



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE:	UPCOMING EVENTS:	
Message from Mrs. Barnes 1		
Governor Section 2	18.5.19 FJH May Fayre 12–3 pm	3.6.19 INSET DAY
Important Messages 3	20.5.19 Assessment week	4.6.19 School opens
Curriculum 4	24.5.19 School closes for half term	4.6.19 World week
Pupil's Section 5		7.6.19 FJH fruity Fridays start
Friends of John Hampden 6		10.6.19 World week
School Improvement 7		10.6.19 FJH cake sale
Miscellaneous 8		

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

During the past two weeks pupils at John Hampden have had the chance to show off their skills — this opportunity proved to be very successful and enjoyable.

On 1st May our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils performed to a large audience as part of our traditional May Day Celebrations. Without exception the children performed beautifully and even the grand finale, a Maypole dance by the teachers and teaching assistants, went to plan! You can see more photographs and videos of the event on the school website in the news section. Unfortunately Mr Rory Duff, Town Crier for Bidford-on-Avon, who traditionally joins us for this celebration was unwell. We wish him well and hope that he will be back with us next year.

The children in the Year 1 classes were responsible for choosing Poppy (Squirrels) as our May Queen. Florence (Hedgehogs) and Amelie (Badgers) were her attendants. Our May Queen was crowned by Betsy and Miley (Red Kites & Herons), the May Queen attendants from last year, and Leo (Heron) was our Lucky Sweep. A great team of Year 2 children kept the John Hampden Morris Dancing tradition alive.



We are not sure who the culprits are, but in the last couple of months two members of staff at John Hampden have had damage caused to their cars by stones being thrown from the area behind the Wendover Junior School waiting shelter/bike storage area. The stones have been thrown with some force onto the cars causing significant damage. If you are waiting for older siblings please will you ensure your children do not stray towards this area and that they are not throwing things down onto the John Hampden car park. Thank you

Please look out for a number of questionnaires/ surveys over the next few weeks. We will be asking for your opinion about the current voluntary contributions scheme and investigating the feasibility of offering a holiday club for the summer break. We will also be sending home the annual questionnaire before too long to gauge your views about all aspects of John Hampden. We hope as many people as possible will give their views so we receive a representative spread of opinion.

I look forward to seeing you at the Friends of John Hampden May Fayre on Saturday 18th May—let's hope the weather is kind to us!

Thank you for your continued support.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

If you are a regular reader of the Governor Section of the John Hampden Newsletter you could be forgiven for thinking that the job is almost solely concerned with rules, regulations and statistics.

Although some of the work is concerned with these essential if un-glamorous areas of education we also get the privilege of seeing JH pupils not just in Nativity plays or at sports days but also in their everyday school activities which is always fascinating.

Occasionally outside providers come into School, as they do for Health and Safety fortnight, which adds another dimension to the pupils' education but towards the end of last Term I sat in on something which was a completely new departure for our Year One children. The History Co-ordinator Mrs Sarah McNally had wanted to re-introduce 'Toys' as a discrete History topic for some time as this would be an appealing and relevant way into History as an academic discipline. Because of the positive experience of other schools, an external provider came to JH for two days to give the children an insight into the history of toys as well as lots of cross-curricular and hands on experience.

On the first day the children had learnt the history of toys and how some had even been found in the tombs of ancient Egypt. This was very much a hands-on experience and they got to play with some genuinely old toys as well as faithful facsimiles.

When I arrived, the children were busy making and colouring their own copies of Victorian action toys. Rather to my surprise the children were also learning how to use drills and hammers to assemble them. Every child was interested and very focused on these tasks. Gravity and balance were also explained and demonstrated with some of the toys. Despite the air of suppressed excitement as each child's toy slowly neared completion their behaviour was exemplary, there were even cries of disappointment when it was break time.

Eventually every toy was finished, played with, explained to neighbours and then exchanged. Each child treated both their own and their friend's toy with respect. Some of the toys like the climbing monkey, figures striking an anvil and pecking chickens must date back several hundred years and use the most basic materials, and perhaps it was partly the clarity of how they worked which appealed to the children so much.

In these difficult times, the only way JH can fund such an expensive experience for our pupils is through your voluntary contributions. If you wonder if these are really worthwhile, I suggest you ask any Year One pupil, or their parents, that question.



