



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

It is hard to believe that the Spring Term has almost ended—Christmas seems a long time ago and there are very clear signs that Spring is definitely here. The term has been quite a busy one and we have enjoyed numerous memorable learning opportunities.

Last Saturday we held an Open Morning in our Nursery Class and invited prospective new children and their parents to come and look around. It was lovely that so many people were able to join us and we are hopeful of filling all twenty six places in the class for September 2019. We will be issuing places in April so if you do know of anyone who is looking for high quality, Early Years education in a well resourced, nurturing environment do remind them that they need to contact us as soon as possible. Eligible children will be born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016.

The improving weather at the moment reminds us that summer is just around the corner and we will be continuing with our tradition of welcoming the season by celebrating May Day. On **Wednesday 1st May at 9.30am** we are holding our annual May Day celebration for children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2. As space in the hall is limited we only invite parents of children in Year 2 to watch because Year 1 parents were invited to the Harvest Assembly in the Autumn Term - we try to make it fair! Early Years and Foundation Stage parents—your time will come.

As usual we would ask that Year 2 parents try to make alternative arrangements for younger siblings as they often find it difficult to sit quietly through a performance lasting just over one hour. If you do have to bring a younger child please would you ensure they sit on your lap and if they do start to make a distracting noise take them out of the hall until they become quieter.

On the day, as we are celebrating the fact that summer is approaching, we are inviting all the **girls** in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 to come to school wearing **something summery** which is appropriate to dance in. They will not need to bring their school uniform as they will wear their summer outfit all day. **Boys** in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 should come to school looking smart in **shorts or trousers and a shirt/top**.

Our Year 1 children are responsible for choosing the May Queen and her attendants and we will also have a child dressed as the Lucky Sweep. We will put lots of the photos we take on the school website so you can share the event even if you are not able to attend in person.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a very peaceful and relaxing Easter break and I look forward to seeing you again on Wednesday 24th April.



2. GOVERNOR SECTION

I'd like to start by saying how delighted I was to attend the Open Morning at the **Early Years Class** last Saturday morning (and I really was!), but in truth it was my three-year-old daughter who, of the two of us, was by far and away the happiest to be there!

The Early Years Class has outstanding facilities at its disposal, both inside their classroom and outdoors, and a superb staff team dedicated to this class.

Building on the success of previous years, which have traditionally started mid-way through the school year, **from this autumn the Early Years Class will start in September**. (Eligible children will be born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016.) I know that the school is still looking for parents to express interest in places for their children for the September start (details below) - if that's you, or people you know, then get in touch soon!

The great thing about the class is that the days can work to suit your family's needs. There are five compulsory morning sessions ([8.45 – 11.45am](#), universally funded), and optional afternoon sessions (up to 30 hours of flexible free entitlement). Additionally, the Breakfast Club runs [from 7.45am](#), and After School Club [until 6.00pm](#) (Childcare Vouchers are accepted here), and there's a chargeable lunch club too.

My son is now in Year 1 at the school, but started his time at John Hampden in the Early Years *Cricket*s class, before making a very happy transition to his Reception class the year after. I know he recommends this start to school life! We saw wonderful development in him from the time he joined.

As I wrote earlier, my daughter was extremely interested in all that the classroom and outside space had to offer – that outside space isn't just for play, but provides an outstanding environment for physical development, which is so important in supporting children's academic development too. But let's give her the last word – naturally, we had all the usual refusals to leave when it was time to go, but her final statement on the morning was: "Can I come here?!"

David Smith
Parent Governor



Notes:

Eligible children will be born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 and admission criteria apply.

For further information or to **arrange a visit** please contact the school office [01296 622629](tel:01296622629), email office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk or go to the website: www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk.

A place in the Early Years Class does not guarantee a place in the Reception Classes at the school.

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

COMIC RELIEF

Many thanks for allowing your children to participate in this fund raising event. We managed to raise £277 for this worthy cause and it was great to see the children looking so 'red' in assembly.

'SMART' WATCHES

A few children have started to come to school wearing watches which have the capacity to take photographs or have games played on them. Please could we ask, in line with our mobile device policy, that pupils refrain from bringing into school anything which has these functions.

