firecrests class said:-

"I enjoyed seeing some of my sister's friends and being kind and helpful"

"I was helpful because I helped Foundation Stage when they were lost"

"I was helpful as I helped someone when they tripped over"

"It was fun helping the Foundation Stage children because it brought back lovely memories of FS"

Red Kites class said:-

"I enjoyed helping the younger children and I got to make new friends too" - Kingsley

"I was helpful because I helped the children to put their lunch boxes away and showed them the way to the playground" - Leo

"It was fun helping the Foundation Stage children because it made me feel a bit older and responsible to do this job" - Miley

Hérons class said:-

"I enjoyed helping because some of the children I knew so it was nice to help" - Poppy W

"I was helpful because I helped with coat zips and where to put lunch boxes" - Poppy W

It was fun helping the Foundation Stage children because they were well behaved and listened to me" - Cole

The lunchtime supervisors were also pleased with their efforts and commented;

"They have gone above and beyond in their role."

"Year Two helpers have been exceptional."

All staff have been impressed with their willingness to help others, they have demonstrated a mature and caring attitude towards their peers. This clearly reflects our ethos as a school; valuing the culture of kindness and mutual respect.

5. CURRICULUM

This year, as a result of feedback from the children and staff, we are continuing with our weekly Merit Assembly followed by Golden Time. The 'Scroll of Honour' will, once again, provide 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'. This term each teacher has planned a different exciting activity, and during the term each class will rotate through the different activities. Activities include: visiting the Octagon, art and craft activities, multi-media, construction and music. Children who have lost some minutes of their Golden Time will spend this time with Mrs Barnes. We hope that these 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 'transition timetable' for 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.

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 the upcoming harvest celebrations.

Foundation Stage children will be celebrating Harvest Festival on **Thursday 3rd October at 9.30am** and their parents are welcome to attend. A Harvest Festival for **Year One and Year Two** children will be held at 9.30am on **Friday 4th October**. Year One parents are warmly invited to attend. Year Two parents will be invited to share our May Day celebrations later in the year.

As usual we are asking the children to provide food/flower donations which are used to form a beautiful backdrop to the harvest celebrations. We welcome any flowers, fruit, vegetables or tinned goods

Donations should be taken to the classroom on the morning of October 3rd or 4th and will be displayed in the hall. The donations are then sent to 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

Join the Friends of John Hampden School...

Welcome to the Friends of John Hampden (FJH), the school's dedicated Parent/Teacher Association (PTA).

We're a group of parents who work alongside the teachers to raise funds for the school and help to develop the school community through socials, events and communication. We would love to meet new parents who would like to find out more about how they can get involved to support the PTA (you can do as little or as much as you like!)

Those of you who came to the meeting last week will have seen the summary of items purchased in 2018/19 for the school using the money we raised, I have included a summary below:

- Rocketfund Technology
- Books for Christmas Parties
- Brainwaves Badges
- Laptops & Stationery
- Laminator
- Interactive White Board
- Playground Refurbishment
- Sheds
- Maths Supplies
- Teaching Materials

We are hugely grateful to everyone for enabling these purchases!

If you would like to contact the Friends of John Hampden School, please email the Chair, Sophie Hughes, jhsvolunteers@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:

Spooky Fun, Friday 25th October after school



Keep your eyes peeled for details of our end of term halloween fun....more details to follow.

Quiz night & Fish & Chip Supper, November TBC



We are hoping to host the ever popular 'Quiz & Chips' night in early November. Details to follow in book bags before half term but do start pulling together your team of winners/losers and brainstorming the all important team name!

Christmas Fayre, Saturday 30th November 12-3pm



Is it too early to mention the 'C' word?? The planning for this festive bonanza is already underway. Do make a note in your diaries and if you are interested in joining the planning team, booking a retail stall or would just like to know a bit more about how our events work please do get in touch.

Easyfundraising:

Are you signed up to Easyfundraising? This is a fantastic way to raise money for the school without costing you a penny. Look out for an email with further details. So far we have raised a fantastic **£3,480** from Easyfundraising cashback!

Click here to sign up and download the app <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fjhwendover/>

Vale Lottery:

FJH has joined Vale Lottery as an official good cause. Lottery tickets can now be bought with HALF of the ticket price going to FJH. Each ticket costs just £1. Every ticket has a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize every week, ranging from £25-£25,000.

Click here to buy your tickets www.valelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-john-hampden-school

Facebook JHS Parents Page:



Did you know there is a Facebook page called 'JHS Parents' when you can find loads of useful information, reminders or ask questions to other parents? Its well worth joining to keep up to date with what's going on.

Friends of John Hampden School Event Calendar:

Christmas Cards – Designs to come home before half term

Halloween Spooky Fun – Friday 25th October after school

Quiz Night – Early November TBC

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 30th November 12-3pm

Class Christmas Parties – Weds 18th December (in school)

Children's New Year Disco – Friday 24th January 2020

7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

As the new academic year begins we are embarking on actions linked to our new School Development Plan 2019-2020 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, feedback from other outside agencies, data analysis, Government policy etc.

