



The John Hampden School Wendover

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NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS:

04-11-24 Christmas Play tickets available	25-11-24 Filled Jam Jars brought in for FJH Christmas Fayre
08-11-24 FJH Grotto Tickets on sale	29-11-24 —MUFTI DAY Donations for Christmas Fayre
15-11-24 —BBC Children in Need— Children invited to come to school in their own clothes in return for a donation	30-11-24 —FJH Christmas Fayre 12 noon-3pm
15-11-24 —donations for class hampers for the FJH Christmas Fair— colourful socks or tights	Friday 6th December —INSET DAY School closed to pupils

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

I hope you managed to have a relaxing half-term break. The curriculum theme of the first two weeks after the half term break is Health & Safety. The children really appear to have enjoyed the first of these enrichment weeks and I hope you will have heard about some of the activities/visitors that have formed a major part of the learning. You could also visit the 'Classes' tab (What we are Learning) or the 'News' section of the school's website to see photographs and further details of the activities and visitors.

In an earlier newsletter near the beginning of the school year, I mentioned that we will be monitoring attendance and punctuality regularly. Attendance monitoring takes place twice a term and parents will be informed if their child's attendance gives any cause for concern. We must reiterate that parents/carers should continue to be vigilant regarding sickness, diarrhoea and respiratory illness including a raised temperature. Children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea and those with a high temperature should not come back into school until this has returned to normal. Punctuality is not only important in developing good habits for the future, our pupils are involved in a range of activities first thing in the morning and children who arrive late are disadvantaged if they miss the first important instructions of the day. **Please do not arrive before 8.45a.m (unless your child attends Breakfast Club) as you will not be able to access the classrooms** but as soon as gates and doors are shut in the morning, children need to be brought to the main entrance to the school to gain access.

We are looking forward to putting on Christmas performances for you to attend this year. There will be separate Year Group performances so please note the following dates:

Early Years Class (Crickets)	Foundation Stage	Year 1	Year 2
One performance on 3-12-24@ 9.30am Max. 2 adults per child attending (tickets will be issued but there is no charge for this short performance)	Performance 1: 04-12-24@ 9.30a.m Performance 2: 05-12-24@ 9.30a.m Max. 2 adults attending per child (Tickets available from 04-11-24)	Performance 1: 17-12-24@ 2.00pm Performance 2: 18-12-24 @ 9.30a.m Max. 2 adults attending per child (Tickets available from 04-11-24)	Performance 1: 17-12-24@ 9.30a.m Performance 2: 18-12-24@ 2.00p.m Max. 2 adults attending per child (Tickets available from 04-11-24)



CHILDREN IN NEED - the children may come to school in their own clothes (something spotty or a Superhero costume if they like) on **Friday 15th November** in return for a minimum donation of £1 (any coin denominations) which will be sent to the BBC Appeal. Colourful socks or tights can also be worn on this date in return for a donation to class hampers for the FJH Christmas Fair.

Huge thanks to everyone for supporting the recent FJH Halloween Trail. £939 was raised on what turned into a rather wet afternoon. We appreciate all the effort that went into making the event so spookily spectacular and successful.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION



Happy Halloween Trails to you!

As the nights grow darker and days a bit more chilly, we always look forward to the Friends of John Hampden Halloween Trail. This amazing group of parent volunteers never fails to set up a fun trail to celebrate Halloween and raise money for the school. This year, although a little wetter than past trails, raised £939!

On November 30th these lovely volunteers will be running the annual JHS Christmas Fair. This is always a great day out for the whole family and members of the community. The JHS governors will be supporting by running the tombola, arguably one of the most popular activities and one we always enjoy.

If you would like to get involved in any way, please do. The team of volunteers that supports the school either through Friends of John Hampden or the board of governors are always looking for further support.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Fair!



Kind regards,

Ann Whyte

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 us at the school gate so please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, James Edley, Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk if you would like to raise a matter for discussion



3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES



MOVING UP TO JUNIOR SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2025

Parents/Carers of Year 2 children at John Hampden must apply for a Junior School place for their child. The Junior School online application service opened on 5th November 2024 and the deadline for online applications is midnight on 15th January 2025.

