



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

As we reach the end of the first half of the Spring Term we are already looking forward to what the next half will bring. Learning Review Meetings for Foundation Stage and KS1 pupils have been included in the school calendar and we have noted previous feedback which appeared to show parents would value having more notice of their appointment time. To this end we have sent home the dates and associated times for these meetings. We have asked that the reply slips be returned to school by Friday 15th February, so we will be able to organise appointments and inform you of your time slot as soon as we return after the holiday. The meetings are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 6th March and Thursday 7th March. Teachers try very hard to adhere to the ten minute time allocations. If issues arise during the meeting that need further discussion, it may be more appropriate to make another mutually convenient appointment time, as others are affected when appointments overrun. To give children the opportunity to share their work with you, following your meeting with the class teacher, we would like to invite you into school at 2.45pm on Friday 8th March (this is a change to the date published in the school calendar—apologies)

Parents of children in Honeybees class have received a separate letter about Learning Review meetings and work sharing, in the light of Mrs Shrimpton's current absence.

Fundraising Update

Last year we informed parents that our school, along with many others, is currently in a deficit position financially. We requested support from the parent body to help us raise some additional funds and we are extremely grateful to those who have been able to contribute—your donations continue to be well spent but we are aware that we have not provided an update recently. As the end of our financial year approaches we are waiting to be informed of our new budget share for 2019-2020 and we have a meeting with the finance team from Bucks County Council next week, who aim to provide advice and support. Once these factors have been taken into consideration we will provide you with further information about the revised financial forecast. Please see the Fundraising update included in this newsletter which gives information about our plans for spending the money we raise.

Supporting Success at School—Evening for Parents

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the presentation on Tuesday evening. Feedback was very positive and we shall put the presentation on the website in due course.

World Book Day

In the last newsletter and in the School Calendar we have advertised that we will be celebrating World Book Day on 1st March. Sadly this date does not coincide with Wendover Junior School so we are changing the date of our celebration to 8th March so the children from both schools can join together to share books, as we have done previously. So, you have an extra week to organise a costume!! This year we are asking children to come dressed as their favourite character from a book

I hope you manage to have a restful half term break and enjoy some quality time with your children.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

I joined the Governing Board in late 2018, and one of the first things I've been asked to support the school with is their work on what at first comes across as a rather curious acronym 'SMSC': the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils in school.

SMSC has been part of education law in the UK since 1944, and inspected by Ofsted since it began work in 1992. I'll happily admit to needing to learn a lot more about what it really meant when I first heard about it during my first meeting! I found what I think is a fantastic definition, from a House of Lords education debate in 2006:

'...the training of good human beings, purposeful and wise, themselves with a vision of what it is to be human and the kind of society that makes that possible.'

It was Mrs Spencer, the school's lead on SMSC, who pointed me to the school's fundamental statements to see how deeply SMSC development is embedded at John Hampden. From the ethos: 'loving to learn' to the aims, including: 'to learn to value ... to learn to question ... to open up to possibility ... **to prepare for life**' – as well as the seven key values, it's clear that our school takes the development of 'good human beings' very seriously indeed.

But what is actually done, practically? Well, there's one particular example that I wanted to bring out here – not to do with how it plays out in the curriculum, but instead the impressive array of **lunchtime and after-school clubs**.

Clubs are linked to SMSC in several ways. This is clear from how Ofsted view things. They state that pupils' SMSC development is shown by their: 'use of imagination and creativity ... use of a range of social skills in different contexts ... willingness to participate in a variety of social settings,' and, best of all their: '**willingness to participate in, and respond to ... artistic, musical, sporting, mathematical, technological, scientific and cultural opportunities.**'

Every term, the school sends out to parents (by email) a list of clubs and invites us to sign up our children for ones they'd like to do. In the 2019 spring term alone there are cultural/artistic clubs (art, knitting, street dance, writing), sporty clubs (gymnastics, judo, tennis, yoga), and even French, Lego and board games clubs! Several are run by professional outside providers, and a number by the school's own staff. There are different group sizes, different days of the week, and a number of the clubs are free of charge.

