



# The John Hampden School Wendover



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## NEWSLETTER

### KEY UPCOMING EVENTS:

School closes for half term: 3.15pm on 19th October

School opens after half term: Monday 29th October

SAFETY WEEK: 29th October — 2nd November

FJH ice cream day—2nd November

Parents evenings—7th & 8th November 4—7 pm

## 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Many thanks for your very generous Harvest Festival donations. We managed to make a really impressive display of the flowers and produce and it made a great backdrop to the performances provided by the Key Stage One children. Our Foundation Stage children did a wonderful job of entertaining their parents at their Harvest Festival too. All the produce was donated to the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury, who have written us a letter expressing their gratitude.



On Wednesday 10th October we organised an 'Open Morning' for prospective parents. In total well over 40 families visited the school and were given a short presentation followed by a guided tour of the school by a group of Year 2 ambassadors. Feedback from the event was very positive and it was lovely to be able to show off our school in such a positive way. Here are a few comments from the feedback sheets:

*"Fantastic amount of info. Tour by children was wonderful—what a great way to see the school from their perspective"*

*"I thoroughly enjoyed the open morning. The whole thing was so well put together—I enjoyed all of it and your school just has a wonderful atmosphere. Defo number one choice for me!"*

*"Such confident, lovely children. Great tour. You will be our 1st choice for sure"*

*"Thank you for providing a valuable insight into school life at John Hampden. The presentations were so informative and it was a real delight being led round the school by the children. There was a friendly, positive, welcoming atmosphere as soon as you step foot in the school"*

**May I take this opportunity to wish you a good half term break and we look forward to seeing you back in school for another action packed half term when we return to school on 29th October.**

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

‘Relentlessly Reasonable’ – the national funding crisis continues

"Relentlessly reasonable" is an unusual rally cry - but this was no ordinary demonstration.

On the 28th September, over 2000 head teachers marched at Westminster to make their point about school funding in England. The organizers of this protest highlight claims that per pupil funding has fallen 8% in real terms since 2010. School budgets have been squeezed by unfunded pay rises, national insurance payments, other cost pressures and for our school at least, reduced pupil numbers. Our income is allocated to us by the local authority and is based on pupil numbers; not having a full school means less income. The government continues to insist school funds will rise to a record £43.5bn by 2020 and that a new funding formula is bringing more cash to schools. I can assure you that this is not the case for the John Hampden School. School funding, and managing the annual budget, remains a significant challenge.

A critical area of additional income for many schools is that of ‘Pupil Premium’. Pupil Premium is additional funding the Government gives to schools to help children from either lower income or Service families to do their very best in the difficult circumstances they sometimes face. The Government also provides schools with a Sports Premium grant, again based on pupil numbers. For our school this funding represents approximately £35k of income. I meet each term with the Pupil Premium teaching lead, Mrs Jo Spencer, to discuss how the pupil premium funding is being used, and report back my findings to the governing board.

Using the Service Pupil Premium funding we hire the services of Helen Brettell to provide specialist pastoral care. Whilst this is extremely important to our Service children, the school also encourages any child who would benefit from Helen’s services to meet with her. Starting this term, Helen will be in our school all day every Monday to increase the amount of time she can spend with our pupils.

The use of Premier Sport to support our teachers in providing school PE activities and out of school clubs is well publicised. One of several areas where we have invested our Sport Premium funding is in the area mindfulness, self-esteem and resilience, where we look to help pupils become confident and emotionally resilient. For example, amongst other initiatives in this area the school has made Yoga available to all pupils. The school is also working with the ‘Nurturing Minds’ consultancy group to extend the benefit of this funding to parents who would like to better understand areas of their child’s behaviour such as mindfulness, self-esteem, behaviour management and social skills. Evidence suggests that if these areas of a child’s personality are well understood and cared for, then they will do better in their educational setting as a result.

These are just a couple of examples of how the school uses the pupil premium grants it is allocated. Our use of pupil premium funding, for the direct benefit of each and every pupil, was recognised as a strength of the school during the recent Ofsted inspection. In the face of some severe financial challenges the school continues to use these additional grants to ensure that our children have the best quality of education possible, and to help promote their emotional and social wellbeing. The senior leadership team is passionate about providing the very highest level of education and support to the children. Far from being aimed at specific pupils, this extraordinary level of support is ‘bespoke to all’, and helps contribute to making the John Hampden School Wendover such an outstanding school.

