



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES



Sadly, since the last newsletter we have had the first confirmed cases of Coronavirus in two pupils (siblings) at our school. As you know this has led to the closure of two of the class bubbles, meaning 52 children have been self-isolating at home and accessing home learning from our school website. All being well we are looking forward to welcoming back the staff and children from these bubbles on Monday 23rd November. I am pleased to report that the two children concerned are feeling much better now. Currently we are not aware of any further cases relating to this first occurrence. However, the number of cases in Buckinghamshire has been rising and we are also aware that some parents within

our school community have developed symptoms or tested positive and as a result their children are absent from school as they are required to isolate with their families for the specified amount of time. No other action is required by the school unless or until their child develops symptoms or has a positive Covid test result. We are grateful to those concerned for informing us of their situation immediately and for following all the recommended guidance. It is absolutely imperative, for the safety of everyone working within or connected with the school, that this continues. I am aware that test results can come through in the evening or very early in the morning and I would be grateful if you could let the school know via email office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk as soon as possible if any child from the school receives a positive result so we can take immediate action and hopefully prevent others travelling to school if their class is affected.

In these challenging times we all have a responsibility to minimise contact and to take steps to reduce the risk of infection. Stringent handwashing and distancing between bubbles is a regular feature within school but now it seems more important than ever to suggest some further measures. I am aware that Wendover Junior School have asked that parents wear face masks whilst on the campus and, although this is not statutory Government advice for outside, it seems sensible to request that in places where you are inevitably coming into contact with a significant number of other people, that all JHSW parents/carers coming onto the campus wear a face mask until further notice. It has been observed that parents/carers are congregating outside the school gates because they are arriving earlier than the designated time for their year group. This gathering is causing concern so I would like to reiterate the message that you should time your arrival carefully, keep your children with you at all times and definitely avoid allowing children from different bubbles to mix whilst they are with you. We will continue to monitor this situation closely to see if there is anything else we can do to improve the drop off/collection arrangements.

BASICALLY:

- Don't arrive early
- Wear a face mask
- Keep your distance from other families

These are worrying times for everyone but we can all play a part in helping to reduce risks in order to ease concerns. Thank you in anticipation of your support for these increased measures.



PLEASE NOTE CHRISTMAS CARD ORDERS MUST BE RETURNED BY WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

As a Parent Governor with three children at John Hampden our family has been affected by the class closures over this past week, we have reverted to home schooling using the excellent content uploaded onto the John Hampden School website. I hope that this is just a minor blip and we are returned swiftly to how we started the Autumn Term; the children were so pleased to be back at school amongst friends and teachers in addition to being really engaged with subjects such as health week.

Wow! The Second Lockdown has served to highlight just how quickly time passes. We noted the loss of the Summer Term for year 2 students who have now moved up to the middle school, sadly without the fanfare that would have usually accompanied such a milestone. Thinking on that at the time made me realise just how we should really attempt to capture and enjoy as much as we can of our young children, as they don't stay that way very long! Seeing the success of the photo competition and the outputs really made me smile and in taking part myself reminded me just how children are absolutely mesmerised by the very simple things in life; walking amongst the dramatic colours of autumn watching on in awe as a squirrel speedily scales a tree. We may not have been able to celebrate big birthdays, weddings and achievements in the same way we usually would have this year but I have to say that without those distractions I certainly have appreciated the small things at home and tried to make and mark milestones like milk teeth falling out, writing, art at home and little ones getting dressed on their own (there has been make-up and hair done too!) – That, for the age ranges, has been very entertaining! So I'd like to extend a thank you to the Friends of John Hampden and collaborators for the inception of the Photo Competition not only for the memories and reminder for 'being present' but also to all of the entrants for the funds raised on behalf of the school, in a year which so far has proved very difficult for such endeavours.

I, along with all of the Governing Body hope that you are all keeping well and staying positive in these uncertain times.



Ben Gattlin

Parent Governor, Chair of Finance, Premises & H&S Committee

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 or if you just have a query about the school.



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.

If you, or someone you know, has a child who is eligible to start school in September 2020, an application for a Primary School place must be made in the next few months. 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.