Elna Joseph

Co-opted Governor

The Governing Board is 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 them 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

SUN PROTECTION

Hopefully warmer weather is just around the corner! In the event, we are keen to see children wearing named sunhats. We have a stock of John Hampden caps available from the school office. Parents are reminded that they should apply their child's long lasting sun cream before school but, if there are special cases where the cream needs to be applied more frequently, parents should contact the class teacher to make suitable arrangements. We are fortunate to have many shady areas and we try to minimise the amount of time children are exposed to the sun.

For health and safety reasons, children should always come to school wearing socks.

WATER BOTTLES

We encourage our pupils to bring a water bottle into school which can be stored on their table and accessed when necessary. Bottles must only contain water—no juice or squash as this can become very sticky and is attractive to ants!

LOST PROPERTY

Since the Easter break our lost property bins are already overflowing with un-named jumpers and cardigans as well as a range of other items of clothing that we are unable to return to their rightful owner. Please take time to name your child's clothes even if you just use a biro to write their name on the label.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR TRIPS

Just to remind you that the **deadline for payment** for the Year 1 trip to Tring Museum on 18th June and the Year 2 trip to Collings Hanger Farm on 19th & 20th June is **Friday 24th May**. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions by **24th May** we will have no option but to cancel these trips. Please make payment via Parent Pay. If you have already paid via Parent Pay—thank you.

SPARE PLATES

We have a small cupboard full of plates (which were probably used for school dinners over 30 years ago!!). We need to clear the cupboard so if you would like any spare china we are happy to offer it to anyone who expresses an interest in it via the school office. Plates are yellow or white and measure from 20cm—23cm in diameter.



END OF DAY PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

Just a reminder to please inform us by putting a note in your child's spotty book if they are going home with someone else after school. We are spending a lot of time at the moment checking pick-up arrangements for the end of the school day. Thank you.

4. CURRICULUM

The Topic Guides for the new themes this half term have been put on the school website under the Classes Section. These are designed to give you an insight into what your children will be learning this half term and they also include some useful suggestions of how to support learning at home. This half-term the topics are:

Foundation Stage—'Stories from Around the World'

Year 1— 'Living & Growing'

Year 2 — 'In an English Country Garden'

GROWTH MINDSETS



The ethos of 'Loving to Learn' has been strong at John Hampden for many years and it was established following an Action Research project about metacognition completed by Mrs Barnes. Over the years we have designed our curriculum to include opportunities for children to learn to question (P4C) and to provide security for children to make mistakes safely and learn from them. Research that underpins this approach is based on the work of Dr. Carol Dweck. Over 30 years ago, she and her colleagues became interested in pupils' attitudes about failure. They noticed that some pupils rebounded while other pupils seemed devastated by even the smallest setbacks. After studying the behaviour of thousands of children, Dr. Dweck coined the terms fixed mindset and growth mindset to describe the underlying beliefs people have about learning and intelligence. When pupils believe they can get smarter, they understand that effort makes them stronger. Therefore they put in extra time and effort, and that leads to higher achievement. At John Hampden, we are constantly telling the children that effort leads to success and we have worked hard to provide a consistent approach to teaching about 'Growth Mindsets' across the school. Mrs King is leading the work and she has co-ordinated staff training which has led us to the point where we have introduced a consistent reference point in each classroom linked to the message that we reinforce regularly. You will be able to see a display linked to this as you enter the school.



5. PUPIL'S SECTION

SCHOOL TRAVEL



Walk to school Week Challenge – 20th May – 24th May 2019

I am organising a five day walking challenge for the week of the 20th May – 24th May. Your child will receive a challenge pack provided by the charity 'Living Streets' to complete each day. There are many fun activities to do each day and prizes and stickers to be won. Remember, if you have to drive to or from school perhaps you could challenge yourselves to park away from the school campus and walk part of the way (Park and Stride) or park at a friend's house and walk from there. Your child can still also scoot or cycle to take part in the challenge.

At the end of the week please hand the challenge sheet to the class teacher, with your child's name and class clearly written on it, to have the chance of winning a prize (one prize being a cuddly Strider, our WOW mascot). The children will also receive a sticker for every day of the challenge they manage to complete.

Thank you all for your continued support for our safer routes to school initiatives.

Year 2 Cycle Training

It is pleasing to report that the Y2 cycle training is well under way again this summer term. For many years now a qualified cycle instructor, Mr Chris German, has come into school to teach the children a basic understanding of how to ride a bicycle safely in an off road situation. The training takes place after school and is based on developing good cycle control skills and cycle safety awareness. I have the pleasure of assisting Mr German each week and I am so proud of the children and the development they make over the three week course. I am thrilled to see the children apply our Golden Rules and school values to their training. The children certainly persevere with the skills taught and show excellent listening skills, making the most of the hour long session.

