



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

I hope you managed to have a restful half term break and were able to enjoy some quality time with your children despite the stormy weather.

Last week the children were involved in Arts Week. The theme was 'Environmental Art' and each class was invited to complete art and music activities linked to this topic. The theme links to our 'Year of Kindness' initiative with recycling and care for the environment being covered during the week. Stimuli have included stories, poems and music and the week culminated in an opportunity for classes to share their learning with their buddy class on Friday afternoon, followed by a whole school assembly where they all sang a new song, linked to the theme, which Mrs Collins had taught during the week. Photos of some of the art work produced is included on the school website.

We look forward to welcoming you into school next week for the Learning Review Meetings where you will have ten minutes to meet with the class teacher to find out about what the children have been learning and to hear about your child's progress and attainment. The ten minute slot should provide enough time to hear the key messages and you are welcome to spend as much time as you would like looking at your child's books before or after the appointment. We would ask that you do not attempt to take more than your allotted time slot as other people are affected when appointment times overrun. If you require more time it may be appropriate to make another mutually convenient appointment to continue the discussions. You will be given paper handouts relating to the next targets for your child and you may also be signposted to other helpful resources that will be available on the school website. At the end of your appointment the class teacher will give you a questionnaire to gauge your feedback about how useful the meeting has been. We would ask you to complete this whilst you are in school and also to complete a short comment sheet for your child which is designed to motivate and encourage them further.

On Friday 13th March you are invited to come into school again. At 2.45 p.m. (9.00am or 2.45pm for Crickets Class) you can go to your child's classroom to share their books with them. The purpose of this is to celebrate their successes and to reinforce the messages about future targets. We do recognise that this may not be a convenient time for every parent so we will always make sure that a member of staff shares the books of any child whose parents are not able to attend.

World Book Day

Our World Book Day celebration event took place today. Thank you for your support—the children look amazing in their costumes—we will include some photos on the school website.

Sport Relief

On Friday 13th March, in return for a £1 donation, we are inviting the children to come into school wearing something sporty. Please note that their clothing must be suitable and warm enough for them to wear outside at playtime.

Thank you for your continued support.



2. GOVERNOR SECTION

As part of our role as Governor each of us acts as Link Governor to specific subjects within the school. In general a link governor role involves the following tasks:

- Making pre-arranged visits to the school, with a clear focus
- Keeping the governing board informed about the area for which they're responsible, and acting as a link between governors and staff
- Supporting the member of staff who is responsible for the particular area/subject
- Developing knowledge in the specialist area and taking part in relevant training
- Ensuring the school has relevant policies in place
- Monitoring the implementation of the school's strategy in the specialist area

In the past month I had the pleasure of meeting with the subject leaders for Maths (Mrs Bowman) and Art (Miss Webb). Both teachers have taken on responsibility for their subjects relatively recently and I was keen to find out how they are getting on and what they have planned for the children.

The core purpose of the subject leader is to provide professional leadership and management for a subject to secure high quality teaching, effective use of resources and improved standards of learning and achievement for all pupils for the whole school. A subject leader provides leadership and direction for the subject and ensures that it is managed and organised to meet the aims and objectives of the school and the subject.

Both teachers are clearly passionate about their subject areas and able to clearly articulate their vision and objectives for the subject over next year. One of Mrs Bowman's priorities is finding ways to incorporate 'reasoning' into maths and other subjects in response to Ofsted feedback. She has attended a training course to help with this and talked through how she is implementing some of what she learnt.

Miss Webb shared her vision for Art, which is to allow children more freedom to create. She felt that often children are given instruction on how to create something and basically try and copy what they are shown. Her aim is to allow, within limits, children to have more ownership to develop their ideas. I was given a tour of school to see this in practice, across the school I saw great examples of children using their imagination to craft their own works of art. For example, in Foundation stage children have been given free reign to make whatever they want out of egg boxes, resulting in an array of fabulous creations from fire engines to owls, caterpillars to chicks.

Mrs Bowman talked through some of the Maths related activities she has planned for Discovery Week. The activities involve shape and different ways of children engaging with shape, learning in a hands-on, innovative way. Mrs Bowman talked through some of her methods of teaching maths and I was impressed by how creative her approach is, she utilises a variety of different resources to bring her ideas to life and is clearly keen to make learning enjoyable for the children.

