



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## NEWSLETTER

### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES



A slightly shorter week this week due to the VE Day Bank Holiday tomorrow. Nevertheless, it has been a positive one at school. We are taking every opportunity to go outside with the children we are looking after and the sunny weather is definitely helping! The teachers and I are delighted to hear about the activities you are doing in your homes and I have issued lots of golden stars this week to reward good effort, good attitude, lovely work or acts of thoughtfulness/kindness, but there are always more to give if necessary. My experience tells me that these stars mean a great deal to the children and they tend to gain a little motivation from receiving one, whether it is in school or in their own home.

Let's try and enjoy the long weekend ahead before returning to more home learning next Monday. At this point there will be new Home Learning added to the website for our EYFS pupils which should last you until the half-term holiday starts in two weeks time.

I, along with everyone else in the country, am eagerly awaiting the promised update from Government this weekend. At this point in time, I genuinely know no more than you regarding the plan for re-opening schools but there is a genuine desire from all at John Hampden to welcome our pupils back when it is deemed the time is right. I completely understand the anxiety that all the current uncertainties bring and you probably have lots of questions about how things will be when a re-opening date is announced. I hope you will trust us to follow the guidance we are given to ensure everyone remains safe and we will always work with the best interests of everyone within our school community in mind. If everything was 'normal' right now we would be thinking about the transition to Year 3 for our oldest pupils, transition into the school for our brand new pupils and transition between classes for those who will remain with us. Lock down doesn't stop us thinking about this—please be assured that, at John Hampden, we always put a huge amount of effort into the transition process and, come what may, this year will be no different. We may not be able to do what we normally do but we will be creative in ensuring everyone feels as prepared as possible for what is to come.

Keep safe and well everyone.

Please note, for the small number of children who need to attend school at the moment, there will be another Premier Sport provision over the half term holiday based at John Hampden, but the school will be closed on Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May—the two Bank Holidays. Please contact me if this causes you difficulty and I will signpost you to the brokerage scheme for cover on these two days. A letter will be issued to relevant families regarding arrangements for securing a school place during the half-term holiday.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

As a parent governor I just wanted to share an insight into a day in our household.

“The sun is shining through the blinds and the faintest whisper of children’s voices is growing louder, this is a familiar sensation one that seems to have happened now for days upon days signalling the start of a day full of juggling. We will get downstairs and set up our work stations, laptops open and loading up, whilst coffee beans are ground for that delectable first coffee of the morning. The initial peace of standing in the direct sunshine listening to the morning birdsong and sipping down the coffee doesn’t last long. The patter of small feet and chatter of small voices get ever closer as ‘the swarm’ head down the stairs for breakfast. The discussions immediately start; regarding what is on the menu this morning, one wants porridge another couldn’t think of anything worse and the last definitely only wants toast with no crust. This is just the first such discussion... To come is the negotiation of who will do their reading first and who will use their tablet to do Maths first.

The remainder of the day will entail mum and dad taking turns on conference calls, carrying their laptops into quiet spaces and discussing the need for the children to spend time outside and when should dinner preparation start?

Of course the day does come to an end but not before bedtime stories and a big tidy up so we can start all over again tomorrow at least with a half tidy house!”

Governor duties are still being undertaken remotely, even having our first Zoom Governing Body meeting last week. In the meeting the Governors of John Hampden did relay our appreciation to the school senior leadership team in the work they have undertaken so far and continue to undertake.

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



Ben Gattlin

Parent Governor

Chair of Finance, Buildings and Health and Safety Committee



The Governing Board is always willing to listen to parental queries and to explain in more detail what the Governing Board does. They do realise, however, that it is not possible to meet face to face at the moment so if you would like to raise a matter for discussion please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, James Edley, [jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](mailto:jedley@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk)

### 3. MESSAGES FROM OOSC STAFF



Hello to all our lovely Out of School Care children

I just wanted to say a quick hello and let you all know that I am constantly thinking about you and your families and hoping you are all staying safe and well. I expect you have been very busy with your parents making sure you are learning lots during your time at home. I do hope you are making lots of time for play too. School is very quiet without you all and I have really been missing our time together, I have missed seeing your smiles and watching your achievements. I hope we will see each other again soon and can spend more time making memories. Love from Sharon



Hi Children

I miss all the fun and laughter we have, playing in the role play area where I am served the most wonderful food made for me by the little owls. I am missing all the hugs you give me so I am sending you all a virtual hug from Mrs Jackson (Anna)



Hello Children

I miss hearing you laugh and seeing you smile when we play games in the playground. Hope to see you all soon from Mr B



Hello Children

I miss hearing all the taps on my window and looking up to see a beaming smile or thumbs up from whoever is peering through at me. I can't wait to see you all again from Mrs Hazel



Hello Children

I really miss hearing you call my name when you either need my help or want me to play. I miss all the chit chat and the stories you tell me. School is just not the same without you all, I hope to see you all soon from Mrs Passaro (Sophie)



Hello Children

I am really missing the hustle and bustle of OOSC and hearing you all call my name, telling me about your day and seeing your smiling faces from Genevieve



Hello Children

I miss your smiles and laughter and helping you skip by twirling the rope, seeing the smiles on your faces when you play with all the toys. Sending big hug love Mrs Jones (Pat)



Hello Children

I really miss seeing all the enjoyment on you faces when you score another goal, create a piece of art work, play your favourite games, build the highest tower and make each other smile feeling proud of your achievements see you all soon I hope from Tracey Ivory



Hello Children

I miss the beautiful smiles you bring with you to OOSC, the fun, the laughter, the cuddles I receive. You are our little heroes, learning, playing and staying safe at home love from Ruksana



Hello Children

I really miss the sound of your laughter and play, the way you make fun of the football team I support. I even miss being asked over and over again are we going outside to play when it is pouring with rain. I can't wait to see you all again from Daniel

## 5. MISCELLANEOUS

### A poem for Children – The Time We Spring Cleaned the World

The world it got so busy,  
There were people all around.  
They left their germs behind them;  
In the air and on the ground.  
These germs grew bigger and stronger.  
They wanted to come and stay.  
They didn't want to hurt anyone –  
They just really wanted to play.  
Sometimes they tried to hold your hand,  
Or tickled your throat or your nose.  
They could make you cough and sneeze  
And make your face as red as a rose.  
And so these germs took over.  
They started to make people ill,  
And with every cough we coughed  
More and more germs would spill.  
All the queens and kings had a meeting.  
“It's time to clean the world up!” they said.  
And so they had to close lots of fun stuff,  
Just so these germs couldn't spread.



We couldn't go to cinemas  
Or restaurants for our tea.  
There was no football or parties,  
The world got as quiet as can be.  
The kids stopped going to school,  
The mums and dads went to work less.  
Then a great, big, giant scrubbing brush  
Cleaned the sky and the sea and the mess!  
Dads started teaching the sums,  
Big brothers played with us more,  
Mums were in charge of homework  
And we read and played jigsaws galore!  
The whole world was washing their hands  
And building super toilet roll forts!  
Outside was quiet and peaceful,  
Now home was the place for all sports.  
So we played in the world that was home  
And our days filled up with fun and love,  
And the germs they grew smaller and smaller  
And the sun watched from up above.  
Then one morning the sun woke up early,  
She smiled and stretched her beams wide.  
The world had been fully spring cleaned,  
It was time to go back outside!  
We opened our doors oh so slowly  
And breathed in the clean and fresh air.  
We promised that forever and always  
Of this beautiful world we'd take care!

(Author Unknown)