

The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE	
Message from Mrs Barnes	1
Governor Section	2
Important Messages	3
Curriculum	4
Pupil's Section	5
Friends of John Hampden	6
Miscellaneous	7

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

5th—8th October: Parents' Evenings 23rd October—School closes at 3.15pm for half term holiday

19th October: Assessment Week 2nd November—School re-opens [Safety Week]

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Being back at school is good for us all and the smiles on the staff and children's faces are testament to this. In an infant school, at the beginning of a new school year, I think it is particularly important for the children to be given time to settle into their new classes, getting to know their new teachers and teaching assistants. We have spent time in the first few weeks focusing on the Golden Rules and reinforcing our core values so that all pupils are fully aware of our expectations. I regularly visit the classes during the working day and it is very encouraging to watch the children adjusting to the routines and expectations of school life. We aim to have a positive approach to behaviour management, and our Golden Rules highlight what children should do, rather than what they should not!

We believe it is important to acknowledge when children do well and at John Hampden, this is done in a variety of ways. Feedback from teaching staff is the most immediate method, but stickers and pebbles are also used as reward tokens in many of the classes. Children are sent to me or Mrs Parkinson to share their learning when they have done exceptionally well and we reward this behaviour with special stickers and a gold star to take home. Each Friday we are holding a virtual Merit Assembly, in which one child from each class is chosen to receive a Merit Award. This is awarded by the class teachers and teaching assistants for exceptional behaviour or exceptional learning. Children receiving the Merit Awards are invited to sit on special chairs and a star is put onto our Merit Board in the hall to remind us of their achievements.

A silver cup is awarded to the 'Class of the Week'. So far Herons and Squirrels have won the cup - I'll leave your children to tell you who won it today!

Finally, 'The Scroll of Honour' is unfurled. The scroll contains the names of any child in the school who has been spotted by any adult for doing something special. The children are called to the front of the class and the whole class sing a congratulatory song to them. Each child whose name is on the scroll will bring home a special envelope so you know what they have done to impress us. They will also be given a sticker to wear on their jumper during the following week.

We also like to celebrate achievement outside school and we have a display board in the corridor to showcase the talents of our pupils. If your child is awarded a certificate or an award for swimming, dancing, sport, music etc. we are happy to take a photocopy or photograph and put it up on the board.

We are looking forward to our Parents' Evenings next week where we can provide you with feedback about how your child is settling into their new class. From our perspective it appears the online system for making appointments has worked successfully. In the first two days 84% of families had logged on and chosen their appointment slot. Please remember that only one parent should attend the appointment and a face covering must be worn. The 10 minute appointments will take place outside and you will need to follow the signposted route to reach your child's class teacher. If, following your appointment, you would like to speak to me or Mrs Parkinson about any matter please come to the main entrance where we can arrange a mutually convenient time and place to speak.

Thank you for your continued support.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

It's hard to believe that the pupils of John Hampden have been back at school for four weeks now. Hopefully your children have all settled in well and are enjoying being back with their friends and peers. All the staff and governors are conscious, however, that the last few weeks won't have been easy for everyone. Lockdown will have been different for all of the children and they will all have been affected to an extent. Some of the children will have been anxious about coming back to school having been with their family and in the home environment for so long, others may find the safety measures put in place a bit strange.

The focus of the first term is very much on the children's emotional and mental wellbeing, and the curriculum has been adapted to support this. For example, each week teachers choose a book that will represent one of the school values and base that week's teaching upon it. In week 1 of this term, all classes focussed on Belonging to help children integrate back in to the school environment. This theme of Belonging was then followed up and reinforced by the head teacher's assembly. By nurturing a sense of community, we're creating a safe place for them to grow their curiosity and learn.

Teaching activities have also had to adapt to help ensure a safe learning environment. You will have noticed, for instance, the creative use of outdoor space. While half the class are indoors, the other half will be outside. Half of the activities are teacher led, whilst half are pupil led.

End of week assemblies are also different to how they used to be, with each class remaining in their rooms where they get to view a 'virtual' Mrs Barnes on screen before she visits each class to deliver merit awards to the pupils that shone extra bright that week.

So far the children have responded really well to the changes, and we should all be proud of them, but staff remain conscious that some will find things harder than others and are aware of the cues to look out for and how to deal with them sensitively.

