



# The John Hampden School Wendover



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## NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**28th September**—Foundation Stage Harvest Festival 9.30am

**30th September**—KS1 Harvest Festival 9.30a.m (Y1 parents invited to watch)

**10th October**—Open Morning for parents of prospective pupils

**Week commencing 10th October—Parents' Evenings**

**BOOKING OPENS AT 12 NOON TODAY**

### 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Well, we have reached the end of week three of the Autumn Term and things are settling down well. Tiredness in many children is certainly apparent each Friday, but that is the result of their hard work and the effort that has gone into learning lots of new routines and getting used to school expectations once more.

I am sure you are interested in what your children are getting up to each day, so a copy of your child's class timetable has been uploaded to the relevant class page of the school website [www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](http://www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk) under the Classes tab. Each week we will be uploading a sheet so you can keep up to date with what your child is learning in school. We have also added the induction Powerpoint presentation from the class teacher that was shared at the recent induction meetings.. Hopefully this will provide you with lots more information about the class, so do take a look. I am sure you are keen to find out how your child has settled in. For this reason we are arranging Autumn Term Parents' evenings during the week beginning 10th October. Further on in this newsletter you will find more details about how you will be able to book an appointment with the class teacher.

The appointment booking site will open today, Friday 23rd September at 12 noon.



### HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Festival for Foundation Stage is due to take place on Wednesday 28th September at 9.30am. Year One and Year Two will perform together on Friday 30th September at 9.30am and only parents of Year One pupils are invited to attend. (Year Two parents are invited to watch May Day later in the year in our attempt to make things fair) There will be no Harvest Festival for the children in our Nursery. On the relevant day up to two adults for each child will be directed via the side entrance to the school hall for the performances. The audience will be able to take photographs or video for their own personal use and we always ask that no images of other peoples children or the staff are put on any social networking sites.

As usual we are asking families to provide donations. We welcome any flowers, fruit, vegetables or tinned goods. Children can bring donations to the classroom on the morning of their festival or there will be a table outside the main entrance where any contributions can be left.

The donations will then be collected by representatives from the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury and they are always very gratefully received as they rely on donations to run successfully.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Hello All,

For those parents new to the school I want to introduce myself via the newsletter and will do so in person to the majority of you over the coming months. I work as a Head of Planning and Performance within the NHS and enjoy lots of physical activities swimming, running, tennis, and football along with the occasional bottle (I mean glass!) of red wine. I have had two girls go all the way through the school from Crickets to Firecrests and my youngest is in Year 1.

We are certainly in full swing now of a great start to the new academic year. This year I feel there has been less trepidation for the children starting school. Last year there was visibly more tears and upset upon entering the classroom which I feel was the result of less taster sessions for the children due to the Covid pandemic. The increased access to school and visits to new classrooms has clearly worked so parents, carers, teachers and teaching assistants should give themselves a pat on the back.

Book bags have started coming home with reading materials, phonics sheets and some wonderful creative pieces of work that children have worked so hard on and are so excited about. The classes have all held their induction meetings and I hope you feel informed on the upcoming events and activities in the classroom. The first events are only a week away, one of my favourites, the Harvest Festival. The children and teachers work extremely hard on this, it is definitely one not to miss!

For those new to the school I thought I'd summarise the Governing Boards core functions;

1. Ensuring there is clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils and the performance management of staff
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent
4. Ensuring the voices of stakeholders are heard

You are our key stakeholders so please get in touch if you have any queries related to the School or Governing Board.



Ben Gattlin

Chair of Governors

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 may not always be appropriate to speak to them at the school gate so please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, Ben Gattlin, on [Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](mailto:Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk) if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

#### **COVID**

Sadly we still have staff and pupils who are testing positive for Covid. At the end of this newsletter is the most recent guidance that we would ask parents/carers to adhere to in order to prevent the transmission of respiratory illnesses within the school.

#### **Voluntary Contributions**

Arrangements for Voluntary Contributions— Each parent will soon receive a letter which includes an itemized list of the cost of activities which the teachers are planning for the term. Parents can then sign in to their Parentpay account to make the payment. This is a voluntary contribution and there is no obligation involved but unfortunately we may have to cancel activities if not enough parents opt to pay. We try to arrange as many activities as possible in school to avoid the additional cost of coaches but from time to time we will take the children slightly further afield so future termly payment requests may reflect this.

#### **Water Bottles**

Children in Year 1 and Year 2 may now bring their own named water bottle into school each day. These will be positioned close to where they are working so they can access them whenever they need a drink. We would ask that you only provide water because juice and squash can be very sticky and water is the healthiest option. Children in Early Years and Foundation Stage do not need to bring a water bottle as they have regular access to the 'Hydration Station' in their learning environments.

#### **Morning Snack**



Fruit/vegetable deliveries have resumed at school so there is a range of fruit/veg available and we do encourage the children to have some. Often watching others enjoying eating it can be a real incentive to those who are reluctant to try (or say they don't like it!)

Also, it is still possible for parents to register their child for the 'Cool Milk' scheme. You can register online at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com).