Parents should use the following website to make their application:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions>

STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025

If you, or someone you know, has a child who is eligible to start in **reception** in September 2025, an application for a Primary School place must be made in the next few months. The Primary School online application service opened on 5th November 2024 and the deadline for online applications is midnight on 15th January 2025. Please note that a place in the Early Years Class at John Hampden does not guarantee you a place in the school—an online application must still be made. Parents should use the following website to make their application:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/>

STARTING NURSERY (EARLY YEARS) IN SEPTEMBER 2025

If you, or someone you know, has a child who is eligible to start in our **Nursery Class** in September 2025, an application for a place can be made directly with the school at any time (application form is available on the school website) Places will be allocated in mid April or just before.

If you have friends looking for a school place who want their children to go to a fantastic school do encourage them to book onto another of our Open Mornings (18th November) or to take a look at the John Hampden School Wendover website where we have information about the school to help their decision making. Alternatively we are happy for prospective families to contact us directly by phone or email if they need any further information about our school.

Warm clothing

Children must wear a coat every day now and we also advise that children bring named hats and gloves to school to wear at playtimes in colder weather. We do sell woolly hats with the school logo on them—available from the school office at a cost of £5.00

Outdoor P.E. Kit The children will still go outside for P.E. when weather permits. Please make sure they have a pair of tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt in their P.E bag to ensure they stay warm enough. Girls who wear tights to school should have a pair of socks in their P.E. bag to wear with their plimsolls. Thank you

Staff Car Park We politely request that parents do not use the staff car park at any time. Please take extra care when walking your children up and down the school drive—this is especially relevant in the darker evenings.

Returning Scroll of Honour Badges Please make sure all Scroll of Honour badges are returned to school on a Thursday. Each week new children are selected for this reward and it would be a shame if we could not give them a badge which they have earned.

4. CURRICULUM

At John Hampden we are committed to educating children about their role as global citizens and we strive to weave this into our curriculum. As part of our cultural education and pupil personal development it is really helpful to have visitors and real artefacts or photos from a wide range of religious and cultural backgrounds to support this learning. We are already fortunate enough to have visitors who come to speak to us about Christian celebrations and Lunar New Year but we would love to explore and learn more. If you or your family members have experience of living in another country or are happy to share your experiences of your religious or cultural celebrations and traditions we would love to hear from you. You could help to host an assembly, share some artefacts or photos or help us to create a more diverse selection of school resources. If you would like to share some information or discuss further please contact Miss Burns on mburns@johnhampden.co.uk

Miss Burns
Equalities & Diversity Co-ordinator



Safety Week

This week, the whole school focus has been about how to keep safe. Mrs Shrimpton shared important messages about online safety and all classes have learnt more about fire safety too. Steph Reid kindly delivered a talk about the importance of safety in and around water. WJS Junior Road Safety Officers led an informative assembly about road safety and even included a rap for the children to sing along to! Pupils also received important advice about personal safety and how to deal with unkindness and bullying, led by Mrs Barnes and Mrs Parkinson. There was also a fantastic presentation for Year 2 by kindness ambassadors from WJS. The children have also learnt what to do if they are ever lost. Teachers delivered scooter training to Year 1 while Year 2 found out top tips for staying safe when cycling using a presentation provided by a local bike trainer, Chris German. Nursery, FS & Year 1 enjoyed a visit from Halton RAF Police and were thrilled to look inside their police van. Pupils have also learnt about dog and firework safety and Mrs Mannering has taught all children a range of songs and rhymes to reinforce the valuable messages that they have learnt.



There were a wide range of follow up activities in class including; medicines safety, risk and danger, discussions linked to making wise decisions and the importance of rules to keep safe.

At the end of the week, pupils were asked to reflect on all that they had learned, please see the pupil section for examples of comments provided.

A huge thank you to all of our visiting speakers including; the staff and pupils from Wendover Junior School, parent visiting speakers and other contributors involved from our local community. Thanks to them for giving the time to support this special focus week and for making it so successful. A huge thanks also to all of the staff at John Hampden for their hard work and to Daisy Berry, the PSHE Governor for coming into school to support us. Do ask your child(ren) about what they have been doing and encourage them to tell you about what they have found out.



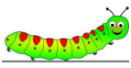
Jo Spencer

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

At the end of Safety week, pupils were asked to reflect on all that they had learned, please see the below for examples of comments provided.



Susu said that the swimming leader told them if they fall into the water to float on their back as you can float on your back.
Edie saw the policeman and the police car and when they drive it, it goes “nee-naw” and they can put the lights on.