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

We are extremely sorry not to be able to invite parents/carers into school to watch our traditional Christmas performances this year. However, your children will be putting on a virtual performance for you to enjoy from the comfort of your own home! At some point during the week commencing 14th December we plan to upload a short Christmas performance video from each class to a password protected section of our school website so that only parents of children in that class will have access to it. We will not be asking you to provide specific costumes but we will endeavour to make everyone look very Christmas-sy! The children will be practising hard for these performances and we really hope you will enjoy them. Further details will be sent in another letter as we need to know whether anyone would rather their child was not filmed.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

As we head towards December we find many pupils wish to send Christmas cards to their friends in the school. We accommodate this by installing two Christmas post boxes which will be in position from Tuesday 1st December. One is positioned in the Foundation Stage Octagon area and the other one, for Key Stage One pupils, is positioned near the school office. If your child would like to send some cards this year please would you check the envelopes to ensure the cards can be easily sorted and distributed.

Each envelope needs to have the name and class name of the recipient clearly written on it.

Unfortunately we are not able to provide parents with class lists, but I am sure your child will remember the names of their very close friends.

We will encourage all children who bring cards into school to post them in the post boxes because the children are always very excited when the Christmas Post arrives in their classroom. Regular deliveries are made in the days leading up to the end of term. **LAST POSTING DAY IS WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER** and final deliveries will be made on Friday 18th December.

The following information may help you with envelope writing!

Foundation Stage	Year 1	Year 2
Caterpillars - Miss Webb	Squirrels—Mrs Beattie	Firecrests - Mrs McNally/Mrs Tysoe
Ladybirds- Mrs Mills	Hedgehogs - Mrs King	Herons - Mrs Bowman
Honeybees—Mrs Shrimpton	Badgers—Mrs Shyvers	Red Kites - Mrs Spencer

FUNDRAISING

Many thanks for supporting all the recent charity fundraising . Pupils at John Hampden managed to raise £248.29 for Children in Need.

Adverse Weather Conditions

If we need to close the school this winter due to adverse weather conditions the following procedures will be used to inform parents.

1. A decision will be made about the school closure by 7.30am. This decision will be based on health and safety grounds, which may include not having enough staff at school to supervise our pupils.
2. By 7.45a.m the school website home page will be updated with closure details. Greatest Hits Radio will have been contacted and should announce our school closure at regular intervals throughout the morning. The Council's website will also list our school closure: www.buckscc.gov.uk
3. If the notices listed above have not been implemented then you are to assume the school will remain open.
4. With these three methods of communication in place, there should be no need for you to telephone the school asking whether we will be open or closed.
5. Should the school open but need to close earlier than 3.15p.m, we will contact you via text or telephone.

Please be assured that school closure will always be a last resort.

It is entirely the responsibility of the parent/carers to decide whether it is safe to travel to and from school in inclement weather and we respect the choices you make. As usual please inform the school by telephone or in writing if your child will be absent from school.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLLER

Just to make you aware that from Monday 23rd November for two weeks the school crossing Patroller will not be on duty. Please do take extra care when crossing the road.

4. CURRICULUM

This special focus week enables staff to plan and deliver important elements of the health curriculum. Despite not being able to have the visiting speakers that we would usually have, with protective measures in place, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Gaglione into school to deliver some super drama sessions, which the children enjoyed enormously. Classes were also excited to take part in making a healthy snack (see the various recipes to try out at home) as well as participating in a range of interesting and interactive activities using a variety of resources both inside and outside the classroom. Many fantastic stories were read in connection with themes taught.

Lessons included; the importance of exercise with active sessions led by Premier Sport and online sessions where both staff & pupils endeavoured to keep up with Joe Wicks & Oti Mabuse! Other sessions were about how to look after ourselves, highlighting the importance of a good night's sleep and drinking plenty of water as well as dental health with the help of Dr Ranj.

Mental health was another feature of the week, including practical tips for calming down & relaxation with the wonderful support of our Yoga expert, Mrs Grimsdell. Learning about how to be more resilient was taught with the support of Mrs King and the children found out more about the WOW walk, cycle, scoot or park & stride to school initiative which was led by Mrs Beattie. Sharing worries was another important message shared.

At the end of the week, pupils were asked to reflect on all that they had learned, please see the pupil section for examples of comments provided.

Many thanks to everyone involved in making Health week so successful, I am sure that you will agree that the children acquired a lot of new skills and have generally improved their understanding about physical and mental health and its importance in day to day life.

Recipe for Fruit Kebab



- 1 kebab stick (pointy end removed)
- 1 safety knife, 1 chopping board

Ingredients:

Banana, mango pieces, pineapple rings, grapes, dried apricots, raisins, clementine halved for children to peel and segment, other fruit as preferred

Instructions for child:

1. Chop the fruit on the chopping board
 2. Feed the fruit onto the stick and the kebab is ready to eat
- Enjoy!

Recipe for Fruity face on a plate



- 1 bowl or tub, 1 safety knife
- 1 chopping board, 1 spoon

Ingredients:

Banana, mango pieces, pineapple rings, grapes, dried apricots, raisins, clementine halved for children to peel and segment or other fruit as preferred plus spiralized courgette, carrot or cucumber for hair & eyebrows.