Of course, it's not just the children who have had to get used to new ways of doing things and might be feeling anxious. Many parents will also have had their own worries about their children returning to school. All the staff and governors are acutely aware that clear, open communication has never been so important. With this in mind, the parents' consultation evenings have been brought forward this year to offer some reassurances. Everyone should have their appointments now but, if you have any specific queries please let your child's teacher know in advance.

And the same is true if you ever have anything you'd like to discuss with the school - The John Hampden School Wendover has an open door policy, so please do reach out. We appreciate drop off and pick up times can be pretty frantic at the best of times, so do feel free to arrange a time to speak with your child's class teacher either through a note in their bag or by emailing the school office, they'll be happy to speak with you (and done so in line with social distancing measures).



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

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENT AT JOHN HAMPDEN—EARLY YEARS (NURSERY) & RECEPTION PLACES

If you, or someone you know, is looking for a school place for September 2021 they may be interested in viewing our virtual presentation, available on the school website from Wednesday 14th October 2020.

Please phone or email the school office to register your interest in a place in the Early Years (Nursery) class. Applications for a place in a reception class must be made via the Buckinghamshire Council school admissions portal.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Many thanks for all the contributions of food and produce. They were collected by representatives from the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury who are always very grateful for our donations at this time of the year.

Dogs on Campus

Please note that dogs are not allowed anywhere on the school campus.

COATS

Children are involved in learning outside the classroom everyday so it is really important that they bring a coat to school everyday especially as it is starting to get colder now.

PARKING CLOSE TO THE SCHOOL

We have received communication from one of the residents living close to the school. She is understandably unhappy because her own vehicle has been damaged on a number of occasions as a result of inconsiderate parking and careless driving. If you do need to drive your child to school please take care.

REMINDER

Please remember that children should not bring in sweets/treats for classmates when it is their birthday. We have a number of children with allergies and it is safer to say no to this altogether in order to avoid upset and disappointment.

SCHOOL TRAVEL

Please note, scooters and bicycles left at school are left entirely at the owner's risk. John Hampden School accepts no liability for any loss or damage from any cause whatsoever. It really helps if bicycles and scooters are clearly named and we are happy for them to be padlocked to the fence for extra security if you wish. Siblings from Wendover Junior School should not leave their scooters or bikes on our premises. Please also refrain from scooting or cycling on the paths on campus. Thank you.

4. CURRICULUM

The curriculum is broadly defined as the totality of a pupil's experiences that occur in the educational process. At The John Hampden School Wendover we have nine aims that underpin the learning opportunities we offer.

They are:

- To engender a love of learning
- To make the most of learners' potential
- To develop independent learning
- To develop skills
- To learn to value
- To learn to question
- To open up to possibility
- To provide security
- To prepare for life

We try to engage with parents/carers to help support learning and the school website www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk has plenty of information which you may find useful. Each class has its own section and there is information regarding what the children are learning each week included as a document within each page.



During the first half of the Autumn Term we have put in place a 'Recovery Curriculum' to ensure our pupils have the opportunity to settle back into school happily. The long break from 'normal' schooling, as a result of COVID-19, means we need to spend time finding out which academic and social skills the children are still successfully demonstrating and where any gaps may be. When you communicate with class teachers next week, please remember that the children will only have been back at school for four weeks. Teachers are steadily getting to know your children so they will talk to you about their observations of how well they have settled and what they are beginning to note in terms of social skills and attitudes to learning. Later in the year we hope to be able to give you the chance to come into school and look at your child's exercise books and admire their hard work but currently our focus is on settling in and being properly prepared for the learning that is to come. Our focus so far in KS1 has been to assess the basics—phonics, handwriting, sentence writing, counting, number and place value. Once we are certain that children have a sound grasp of these concepts we will gradually start to move them on from their individual starting points in the core subjects.

Challenge is built into the curriculum for those that need it but in these first weeks of a new school year it is right to make sure any gaps in learning are identified so children don't miss key building blocks for future learning.

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

On Thursday 1st October we held our first ever pre-recorded Harvest Festival. Despite the children not being able to meet together in the hall in the traditional way we found a way of making it just as enjoyable. Each class had been practising their own performance in the classroom—these were videoed and put together to create an assembly so each class had the opportunity to watch others in the school perform.