GOODBYE TO MRS REDHOUSE

It is with sadness that we will be saying goodbye to one of our part time teaching assistants. Mrs Redhouse has secured a new professional role and will leave us at the beginning of May. We thank her for all her hard work. Hedgehogs class will continue to have support from Mrs Morrall but she will be joined by Mrs Morgan for the rest of the academic year.

P.E KITS

During the Easter Holiday we would be grateful if you would check that your child has a complete P.E. kit including tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt for use outside when necessary. Your child also needs to have a correctly fitting pair of P.E. shoes (preferably not laces unless they can tie them themselves!) **All kit must be named.** Children with long hair should have it tied back and anyone with earrings should have them removed at home or be provided with tape to cover them during P.E. sessions.

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!

DRINKS IN PACKED LUNCHES

If you are providing your child with a packed lunch please will you ensure you provide a drink too. We are noticing a number of children whose lunch does not include a drink and it is important that children remain hydrated throughout the day.

BIKES & SCOOTERS

Children must dismount from their bicycles and scooters as soon as they enter the school grounds. We have had a couple of near misses recently as children attempt to cycle or scoot on the pathways within the school grounds.

PARKING ON THE CAMPUS

This is a further reminder that parents should not park in the school car park unless they have made a specific arrangement with the school. Also, please refrain from walking your children up or down the school drive. This is a vehicle only route. The pedestrian pathway is clearly marked.

SCHOOL TIMES

Please do not arrive at school before 8.45a.m as this is when the classroom doors will be opened. Children remain the responsibility of their parents/carers until the doors open so do not leave children in the school without parental supervision before this time as staff will not be available to look after them.

MEETINGS WITH MRS SPENCER

Just a reminder that Mrs Spencer is available to speak to parents about any non-urgent school related issues. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's academic or social development or any issues relating to homework etc. please phone the school office to make an appointment.

MESSAGE TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN YEAR TWO

Please note we are unable to authorise any holidays during May for pupils in Year Two as this is a statutory assessment period for this cohort of pupils. Please do not book holidays during this time as your children will miss the tasks and tests that form part of this statutory assessment.

WOOL REQUEST

We would be grateful for any donations of coloured green wool for a Year 2 project that they will be starting on after Easter. Thank you.

LITTERING

Just a polite reminder please to ensure that your children use the waste bins provided rather than dropping their rubbish on the campus pavements and surrounding roads. Thank you.

4. CURRICULUM

YEAR ONE—TOY MUSEUM VISIT

Year One had a fabulous time last week when two toy makers came to visit. We had a very interesting and funny talk where they showed us lots of toys. They told us how they worked and what time in history they were from. They brought some more old toys for us to look at in our own class rooms. We were able to look carefully at the toys and we all drew one of the old toys. We all learnt a lot!

We also all made a wooden toy. We were given a box of pieces with a picture of what the finished toy looks like. We had to sand our wooden pieces first to make them smooth for us to colour on. We then coloured the toy pieces. The toy makers then helped us to use a hand drill and a hammer. We put our pieces together carefully to make our toys. We then had a lot of fun playing with our toys.

It was a very special experience and we all really enjoyed it. Here are some of our comments :-

I have made an Egyptian horse. It was the first toy to be found and it was found in Egypt. It was 3500 years old—Florence

It was fun colouring the bits of wood. When the acrobat toy moved by itself it was funny! - Isaac

I made a balancing beam. I can't wait to use it. I liked making my toy—Gracie

Step 1 I smoothed the wood, Step 2 I coloured the wood, Step 3 I glued it together, Step 4 I played with it! - Oscar

I liked it because I liked looking at the toys. It was fun drilling and hammering and sanding. It was fun because you got to keep the toy—Eva



5. PUPIL'S SECTION

Class Council Circle Time is a regular feature at John Hampden. This involves asking the children in each class a set of questions linked to a particular topic or theme. The comments are then collected in and Mrs Spencer takes responsibility for collating the findings and then disseminating them to the staff and pupils.