Instructions for child:

1. Chop the fruit/veg on the chopping board
 2. Arrange the fruit and vegetable shapes onto a plate to make a face
- Enjoy!

Recipe for Fruity Pick & Mix



- 1 bowl or tub, 1 safety knife
- 1 chopping board, 1 spoon

Ingredients:

Banana, mango pieces, pineapple rings, grapes, dried apricots, raisins, clementine halved for children to peel and segment or other fruit as preferred

Instructions for child:

1. Chop the fruit on the chopping board
 2. Place the fruit in your bowl or tub
- Enjoy!

Recipe for Rainbow Tutti Frutti



- 1 bowl, 1 cup, 1 spoon
- 1 safety knife, 1 chopping board

Ingredients:

Banana, mango pieces, pineapple rings, grapes, dried apricots, raisins, clementines halved for children to peel a segment or other fruit as preferred

Instructions for child:

Ladle fruit with a spoon onto the chopping board
Chop the fruit carefully
Layer the different fruits in the cup between spoons of yoghurt
Enjoy!

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

Here are some comments from the children about what they have done and enjoyed during Health Week:

In Honeybees class, Annabelle learnt that we need to eat fruit and vegetables to stay healthy and Isla learnt that we need to drink 8 cups of water to keep us healthy every day and drink more if we do exercise.

In Ladybirds class, Alex said he has enjoyed the running every day. It makes him feel warm and good afterwards and Eloise liked making the fruit kebabs. She liked eating the pineapple and grapes and says that fruit helps keep us healthy and strong.

In Caterpillars class, Eddie has enjoyed playing in the 'Opticians' and trying on different glasses and Tia liked learning about keeping our teeth healthy. They did an experiment with eggs and a fizzy drink!

In Squirrels class, Olive has learnt that it is good to have healthy food all the time and sweet foods only sometimes and Alice has learnt that it is good to always drink water every day.

In Hedgehogs class, William liked making the fruity pick and mix because he got to try new fruit. The apricot was his favourite and Ruby liked the teeth investigation. The egg in cola went red and black! It was yucky! The orange juice made the shell squidgy. The water was fine as it is good for you.

In Badgers class, Alabama learnt that healthy food is good for you like carrots and peas and oranges. Zach learnt not to eat unhealthy food or too many sweets. Also don't drink too much cola or your teeth will go brown!

In Herons class, Ellie's favourite activity was learning about sleep. Did you know you grow more in your sleep than when you are awake? Wilbert really enjoyed making the healthy snack. The yoghurt made the pineapple yummy! He also learnt that it is important to eat a rainbow of food to get vitamins and minerals. Jorjanna liked all of the activities and learnt that sleep, a good diet and exercise makes you very healthy.

In Red Kites class, Blake found out that yoga helps you to stretch your muscles as well as helps you to relax. Sid made a healthy snack and he tried raspberries and liked them. Trying new food is good and we should eat 5 fruits or vegetables every day.



6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN (FJH)



Let's get ready for Christmas and spread some festive cheer!
It's a bumper list of things from the Friends of John Hampden this week. Whilst we've not been able to meet face-to-face or hold our normal type of events we have been working hard to try and find ways to raise money and support the school. Please help us spread some festive cheer!



FJH CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED! THEY ARE GOING FAST!

The FJH 2021 Calendars have arrived. They look fantastic and have all the photos on the front cover.

Thank you to all entrants and sponsors.

You can still order yours on ParentPay for £5. Hurry while stocks last.



CHRISTMAS CARDS NEED TO BE ORDERED!

The Children's Christmas Card proofs and order forms have been distributed. Remember to order and pay (via cash or cheque to Friends of John Hampden). £5 for a pack of 12 cards.

Order by WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER LATEST!

You can also buy other items directly from the website yourself by going to www.myschoolprinting.co.uk and entering your unique I.D. found on the back of the card proof. We still benefit from the sale of these items. So keep shopping!



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER

Donate £1 (or more for the 2 good causes) and wear a Christmas jumper or festive clothes on Friday 11th December.

All proceeds will be split 50:50 between FJH and Save the Children.



CHERRY TREE HOUSE CARE HOME CHRISTMAS WISHES!

Unfortunately, this year we are unable to decorate jam jars with our friends at Cherry Tree House. Instead, we have organised with the school that each class will make a Christmas card or picture for the staff and residents to show them that we are thinking of them and wish them all a very Merry Christmas.