If you think you might qualify for Pupil Premium funding then please contact the school office who will provide you with more details. If you have any questions for the governing board, on this topic or any of the other areas that we cover, then please don’t hesitate to contact us. Our contact details, along with a copy of the annual Pupil Premium report, can be found on the school website.



**Matt Glanville**

Co-opted Governor

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

## GOVERNOR SECTION (CONTINUED)

Following our recent request for nominations for the role of parent governor at the school we are delighted to announce that we have been able to offer a parent governor role to Peter Hooper, David Smith and Ben Gattlin. New governors are asked to provide information about themselves to share with other stakeholders in the school:

### Peter Hooper

My name's Peter Hooper. My eldest child is in Year 1 and I have another that will join the school in a couple of years. I'm a class rep, a member of the FJH and like you, I'm passionate that our children are cared for, encouraged and inspired. I want to join the governing body so I can work with the leadership team and wider school community to make sure our children receive the best education possible.

Working in education publishing, I've been helping children and young people follow their passions and realise their dreams for over 15 years. It's immensely rewarding and I will bring the same skills and drive I've developed in my professional life to the role of Parent Governor. I'll be everything a critical friend should be: I'll be supportive and help the school achieve its goals, but I'll also be prepared to challenge it where necessary. I will always do what is in the best interest of our children's welfare and education. As a Parent Governor I will be committed to ensuring that John Hampden continues to be a happy and safe learning environment that nurtures all our children's curiosity and understanding.

### David Smith

Our family moved to Wendover in 2015 and we are extremely interested in being an active part of the community. My wife, Rebecca, is joint treasurer of the JHSW PTA, our son is now in Year 1 and our daughter is due to join Early Years in 2019 so we will have a long connection with the school!

In the professional world, after graduating with degrees in Music and Musicology, I've worked in the music section for nearly 15 years. I'm currently a senior manager at the UK's largest music education body, ABRSM. I work in a strategic planning role and manage the team that supports and monitors the standards of our examiners. I have responsibility for ensuring compliance and quality amongst the examining workforce, and am actively involved in digital transformation projects at the company. I have also served as a trustee on the governing body of a charity in recent years.

I believe strongly in progression and development for children in their education. JHSW has a fantastic ethos and sets of aims and values, and I will do my best to help everyone involved to maintain and achieve them.

### Ben Gattlin

Thank you for taking the time to read a little about me. I first moved to RAF Halton with my parents in 1998 aged 10 years old. I went to school in Halton then on to the John Colet School which shares the same campus as the John Hampden School here in Wendover. Spending my formative years in Wendover I worked at Le Bistro Restaurant and Bar eventually managing the restaurant with my now wife, Amy, up until the restaurant was sold. I was close to the community whilst at the restaurant and have missed that interaction since it changed hands. Amy and I have three girls, Lilly aged 5, Roya aged 3 and Nilou, almost 2. Lilly attended the early years foundation stage at John Hampden until starting in foundation this September. I have spent the last 3 years as a manager in the NHS, first in Buckinghamshire then in Hertfordshire. I made a change this summer in order to be closer to home and Lilly's school and I'm now based in Aylesbury. This was to give me more time with the children in their early childhood and do some more of the things that I enjoy; exercising, cooking and gardening.

### 3. SCHOOL FUNDRAISING



## JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER

Loving to Learn

### FUNDRAISING FOCUS - AUTUMN TERM 2018/19

This term the PTA launched The Rocket Fund to raise £2,322 for exciting new ICT equipment. We also aim to raise £5,000 to improve resources for outside learning.



**THE ROCKET FUND** has blasted-off to an amazing start, raising funds to purchase Blue-Bots and Rainbow Easi-Speak Microphones. Blue-Bots help children learn to code, debug and simulate computing algorithms. Children use them to plan an algorithm on the screen of a device and send it to the Blue-Bot to perform right in front of their eyes. Rainbow Easi-Speak microphones/MP3 recorders, build confidence in reluctant talkers and have special settings to add vibrant features to their recordings. These microphones allow children to record and playback remotely without being attached to a PC. They can be used for anything from role-play activities to outdoor exploration.