Key findings from the Class Council Circle Time are then fed into the next School Council Meeting where decisions about the next appropriate actions are taken.

This week the theme of the Class Council Circle Time was Behaviour and Safety. Each class was asked the following questions:

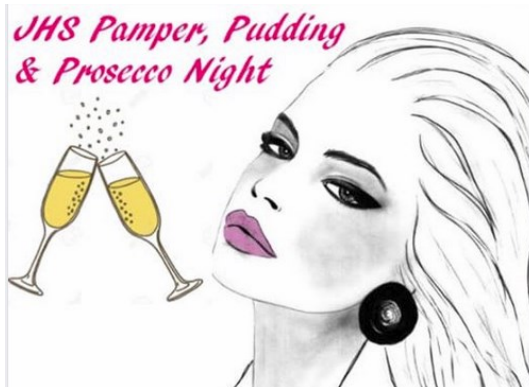
1. What does 'safe' mean?
2. Are there places where you do not feel safe at school? What could we do about those places?
3. How well behaved do you think children are around the school? Are there places where behaviour is better or worse?
4. What do we think happens at school when people are unkind? Does it stop them?
5. What other things do we think should happen to stop others from being unkind again?
6. What is bullying?
7. Hands up survey—'Who thinks that they have been bullied at school?'
8. Hands up if you think you are being bullied now.

Class teachers will follow up the final two questions with any child who indicates 'yes' to either—this is to ascertain whether the behaviour they experienced truly was bullying or whether it might have been better categorised as unkind behaviour. Any child who feels that they may be experiencing bullying now will be supported and we will ensure this negative behaviour ceases immediately.

6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

Pamper, Pudding and Prosecco Night – TONIGHT March 29th – 7.30pm

Price list below – don't panic if you haven't yet got your ticket – tickets will be available on the door! Open to parents, friends and family.



May Fayre – Saturday 18th May

We are busy organising entertainment, crafts, lucky dips, cooks and volunteers for the main event of the year – the May Fayre – we will as usual have our May Pole dancers performing as well as Mr Marvel – please ensure you have it in your diary – more details to follow after Easter...

Could you spare some time to help – We are desperate for helpers particularly to run the Raffle – this brings in a huge revenue of around £1000 most years – could you help to coordinate donations – if so please let us know asap. [Christina edley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Christina_edley@yahoo.co.uk)

Please could you ask the company that you work for / businesses that you deal with to **donate a prize**? We will publish a list of businesses that have donated on Facebook and in our regular Newsletter!



Ice Cream day – Friday April 5th

A letter has gone out in book bags to those children who have not paid for the next ice cream day – Spring term. And to those new pupils joining mid-way through the year or in our new Crickets intake. Payment is cash only NOT via Parentpay as this has now closed.

To avoid tears on the day - please ensure you have completed the paperwork regarding **allergies** (dairy/non-dairy choices) – we only do vanilla!!

Any problems please contact Anna Morley [an-na@pjmorley.co.uk](mailto:anna@pjmorley.co.uk)



A huge thanks to Laura Croker for stepping into the Secretary role, to support alongside Emma Child (Chair) Rebecca Sackman and Sarah Adams (joint Treasurers)! Much appreciated by Chrissie and wishing her all the best!



We would love to see some new faces in the PTA as we move towards the summer term – could you spare half an hour a week to make or sell some lollies?? Get involved with the May Fayre or BBQ – please do get in touch with us via our email address

FJHvolunteers@gmail.com or contact us on JHS FB group.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 2nd April in the Shoulder of Mutton – please do join us – we'll be in the Back corner or at the Bar!



Your cause has raised

£3,150.26

£44.39 in the last 30 days

You're raising for

Friends of John Hampden School Wendover



We have had 2 new recruits this month thankyou – It's so **EASY** when treating yourself to an Easter treat, a last minute skiing holiday or mini-break or even buying your pet-food or groceries on line – don't forget to click the link before!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>



Attention all Parents

Want to get more involved in the school and be reminded of those last minute meetings and dress up days - look out for 'JHS Parents' FB page – it's a closed group but hugely useful in reminders for mufti day, meetings, lost property reclaiming...ask to join and admin will join you. **You must answer the question before admin will approve you!**



Support Aylesbury Vale and win amazing prizes!