In the next newsletters I will share a summary of the findings from the annual parent survey as well as 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 Foundation Stage outside learning area was tidied and new storage units were installed
- A new fence was put up to complete the playground improvements
- The school office was re-organised to provide additional working space for staff
- The Group Room was re-organised to allow for additional space for OOSC
- Scaffolding was put in place to allow contractors to re-cover the flat roofs above the Year 2 classrooms
- Deep cleaning took place
- The school garden was fully established and maintained by a team of committed waterers!
- Two skips were filled!

In the coming weeks:

- The outside learning space for the Year One classes will be completed with the installation of new equipment funded by the FJH.
- Scaffolding will be erected to allow for the flat roofs above the office buildings to be replaced
- We will reach the end of the defects period for the large building project so all outstanding issues will be addressed
- Repair work to the Adventure Trail will be completed

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Out of School Care Playworker vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Playworker at our Breakfast Club from 7.30 am to 8.45 am and at our After School Club from 3.00 pm to 6.15 pm term time only.

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
(currently £15,870 per annum pro rata)

If you are interested in this post and would like more information, please call the John Hampden School office on 01296 622629 or email office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk or contact the OOSC on 07506 195699 or email oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk

8. MISCELLANEOUS



Show your true colours for your Hospice!

COLOUR RUSH

Florence Nightingale
HOSPICE CHARITY

Sunday 7th October
At Green Park, Aston Clinton HP22 5NE

5k
run or walk
+ Mini-Rush
for little ones.

Find out more at fnhospice.org.uk/colour-rush
Charity No. 1119499

COLOUR RUSH

Perform workshops

Popular children's drama and dance school is offering a Free Trial Session and a special introductory discount of £40 for members of this school if you sign up by October half term.

Parents should quote NEWS30/10/18 when they book their free trial session by going to www.perform.org.uk or calling 020 7255 9120.

Your nearest class is at The Wendover Memorial Hall

Tuesdays - 4pm suitable for children aged 4-7
and 5pm is for suitable for children aged 7-12

Our website is www.perform.org.uk and we'd love to see some of your children at our classes soon.

SUPPORT 4 PARENTS

Have you ever thought ...
If only I knew then
What I know now...?

Now you can help in a really practical way.

We're looking for volunteers to work in a structured way with families in your area who are struggling to parent children under 8.

If you are interested in working with families and have experience in looking after children, you can make a difference.

If you can spare about 3 hours a week, we'll train you in how to pass on your precious skills and knowledge and we'll support you in doing a really worthwhile job.



Want to know more?

- Telephone Barnardo's Support 4 Parents for an informal chat on (07715) 428 690
- Email: support4parents@barnardos.org.uk
- Or see the Barnardo's website www.barnardos.org.uk
- Barnardo's 2017 | Barnardo's is a charity (216250 SC007605) and a company limited by guarantee (61625 England). Registered office: Tanners Lane, Barking, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG | VAT number 507477337

www.barnardos.org.uk



Barnardo's



Join us as we go on adventures and learn yoga through games, books, activities and playful movement. They will be energetic and engaging classes where we will improve strength, flexibility and coordination, while learning about our breathing and our bodies. Creating awareness, sneaking in mindfulness techniques and related arts & crafts, sharing plenty of laughter and always ending with a good bit of time for relaxation.

WHEN : Saturdays, 10.30am-11.30am (term time only)

WHERE : The BML Fitness Studio, Wendover, HP22 6BN

HOW MUCH : £8, Block booking is essential as places are limited. First class is £ 5.

CONTACT: Irina Pisani

07789 548 526, irinaboy35@gmail.com, fb.me/HappyYogaIrina





Premier Chilterns

Sports & Dance Coach Required

Aylesbury & High Wycombe Area

Competitive rates of pay (salary dependant on experience/qualification)

Part Time/ Full Time contract

This job is perfect if you want to inspire and empower children to lead a healthy and physically active lifestyle. You will be responsible for planning and delivering exciting PE lessons and Extra-Curricular (before, during and after school) clubs to a range of children aged 4-11 during term time, as well as delivering fun and engaging sessions on holiday courses during school holidays.

Successful candidates will be joining a friendly and welcoming team of staff dedicated to delivering high quality physical sessions. You will receive training with our Train with Premier Programme to enhance your skills used within your job and will be given the opportunity to grow with a fantastic career path in sports education.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate the following:

Essential:

Good knowledge of sports coaching/teaching.

Competency to perform at consistently high standards in a school environment.

Able to set up & deliver high quality sports coaching sessions and activities to children and young people.

Good communicator and Team Player.

Passionate about working with children.

Ability to create and develop strong working relationships with children, teachers and parents.

Desirable:

Child protection/Safeguarding certificate (less than 12 months old).

A recognised NGB level 2 coaching certificate.

First Aid certificate (less than 2 years old).

DBS certification preferred but not mandatory.

Experience working with primary school aged children in a school setting.

Knowledge of the school PE national curriculum.

Full UK Driving Licence.

Please send your CV to Martyn, mhutt@premier-education.com

Premier, Wendover, Buckinghamshire, HP22 6HF

01296 620 097 - mhutt@premier-education.com - www.premier-education.com