As someone who benefitted from an array of school clubs/societies, I would wholeheartedly recommend the benefits of joining a club to learn something new, and have fun with new and existing friends whilst doing it. Clubs at the John Hampden school are a major benefit to our children, so why not see if there are spaces left this term, and look out for the list of summer term clubs when it comes round in a few weeks' time.



David Smith—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

FUNDRAISING UPDATE



JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER Loving to Learn

FUNDRAISING FOCUS – SPRING TERM 2018/19

Last term we set the challenge of raising £7,000 for technology and outdoor equipment. Thanks to the dedication of the PTA and your generous support we smashed the target raising an amazing **£10,179...THANK YOU!!**

The Rocket Fund raised £2,322 for Blue-Bots, Rainbow Easi-Speak Microphones and Easi-Ears Audio Story Headphones which have just been delivered for use by all classes in the school and we look forward to sharing photos of them being enjoyed very shortly.



The remaining £7,857 was raised from fantastic PTA events, parents' generous donations via MyDonate, and commissions generated by Easyfundraising and The Vale Lottery.

This will be spent on new equipment for outside learning including: sand trays, tuff trays, 'small world' toys and large outdoor games; and to ensure safe storage of this new equipment, new sturdy lockable storage units. Again, we will share photos when the new equipment arrives.

This term and for the rest of the year our fundraising focus will be the redevelopment of the outside areas for Years 1 & 2



As you can see this is a large space, and there are exciting plans to provide zones for the development of fine motor skills, phonics, maths and writing – with structures and equipment such as the messy play zone in the picture on the left.



Less exciting but as important is the outdoor storage which will house the wonderful new equipment!



Final plans are expected shortly, and Mrs Barnes will share these with us as soon as she can; it will be a major development and is likely to be delivered in phases, giving us time to raise the funds required – so watch this space! In the meantime, you can start supporting this exciting project ...

Take part in the wonderful events and activities of
THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL

Bag to School – Fri 8th February
Cake Sale – Fri 8th March

Pamper, Pudding & Prosecco Night – Fri 29th March

Do your online shopping via
EASYFUNDRAISING

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fjhwendover/

Take part in
THE AYLESBURY VALE LOTTERY

www.valelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-john-hampden-school

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Reminder

World Book Day is coming soon (Friday 8th March) . Children in all classes are invited to come to school dressed up as their favourite character from a book.

P.E. Kit

Your child will be bringing home their P.E. kit to be washed during the half term holiday. Please could we remind parents that kits must be returned to school on the first day back because P.E. lessons start immediately and your child cannot participate if they do not have the proper kit. Long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons and earrings removed or covered with tape.

Inset Days

Please note our two additional Inset Days for the 2019-2020 academic year. They are Friday 6th December 2019 and Monday 1st June 2020.

Achievements Outside School

We are always keen to hear of your child's achievements outside school. In fact we have dedicated a special board in the corridor to display photocopies of certificates or photographs of children receiving special awards. If your child would like to bring in any such items we would be happy to put them on the board to help celebrate their success. Equally if you feel your child has a particular strength or talent that they demonstrate outside school we would be glad to hear about it—it helps us to build a picture of the 'whole child'.

Sickness & Diarrhoea

Sadly we have had a number of children suffering with sickness in the last week. Please remember that children should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of illness. This way we can be sure that your children will not pass on their germs to others. Please ensure we have up to date contact numbers for you and any other emergency contacts as poorly children need to be collected as soon as possible.

Small Talk Mix 96

We are delighted to inform you that our local radio station, Mix 96 will be visiting the school on 7th March to record a special feature called 'Small Talk' with some of our Year 2 children. The features will then be aired on the station in the next few weeks (date to be confirmed). This is an exciting opportunity for the children to give their views on questions like 'What is the Queen's job?' to 'Who were the Beatles?' to 'Who is a better driver—Mum or Dad?'. We will let you know when the features will be aired.

4. CURRICULUM

This year will be the year of the pig.

Thank you to Mrs Grimsdell, our R.E. co-ordinator for organising the assembly.