What struck me at both meetings is how many things subject leaders need to take into consideration as part of their responsibility as subject leader. As well as being creative in their approach to the subject and how it is taught, to engage the children, they need to make sure that children are actually taught everything that needs to be taught in the curriculum. Subject leaders also create and implement an Action plan for their subject, which they need to align to the school development plan, thus ensuring they are aligning with school strategy.

They need to take into account all the other teachers, getting buy-in for their ideas while also taking into consideration everyone's already heavy workload. Both teachers use feedback from other teachers, parents and children to shape their work. Miss Webb talked through some of her research which involved interviewing children about Art, she used that insight for ideas and to understand gaps in learning. Mrs Bowman talked through the Maths evening organised for parents in response to parent survey feedback.

Another consideration that needs to be taken into account are the varying abilities of the children and making sure that all abilities are catered for in their subject. Mrs Bowman talked through some of the ways teachers do this in Maths, Miss Webb talked about how Art is a subject that can allow children who may struggle in other areas to really excel. The teachers also work hard to ensure their subjects link with other subjects and encourage cross curricular teaching and learning.

I came away from both of my visits feeling confident that the subject leaders are working hard to ensure that the children at John Hampden have the best possible opportunities to learn each subject. Both teachers have taken on their new responsibility with energy and enthusiasm – I felt really inspired by what they had planned. Being a Governor has given me a great insight into teaching at John Hampden and the rich and varied opportunities children have. We are currently looking for parent Governors to join the team, if you are interested in joining the team please get in touch!



Suzanne Pim
Co-opted 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

CORONAVIRUS

We are receiving regular updates from the Department for Education on the government's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Public Health' England advises that the risk to individuals in the UK remains low. There is a guidance poster within the Miscellaneous' section of this newsletter. Please do inform the school if you believe your child has come into contact with anyone who has been advised to self isolate.

TISSUES

With such a tight budget situation please can we ask that you provide your child with their own pack of tissues if they have a cold.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We ask all parents who send their children to our school for their support of the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork (including a named P.E. kit). Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean, named and in good repair. We currently have Lost Property boxes that are over flowing with clothing that is not named—children are not able to identify whether it is theirs or not!

The Uniform Policy and an order form is available on our school website and gives clear guidance about appropriate clothing for school. Many items can be purchased from the school office.

We wish to discourage parents from allowing their children to wear 'jean' type trousers and we prefer children to wear school type shoes or boots in black, grey or navy.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the head teacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the head teacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

COATS

Children should wear a coat to school every day at this time of the year, especially in this particularly wet weather.

SPARE PAPER

We are always very happy to receive any spare paper you may have. In the past parents have donated from their workplaces/contacts, any spare or damaged paper which otherwise would have been disposed of—we will always use it!!

SCHOOL WEBSITE

School websites are an important way of finding out about a school. There is a great deal of statutory information that should be included on a school site but we continue to work hard to try and ensure that ours also gives a true flavour of what the school is really like. Our website is constantly being developed and I would urge you to take a regular look as new information/detail is often added. We would be pleased to hear your feedback or to receive suggestions as to what you would like to see on the website so we can make it as useful as possible. The website address is www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk or you can find us by googling John Hampden School Wendover.

WORLD BOOK DAY TOKENS

Please check your child's book bag for their World Book Day £1 token. These tokens can be redeemed up until 29th March.

SCROLL OF HONOUR BADGES

Please can we have any scroll of honour badges returned to the office as soon as possible please as we are running out.

WORMS

We have been asked to advise you all that we have a case of worms in the school. If you think your child may have any of the symptoms as described on the NHS website, please seek advice from a Doctor or Medical Practitioner as treatment will be required along with strict hygiene measures and once treated the child may return to school.