#### **HOT MEALS**

Our meal provider, Chartwells, provides free hot lunches to all Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children in the school. You have been sent the details of how to order lunches so if you do wish to place an order you need to log in and select your choice by midnight on a Tuesday for lunches to start the following Monday. If you do not place an order you need to provide a packed lunch each day, as there are no spare hot meals to offer.

#### **Nuts**

We do have several children in the school with a severe allergy to nuts and sesame seeds. We would be grateful if you would refrain from providing nuts or foods containing nuts/sesame seeds in lunchboxes to reduce the risk of allergic reactions. We also ask that there are no sweets or fizzy drinks in lunchboxes. We would also ask that children DO NOT bring in sweets/treats for their classmates when it is their birthday. Thank you

#### **Naming Belongings**

After the first few P.E lessons, it is clear that many children have clothing that is not named and this is causing real difficulties for staff. Please would you ensure all belongings are named and that children are aware of where the name is on their things. It is obvious that some children would really benefit from having some extra practise when dressing/undressing independently and keeping their clothing in neat piles, socks in shoes etc. We would really appreciate your support with this.



#### **Coats**

We take the children outside in all weathers so please make sure they bring a coat to school every day.

OOSC—Please remember to inform the OOSC provision if your child will not be attending for any reason.

For safety reasons, parents of children who attend our OOSC provision should never use the staff car park when bringing or collecting their child.

## **PARENTS' EVENINGS—11th, 12th and 13th October 2022 3.30pm –5.30pm**

The Autumn Term parents evenings will be held from Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th October. Our EYFS and new pupils have brought home a letter with a login and password for you to access the e-schools platform which will enable you to book a slot to speak to your child's class teacher. For pupils who were in the school last year, you already have the login details but if you have forgotten them please contact the school office. If you have more than one child at the school, the oldest child's login and password will allow you to access both/all your children's parents evenings appointments. The appointments will be for 10 minutes per child and we ask that only one parent in each household books the appointment. The booking system will open at 12.00 pm (noon) on Friday 23rd September and will close at 3.00 pm on Monday 3rd October. The system will confirm your appointment/s date and time. We will not be issuing paper appointment letters or confirmation of appointment slots.

## **LOOKING FOR A NURSERY/ RECEPTION PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2023?**



### **THE JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER**

## **OPEN MORNING - EARLY YEARS (NURSERY) & RECEPTION PLACES**

The John Hampden School Wendover is a large infant school for children aged between four and seven years. We also have a thriving 26 place Early Years Provision for 3-4 year olds and offer the 30 hours flexible free entitlement for pupils in this class. We are justifiably proud of our excellent reputation in the local community and we work hard to provide children with an outstanding start to their school life.

*'Staff at The John Hampden School have created a delightful learning environment in which all pupils can thrive and flourish.'* Ofsted

We are offering four opportunities to come and view the school and find out more about us.

**Monday 10th October at either 9.15am or 10.30am.**

**or**

**Tuesday 15th November at either 9.15am or 10.30am.**

Please contact the school office via phone or email to book

01296 622629

office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk

## 4. PUPIL'S SECTION

The pupils have now been at school for a few weeks and I can report that for the Autumn Term all Early Years, Foundation Stage and Year 2 places have been allocated so there is no capacity for further children in these year groups.

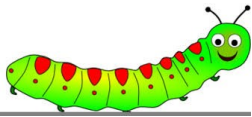
We thought you might like to hear from some of our children about what they are enjoying in their new classes.



Audrey has enjoyed her new class as she has made new friends. Ayda has learnt about tidy up time and knowing what to do. She enjoys being funny and laughing with her friends.



Joshua is enjoying making new friends and having hot lunches. Ava loves hearing lots of new stories—her favourite is Funnybones and she loves doing yoga too.



Jackson has enjoyed drawing the patterns in the rainbow. Morrie likes playing with Lego and building houses.



Molly has enjoyed playing and learning in the Octagon. Noah has enjoyed playing with his new friends.



Megan is enjoying being with Mrs King because her brother was a Hedgehog too. She also likes doing writing. Lucas also likes handwriting, Lego and outside learning in Hedgehogs class. He likes Year 1 because they get to play and learn.



Henry is really enjoying all the new learning. Francesca is enjoying her big new classroom and painting her butterfly.



Betsy-Rose likes the creation station and the book area. Jago likes the Funky Fingers and being outside.



Flynn has enjoyed the helicopter stories especially the acting parts. Romilly has really enjoyed P4C and the Art because it is really fun.



Erika is enjoying working on adding and subtracting tens in maths. Sam likes learning new mark making skills to draw in Art.



Maddison likes the maths in Year 2. She has enjoyed learning how to take away 10. Elliot has enjoyed making new friends.

## 5. CURRICULUM

We hold assemblies in the hall each week where the whole school community can join together.

