



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## NEWSLETTER

### MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

#### Reflection

Well, at the end of the first full week of the roll out of our revised remote learning offer I think it is worth taking a few minutes to reflect on where we are now. In the most challenging of circumstances I have been absolutely delighted with the smooth way in which my colleagues have adapted to this new routine of schooling. During the week, we are catering for approximately 38% of the school population in school, plus every child from the Early Years Class who wishes to attend. Staff are also working incredibly hard to upload daily plans and prepare the associated resources and videos to the website for all those who are able to learn from home. I am, as always, so proud of the commitment and dedication shown by all the adults in the school—we have all learnt so much about recording and uploading in the last couple of weeks. Please forgive any small errors—we are adopting a Growth Mindset in that we are developing resilience, persevering and learning from our mistakes!

I hope you have recognised that, once you have access to our website, you are able to see a daily plan followed by a series of videos that link to the plan, plus any necessary resources. The plan gives you an indication of the activities for the day, what you need to complete them and an idea of how long each should last so you can work flexibly and in whichever order you decide.

To ensure children are not disadvantaged during this lockdown period it is vital that all children are accessing the remote learning every week day. So, even if they are attending school for certain days each week, they still need to complete the activities on the days they are at home. Learning at school mirrors the learning that is being offered for home, so children may miss parts of the learning sequence if they do not participate every day. We have delivered the exercise books and resources needed to complete the activities and we would ask that these are looked after and returned to school when the time is right.

**At home, or attending school, if your child is unwell we still need you to contact the school and let us know, especially if there is a positive Covid test result as we are required to submit a daily attendance return to the Department for Education.**

This week, each class teacher has sent an email requesting a response from all families about how you are coping with the remote learning offer. We are here to help but we really need to know, directly from you, how it is going for your child. Our aim with remote learning was to provide something which gives structure and teaching input, but also something with the flexibility to work around family life, where you may be trying to work or other siblings may be attempting to complete learning at home. The plan and videos can be accessed on any Smart device so there is no requirement for a computer. Once we have received your response we will be able to target our support to best meet your needs. This situation is certainly going to last until February half-term but we should all be prepared for it to go on longer, so we all have a vested interest in making sure no child is disadvantaged during these challenging times.

We do recognise that school is not just about the academic side of things. School also provides the benefit of social education and I know that some children will really be missing contact with teachers, and seeing their friends and mixing with them regularly. Obviously, it is not the right time to meet with others in person but rest assured we are planning some opportunities for children to engage virtually with their teacher and some of their peers. I am sure you understand that this needs to be planned carefully and we are not quite ready to roll it out yet. There is absolutely no obligation for children to participate in any such virtual meeting if you would prefer them not to and any virtual meeting would have a private link, a scheduled time and a defined purpose.

Until then, please use the email addresses we have provided to contact the class teacher, myself or Mrs Parkinson, if you need to.

**GOOD LUCK EVERYONE AND THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN LEARNING**

## 2. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

### **DEADLINE FRIDAY 15th JANUARY 2021**

#### MOVING UP TO JUNIOR SCHOOL OR STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2021

**Parents/Carers of Year 2 children** at John Hampden must apply for a Junior School place for their child. The Junior School online application service opened at 11am on 2nd November 2020 and the deadline for online applications is 3pm on 15th January 2021.

#### **Parents/Carers children in Crickets Class**

You have a child who is eligible to start statutory schooling in September 2021. You must make an application for a Primary School place so they can join Foundation Stage at John Hampden. The Primary School online application service opened at 11am on 2nd November 2020 and the deadline for online applications is 3pm on 15th January 2021. Please note that a place in the Early Years Class at John Hampden does not guarantee you a place in the school—an online application must still be made. Parents should use the following website to make their application:

<https://services.buckscc.gov.uk/school-admissions>

#### STARTING IN THE NURSERY CLASS AT JHSW IN SEPTEMBER 2021

If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 they are eligible for a place in our wonderful Nursery Class from September 2021. To register your interest please download an application form from the school website or email or phone the school office.