Some of the skills taught include a bike safety check, ABC – air, brakes and chain, before they start to ride their bikes, emergency stops, signalling, and many more real life situations. The sessions always end in a bike race, with the children riding their bikes as slowly as possible, showing control and balancing skills, the last person over the line is the winner!! This is very popular and the improvement each week is a pleasure to see.

There are still a few more places for our June sessions, please contact Mrs Van der Lowen in the office for details if you are interested.



6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

As we approach the end of term, many of the FJH team will be leaving as their children move to Juniors. We would love to meet new parents who would like to find out more about how they can get involved (you can do as little or as much as you like!)

The next meeting is on Wednesday 5th June @ 8pm at The Shoulder of Mutton, come along for a glass of wine and a chat about what's going on.

Please drop an email to lauracroker1981@hotmail.co.uk if you can make it.



May Fayre, Saturday 18th May 12-3pm

We have a selection of great entertainment and stalls lined up for the afternoon, including crafts, face painting, Diddy Ponies – come and groom and play with the tiny ponies, raffle, plant sale, tombola, refreshments and beer tent! The May Pole dance demonstration will be done by Years 1 and 2 and ‘Mr Marvel’ will be keeping us entertained throughout most of the afternoon.

Things to remember:

Volunteers Can you help on a stall or setting up the fayre? With enough support we can run a rota of 45 minute slots so you still have loads of time to enjoy the fayre. It's a really fun atmosphere and the kids love ‘helping’! If you are able to help please return the slip on the bottom of the May Fayre letter or contact Emma Child echild@buckscollegigroup.ac.uk – thank you!

Raffle Tickets The raffles are one of our biggest fundraisers and we have some AMAZING prizes! Tickets came home in book bags on Friday, if you need more please ask the office and they will be happy to oblige.

Bring a Bottle and Jam Jar Tombola Mufti Day There will be a mufti day on Friday 17th May, the children are invited to come to school in non-uniform and in return donate a bottle for the bottle tombola and a jam jar. This can be anything from a bottle of fizz to a bottle of ketchup! Your children will love decorating a jam jar and filling it with small, wrapped sweets (no nuts please) and toys. The most popular stall at every event!

Plant Stall Any donations of plants and seedlings are grateful received, please drop off next to the office by Friday 10th May.

Cakes and Bakes The refreshments stall is hugely popular, as well as hot food we sell cakes and savoury bakes, if you would like to donate (homemade or shop bought!) please drop off next to the office on Friday 17th May or before 11am on Saturday 18th May.

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

Last year's sale of pre-loved uniform was very popular – we will be having a stall at the May Fayre – plenty of stock will be available at very low cost! If you have any old uniform in great condition please contact Lula on lulagkirby@hotmail.com – please note NO socks, tights or hair ties!

Fruity Friday Volunteers

Every Friday for the last half term we sell ice lollies (Delmonte and Innocent Smoothie) after school (and for Crickets at 12pm).

Could you make some lollies? It's really easy – we provide lolly sticks and bags, you just need to buy the juice or smoothie (we reimburse you for this), pop them in a mould and freeze. They can then be moved in their bags to the school freezer. We would also love some volunteers for running the stall each Friday (even if you can just do one week).

If you could help with either of the above please contact Emma D at thedutches@live.co.uk.



Easyfundraising

So far we have raised a fantastic **£3,194.49** from Easyfundraising cashback!! It takes two minutes and can really make a difference, it's so simple and costs you nothing!