We have already raised the funds to buy enough of these resources to ensure classes will have one between 2 or 3 children. And now if we can raise a further £500, we will be able to purchase some Easi-Ears Audio Story Headphones that allow teachers to record and send creative content directly to each child for more fun adventures in learning.

The Rocket Fund closes on 24 October, and to date has raised a fantastic £1,806. So, if you haven't already, and would like to contribute, please visit: <https://rocket.fund/p/johnhampdenschooldigitalrevolution/>



Following our extensive building works we would also like to focus our attention on the **OUTDOORS ENVIRONMENT** and improve our resources for outside learning. This means buying new sand trays, tuff trays (heavy duty octagonal plastic trays with raised sides that contain different materials for messy play) and 'small world' learning equipment to use in them. We would also like to provide larger equipment for use in the playground like 'Connect Four' and 'Jenga'. And to ensure safe storage we need to buy rather unexciting but vital lockable, sturdy storage units.

**THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT FUNDRAISING**  
**all funds raised this term will go towards the items detailed above**

Take part in the wonderful  
events and activities of  
**THE FRIENDS OF  
JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL**

Christmas Fayre – 1 December



Make a one-off or regular  
Gift Aid donation through  
**MYDONATE**

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/the-johnhampdenwendoverlearningtrust>



Make all your online  
purchases through  
**EASYFUNDRAISING**

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



For more information or to help with fundraising please contact Emma Child at [emmachild71@gmail.com](mailto:emmachild71@gmail.com)



## 4. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

### **Flu Vaccine**

All school children in Buckinghamshire from Reception to Year 5 are being offered the free flu vaccine this year.

Meanwhile, just in case you weren't aware, if you also have a younger child between 2-3 years old they are also eligible for a free flu vaccine on the NHS. As with all children, this is also given as a quick, painless nasal spray. Get in touch with your GP to book your pre-school child's vaccine. NHS advice states that it's really important to protect young children against what can be a nasty illness for them, plus it stops the virus spreading to other family members—particularly important for the elderly or vulnerable who can be at risk of serious illness if they catch the flu. For all you need to know about the flu and the vaccine go to [www.nhs.uk/flu](http://www.nhs.uk/flu)

### **Spare Clothes**

We are always happy to receive any unwanted underwear which we can use in case of accidents so if you have anything you would like to donate, please bring it to the school office. If your child does come home in some of our spare clothing please could you wash and return it as soon as possible. Thank you

### **Coats and Water Bottles**

As the colder weather approaches please make sure your children bring a warm coat to school everyday. Also, we do encourage KS1 children to bring a water bottle to school each day so they can access a drink easily during the school day. No juice please as it tends to make everything very sticky! FS stage children have access to water all day in their learning environment.

### **Applying for Primary School Places**

If your child is due to start infant or junior school in September 2019 now is the time to start thinking about your application. If you live in Buckinghamshire visit the council's website [www.bucksc.gov.uk](http://www.bucksc.gov.uk) between 05 November 2018 and 15 January 2019 to apply for a place for your child online.

### **Wendover CE Junior School**

Wendover CE Junior School will be running tours for Year 2 parents at 2pm and 2.30pm on the following afternoons next half term: Tuesday 20th November, Friday 23rd November, Tuesday 27th November and Thursday 29th November. The following dates are also available in the new year: 8th and 11th January at 2pm and 2.30pm. Places must be pre-booked by phoning the WJS office on 01296 696822 or by emailing [admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk](mailto:admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk)

### **Cars on campus and walking on campus**

Please can you refrain from parking on the double yellow lines outside the swimming pool if you drive onto campus. This area is not to be parked on as it causes obstructions and hinders the access in and out of our car-park. Also please ensure when walking on campus that you walk on the paths, not down the road and also not down our driveway—please use the side path. Thank you.

### **Request from Foundation Stage staff**

If anyone has any old photo frames or any unwanted CDs, Foundation Stage staff would love to take them off your hands. They can be handed in to the school office or directly to FS staff. Thank you.

