



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE:		UPCOMING EVENTS:	
Message from Mrs. Barnes	1	Friday 14th February School ends at 3.15pm—Half Term	Monday 2nd March Celebrate St David's Day
Governor Section	2		
Fundraising Update	3		
Important Messages	4	Monday 24th February School opens Arts Week	Friday 6th March World Book Day FJH Quiz—evening
Curriculum	5	Wednesday 26th February FJH meeting—8pm at The Shoulder of Mutton	11th & 12th March —Learning Review evenings 13th March —Work Sharing @ 2.45pm (Early Years 9.00 am or 2.45pm)
Pupil's Section	6		
Friends of John Hampden	7		
School Improvement	8		
Miscellaneous	9		

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

As we reach the end of the first half of the Spring Term we are already looking forward to what the next half will bring. Learning Review Meetings for Early Years & Foundation Stage and KS1 pupils have been included in the school calendar and we have noted previous feedback which appeared to show parents would value having more notice of their appointment time. To this end we have sent home the dates and associated times for these meetings. We have asked that the reply slips be returned to school by Friday 14th February, so we will be able to organise appointments and inform you of your time slot as soon as we return after the holiday. The meetings are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 11th March and Thursday 12th March. Teachers try very hard to adhere to the ten minute time allocations. If issues arise during the meeting that need further discussion, it may be more appropriate to make another mutually convenient appointment time, as others are affected when appointments overrun. To give children the opportunity to share their work with you, following your meeting with the class teacher, we would like to invite you into school at 2.45pm on Friday 13th March.

Opportunities for parents/carers to meet with the class teacher to discuss pupil progress occur twice during the academic year but we advertise an 'open door' policy so if parents/carers have a concern about any aspect of the school at any other time we are happy to find a mutually convenient time to talk to you. Mrs Parkinson and I are also available if you feel you need to contact us about an issue too. Our school aims to be fair, open and honest when dealing with any concern or complaint and to resolve it through open dialogue and mutual understanding. It is not appropriate to publicise any concerns you may have on social networking sites. Please speak, or write, to someone at the school at your earliest convenience, rather than using any other means. Concerns or complaints should not be raised with individual governors. They have no power to act on an individual basis and it may prevent them from considering a formal complaint in the future. The school considers any concerns very seriously and most problems can be resolved following discussion and a shared understanding of the issues. Staff at the school are here to help you but obviously we will not tolerate physical or verbal abuse when attempting to deal with issues that are brought to our attention.

Maths Curriculum Evening for Parents



Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the presentation last Thursday evening. Feedback was very positive:

"It was an excellent session that really helped me understand the new and different ways maths is being taught. I particularly valued being given more detail and shown examples at the year level".

"This evening was as informative as always. I also wanted to say how much we as parents appreciate not only the fact that you hold these meetings but the effort that you all put in to these sessions and the teaching as a whole. Thank you".

"Clarification of terminology was most helpful and seeing the resources helped a lot"

"Examples of how and what we should/could be doing at home are incredibly useful"

"Very informative evening—thank you. Lots of ideas on how to make maths fun!"

Presentations from myself and the Year Group Teams are available on the school website under the 'Parents' tab along with other useful information about how parents can support mathematical development at home.

I hope you manage to have a restful half term break and enjoy some quality time with your children.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

In this newsletter I'd like to focus on PSHE. You'd be forgiven if you weren't familiar with what PSHE is but it's one of the most important aspects of your child's learning. In short, Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education supports the development of physically, emotionally and socially healthy young people, equipped to live productive and responsible lives.

Few schools dedicate the time John Hampden does to PSHE and it's evidence of how seriously it takes its pupils' well-being. Not only is PSHE incorporated into the curriculum, it also supports the school's values and forms part of the School Development Plan.

A great example of PSHE in action are the Health and Safety weeks in the first term. Some of the activities during these weeks – to name but a few - include creating a healthy meal, daily 5-minute runs, Zumba, a visit from a police constable, learning about fire safety, and e-safety. It's difficult to do justice to the amount of work that goes in to organising these, as well as catering to the different age groups, but the children clearly enjoy them and benefit tremendously.

You're also hopefully aware of the year 2019/20 being the Year of Kindness, and this has formed a special topic for the whole school. Many of the activities have been pupil-led, and you'll see displays made by the children all around the school noting acts of kindness. There have also been special assemblies with a focus on Kindness, there was International Kindness Day in November, and Circle Time has been used as an opportunity to talk about the topic (and demonstrate listening skills and show respect for each other's views).