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. You can buy individual tickets whenever you like, or set up a Direct Debit for 1 (or more) ticket (s) per week and not worry about forgetting!

Draws are every Saturday night. Buy tickets here - www.valelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-john-hampden-school

Most importantly - FJH receives 50p from every ticket bought in support of the school

Save the Dates for this term – please note amended dates.

Pamper, pudding and Prosecco	Friday 29 th March
Ice Cream Day	Friday 5 th April – last day of term
Fruity Fridays	Every Friday after the May Half term after school
May Fayre	Saturday 18 th May
Family BBQ	Friday 5 th July

PAMPER, PUDDING & PROSECCO NIGHT

FRIDAY 29TH MARCH 7.30-10.30PM

This year we are launching a brand new PTA event that we hope you will love! The Pamper, Pudding & Prosecco Night is all set to be a fantastic night so grab your friends and make a night of it! The event will be set up in three zones:

PAMPER ZONE

Enjoy mini pamper sessions, demonstrations and advice from local therapists which can be pre-booked or booked on the night (subject to availability).

RETAIL ZONE

We are thrilled to have a selection of local retailers joining us on the night offering their fabulous products.

THE BAR

We will have a cash bar serving Prosecco (other drinks also available!) along with delicious homemade desserts for you to enjoy.

Tickets are £7.50 each (Include your first glass of fizz and a dessert) to be purchased IN ADVANCE on PARENTPAY

In a bid to save paper and admin for everyone we are attempting to make this a 'Paper-free' event so tickets can be purchased directly from Parent Pay*. Your email confirmation of your purchase will act as your e-ticket - just show the confirmation email via your device when you come in.

PLEASE ORDER YOUR TICKETS VIA PARENTPAY BY FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

PRICE LIST

MASSAGE & BODY

Adam Gibbons Sports Massage
15 Minute Sports Massage Taster Treatment £8

Sam Haslam Reflexology
15 Minute Reflexology Treatment £8

Anita Baxter Pranic Healing
10-15 Minute Stress Relief Treatment £5

Tropics Beauty
15 Minute Hand & Arm Massage £5

HAIR

Red Carpet Hairdressing
Hair Up £5
Hair Waves or Curls £5

NAILS

Beauty by Bonnie @ Red Carpet Hairdressing
Shape & Nail Polish £8

Manicure Alli
Express Manicure £8
Express Pedicure £8

Jamerry Nails
Nail Wrap Product Demonstrations

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

April is budget setting time for the school and we are in the process of finalising our expenditure for the next academic year. As you are aware the budget situation in Bucks schools is extremely tight. This week members of the leadership team met with representatives from Bucks County Council to discuss the challenges faced by our school with regards to our budget share allocation. There was recognition that our school appears to be particularly poorly funded due to our context and pupil numbers, so the team from Bucks are taking time to consider the best way forward for us.

Staff are consulted when preparing the financial plan and governors hope to ensure that it will support the school in achieving its goals for school improvement in order to enhance learning. Mrs Griffiths, our Finance Officer, takes responsibility for the day to day running of the school finances, assisted by the Leadership Team.



GOAL B: TEACHING, LEARNING &



The week before the Easter break is 'Assessment Week' and staff have planned to complete a range of tasks and tests with their pupils to measure their progress and to identify the next steps for each child in the key areas of Reading, Writing and Maths. On Thursday 21st March Mrs King ran a meeting for parents of children in Year 1 to explain the statutory Phonics Check for these pupils which takes place in June. We have provided plenty of support materials on the school website under the Parents Section.

On Thursday 25th April, Mrs Barnes will hold a meeting for parents/carers to explain the statutory assessment arrangements that are due to take place with Year 2 children within the month of May. At the John Hampden School, the children are used to being assessed regularly at all stages of their education, and they are always encouraged to do their best. Whilst end of key stage tests are important in evaluating the success of the school, it is essential that we continue to track the progress made by individuals, groups and cohorts throughout their time in the school.

GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR



Class Council Circle Time has happened again this week and it will be followed by another meeting of the School Council. Class Council Circle Time is where each class are asked the same questions and the results are collated. The focus of the discussion this time was behaviour and safety and it has been interesting to note the children's perceptions. Staff are taking note of individual concerns that were expressed during the discussions and supporting these children on a 1-1 basis. Key issues from the Class Council Circle Time will be shared with staff and the School Council who will decide how they would like to see the Leadership Team addressing their concerns.

GOAL D: PUPIL OUTCOMES

Tracking pupil progress is a necessary part of monitoring in the school. Each term, following Assessment Weeks, staff give a summative assessment level for each pupil in reading, writing and mathematics. This information is used to track progress from one term to the next. It is then possible for us to identify those children who are making below, expected or above expected progress. For any child that has not made expected progress, teachers are required to identify actions they will take to address any concerns. This careful tracking of pupil progress helps us to maintain the high standards of achievement we have come to expect at John Hampden.



8. MISCELLANEOUS

Gardening Club



Now that Spring is upon us, the Gardening Club will be busy planting in the new raised beds.

We would be delighted to receive any donations of compost, strawberry plants, raspberry canes, onion sets, vegetable seeds & seedlings (when they start to appear).

Please see Mrs Spencer for any further information. Many thanks!

Postcard plea

In June during World Weeks, we will be learning about different places in the UK and around the world and we would like your help. If you have any friends or family who live in different places other than Buckinghamshire in the UK or around the world it would be wonderful if you can ask them to send a postcard to the school with the words “Run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the Gingerbread Man!” We can learn all about where the Gingerbread Man has been.

Please address the post card to :

John Hampden School Wendover, Wharf Road, Wendover, Bucks, HP22 6HE, England.

**** Please do not tell the children about this ****

Many thanks

Mrs Parkinson



'Art Hub Buckinghamshire' is
a Mini Art School for everyone

'Art Hub
Buckinghamshire'
Easter Holiday
Art Workshop for
7-12 year olds.
Taught by Jaany
Ravenscroft-Hull Artist
and Qualified Teacher

Workshop:

'Draw - Paint - Print'

Explore techniques, produce original art, receive expert tuition. Build self-confidence. Meet new friends!

Tuesday 9th April 2019

10am-2pm

Wendover Library meeting room

£35 (Introductory 10% discount applied)

All specialist resources and inspiration included.



Booking required. Limited places

For further information, payment details and to book your place

email Jaany at art.hub.ox@gmail.com

Jaany's oil paintings are available to buy in A Little Bird Told Me Gallery, Wendover



Churches Together in Wendover invite you to a

Good Friday Craft Morning

**Wendover Christian Centre, Aylesbury Road
On Friday 19 April, 10 – 11.30am**

Come and make some Easter themed crafts,
'decorate biscuits and paint eggs.

Refreshments will be available and we will finish the
session with the Easter story.





Easter Fun 2019 **at Bucks County Museum** **and Roald Dahl Children's Gallery**



Family Crafts



Tuesday 9 April – Japanese inspired craft
Wednesday 10 April – Japanese inspired craft
Thursday 11 April – Japanese inspired craft
Tuesday 16 April – ceramic Easter planters
Wednesday 17 April – ceramic Easter planters
Thursday 18 April – Japanese Origami



All activities start from **£4 per participant - No need to book**. Drop in between 10am and 12 noon or 1pm and 3pm. All children must be accompanied by an adult for all activities.

Other great events for the whole family:

Open Air Shakespeare: Anthony & Cleopatra
Saturday 6 April, 2pm – 5pm

Rock and Fossil Day
Saturday 13 April, 11am – 4pm



Easter in the Stuart Household Re-enactment Event
Easter Day 21 April: 11am – 4pm
Easter Monday 22 April: 10am – 5pm

For full details visit www.buckscountymuseum.org



Bucks County Museum & Roald Dahl Children's Gallery
Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP Tel: 01296 331441
[Facebook.com/BucksMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/BucksMuseum) @BucksMuseum
www.buckscountymuseum.org