## 5. PUPIL'S SECTION

Our wonderful Year 2 ambassadors gave fantastic guided tours of the school during our recent Open Morning. Below are some of their comments about the experience:



*I liked showing the parents around because I got to talk to them and show them around. They asked me about the school lunches. Ella (Hérons)*

*I liked it because they asked me questions and we could ask them questions back. Lelanie (Firecrests)*

*I was a bit nervous because I was nervous about meeting new people but in the end it turned out to be great. Alia (Firecrests)*

*At first I was a little bit scared because I'd never seen the people before but it got better as I went on. Harrison (Firecrests)*

*I loved it because the people I took on the tour were lovely and friendly to me. Abigail (Hérons)*

*I was nervous when I stood up to tell the parents what I like about John Hampden School. I said I liked doing all kinds of things at school because it is fun. Kai (Hérons)*

*I was quite nervous at first but finally it got better. I went with Abigail and we took five sets of parents round altogether. Finlay (Hérons)*

*I liked it because we got to show them around everywhere and I was lucky enough to take them into my old classrooms. Arthur (Firecrests)*

*I liked it when they asked me questions and I answered them. They asked me where we were going next? Betsy (Red Kites)*

*I was looking forward to showing them around school because I like telling people what is around our school. Arthur (Red Kites)*

*At the start I was a bit nervous but when I went with them I wasn't shy anymore. They were nice to me. Huw (Red Kites)*

*They asked us a lot of questions and we answered them in a nice way. It was fun doing the tour. Hugo (Red Kites)*

*I liked showing people around because it's fun and you get to show them different things like the different classes. Vaani (Red Kites)*

## 6. CURRICULUM

During the weeks either side of the half term holiday the children learn about issues relating to Health and Safety. Mrs Spencer has done a fantastic job of organising a whole host of wonderful visitors to enhance the learning. Each year the fortnight evolves further and the children are now being asked to think about scenarios which enable them to consider relaxation, mental health, safety risk and challenge. There have been numerous opportunities for role play, re-enactment of situations using miniature figures, consideration of dilemmas as well as activities to assist pupils in learning how to be resilient. Health and safety P4C discussions have also been included.

We are extremely grateful to all these visitors who have or will enhance the children's learning with their interesting, enjoyable and often very entertaining presentations. There is a growing album of photographs and comments from the children linked to the Health & Safety weeks on the school website ([johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](http://johnhampdenwendover.co.uk))—so do take a look.



*Children enjoying a fitness session with Premier Sport*



*Parents and pupils taking part in an early morning fitness session with Jodie Digby*



*Learning about dental health in A-Life Workshops*



*So many activities to complete linked to healthy lifestyles*



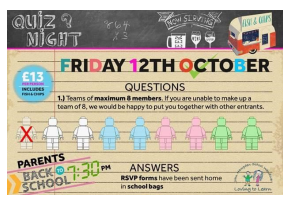
*Listening to talks about the WOW Fitness initiative*



*Using computers and the internet to learn about healthy eating*

## 7. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

A number of parents have been keen to find out what all our fundraising efforts are going towards – please look out for our first edition of Fundraising Focus...keeping you on track with the best ways of getting involved!



### Quiz night – 12th October

A **huge thankyou** to Andrew and the team for coordinating the Quiz night – I think it was fair to say a good night was had by all with a whopping £1200 raised!

Our 'brain cells' were challenged by the standard of questions – thanks to Anthony (Esme's Allstars) We are awaiting the final totals but think we made approximately £1000 from the evening – HUGE thanks to all the parents and teachers who attended and especially well done to 'The Hampden Hopefuls' – who yet again proved what amazing people teach and support our children!



### Rocket Fund

A huge thanks to all of you who have donated – we have raised a huge amount of money this term so far – for more details see Fundraising Focus!



### Ice Cream Day

We are looking forward to our first Ice cream day after half term—Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Please ensure you have paid via Parentpay – being careful to select the correct dairy/non-dairy choice – one per term!





## Christmas Cards

The sample cards are winging their way back to us – look out for your proof in the book bags. Orders will need to be returned to the school by Friday 2nd November with cheques made payable to 'Friends of John Hampden' or correct cash only – no change will be returned.

## Secondhand Uniform sales

A stall will hopefully be available at the Christmas Fayre – if you are needing extra supplies – just don't forget to check lost property first!



## Christmas Fayre - Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December 12 – 3pm

Save the date for the usual fun at the fayre. A letter will be coming out in the book bag after half term detailing the donation requests and plea for volunteers.