We thought you might like to read about what the children enjoyed about it.



Crickets Class

Lyla liked the chop chop song as she liked the actions and Naya loved the poetry baskets.



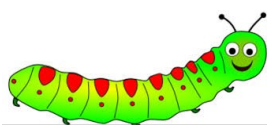
Ladybirds Class sang 'Big Red Combine Harvester'

Harry liked doing the actions—they were fun and Paavni liked all the singing because she loves singing.



Honeybees Class sang 'The Owl'

Reggie liked the teamwork because they had to learn the song together and Rosa liked that they did all the actions and not just the singing.



Caterpillars Class sang 'Under the Harvest Moon'

Amelie liked flying like a bat under the harvest moon because her mummy likes flying and Harry liked watching the harvest festival on the screen.



Hedgehogs Class recited the poem 'Have You Seen the Harvest?'

Sylvie liked being videoed and she liked holding her farmer up. She painted and cut it out and put it on a lolly stick. Oliver liked it when he saw his little brother singing in Crickets when they watched the video.



Squirrels Class performed a Harvest Dance

Zettie loved singing about apples rosey and red because she loves apples and Yash loved singing about the carrots because he loves pulling them up from the ground.



Badgers Class sang 'Cauliflowers Fluffy'

Alice liked the song because she liked the actions and Freddy liked the actions especially the onion one.



Red Kites Class sang 'Harvest Samba'

Shirley enjoyed saying the prayer and the song was really wonderful and Luca liked practising and singing our song 'Harvest Samba'

Hérons Class sang 'Bean Harvest'

Ayva liked singing and doing the actions, especially the mime part and Sam liked the baked bean part at the end because he got to go in a small tucked ball and it made a good end to the performance.



Firecrests Class sang 'Down, Down to the Allotment'

Poppy liked learning all the actions to the song and Jack liked learning a brand new song for Harvest



SMILE!



it's the first ever FJH


Children's Photography Competition

The 12 winners of the competition will not only get a lovely individual prize but will have their winning photos featured in the **NEW FJH 2021 Calendar**. This will be available to purchase in time for Christmas.

It only costs a £1 per photo to enter and all the rules and information you need to know are on the next page. Your entries must be in by Thursday 22 October at the latest.
(Winners will be announced w/c 2 November).

8 fun photo categories to compete in and let your child's imagination run wild.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Where I live | 2 My favourite things |
| 3 Back to nature | 4 The weather |
| 5 Colours | 6 Working together |
| 7 This makes me laugh | 8 Animals |

Competition sponsored by  **Sarah Greer**
PHOTOGRAPHY

Sarah's amazing work has been featured in Vogue and Hello magazine, as well as scores of our local homes. Look on the JHS Parents Facebook Page for some of Sarah's Top Tips on taking great photos.

Calendar printing kindly sponsored by  **Christopher Pallet**
Printing and design since 1973

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Wish list

Year One would like your help with the following resources. If you are having a sort out and would like to donate any of the items below, we would be very grateful -

Dinosaurs

Barbies/dolls/figures (not soft toys)

Jigsaws (12-50 pieces)

Cardboard tubes of all sizes (not toilet rolls)

Small cars

Construction toys

Wooden building blocks

Glove puppets

Greetings cards and envelopes (unused)

Simple board games (e.g. snakes and ladders, ludo)

Card games (snap, matching pairs, uno)

Old phones (landline and mobile)

Old computer keyboards

Dinner sets (not toy ones)

Wooden spoons

Saucepans, pans and sieves

Magazines, catalogues and comics

Any unwanted art and craft equipment

Thank you



Test and Trace

23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
 1. **a high temperature:** any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. **a new continuous cough:** coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. **a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and **only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.**
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate **does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.**

No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. Schools have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

It is vital for children's learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Viv Bennett CBE

Chief Nurse and Director Maternity and Early Years | Public Health England

Head of World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Public Health Nursing and Midwifery

Follow me on Twitter: @VivJBennett



Dr Susan Hopkins

Interim Chief Medical Officer | NHS Test & Trace

Deputy Director | Public Health England

Consultant in Infectious Diseases & Microbiology
Royal Free, London

7. MISCELLANEOUS



Wendover Foodbank Donation Week

Sunday 27th September - Sunday 4th October 2020

In May Wendover Youth Centre, Churches Together in Wendover, and Wendover Parish Council came together with the Wendover Foodbank to organise a foodbank donation week during Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown. The whole community donated an amazing 683kg towards the foodbank which was able to feed almost 100 people for 3 days!!!