Oscar talked about the Police Officers. ‘I liked their big truck because it has bright colours and you can see it in the dark’. Max liked meeting the Road Traffic Patroller she had a sign ‘it says stop and when I grow up I will do that’.



Fred enjoyed the talk by the RAF Police because he saw the handcuffs and the Police van. Eimile liked looking at the jail at the back of the Police van where there was a door ‘to stop people getting out’!



Noah liked going in the police van. The people in trouble go in the very back!
Alba learnt how to keep safe in the water. Don’t walk near it and don’t go in the deep end. If you fall in you can float on your back.



Bethany liked looking at the police handcuffs and at the Police Van.
Olivia said ‘I enjoyed the water safety talk because I learnt a lot about staying safe’.



Noah commented ‘I liked learning about the fireworks and how to keep your hands back’. Lo said ‘I liked it when the Police came in and we got to go in the truck to see inside’.



Lacey commented ‘I know that lifeguards help, they wear red and yellow – that’s for an emergency!’

Louis M said ‘I want to be a policeman when I grow up so I can help people’.



Heidi explained ‘I really enjoyed learning about fire safety because it gave me lots of ideas about what to do and what not to do’. Coco said ‘I loved learning about bike safety because we had a talk from Mrs Spencer with a real bike!’



Addison learned lots about how to keep safe. ‘If I see smoke or a fire I should ‘stop, drop and roll’. Joshua remembered not to run after a dog that goes on the ice ‘because it might be thin and dogs have four legs but we only have two’.



Ara said ‘I learnt a lot about water safety. The swimming teacher told us about all of the different flags’. Maisum explained ‘I like learning about fire safety because we watched a video to help us learn about it’.

6. E-SAFETY

E-safety

Our children have never known life before the online world and are getting more and more tech savvy at an earlier age. This causes many of us anxiety because we are not experts, we have not grown up in the age of online technology and we have not had childhood experience to draw upon when providing guidance for our own children.

However, the reality is, that we do live in a fast-paced, ever evolving digital world. At John Hampden, we believe that it is our role to ensure that pupils learn to become digitally literate, so that they can use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology, at a level suitable for the future workplace and so that they can be active participants in the digital world. It is also our joint responsibility, with you as parents, to help them understand how to keep themselves safe online.

E-Safety is a key part of Computing at John Hampden. In addition to the termly e-safety assemblies and the use of stories, the children are reminded how to keep themselves safe online at the start of every weekly Computing lesson. We teach the children not only how to keep themselves safe online in school, but also remind them that it is even more important when using devices at home as they may not have the same firewalls installed on them.

As part of Safety Week, all children attended differentiated e-safety assemblies led by Mrs Shrimpton, which covered important messages about e-safety, such as, knowing who to ask for help if they feel uncomfortable online, the importance of being kind to their friends online as well as in person, of not talking to strangers, and a basic understanding for Year 2 as to what their digital footprint is.

It came to our attention during the Year 1 and Year 2 assemblies, that there are a large number of children who said that they are allowed to use some social media sites such as Instagram, Tik Tok and Snapchat independently/unsupervised. The site that children admitted to using the most was Snapchat. This is extremely concerning, especially given the recent news that Snapchat is the most widely-used platform for online grooming (NSPCC Nov 2024). The BBC revealed details only a couple of weeks ago about an 8 year old girl who was messaged on a gaming app by a groomer who encouraged her to go on to Snapchat for a conversation, and then asked her to send videos and photographs of herself.

We recognise that even our very youngest pupils are increasingly using a range of different, internet connected technology at home, so to support you, we thought it might be helpful to direct you to some useful, age appropriate websites.

www.thinkuknow.co.uk - this is split into different age ranges to give relevant information for each age group. You can visit the Parent/Carer section for advice, or the 4-7 child section to share animated stories and games with your children.

A good site for Early years resources would be www.childnet.com – this has some great picture books (Digiduck) for parents to read with children. These can be downloaded as pdf or read on the website, they also have some great advice pages.

[Get SMART | Childnet](#) – visit the “Know It All” Section for an interactive guide about online safety.

www.childline.org.uk

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Mrs Shrimpton (Computing Subject Leader)



1/3 of children aged 5 to 7 use social media unsupervised. (Ofcom 2024)

The messaging app Snapchat is the most widely-used platform for online grooming (NSPCC Nov 2024)

1 in 15 children aged 8-15 have broadcast themselves live on popular social media sites. (Childnet, 2017)

79% of 5-7s go online for around 9 hours per week. (Ofcom, 2017)

26% of 6-year olds use the web for social media. (Opinion Leader, 2016)

73% of 8-12s have shared a photo online. (UK Safer Internet Centre, 2016)

1 in 6 of all 8-11s play games against people they have not met in person (Ofcom 2017)

John Hampden School Wendover

Christmas Fair

SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER
12-3pm

Join us for an afternoon full of festive fun for all the family to enjoy!