4. CURRICULUM (CONTINUED)

Year 2 History Morning

On Wednesday 30th January our Year 2 classes had their 'Great Fire of London Day' in school. This term the children learnt all about the Great Fire of London linked to our History topic about 'A significant Event in History'. They found out about Samuel Pepys and London back in 1666 compared to now. After making notes and doing lots of research the children organised the events on a timeline in chronological order. In art lessons, the children made 'burning houses' and painted watercolour silhouettes of the London skyline during the fire. As well as this, the children enjoyed some Great Fire of London yoga and learnt the Great Fire of London rap and performed a 'round' of London's Burning in music sessions. The children seemed to thoroughly enjoy this topic and loved ending the unit with a whole day dedicated to the event.

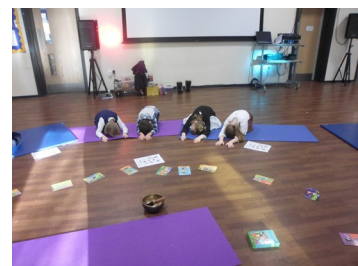
It was lovely to see so many of the children (and the staff) dressed in costume on the day. The children each did 3 different workshops in the morning. In Firecrests classroom they did some Hot Seating of Thomas Farrynor and Samuel Pepys. They built on their questioning skills, made some comparisons and also had a go being hot seated themselves too! In Herons classroom the children had a drama session where they acted out some of the events of the Great Fire. Finally in Red Kites classroom the children made some Tudor-style bread.

All the staff thought the children behaved beautifully and followed our Golden Rules and values. The whole day was a wonderful experience and we say a big thank you to all the parents who helped to sort costumes and truly embrace the day. Here are some of the feedback comments and photos from the children:

Emily in Herons said she enjoyed doing time lines in her topic book and Bella in Herons said she really enjoyed drawing the picture of Samuel Pepys using the drawing pencils.

Oscar in Firecrests said he really liked making the bread dough and Gus in Firecrests really enjoyed the hot-seating because it was fun!

Hugo in Red Kites enjoyed the drama activity. He acted the part of a soldier, pulling the burning houses down with a fire hook and Amelia in Red Kites said she liked dressing up as a maid from the time and really liked baking the bread.



5. PUPIL'S SECTION



The John Hampden School Council Minutes

Meeting held on: Tuesday 29th January 2019 at 10.15am

Present: Class Representatives from FS, Years 1 & 2

Welcome - All Representatives and two School Governors were welcomed to the School Council meeting
A special welcome to three new children who have just been nominated to be class representatives for
Ladybirds, Caterpillars & Honeybees

The School Council read the school Constitution & Aims

The School Council told the new members from FS about the School Council & what it does

The School Council discussed some questions from the recent Class Council Circle Time:

Question 1 asked of the School Council - What is children's behaviour like during assembly?

Mainly good but can be noisy leaving the hall

Question 2 asked of the School Council - How can children's behaviour during assembly be improved?

Agreed proposals:

The use of fidget toys for children who can't sit still (School Council liked this idea)

Hall monitors (pupils) (School Council liked this idea)

More adults in the hall would help to improve behaviour

A thinking mat in the hall so that children who don't do the right thing can sit and think about their
actions (9/10 liked this idea)

A Golden Time sun, cloud & rain cloud in the hall could be used for children who don't behave just like
we have in every class (9/10 liked this idea)

Question 3 asked of the School Council - What is children's behaviour like at the end of assembly?

Leaving silently was important to some

Playing music. School Council said that we have that already!

Agreed Proposals

Singing to music (10/10 School Council said yes to singing at the end of Merit Assembly, as they leave)
(7/10 School Council said yes to singing at the end of other assemblies)

**Question 4 asked of the School Council - How can the adults in the hall help to improve children's
behaviour during assemblies?**

Agreed Proposals

School Council would like T/TA's who are free at the end of assembly to go down to help see classes
back

Future Discussion

7/10 School Council said that they would like to discuss homework at the next meeting

Future Action

All of the School Council would like to speak to Mrs Barnes & Mrs Parkinson about their ideas
Mrs Spencer will share all of the information about the meeting with the teachers

Chair person thanked everybody for coming including our special visitors and especially the Minutes Sec-
retary for doing so well.