Wendover Foodbank is part of the Chiltern Foodbank network, supported by the ~~The Trust~~ Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. No one in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why they provide three days nutritionally balanced non-perishable emergency food and support to local people who are struggling to put food on the table. If you know any individuals or families who are in need of the foodbank, please contact John Shaw on 07899 964037 or johns@chiltern.foodbank.org.uk.

Due to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic the demand for the foodbank in the Wendover and Chiltern area has increased more than three-fold and we anticipate that demand will increase further during the autumn, so we have decided to run another foodbank donation week from Sunday 27th September - Sunday 4th October 2020.

During this week we encourage Wendover and the surrounding community to donate food to the foodbank. The items that are listed below are what help to create the food boxes:

Any donation is extremely appreciated and will go towards creating a food box for an individual or family who needs it.

The items we need most are:

Items:

Tins – Vegetables (in particular carrots and sweetcorn), fruit, macaroni cheese (tinned or packets)

Other Items – Sponge Puddings, Angel delight, Chocolate Treats, Custard tinned or Custard powder.

Toiletries / Cleaning Materials – Toothpaste, Shampoo, Deodorant, Washing Powder (small)

The items we are overstocked with are:

UHT Milk

Dried Pasta

Soup

Coffee

Where to drop of donations:

Bugden's:

There is a Food Bank donation box located at the front of the store.

Wendover Youth Centre:

The youth centre will be open each day from 1-3pm from Monday 28th-Friday 2nd October to receive any donations. The centre is located on the school campuses off Wharf Road, Wendover, HP22 6HF.

Wendover Clock Tower:

Donations can be dropped off at the Wendover Clock Tower between 9am-3pm from Monday 28th-Friday 2nd October.

St Marys Church:

Open for donations Monday & Wednesday 10am-12pm and Tuesday & Thursday's 2-4pm.

Christian Centre:

Open for donations Tuesday 2-4pm and Wednesday 10am-12pm.

Pick up from doorstep:

If you would like to donate items but are unable or would like to not leave your home, we can arrange a pickup of the items from your doorstep. If you would like to arrange this please contact Peter Swinford on 07950667895.

We encourage you to share this information and the poster attached. Any questions or enquires please email Peter Swinford at peter@wendoveryouth.co.uk.



WENDOVER FOODBANK



DONATION WEEK
27TH SEPTEMBER TO THE 4TH OF OCTOBER
2020

WHERE TO DONATE

Budgens

Drop in foodbank bin

Wendover Youth Centre

Open 1-3pm Mon-Sat for donations to be dropped off

Wendover Clock Tower

Open 9am-3pm Monday to Friday for donations to be dropped off

St Mary's Church

Open Monday & Wednesday 10am-12pm and Tuesday & Thursday's 2-4pm

Christian Centre

Open Tuesday 2-4pm & Wednesday 10am-12pm

Pickup

Donations can be picked up from doorstep - contact info below

FOOD LIST

All donations are welcomed! Below is what is needed:

Tinned Items:

Fruit, Carrots & Sweetcorn

Dried Foods:

Macaroni Cheese, Sponge Puddings, Custard, Angel Delight, Chocolate treats

Toiletries:

Deodorant, Shampoo, Washing Powder & Toothpaste

INFORMATION

Our local foodbank is in need of food donations to ensure it can support those in need during this Covid- 19 Pandemic!

For more information email Peter@wendoveryouth.co.uk



Tel: 01296 623056
www.wendover-pc.gov.uk



Follow us on Facebook
[@wendoverparish](https://www.facebook.com/wendoverparish)

HALLOWEEN

Baking Competition

Get creative and bake a Halloween themed recipe, you could win a prize worth £50!

Entries close 3rd November 2020



Email a picture of your creation to admin@wendover-pc.gov.uk before the 3rd November, along with your name and contact details, to be entered into the competition.