

The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

9th October—Open Morning for prospective families of Early Years or Foundation Stage pupils	25th October : FJH Spooky Letter Hunt 3.20pm
21st October : Health Week	25th October—School closes at 3.15pm for half term holiday
21st October: Assessment Week	4th November—School re-opens

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

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 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 hold a whole school Merit Assembly, in which one child from each class is chosen to receive a Merit Award. This is awarded by the class teacher and teaching assistant for exceptional behaviour or exceptional learning. Children receiving the Merit Awards are invited to sit on special chairs throughout the assembly, and a star is put onto our Merit Board to remind us of their achievement. Our Midday Meals Supervisors also nominate children to receive a special certificate each Friday. A name is picked from a special box and a certificate and sticker is presented to that child. All children who have been nominated will bring home their purple nomination slip and a sticker so you can see what they have done to impress us.

During Merit Assembly we also award the 'Golden Boot' to the class who have most children walking to school (this is measured by the 'WOW Travel Tracker' which the children complete each morning)

Bike It Bears are awarded to the classes who have most children cycling/scooting to school and Mrs Beattie also awards prizes to one lucky cyclist and one scooter rider, chosen at random, from the bicycles and scooters left at school on Thursday lunchtime.

A silver cup is awarded to the 'Class of the Week' So far Badgers, Ladybirds 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 assembly and the whole school sing a congratulatory song to them.

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.

Finally, please look out for the letter about the 'Supporting Success at School' letter that was sent out this week. We look forward to many of you joining us on Thursday 17th October from 6.45pm.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

As the major political parties hold their annual conferences, one topic that continues to create headlines is that of school funding. Despite the extra funding from 2021 announced by the government last month, research this week has suggested that four in every 5 schools will still be worse off next year than they were in 2015, with 16000 schools having less money per pupil in 2020 in real terms than in 2015. Our role as governors includes ensuring that our annual budget is allocated and spent in accordance with our strategic aims, and we work hard with the senior leadership team and the school bursar to ensure that we make every pound count.

A critical area of additional income for many schools is that of 'Sport Premium', and whilst the government hasn't yet published details of the 2019-2020 allocation (apparently they have been busy with another issue) we expect to get approximately the same grant as last year. This government provided additional funding aims to improve provision of physical education (PE) and sport in primary schools. This funding is ring-fenced and therefore can only be spent on the provision of PE and sport in schools. Government guidance on its use includes:

- Provide staff with professional development, mentoring, training and resources to help them teach PE and sport more effectively and embed physical activity across the school
- Hire qualified sports coaches to work with teachers to enhance or extend current opportunities
- Introduce new sports, dance or other activities to encourage more pupils to take up sport and physical activities
- Support and involve the least active children by providing targeted activities, and running or extending school sports and holiday clubs
- Enter or run more sport competitions
- Partner with other schools to run sports activities and clubs
- Embed physical activity into the school day through active travel to and from school, active playgrounds and active teaching

We are proud that our school not only meets each of these areas, but we far exceed them. We have built an excellent relationship with Premier Education, a company dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of children through physical activity. Premier Education support our teachers in providing school PE activities and out of school clubs, and all classes receive at least one session of curriculum PE per week. A team member can also be found each lunchtime offering team sports out on the playground, providing additional sporting activities for the children. Another area where we have invested our Sport Premium funding is in the area of mindfulness, self-esteem and resilience, where we look to help pupils become confident and emotionally resilient. Amongst other initiatives in this area the school has made Yoga available to all pupils. This year the school will continue working with the 'Nurturing Minds' group to help parents who would like to better understand areas of their child's behaviour such as mindfulness, self-esteem, behaviour management and social skills. Evidence suggests that if these areas of a child's personality are well understood and cared for, then they will do better in their educational setting as a result. This funding has also allowed the school to organise several fitness sessions as part of the Health & Safety fortnight initiative, to maintain the School Travel Plan and continue to encourage and incentivise walking/scooting/cycling to school. A Bike It Breakfast is also held regularly, and Cycle training is offered each year.