Meeting closed at 11.05am

Next meeting: Tuesday 19th March '2019 in the Group Room.

6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN



Unfortunately we had to cancel the **Curry & Bingo night** - due to lack of support! Thanks to all those who bought a ticket – we hope you have received your refund safely! Any problems let us know on FJHvolunteers@gmail.com



Bag 2 School Friday 8th February
Was collected this morning at 9am – we will update you with our profit asap – watch out on our JHS Parents Facebook page! Thanks to Hollie for her organisation again this year!

RESCHEDULED DUE TO THE SNOW DAY!! - Spring cake Sale NOW Friday 8th March

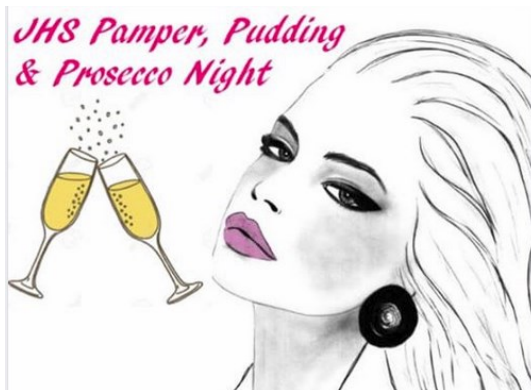
Brighten up these chilly afternoons with our first cake sale of the year, after school on Friday 8th March.

All donations very gratefully received! Please bring your baked or bought goods to reception on the morning. A little prize will be awarded for the loveliest bakes (don't forget to label your bakes with your child's name and class if you're taking part! Speak to Caroline or email FJHvolunteers@gmail.com - with any questions.



JHS Pamper, Pudding & Prosecco Night 29th March

A new event is being launched – so save the date – if you know someone who could offer their pamper services, retail products or you are happy to volunteer yourself – let us know on FJHvolunteers@gmail.com Watch out on JHS Parents Facebook page for more details...as they emerge!!



New secretary needed – **could it be you???** Chrissie is stepping down at Easter please contact us on FJHvolunteers@gmail.com or Emma Childs (PTA Chair) for further info.



Your cause has raised
£3,115.86
£77.23 in the last 30 days

You're raising for
Friends of John Hampden School Wendover



Sadly we haven't had any new recruits this month – It's so **EASY** when treating yourself to a Valentine's treat or booking your summer holidays – don't forget to click the link before!

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



Attention all Parents

Want to get more involved in the school and be reminded of those last minute meetings and dress up days - look out for 'JHS Parents' FB page – it's a closed group but hugely useful in reminders for muf-ti day, meetings, lost property reclaiming...ask to join and admin will join you. **You must answer the question before admin will approve you!**

Ice Cream Day – has moved! Just a heads up – we don't want disappointed children! Our termly icecream day has moved from this end of half term to **Friday 5th April – the last day of this term!**



Support Aylesbury Vale
and win amazing prizes!

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.

You can buy individual tickets whenever you like, or set up a Direct Debit for 1 (or more) ticket(s) per week and not worry about forgetting!

Draws are every Saturday night. Buy tickets here -

www.valelottery.co.uk/support/friends-of-john-hampden-school

Most importantly - FJH receives 50p from every ticket bought in support of the school

Save the Dates for this term – please note amended dates.

Bag to School	Friday 8 th February (another date change!)
JHS PTA (FJH) Meeting	Tuesday 5 th March
Spring Cake Sale	Friday 8 th March
Pamper, pudding and Prosecco	Friday 29 th March
Ice Cream Day	Friday 5 th April – last day of term – (yes its moved!)

Fancy getting involved with the PTA – please do email us on FJHvolunteers@gmail.com or contact us on JHS FB group.