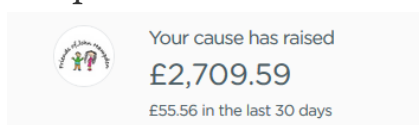
If you have friends or family that would like to have a stall – please ask them to email [Christina\\_edley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Christina_edley@yahoo.co.uk)

Could your employer offer a prize for the raffle?



## Easyfundraising

Thank you to the increasing number of parents who have signed up to Easyfundraising – we have **190** members and **6 new** this month – If you've not signed up yet, please click on to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> – it's simple and costs you nothing. Please remember to use it for all your online Christmas shopping – so easy when you set up the 'donation reminder' tab.



## 8. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We are embarking on our new school improvement plan and displays around the school help to highlight the areas we have chosen to focus on. We are setting ourselves goals which link with the four key aspects of the Ofsted inspection framework —these have been selected as a result of the feedback we have gained from our stakeholders as well as analysis of a great deal of data.

Over the next year we hope to have achieved the following:

<b>Goal A LEADERSHIP</b>	By July 2019 to ensure the most cost effective deployment of staff members in order to streamline staffing expenditure.
<b>&amp; MANAGEMENT</b>	By July 2019 to generate additional income from a fundraising campaign, grant application and exploration of various funding streams in order to continue to provide additional equipment and resources which are no longer affordable from the school budget share.
	By July 2019 to collaborate effectively and profitably with others in order to enhance the skills, reputation, resources and future financial security of the JHSW
	By July 2019 to make effective use of the Apprenticeship Levy to upskill and train staff in identified roles.
	By July 2019 to further develop the capacity of middle leaders in order to improve and sustain high quality planning, teaching, learning and assessment in all subjects.
<b>Goal B</b>	By July 2019 to further improve individual and year group responses to feedback regarding the quality of teaching in order to clearly demonstrate the positive impact of constructive advice and guidance.
<b>TEACHING</b>	By July 2019 to ensure consistency of assessments in reading, writing and maths across the Liaison Group of schools
<b>LEARNING</b>	By July 2019 to ensure learning opportunities within the EYFS and National Curriculum are appropriately differentiated to challenge and meet the needs of boys and girls so that both groups perform to a similar standard in key areas of learning.
<b>&amp;</b>	By July 2019 to ensure complete consistency of approach and application of key school policies by all teams and members of staff.
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	By July 2019 to firmly embed a consistent approach to Learning Outside the Classroom (LotC) in all year groups.
<b>Goal C</b>	By July 2019 to engage further with parents/carers to ensure pupils are 'school ready' and well supported with their home learning activities.
<b>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	By July 2019 to enhance the way adults meet the needs of a small minority of pupils who, at times, display challenging behaviour.
<b>BEHAVIOUR &amp; WELFARE</b>	By July 2019 to improve pupil's behaviour at lunchtimes through the introduction of rotas and extra-curricular activities for groups and individuals in order to develop a culture of support and respect for others. To provide further opportunities for older children to nurture younger pupils in the school at lunchtimes
	By July 2019 to ensure an age appropriate, developmental approach to understanding the importance of developing a 'Growth Mindset'
	By July 2019 to further develop training opportunities for Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants in order to improve and sustain high quality teaching and learning.
	By July 2019 to ensure the workload associated with teaching is effectively distributed throughout each term in order for teachers to feel less overloaded by their role.
	By July 2019 to ensure PSHE teaching and learning takes a collective, age appropriate, developmental approach to gaining skills through regular, consistent learning opportunities linked to the school ethos.

<b>Goal D PUPIL OUT- COMES</b>	<b>By July 2019 to maintain and, where possible, improve the consistently high pupil outcomes achieved at JHSW, as measured by statutory assessment during EYFS and KS1.</b>
	<b>By July 2019 to ensure that at least 90% of pupils who have spent their whole time at JHSW make expected progress from the end of EYFS, in Phonics, Reading, Writing and Mathematics</b>
	<b>By July 2019 to ensure that the difference in outcomes for boys and girls is reduced as far as possible in writing and maths.</b>
	<b>By July 2019 to ensure that there are high expectations and levels of support for identified groups of pupils (PP, EAL, Most Able, SEN) to ensure diminishing differences when compared with all other pupils nationally</b>