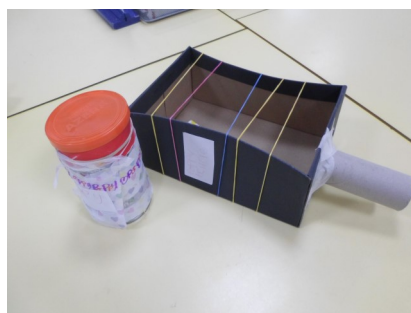
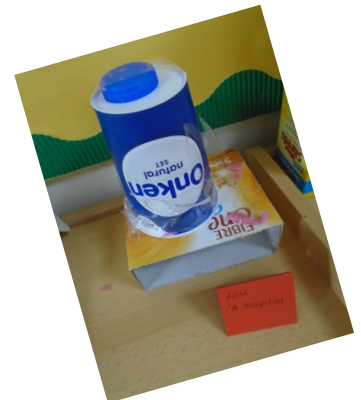
4. CURRICULUM

Last week we had a week to celebrate the Arts at our school. We had a theme of Environmental Art and being kind to our planet; linked to our whole school 'Year of Kindness' initiative. We taught the children about the importance of recycling and the huge global issue about reducing the amount of waste and reusing materials to prevent the amount of rubbish being put into landfills or ending up in the oceans.

Each class had a different approach, but as a school our focus was to give children the opportunity to explore and experiment with different materials and new skills. We believe the process of art to be just as valuable to the children as the creating of a final piece of art.

All the classrooms were full of pieces of artwork, but the week also provided a good chance for us to link art with music and drama. The wonderful Mrs Collins penned a song all about recycling called 'In the Bin' which was taught to the children and performed as a whole school during our Merit Assembly. We celebrated the end of Arts Week by meeting with our Buddy Classes to 'show off' the art created.

The week proved to be very successful and it was lovely to see the variety of art created and seeing children's individuality and ideas shining through. Thank you to all the parents that helped to collect recycled materials for us.



5. PUPIL'S SECTION

We thought you might like to hear some of the feedback the children gave after Arts week:

Pupils in Crickets enjoyed making Cinderella's carriage which was a pumpkin, like trash to treasure. They also made treasure maps with the recycling stuff.

Emilia from Ladybirds used rubbish from homes and the school to make different masks and animals.

Oakley from Ladybirds enjoyed making his Ladybird by using paint and tissue paper and glue and pipe cleaners for the antenna. It was fun.

Freddy from Caterpillars enjoyed making his fire engine out of an egg box. He cut the lid off and then painted it red and made a hose and wheels out of bottle lids. He was proud of it.

Willa from Caterpillars enjoyed using recycled materials to make her caterpillar. She used green paint as caterpillars are normally green.

Beatrice from Honeybees thinks their honeybee looks fantastic and they did it all themselves!

William B from Honeybees thinks it's so good that they recycled bottle lids to make their wind chimes and they jingle.

Joanie-Jo in Badgers really enjoyed collecting the things she needed then sticking everything like the shells on the monster. Painting in different colours was fun.

Henry in Badgers really liked making the monster, especially using all the rubbish and he liked the painting. He mixed some colours to make brown.

Minnie in Hedgehogs liked the colour bricks that they made. They had to find the colour that they had chosen by looking in newspapers and magazines. They cut them and ripped them out and stuck them onto the bricks. Her colour was orange.

Wilbert from Hedgehogs used strips of fabric and wove them up and down until he had lots of the same colour. He found it challenging and he had to persevere. His colour was blue.

Blake in Squirrels said it was really fun because they made their own instruments out of recyclable materials such as cardboard, plastic and straws. We then performed our Squirrel poem to our buddy class using our instruments.

Billy in Squirrels said he made a shaker which was fun. It was like a rain maker with lots of sticks going through it. He was able to decorate it with lots of stickers too. At the end they played them to the Foundation Stage.

Jim from Herons learnt that creatures die because they eat the plastic from us who throw it away!

Lauren from Herons learnt that if something goes wrong—just try again. She had fun.

Patrick from Firecrests enjoyed doing the blue sky background for their beanstalk. It was fun.

Isabella from Firecrests enjoyed making the clouds for the castle to sit on for their beanstalk.

Phoenix from Red Kites learnt to wrap strips of paper around a cotton wool bud and a pencil. This is called quilling.

Eva from Red Kites practised quilling on Monday and then used her new skill to make a picture. It was quite hard but she persevered and she is proud of what she made.