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: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

It is important that we keep up to date with new resources and learning equipment. On 25th January, Mrs Barnes joined with other Head Teachers from the local schools to visit the BETT & Education Shows in London. We got the chance to see a range of exciting new learning tools and with discounts being offered on some of the products, we have been able to purchase a few new resources which we hope will be effective in developing confidence and fluency in maths.



GOAL B: TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT



The first half of the Spring Term has provided lots of memorable learning opportunities for the pupils in the school– we work hard to make the experiences we offer enjoyable and engaging. The Early Years class have taken every opportunity to get engaged in new learning. Foundation Stage pupils have been inspired by their topic of 'Explorer, Explorer' and so much good learning has taken place. Year One have been inspired by their topic work and have completed numerous investigations. Year Two have found Samuel Pepys buried treasure in the school grounds which led to them learning so much about the Great Fire of London. The whole school is prepared to spend next week developing thinking skills in Science and P4C as part of Discovery Week. Such a lot will have happened in just six weeks and two days!

GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE



We continue to be pleased with the excellent response from pupils to the 'Scroll of Honour' initiative. We are consistently noticing more children taking the initiative to offer help to others or to tidy up or to demonstrate the school values in action without any prompting. We are delighted that a whole range of adults in the school spot this type of behaviour and we hope that this will further enhance the ethos of respect for people and property. The School Council has met and has identified key areas that they consider ripe for development so we are learning things from the various pupil voice activities whilst celebrating the success of those who demonstrate our core values and our Golden Rules.

GOAL D: PUPIL OUTCOMES

Assessment Week

Next week the children will be busy providing us with further evidence of what they have learned since the last 'Assessment Week' at the end of the Autumn Term. The children complete a range of tasks and activities to help teachers confirm their judgements about progress and attainment in the core subjects. Assessment is an on-going process in our school but these special weeks give our staff and pupils the opportunity to spend slightly longer gathering more evidence to confirm their judgements. Learning Review meetings take place during the week beginning 4th March. Teachers will share with you, their observations and assessments of your child, at this time. They will also hand you a sheet outlining some targets which could be worked on at home as well as in school.



8. MISCELLANEOUS

Cleaning Operatives Vacancies

We have vacancies for cleaning operatives to join the team at John Hampden School, the hours of work are from 4.00pm – 6.00pm and can be term time only if that fits in with your busy home lives. Training in all aspects of the role will be given, so you do not need to have any previous experience, just a willingness to learn and achieve the high standards that we like to present at the school. The rate of pay is £8.50p per hour, this is paid monthly direct in to your bank account. You must have the right to work in the UK and we will also need to complete an enhanced DBS check. Please contact our local manager – Doug Bain on 07971224059 for an early interview.

Out of School Care Playworker vacancy

We have a maternity cover vacancy for a Playworker at our Breakfast Club from 7.30 am to 8.45 am for four mornings per week and at our After School Club from 3.00 pm to 6.15 pm four afternoons per week 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.

Anticipated start date is April 2019.

The salary will be within Bucks Pay Range 1A (currently £15,107 per annum pro rata) and the closing date for applications is Friday 1st March 2019.

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

Out of School Care

Looking for childcare? We have places at our Breakfast Club Monday to Friday 7.45 am until 8.45 am and places in our After School Club on a Monday and Friday 3.15 pm until 6.00 pm. If you are interested please contact Sharon Cottle for further details on 07506 195699 or email oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk for more information.

DRAMARAMA



WANT TO BE A STAR?

TERM
STARTS
MONDAY
25TH FEB

At Dramarama, EVERYONE is a STAR!

1ST FREE
TRIAL
SESSION

COME and JOIN our NEW Drama Club!

It's loads of fun!

Dramarama has been inspiring children through drama games, improvisation and performance since 1996. Now it's coming to WENDOVER!

Mondays at John Hampden Infant School for Years 1 & 2

3:15 - 4:25 pm (we'll collect children from their classrooms)

★ £6 a week including squash and biscuit ★

Spaces are LIMITED so contact Danielle ASAP to book your child's first FREE Trial session - daniellecgaglione@gmail.com Tel. 07921 760038

www.dramaramaclubs.co.uk