I could write a lot more about how well the school uses the Sports Premium funding for the benefit of each and every pupil, but I'm only allowed one page in the newsletter! In the face of financial challenges the school continues to use these additional grants to ensure that our children have the best quality of education possible, and to help promote their emotional and social wellbeing. The school is passionate about providing the very highest level of education and support to the children. Far from being aimed at specific pupils, this extraordinary level of support is 'bespoke to all', and helps contribute to making us such an outstanding school.



Matt Glanville
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

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

If you, or someone you know, is looking for a school place for September 2020 they may be interested in attending our upcoming Open Morning on Wednesday 9th October 2019.

Presentations will be held at 9.15a.m and 10.30a.m and each session will finish with a tour of the school. Please phone or email the school office to register your interest and to book a preferred time.

SAFETY ON BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS

We will be reminding children that they should refrain from riding their bicycles and scooters within the school grounds. Please would you support us by reminding them to dismount as they come through the gate—no-one should be cycling or scooting in the cycle/storage area. Thank you

ENTRY TO SCHOOL CAR PARK

We have a fence and gate to prevent pedestrians from exiting up the school drive. Pedestrian and vehicle routes are clearly signed. For the safety of everyone we would ask you not to walk your children up and down the school drive for any reason.

Parents using the Out of School Care facility should not use the staff car park at any time



HELP NEEDED—Thursday 24th October and Friday 25th October

All children will be making a healthy snack on Thursday 24th or Friday 25th October as part of Health Week. If any parents are able to come in and help on either/both days we would really appreciate it. If you can help please see Mrs Spencer or Mrs van der Lowen.

Dogs on Campus

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

Scroll of honour badges

If you have any scroll of honour badges at home please could these be returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

International Resources

The Foundation Stage teachers would like to include some multi-cultural food packaging and cooking utensils in their role play area. If you have any spare empty international food packets or cooking utensils which are traditionally used to make certain foods e.g. a wok, we would love to have them in school. We are also looking for any cultural fabrics which you may like to donate. Please bring any donations to the school office.

Red, White & Blue Day



Next Thursday (10th October), we shall be thinking about those who serve in the RAF, the Army & the Navy during our morning assembly. The children in FS, Year 1 & Year 2 are invited to come in wearing red, white and blue on that day with £1 which will be donated to the Red, White & Blue Charity who raise funds for projects to support families of those in the forces e.g. after school clubs and play equipment.

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 the current topics included as a link within each page.

We are also providing regular opportunities for school visits/visitors to enhance the curriculum. This week the classes enjoyed a visit in the form of a drama workshop from the Perform Group. The leader was very complimentary about how well behaved and attentive our pupils were.



We are also offering a range of clubs and activities at lunchtimes and after school. You should have received an email detailing the various clubs we are offering this term. Some are run by the teachers and others are run by external providers. You will notice that we are not currently offering these opportunities to our EYFS children as we feel they need to have time to get used to the routines of regular school before introducing further activities for them. Their time will come!!

Helicopter Stories

Helicopter stories is an Early Years, Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 approach to communication and literacy skills based on storytelling and story acting and forms part of our storytelling curriculum, alongside Talk For Writing. At John Hampden we ensure that the children hear at least one story a day and have the opportunity to learn rhymes and poems. Helicopter Story sessions provide the opportunity to create stories.

In its simplest form, Helicopter Stories lets children dictate their stories which are written down verbatim, exactly as they are told. The children then gather around a taped out stage and the stories are acted out.

Year 1 have all experienced Helicopter Stories with me and as part of their story telling writing unit are recording their stories in special Helicopter Story Books.

Anyone from Year 1 or Year 2 are welcome to come to the lunchtime Helicopter Story Club on Tuesdays at 12.30—1.00 pm.

The Benefits:

An inclusive, whole-class approach which values every child's contribution; facilitates high levels of engagement; creates confidence and self-assurance; supports the development of speaking skills as children express and share their ideas; helps to develop accurate, active listening skills and understanding; supports co-operative and collaborative and creative learning; develops positive relationships within a shared storytelling experience; allows children to explore early literacy and the power of words as they see their stories come to life, and develop their ability to use and adapt language to communicate; offers children a bridge into the world of creative writing as they begin to see the links between the oral stories they compose and the words on a page.

Hope to see you there.