FJH Presents....
**Easter Bunny Village
& Easter Cake Sale***


Come and explore the Easter Bunny Village,
meet the Easter Bunny Family and enjoy a delicious cake.
(* please bring themed cake donations to reception on morning of 2nd April)

Grab a map, explore the Village
and win a sweet treat!

Date: Thursday 2nd April
Time: Straight after school at 3.30pm
Where: JHS Crickets play area
Cost: £1 per child to explore the Village

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	GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR & ATTITUDES
<p>Developing early reading and writing skills is a fundamental part of our work and we are always looking for ways to make this learning as meaningful as possible. This week we have started to focus on how high quality story telling can enrich the learning in reading and writing in each year group. Mrs Parkinson, Mrs King and Mrs McNally are taking the lead for this initiative in each year group and the teachers will be observing one another, reading and creating stories with their classes in the next few weeks.</p> 	 <p>Arts Week gave us another opportunity for our classes to buddy up to share their learning. Older classes are matched with younger classes so children can get to know one another and hopefully show kindness and support to one another within their classrooms and out on the playground.</p> <p>Last week a new team of monitors were introduced. Year 2 'Dining Hall Monitors' now support the Midday Supervisors by helping children to pour their drinks, cut their food, answer questions and provide encouragement to those who are eating. It has been wonderful to watch this new team take on their roles so responsibly.</p>
GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT
<p>Relationships Education becomes statutory from September 2020 and Mrs Spencer has taken the lead in ensuring our school will be more than ready when this deadline is reached. She has already worked with the Senior Leadership Team, including governors, to develop and communicate her vision for Relationships teaching at the school. She has also worked with staff to embed the vision and teachers are already trialling the implementation of units of work.</p> <p>The development of the policy for Relationships Education is well underway and we are planning the required consultation with parents this term.</p> <p>We are pleased to note that much of what underpins good relationships education is already embedded at John Hampden.</p>  	<p>WORKLOAD</p> <p>Our school development plan includes a target linked to teacher workload and this is also an area that Ofsted consider within their inspection framework. This week teaching staff have been issued with a workload survey which aims to identify where improvements can be made whilst ensuring high standards are maintained. Once collated the Senior Leadership Team will consider the findings and identify necessary actions to ensure our teaching staff manage to have a reasonable work life balance.</p> <p>Staff also complete an annual well-being survey in May which provides the opportunity for anonymous feedback from each of the individuals within the teams in the school.</p> 

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Out of School Care Playworker vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Playworker at our Breakfast Club from 7.30 am to 8.45 am for four mornings per week (Monday to Thursday) and at our After School Club from 3.00 pm to 6.15 pm three afternoons per week (Tues, Wed, Thur) term time only. The applicant would preferably have some experience of working with children and a relevant Level 2 qualification, however this is not essential.

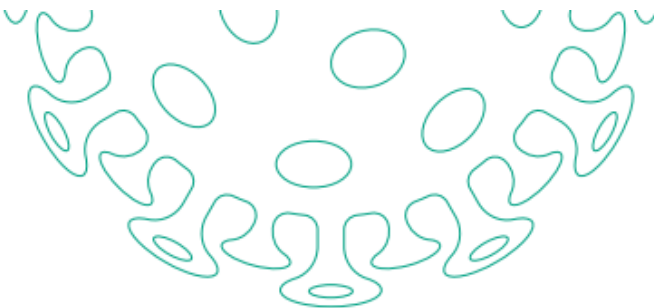
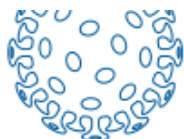
The salary will be within Bucks Pay Range 1A (currently £15,840 per annum pro rata) and the closing date for applications is Friday 20th March 2020.

If you are interested in this post and would like more information, please call the John Hampden School office on 01296 622629 or email

office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk or contact the OOSC on 07506 195699 or email oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk



Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it
by washing
your hands with
soap & water or
hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks
& sport
activities



Before
cooking
& eating



SCHOOL
ETC.
On arrival at
any childcare
or educational
setting



After using
the toilet



Before
leaving
home



Try not to touch your
eyes, nose, and mouth
with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come
into contact with your mouth
such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items
such as bedding, dishes,
pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19. Parents can visit **NHS.UK** to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days.

See **NHS.UK** for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately