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



FJH Calendar - Save the Date

May Fayre, Saturday 18th May 12-3pm

Fruity Friday Fridays, every Friday after school from Friday 7th June

Cake Sale, Monday 10th June

Summer BBQ, Friday 5th July

End of Term Picnic, Wednesday 24th July

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	GOAL B: TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT
<p>Ensuring we get the best value for money is certainly on our minds as we look to see how we can make the necessary savings required to allow us to continue to provide a high quality education for the pupils at our school. The County Council's decision not to move us to four form entry from September 2019 means that the additional funding, which extra pupils would bring, is no longer available to us in the immediate future. To this end the Governors have looked closely at the budget situation and we are having regular visits from the Finance Team at Bucks County Council to try to gain the best advice as to how to move forwards. We hope to provide you with a further update regarding how your fundraising is being used in the near future. Please note that the recently completed building project is fully funded by Bucks County Council. It is cost neutral to the school budget.</p> 	<p>At this time of the year our thoughts turn to the Phonics check which takes place in June. This check of our Year 1 pupils is designed to measure the success of the phonics teaching in the school. Under the expert leadership of Mrs Parkinson we have seen the standard improve each year and we are keen that this should continue. The daily teaching of phonics can be helpfully reinforced at home and we are pleased that so many parents are taking the time to do this with their children.</p> <p>To this end we have offered phonics meetings for parents and we also provide ideas about how to help and support the development of phonics at home through the topic guides and through additional activities to complete at home, if necessary.</p> 
GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE	GOAL D: PUPIL OUTCOMES
<p>The Pupil's Section in the last newsletter provides evidence that we are working hard to make sure we are engaging pupils in the school improvement cycle and taking actions as a result of their feedback. Since returning from the Easter break week we have introduced a range of activities for the children to access at lunchtimes as a direct result of the School Council feedback. It has been lovely to watch groups of children collaborating successfully in the 'Game of the Week' which has given them the opportunity to play something different and new. Fundraising has also allowed us to purchase some giant Jenga and a large Connect 4 game. Ensuring children are happy and occupied helps us to continue to improve personal development, behaviour and welfare. Staff well-being is also monitored annually and in the next few weeks the whole staff will be invited to complete a well-being survey. The results of this survey are analysed and compared to findings from previous years to help to maintain a happy and motivated workforce.</p> 	<p>Now is the time when many of the statutory assessments have started. Year 2 pupils will be completing Reading, Maths and Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation tests by the end of this half term. Last week at the staff meeting, teachers were asked to look carefully at pupil progress data for their classes and they also looked across the year groups to see the standards that children are attaining as they progress through the school. Writing assessment provides an interesting challenge for us and we are pleased to note significant progress in the way children are making use of writing success criteria. It is clear to see how strong teaching in Foundation Stage and Year 1 leads to the pleasing progress so many children are making as they near the end of their time in Year 2.</p> 

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Cleaning Operatives Vacancies

We have vacancies for cleaning operatives to join the team at John Hampden School. The hours of work are from 3.00—7.00 pm.

Training in all aspects of the role will be given, so you do not need to have any previous experience, just a willingness to learn and achieve the high standards that we like to present at the school.

The rate of pay is £9.00 per hour, this is paid monthly direct to your bank account. You must have the right to work in the UK and we will also need to complete an enhanced DBS check.

Please contact our local manager, Doug Bain on 07971 224059 for further details.

Some school holiday work may be required.

Out of School Care Playworker vacancy

We have a vacancy from September 2019 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) and the closing date for applications is Friday 24th May 2019.

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

Outside Learning Area

Year One are currently developing the outside learning area. We are trying to collect resources to support the children's learning. We are hoping that you may have items that you could donate to us. We need:-

Shells, Pebbles and smooth stones, Fir cones, Driftwood, Plastic pots and tubs such as margarine containers, yoghurt pots and ice cream tubs, Measuring jugs, Funnels, Ladles, Pegs (plastic or wooden), Small fishing nets, Buckets, Ball pit balls, Ping pong balls and buttons.

Any donations can be handed into the office or directly to one of the Year 1 Team.

Thank you

SUNDAY
9TH JUNE 2019

WENDOVER MULTI-TERRAIN RUN

5K & 10K RUN



SUNDAY, 9TH JUNE 2019 - 9.30 START (REGISTRATION 8.30)
WENDOVER MULTI-TERRAIN RUN 5K & 10K RUN INTO WENDOVER WOODS
STARTING & FINISHING AT THE JOHN COLET SCHOOL.

REGISTRATION - £12 UNDER 18 YEARS - £5 - (UNDER 12'S ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM: [HTTP://BUYTICKETS.AT/JOHNCOLETSCHOOLPTA/229958](http://buytickets.at/johncoletschoolpta/229958)



Forestry Commission
England

ORGANISED BY JOHN COLET SCHOOL PTA. ALL THE PROCEEDS GO TO THE JOHN COLET PTA. REGISTERED CHARITY 1180583



www.qpc.org

May Maker's Fair 2019

**Saturday 11 May,
10am – 4pm**

Celebrating the art and craft of Queens Park, this special spring event features a wide selection of handmade items to view and buy, plus hot and cold food (including BBQ and Pimms), children's craft activities, demonstrations and free parking throughout the day.

**Entry: £2.00 / £1.00 concessions
& members (U14s go free)**

Children' Activities: £2.00

*All proceeds contribute to the Centre's
fundraising campaign.*



Follow us



For more info: www.qpc.org – 01296 424 332

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