Mrs Parkinson

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

This week we have enjoyed our annual Harvest Festivals. Foundation Stage pupils entertained their parents/carers with a few well known songs, appropriate to the time of year and today our KS1 pupils have performed for the Year 1 parents/carers. Many thanks for all the contributions of food and produce. They will be collected by representatives from the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury who are always very grateful for our donations.

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

Honeybees class performed "Big Red Combine Harvester", "The Golden Corn is swaying" and "The Owl Song". Eloise said she liked singing Big Red Combine Harvester because she really likes the chug, chug, chugging away bit. Reggie said he liked that they sang the songs to their parents and the songs are really good and he loves his parents.

Ladybirds class and Caterpillars class performed "Big Red Combine Harvester", "Under the Harvest Moon" and "The Owl Song". Yash from Ladybirds said he liked Big Red Combine Harvester song because he loves doing the actions. Alice from Ladybirds said she liked Under the Harvest Moon because it makes her think about Autumn. Adele from Caterpillars said she liked the Owl Song because she likes the 'watching you' bit and Arthur from Caterpillars said he liked the Combine Harvester song because he likes the actions.

Hedgehogs class performed "I'm a Little Hedgehog" song and Minnie said she liked the song because she loves hedgehogs! Sam N said he liked doing the Hedgehog song because he likes doing the actions.

Squirrels class performed a harvest dance and song with actions. Lacey liked the dance because they do lots of actions. Luca liked the dance and song because they all dance in a circle and sing.

Badgers class performed 'This is the way we dig the hole (with actions!) Jack said he liked the growing up of the seed bit and the rain coming down part because they got to decide on their actions. Penny said she liked the bit when they did the planting the seed and when they got a round of applause because she hasn't had many rounds of applause before and it was really nice.

Firecrests class performed Harvest Fruits Poem. Lauren said she liked the part all about the autumn leaves it brings back memories from when she was younger. Patrick said he liked the part where they talk about the apples—it reminds him about the apple tree in his garden.

Red Kites class performed 'Harvest Praise'. Mia said she liked singing the song with actions. It was great fun and Leo said he liked the song because they got the chance to make up a verse of their own.

Hérons class performed 'Bean Harvest'. They liked the French bean part of the song because they got to use some French Ooo Lala!. They also liked the song that the Firecrests class performed because the actions were really good!

6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

Join the Friends of John Hampden School...

Welcome to the Friends of John Hampden (FJH), the school's dedicated Parent/Teacher Association (PTA). We're a group of parents who work alongside the teachers to raise funds for the school and help to develop the school community through socials, events and communication. We would love to meet new parents who would like to find out more about how they can get involved to support the PTA (you can do as little or as much as you like!)

If you would like to contact the Friends of John Hampden School, please email the Chair, Sophie Hughes, jhsvolunteers@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:



Cake Sale with Trick or Treat Trail, Friday 25th October straight after school

All cake donations gratefully received. Please bring your baked or bought goods to reception on the morning of 25th. A little prize will be awarded for the best Halloween themed bake (don't forget to label your cupcakes, biscuits or tray bake with your child's name and class if you're taking part!) Speak to Sophie Hughes or email FJHvolunteers@gmail.com with any questions.

As well as the cake sale, you'll be able to purchase a trick or treat trail sheet outside Crickets and hunt the haunted school grounds for hidden letters hidden on various Halloween objects. Use the letters to reveal a spooky word and claim your sweet treat!

Quiz night with Fish & Chip Supper, moved to March 2020



We have decided to join forces with the Junior school and host a joint Quiz night with fish & chip supper on Friday 6th March. More details nearer the time.

Christmas Fayre, Saturday 30th November 12-3pm



The planning for this festive bonanza is already underway. Do make a note in your diaries and if you are interested in joining the planning team or booking a retail stall please do get in touch with Sophie on jhsvolunteers@gmail.com. We're really in need of volunteers to do a stint manning a stall for 45 minutes, as well as volunteers to help with face painting and catering.

Easyfundraising:

Are you signed up to Easyfundraising? This is a fantastic way to raise money for the school without costing you a penny. Look out for an email with further details. So far we have raised a fantastic £3,480 from Easyfundraising cashback!

Click here to sign up and download the app

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

Amazon Smile:

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that if you shop via the Amazon Smile homepage, Amazon will donate a percentage of cashback to your school? Simply save the following link to your favourites, select 'The Friends of John Hampden School, Wendover' the first time you shop and order as normal.

Click here to get set up – remember to save this webpage to your favourites

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

Vale Lottery:

FJH has joined Vale Lottery as an official good cause. Lottery tickets can now be bought with HALF of the ticket price going to FJH. Each ticket costs just £1. Every ticket has a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize every week, ranging from £25-£25,000. Click here to buy your tickets www.valelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-john-hampden-school

Facebook JHS Parents Page:



JHS Parents
Group
350 members

✓ Joined

Did you know there is a Facebook page called 'JHS Parents' when you can find loads of useful information, reminders or ask questions to other parents? It's well worth joining to keep up to date with what's going on.

Friends of John Hampden School Event Calendar:

Christmas Cards – Designs to come home before half term

Cake Sale with Trick or Treat Trail – Friday 25th October after school

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 30th November 12-3pm

Class Christmas Parties – Weds 18th December (in school)

Children's New Year Disco – Friday 24th January 2020

7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

In July we sent home a questionnaire for parents to gain their views about the school. The results were collated and the findings have been used to inform future actions within our school improvement plan. We thought you might like to see the results of the questionnaire. 109 parents responded.

QUESTION	Number Strongly Agree or Agree	Number Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Number Don't Know	% Strongly or Agree 2019
The school helps my child to develop skills in communication, reading, writing and mathematics	109	0	0	100%
My awareness of how to help my child learn is enhanced through information given by the school - meetings, curriculum evenings and written information	109	0	0	100%
I feel that I have a shared responsibility for my child's learning and I do all I can to assist the school	109	0	0	100%
I am made aware of my child's strengths and areas for development at parent/teacher meetings	109	0	0	100%
I am kept well informed about how my child is getting on through Parents Evenings, reports, informal conversations with teachers	107	1	1	98%
The school achieves high standards in reading, writing and mathematics	102	0	7	94%
The school has high expectations for my child	102	2	5	94%
The school sets my child realistic learning targets	103	1	5	94%
I am satisfied with the education my child is receiving at the school	109	0	0	100%
My child was helped to settle in well when he/she started at the school	108	1	0	99%
There are good transition arrangements as children enter a new class	91	1	17	83%
My child's needs are being met by the school	109	0	0	100%
Academically, my child is making good progress at school	108	1	0	99%
Socially, my child is making good progress at school	103	1	5	94%
My child enjoys school	108	1	0	99%
My child enjoys learning	109	0	0	100%
My child is taught well	109	0	0	100%
My child's homework is useful and enjoyable (please also consider homework to include suggestions in topic booklets each half term)	102	3	4	94%
The school actively seeks pupils views	85	1	23	78%
The school provides a rich, stimulating and memorable curriculum for my child	108	0	1	99%
The work of all children is celebrated throughout the school	100	2	7	92%
The school promotes equal opportunities	98	1	10	90%

QUESTION	Number Strongly Agree or Agree	Number Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Number Don't Know	% Strongly or Agree 2019
The school encourages my child to be independent	109	0	0	100%
The school environment, inside and outside, is safe, comfortable and secure	109	0	0	100%
The resources, inside and outside, are well maintained and suitable	106	0	3	97%
The school offers pupils access to a range of technology, including computers and Interactive Whiteboards	100	0	9	92%
The school contributes to my child's health and well-being	108	0	1	99%
The school encourages pupils to become ecologically aware	95	3	11	87%
The school provides a range of extra-curricular activities e.g. clubs, activities	93	3	13	85%
I am aware of the school's policy on behaviour, including Golden Rules, rewards and sanctions	108	1	0	99%
There is a good standard of behaviour at the school	107	1	1	98%
My child is safe and well cared for at the school	109	0	0	100%
The school is friendly and welcoming	109	0	0	100%
There is a good feeling in the school between staff, pupils and parents	109	0	0	100%
The school is led and managed well	108	0	1	99%
The school deploys all staff effectively	93	0	16	85%
I am comfortable about approaching the school and know my concerns will be listened to	106	2	1	97%
The school deals effectively and promptly with problems as they are made aware of them	97	3	9	89%
Staff are approachable and helpful	108	0	1	99%
I feel I am given the opportunity to be involved in the school's activities and functions	109	0	0	100%
The school has an effective governing body	96	0	13	88%
I feel I can approach a governor about any issues that concern me	89	7	13	82%
The school has an ethos and climate within which pupils can grow and flourish	109	0	0	100%
The school has a clear direction and is constantly developing	106	0	3	97%
The school communicates its improvement plans to parents	107	0	2	98%
The school has high expectations for all	106	1	2	97%
The school has a good reputation in the local community	107	0	2	98%
I am pleased that my child attends The John Hampden School	109	0	0	100%
** The school uniform policy is reasonable	108	0	1	99%
** The uniform sold in school is reasonably priced	102	3	4	94%
** The uniform sold in school is of a good quality	101	0	8	93%