AMAZON SMILE CAN GIVE BACK

We realise that many of you wish to shop local this year and we are great supporters of that, BUT if you do use Amazon for some of your shopping please go through AMAZON SMILE and the school will benefit. There is no additional cost to yourself.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Happy Shopping!

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: QUALITY OF EDUCATION

Each teacher in the school is required to take on a middle leader role by taking responsibility for at least one subject area. In this way we are attempting to ensure that every subject taught is valued and delivered in the most effective way. At John Hampden we strengthen this leadership role by matching a Governor to each subject too. Subject leaders and Governors communicate regularly so there is a shared understanding of developments and initiatives. Whenever possible Governors support by visiting the school to see the subject area in action but even though this is challenging at the moment, virtual communication continues to be on-going.



GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES

We firmly believe that happy children will learn well but it is equally important that we have a happy and motivated team of adults in the school, especially in these challenging times. Support for staff includes individual job chats as part of the Performance Management Cycle, snap shot observations of staff at work and professional dialogue linked to well-being and work life balance.

Behaviour monitoring for pupils continues and we are working hard to spot the triggers for particular behaviours and to plan strategies and interventions that meet the needs of all.



GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

This week, EYFS parents have been evaluating the transition arrangements that were in place this year via a survey which was emailed to them. Traditionally we have always worked hard to ensure transition arrangements are strong and this year it was even more challenging. It is important for us to reflect and evaluate how successful the arrangements this year have been. We have asked for feedback from staff, pupils and parents to ensure we hear the views of all concerned.

Since returning to school after the half term break the Premier Sport after school club has been running for several Key Stage 1 classes. The clubs are well attended and provide opportunities for pupils to develop or learn skills and enjoy a new or familiar activity. We are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity and we are delighted with the positive feedback.



GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGE-

Last week the first Finance, Premises, Health & Safety Committee meeting of the school year took

place. Austerity measures over the last three years were impacting positively on the school finances but unfortunately COVID-19 has had a huge impact on our already stretched budget. We have lost a significant amount of self-generated income since the closure in March 2020 and there is currently no way of claiming back this type of lost revenue. This means the timescale for our deficit reduction plan has increased further.





Starting school for the first time

Was your child born between
1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017?

If yes, Buckinghamshire parents can apply online for a school place from
2 November 2020. Visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions) to apply.

You must apply even if your child is at the nursery attached to the
school you would like them to go to.

Helpful information about starting school for the first time will be available on our
website from the end of October [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions)

If you cannot apply online you can fill out a paper application form.

Please do not miss this important deadline

Please contact the school nursing service using the link below to find out what
health checks and vaccinations are available for your child
buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing



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Venue: The John Hampden School, HP22 6HF

Dates: MON 21st - WED 23rd December

Times: 9:00am - 3:30pm

Price: £50.00 for 3 days

Ages: 4 - 7 years old

Additional Info:

Xtra-time is available, select this option when booking online for an earlier drop off and extended pick up time; 8:30am - 4:00pm, £5.00

Join us for
our Christmas
party on
Wednesday
23rd
December!

Taking every precaution

Our Activity Professionals have been undergoing additional training in order to provide the best care to the children under their supervision, specifically the Transcend Level 2 Award in Infection Prevention, Mitigation and Management.

You will need

A packed lunch
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Wendover Christmas Carol Trail

11th to 21st December 2020

What is your favourite Christmas Carol?

Churches Together in Wendover are organising a Christmas Carol Display Trail through Wendover. For this we are inviting individuals and families to make a display of their favourite Christmas Carol in their front window or front garden. It needs to be visible from the road because the public will be invited to come and look at the displays and decide which one is best.

The Carol Displays need to be visible between the 11th and 21st of December, this will give everyone an opportunity to come and admire them and cast their votes. If you would like to take part, please let us know by email or phone by the 30th of November.

A list of the roads where displays can be found will be published from the 4th of December. Anyone who wants to follow the trail can receive the list by email or download it from our website or collect a paper copy from Just Shop in the High Street.

Contact us

Telephone: 01296 622354

Email: carol@wendoverfreechurch.org.uk

Website: <https://wendoverfreechurch.org.uk/caroltrail/>



Wendover Christmas Carol Trail

11th to 21st December



**If you would like to take part,
or follow the trail,
check out our website:**

<https://wendoverfreechurch.org.uk/caroltrail/>

or send us an email:

carol@wendoverfreechurch.org.uk