Another important aspect of PSHE that you'll likely be familiar with are the transition arrangements for children entering and leaving the school, especially during for the first few weeks of the autumn term and the last few weeks of the summer term. The school takes great care to ensure transitions are handled with care so pupils feel fully prepared and can embark on their new journeys with minimum disruption.

As the governor responsible for monitoring PSHE, I've been incredibly impressed by how John Hampden delivers this subject. The staff are very passionate about it and put a lot of time and effort in to ensuring its delivered consistently across the school. A lot of this work goes unnoticed but, by using PSHE to help remove barriers to learning, such as bullying or low self-esteem, the staff enable pupils to develop the understanding and skills needed to really thrive as individuals, family members and members of society.

If you have any questions about PSHE or how its delivered, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Peter Hooper
Parent 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

Reminder

World Book Day is coming soon (Friday 6th March). Children in all classes are invited to come to school dressed up as their favourite character from a book.

P.E. Kit

Your child will be bringing home their P.E. kit to be washed during the half term holiday. Please could we remind parents that kits must be returned to school on the first day back because P.E. lessons start immediately and your child cannot participate if they do not have the proper kit. Long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons and earrings removed or covered with tape.

Achievements Outside School

We are always keen to hear of your child's achievements outside school. In fact we have dedicated a special board in the corridor to display photocopies of certificates or photographs of children receiving special awards. If your child would like to bring in any such items we would be happy to put them on the board to help celebrate their success. Equally if you feel your child has a particular strength or talent that they demonstrate outside school we would be glad to hear about it—it helps us to build a picture of the 'whole child'.

Sickness & Diarrhoea

Sadly we have had a number of children suffering with sickness in the last week. Please remember that children should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of illness. This way we can be sure that your children will not pass on their germs to others. Please ensure we have up to date contact numbers for you and any other emergency contacts as poorly children need to be collected as soon as possible.

Storm Ciara

We are happy to report that the recent storm did not blow the roof off the school! The strong winds did cause a large part of one of our trees to fall so we have had that removed and the area made safe.



Cycling from Aleppo to Wendover



You may be aware that Wendover is welcoming a Syrian family, refugees from the war in their country. Last weekend twenty teams of 8 people cycled the equivalent of 2,500 miles, the distance from Syria to Wendover, on static bikes. We are very proud of the eight staff and governors from John Hampden who formed our team—each cycled for an hour last Sunday. Fantastic effort by all!

Requests

- Please note that parents should not use mobile phones whilst they are in the school building.
- Children need a coat in school everyday
- Please name your child's clothes—we have so much unnamed lost property.
- Parents of children attending our After School Club or after school football club should not use the staff car park.

THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR CO-OPERATION.

4. CURRICULUM

This week has been Discovery Week for the children at John Hampden School. This means the opportunity to plan and carry out investigations linked to their topics in maths and science. Investigation is very much part of the curriculum and during Discovery Week we really celebrate this.

In science children from Reception Stage to Year 2 have been using their planning, reasoning and investigative skills.

In Foundation Stage the children have been learning about movement, floating and sinking. They have investigated dancing, raisins, sinking satsumas and how to turn cream into butter!

Year 1 have been experimenting with different materials and discovering which material would be best for a new roof for Ted!

In Year 2 the children have been looking at the changing states of materials. They have been dissolving, melting, predicting, observing and recording.

The results are in and the conclusion is it really has been fun!

We thought you might like to read some of the comments the children said following Discovery week:-

Arthur in Badgers said "I found out that the cone won't balance on the pointy edge prism. It needs a flat face"

Jack in Badgers said "I've discovered that 2 cylinders under a flat cuboid and a square based pyramid can stack even though cylinders can roll"

Freja in Squirrels said "When I make a tower I had to make sure the cubes were straight to make it secure"

Bertie in Squirrels said "I realised that when we put the cylinders at the bottom of the tower it wasn't stable because they were curved"

Leo in Hedgehogs said "I've discovered that triangles can be different sizes and shapes but they always have 3 sides and 3 corners"

Mabel in Hedgehogs said "I liked seeing how many vertices they had. The triangles all had 3 but they looked different. Some were taller and the edges were longer"

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

April from Honeybees said "I really liked being a scientist, especially when we shook the cream and it turned into butter!"

Tate from Honeybees said "I really liked it when the cake powder went into the vinegar and made the balloon blow up really big!"