QUESTION	Number Strongly Agree or Agree	Number Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Number Don't Know	% Strongly or Agree 2019
The school aims to foster good links with the local community	102	2	5	94%
The Home/School diary is an effective communication tool	109	0	0	100%
The school website is useful and informative	103	2	4	94%
The school communicates effectively with parents e.g. regular newsletters, information from teachers, Home/School Agreement etc.	109	0	0	100%
The school actively seeks the views of parents	106	1	2	97%
I am aware of the school's values	109	0	0	100%

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 and at our After School Club from 3.00 pm to 6.15 pm 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 £15,870 per annum pro rata)

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

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Tel: 01296 623 056
www.wendover-pc.gov.uk




Follow us on Facebook
@wendoverparish

HALLOWEEN Drawing Competition

Get creative & draw a Halloween themed picture featuring the Clock Tower to enter!

Entries close 3rd November 2019


You could win
4 x tickets to see:



DENNIS & GNASHER
UNLEASHED!
THE MUSICAL

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY WILL BRENTON

on Thurs
23rd Jan
2020,
7pm at:



**AYLESBURY
WATERSIDE
THEATRE**

Hover your smart
phone camera over
this QR code & click
on the link that
appears at the top of
your phone to be
redirected.



Drop your drawing off at the Clock
Tower before the 3rd November, with
your name and contact details, to be
entered into the competition.





15% OFF
When you book 2
weeks before the
venue start date!

Premier Holiday Camps

Go on an adventure with Premier this October. Sports and Arts for all aged 4-12.

Choose from a wide variety of exciting sports and performing arts activities. Be creative and adventurous whilst making new friends and having lots of fun!

Visit www.premier-education.com
alternatively call 01296 620 097



Premier

Where & When?

Wendover Youth Centre,
WENDOVER, HP22 6HF

MON 28th OCT -
FRI 1st NOV

Sample Programme;

	SPORT	PERF. ARTS	ADVENTURE
9.30-10.30am	Football	Gymnastics	Adventure Walk*
10.30-11.15am	Tag-rugby	Cheerleading	Den Building*
11.15-12.00pm	Badminton	Arts & Crafts	Archery
1.00-1.45pm	Swimming	Street Dance	Fencing
1.45-2.30pm	Dodgeball	Drama	Nerf n Strike
2.30-3.15pm	Tennis	Musical Theatre	Bikes & Scooters

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

Did you know we accept child care vouchers when you book online? Tick the option 'pay using child care', follow the details and you'll then be contacted by a member of the team.

Half Days: *9.00am - 1.00pm
for just **£16.00** *suitable for 4 year olds

Standard Days: 9.00am - 3.30pm
for just **£22.00**

Extended Days: 8.00am - 6.00pm
for just **£28.00**

You will need...

- * A packed lunch
- * A change of footwear
- * Plenty of water or fruit juice
- *and loads of energy!
- * Weather-appropriate clothing

* 4 year olds cannot stay after 1.00pm on 1st Nov. Please guidelines. Booking is not included in this table plan in the afternoon, however it is allowed to stay for and be able to go in. Please note that for booking the online advice will be given with the age 4 or older. The operator H.C. H.U.T. will be a full course. For full terms & conditions visit the website of education.org



Scan me

Book online to guarantee
your place!

mhutt@premier-education.com

Premier - Chilterns

premier_chilterns