Every Monday, Mrs Barnes leads a KS1 assembly which focuses on the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL). Mrs Parkinson leads an assembly on Tuesday with the School Values as her theme. Mrs Spencer leads a Cultural Assembly on Wednesday and Mrs King leads the Thursday assembly which is all about developing a Growth Mindset. Every Friday the whole school join together for our 'Over & Above' Assembly where children from each class are awarded special certificates and then given the opportunity to share the assembly from a special starry chair. Certificates are awarded to children who have done something over and above what is expected. The 'Scroll of Honour' is also read out at this assembly and it contains the names of children who have been spotted for doing something special. We also award a 'Class of the Week' cup and certificates and stickers for children nominated by the Midday Supervisors.

We have seven Values and seven behaviour expectations that underpin our Behaviour & Self-Regulation Policy. Following the Over & Above Assembly the children take part in M.O.V.E. Time (**M**astering **O**ur **V**alues & **E**xpectations) where they are given the opportunity to practice the values and the behaviour expectations in a fun and enjoyable way.

All pupils are currently following a carefully designed 'Transition Curriculum' for the first half of the Autumn Term. We hope that a timetable which allows time for staff to ensure children are settled and getting used to the regular routines and expectations, will be beneficial for all. There is a big focus on Personal, Social, Emotional and Health education in these first weeks and regular reinforcement of the school values.

Philosophy sessions/activities continue to be a regular feature. This may sound rather ambitious but children are naturally curious and educational research suggests that encouraging children to ask questions and to listen to other people's ideas helps them to understand their thoughts and how they affect their lives.

It is fascinating to hear the children's thoughts and we find that from one starting point many more questions are posed. The only thing to remember with philosophy is that there are no right or wrong answers— just the opportunity to hear, develop and value different viewpoints.



## 6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

The first JHSW PTA meeting of the year is being held on Tuesday 27th September at 8pm at the Bel and Dragon, Wendover (private dining room, upstairs). We hope to see as many new and existing parents there as possible, everyone is welcome to attend, we're a friendly bunch!

At this meeting we will hold our AGM and discuss our upcoming fundraising events - the Halloween trail and Christmas fayre.

Rebecca, our Treasurer, will be sharing a summary of our financial records for the year, including what we raised, what we donated to the school and what remains in the bank.

It is also an opportunity to share your ideas for socials and fundraising.

Our committee is made up of Executive roles and committee members. Membership is automatic for all parents or guardians of children attending the John Hampden School Wendover! However, there are Executive roles for anyone wishing to take a more formal or active part in our charity.

Currently we have two vacancies: Chair and Secretary. If you would like to find out more about these roles or nominate yourself (or someone else) for an executive role please contact [fjhvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:fjhvolunteers@gmail.com) by Monday.

Can't join us? Have your say by completing the survey below about future FJH events and ways you can support us...

<https://forms.gle/twmKcTyajHQwau2Y8>

We look forward to seeing you there.

The September Social was a great success. It was lovely to see some new faces as well as current supporters so thank you to all who attended and to those who have offered to help out at events.

Your PTA Committee

## 7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

As the new academic year begins we are embarking on actions linked to our new School Development Plan 2022-2023 which aims to guide improvements to the school over this time. In deciding the areas to focus on we took into consideration many factors e.g. stakeholder views expressed in questionnaires and comments, feedback from other outside agencies, data analysis, Government policy etc.

In the next newsletter I will share a summary of the new priorities for the school plan so you can see what we are aiming to achieve.

However, during the summer holiday this is just some of the work that was completed to improve the school: (big thanks to Mr Richardson for all his hard work!)

- Completely new heating system installed
- New taps installed in Foundation Stage cloakrooms
- Corridor walls made good and painted
- Water fountains removed
- Area inside Gate 3 re-surfaced
- Gutters cleared
- Jet washing outside learning areas
- General grounds maintenance
- A skip was filled!



## 8. MISCELLANEOUS



South East  
Region

# Respiratory Outbreaks

<b>Transmission Route</b>	Person to person spread through small droplets, aerosols and through direct contact. Surfaces and belongings can also be contaminated when people with the infection cough or sneeze or touch them. The risk of spread is greatest when people are close to each other, especially in poorly ventilated indoor spaces.
<b>Exclusion</b>	<p>Guidance for children in educational settings included in <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19">People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children and young people who are unwell and have a <a href="#">high temperature</a> should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people. They can go back to an education or childcare setting when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough.</li><li>• It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.</li><li>• If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test.</li><li>• Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days.</li><li>• Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.</li><li>• Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education or childcare setting.</li></ul>
<b>Closures</b>	It is not necessary to close the school, unless there are operational reasons such as significant staff absence, which would be a decision for the school in conjunction with the relevant educational authority.
<b>Recommended actions for limiting transmission</b>	
Hand and respiratory hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children should be supervised and/or encouraged to wash their hand regularly</li><li>• Hand washing with liquid soap and warm water preferred over alcohol gel</li><li>• Paper towels or hand dryers should be used for drying hands (and a wastepaper bin provided for disposal of towels if applicable)</li><li>• Encourage good respiratory hygiene (using and disposing of tissues)</li><li>• <a href="#">e-Bug   England Home</a> has a range of educational resources for ages 3-16 to learn about microbes, infection prevention and control, antibiotics and vaccination.</li></ul>

And finally—please could all parents be considerate to our school neighbours in the surrounding roads and not block driveways when parking to bring children into school. Thank you.