Carmen from Caterpillars said "I liked doing the waterproof activity because I guessed that the water would stay on top of the bubble wrap and it did!"

Eira from Caterpillars said "I liked making a dinosaur fossil. First it was dry and then wet and now it is going hard. I liked pressing a shell into the dough".

Phoebe from Ladybirds said "I enjoyed finding out the things that have air in will float".

Oakley from Ladybirds said "I liked the fact the raisins had so many bubbles on it that it made it go up and down and dance!".

Cameron from Hedgehogs said "I found out that the bubble wrap and foil were waterproof and the paper and fabric were not waterproof. I got a star from Mrs Barnes for collaborating with my group.

Minnie from Hedgehogs said "We were trying to find out how different materials would be waterproof and some wouldn't be waterproof. We wanted to make a new roof for Teddy's house and we needed it to be waterproof. The bubblewrap was the best. I had fun!"

Eloise from Squirrels said "I felt like a real scientist because we wore the white lab coats to investigate a suitable roof for Teddie's house. The paper and fabric were not suitable because the water came through and got Teddy wet".

Tyler from Squirrels said "The investigation was really exciting because we had to find a suitable roof for Teddy. I worked with a partner which was fun because we worked as a team. Our investigation showed that the bubble wrap and the tin foil was the strongest roof. Teddy didn't get wet".

Edward from Badgers said "I liked it because the metal was strong and waterproof and the plastic bubble wrap was waterproof because it didn't let the water through. I learnt from the paper towel that it took time to let the water inside the cup but in the end it did go through"

Poppy from Badgers said "I found it interesting to see which materials were waterproof and which materials could work on a roof. Also which materials let the water in. I liked using the pipettes".

Owain from Herons said "I enjoyed making the bath bombs and watching them dissolve".

Kaveah from Herons said "I liked making the bath bomb out of different materials and I enjoyed watching them change. It fizzed then disappeared".

Michael from Red Kites said "It was really exciting to make bath bombs because they are fun to have in the bath and now I know how to make them".

Pippa from Red Kites said "I put silver glitter and orange food colouring in my bath bomb, it looked really sparkly".

Isabella from Firecrests said "I liked making bath bombs because we got to watch them dissolve and it was fun and interesting".

Austin from Firecrests said "I enjoyed making bath bombs because it was fascinating to watch them explode and the bubbles fizz up".

6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN



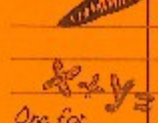
WENDOVER C.E.
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Joint PTA



QUIZ NIGHT

FISH & CHIPS*



One for
the grown
ups!



6
March 2020,
7 - 10.30pm

It's time to get revising
and join both schools' PTAs
for a fun night of quizzing
and food!

Space in the JHS hall is limited to
12 teams of eight people, so book
early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets cost **£12 per person** and
this includes * fish/chips, sausage/
chips or veggie burger/chips, all
supplied fresh by McCoy's.

For further instructions and to pay please
visit: **your school's ParentPay** where you
can add your chosen food and team name.
You can book individually or one person on
behalf of the whole team.



We will be having a licensed bar selling: beer, wine,
cider, gin & tonic, prosecco, soft drinks and snacks.
The money raised will be split equally between
the schools.

Good luck and may the best team win - there will be
prizes! We look forward to seeing you!

Can you help on the night? If you are a parent /
carer who could help at the event please complete
the form below and return it to your child's school
office ASAP or BY FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY latest.

Thanks for your support!



Quiz Night – Helper Slip 6 March 2020

Your name Mobile

Child's name Class/School

Email

TO HELP US ORGANISE PLEASEALWAYS RETURN THE HELPER SLIP + CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (ideally
before 28 FEBRUARY). THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

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

Assessment Week

This week the children have been busy providing us with further evidence of what they have learned since the last 'Assessment Week' at the end of the Autumn Term. The children complete a range of tasks and activities to help teachers confirm their judgements about progress and attainment in the core subjects. Assessment is an on-going process in our school but these special weeks give our staff and pupils the opportunity to spend slightly longer gathering more evidence to confirm their judgements. Learning Review meetings take place during the week beginning 9th March. Teachers will share with you, their observations and assessments of your child, at this time. They will also hand you a sheet outlining some targets which could be worked on at home as well as in school.

During the first half of the Spring Term, the Early Years class have taken every opportunity to get engaged in new learning. Foundation Stage pupils have been inspired by their topic of 'Explorer, Explorer' and so much good learning has taken place. Year One have been inspired by their topic work and have completed numerous investigations. Year Two have found Samuel Pepys buried treasure in the school grounds which led to them learning so much about the Great Fire of London.

GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

We continue to be pleased with the excellent response from pupils to the 'Scroll of Honour' initiative. We are consistently noticing more children taking the initiative to offer help to others or to tidy up or to demonstrate the school values in action without any prompting. We are delighted that a whole range of adults in the school spot this type of behaviour and we hope that this will further enhance the ethos of kindness and respect for people and property whilst also celebrating the success of those who demonstrate our core values and our Golden Rules.

Our recent Mathematics Curriculum Evening provided parents/carers with the opportunity to learn how to support mathematical development at home.

GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR & ATTITUDES

The School Council has met. The Council now has three new members from the Foundation Stage classes, chosen by their classmates. The focus for their discussion this time linked to our 'Year of Kindness' and they made good suggestions about how to make further improvements in order to create an even more positive and respectful culture in the school.

The whole school has spent this week developing thinking skills in Science and Maths activities and learnt more about Growth Mindsets as part of Discovery Week.



GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

We are pleased to have appointed Mrs Ridge to take on the role of Finance Manager at John Hampden. She began work on Monday 3rd February. As we approach the end of the financial year for the school, we are waiting to discover how much funding we will receive for 2020-2021. Budget setting activities are underway and we look likely to have reduced our deficit situation further by our continuing austerity measures and successful cost saving actions. We are also benefiting from successful fundraising and profitable collaborations.

Projects are underway linked to language development and reading. These are collaborative projects with different schools, the Local Authority and research institutions. Our commitment to working with others is proving beneficial for pupils at John Hampden.



CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours.

To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

Find out more at gov.uk/coronavirus



JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER

Loving to Learn

On Saturday 21st March from 10.00am until 11.00am we are holding an Open Morning so you can view the teaching areas and meet key members of staff. Please phone or email the school office to express your interest in attending. 01296 622629 or

office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE LOOKING FOR PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION FROM SEPTEMBER 2020?



The John Hampden School Wendover is opening their Early Years Class from September 2020. We can offer your child:

- Up to three terms of high quality education in a new, purpose built learning environment
- Excellent facilities and resources – an irresistible learning environment inside and out
- Outstanding transition arrangements
- A gentle introduction to school
- Highly qualified, experienced and caring staff committed to developing the potential of every child
- A friendly and welcoming environment
- Five compulsory morning sessions 8.45a.m- 11.45a.m, universally funded
- Chargeable lunch club
- Optional afternoon sessions 12.15p.m-3.15p.m (up to 30 hours of flexible free entitlement)
- Breakfast Club from 7.45a.m, After School Club until 6.00p.m (Childcare vouchers accepted)

Eligible children will be born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 and admission criteria apply.

For further information or to arrange a visit please contact the school office 01296 622629, email office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk or view the school website www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you!

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



Children's Pancake Party

Come to St Mary's Church, Wendover
to enjoy delicious pancakes and play
some fun games!

Tues 25th February
4 - 5pm



Buckinghamshire
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
we save lives

'Please Let Us Through'....

It is probably little consolation to you that your school is not the only one that has issues with parking at the start and end of the school day.

As has been proved recently, inconsiderate parking can cause life-threatening delays to emergency service vehicles that are trying to reach a school during these times.

Here at Bucks Fire & Rescue Service, we are occasionally asked to help a school to tackle their parking issues.

While we are keen to help if we can, please be aware that we have no powers of enforcement when it comes to parking.

We can only suggest, usually with signs on lampposts, or fliers on windscreens (a last resort) that people consider emergency vehicles when parking.

Your school may have tried the 'usual' methods to tackle the parking issue; letters in school newsletters, or direct to parents, etc. Other areas have tried different approaches; pupils talking to errant drivers, even temporary road closures, with varied levels of success.

We are pleased to be working with the Bucks County Council Healthy Travel Team, looking at ways that might help all schools deal with this issue. Unfortunately, there is not one 'fix' that will work for all schools, but if we can offer you a range of measures that you can take, hopefully you can find one or more that work for your school.

*Keith Wheeler
Road Safety Officer
Bucks Fire & Rescue Service
Email; kwheeler@bucksfire.gov.uk*



Buckinghamshire
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
we save lives



Please let us through...
SOMEONE NEEDS HELP



EMERGENCY VEHICLES REQUIRE
A MINIMUM OF **10FT (3 METRES)** CLEARANCE

Inconsiderate parking
CAN COST LIVES