SANTA'S GROTTA	CHRISTMAS JUMPERS
WENDOVER BEERS	FACE PAINTING
BBQ - BLOCK & BUTCHER	CHILDREN'S CRAFT
CAKE STALL	BOTTLE TOMBOLA
TOY TOMBOLA	MULLED WINE
WRAP A PRESENT	TATTOOS/NAIL BAR
FESTIVE GAMES	DRAMA WORKSHOPS
JAM JARS	RAFFLE

Come hungry!

Entry : donation on the door

Registered charity no. 1070370

John Hampden School Wendover

Christmas Fair

DONATIONS

It's that time again.....we're fast approaching our Christmas Fair for which we rely on your generous donations.

We will gratefully receive the following:

- An item for your child's class hamper (check your class colour)
- Jam Jars WRAPPED SWEETS ONLY & NO NUTS PLEASE
- Gift for the Wrap a Present stall
- Christmassy jumpers (all sizes welcome, adults included)
- Items for the toy tombola
- Bottles for the tombola
- Cakes, biscuits, traybakes for the bake sale

We're aware that we ask for lots of donations for this fair so we're trying to spread out our requests. More information and key dates on next pages.



Two grotto sessions will be reserved exclusively for volunteers' children. The grotto is always oversubscribed so it's a good perk for those able to volunteer.

11:30-12:00
15:00-15:30

John Hampden School Wendover

Christmas Fair

DONATION INFO

JAM JARS - this is one of our most popular stalls and tends to sell out quickly. A guaranteed win! Children decorate a jam jar and fill it with sweets. Best decorated jam jars win a prize.

WRAPPED SWEETS ONLY & NO NUTS PLEASE.

Feel free to enter more than one jar! Winners will be announced in assembly on Friday 29th November. Remember to label your jar.

WRAP A PRESENT - the children love this teacher-run stall. They choose a present for a relative and wrap it, in secret, with the help of a teacher. To make it happen we ask you to donate a brand-new gift please (we are often short of men's presents, so don't forget something for Dad, Grandfathers, etc!)

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS - this was really popular last year!

In line with both the school's and the FJH's continuing pledge to be more environmentally friendly there will be a jumper swap stall.

Please donate any Christmassy jumpers your family have outgrown (or simply don't like anymore). A 'new to you' jumper will cost £2 at the fair. Enjoy wearing it all season and maybe swap it again next year.

TOY TOMBOLA - new or excellent condition toys, books, games, stationary, craft materials. Anything your child would love to win.

BOTTLE TOMBOLA - the Governors run our ever popular tombola. Please bring in a bottle of something delicious. All bottles gratefully received, from champagne to shampoo. If it's in a bottle and within its sell by date it can be donated to the bottle tombola!

CAKE STALL - calling all bakers! Please bring your lovely bakes to the office on Friday 29th.



John Hampden School Wendover

Christmas Fair

RAINBOW HAMPERS

We'd like to create a hamper from each class to be included in the Christmas Fair raffle. On **Friday 15th November** please could children arrive at school with at least one item for their class hamper in return for a colourful socks/tights day.

Your donation can be anything that is the designated colour of your children's class hamper/s.



Please ensure that all items donated are NEW and UNOPENED

Donation ideas: food items (not chilled or perishable), soft & alcoholic drinks, stationary, toiletries, games, vouchers, candles, sweets, chocolate, new books, hair accessories etc.

Tickets for the raffle will be available on Rallyup from 18th November.
The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Fair and winners notified via email.

A huge thank you, in advance, for your generosity and enthusiasm
in helping to make our fundraiser a success

From the FJH team

John Hampden School Wendover

Christmas Fair

KEY DATES

NOW!

Look out for a message from your class rep detailing the stall your class has been assigned. PLEASE HELP IN ANY WAY YOU CAN.
Two grotto slots will be reserved exclusively for volunteers' children. The grotto is always oversubscribed so it's a good perk for those able to volunteer.



8 Nov

Santa's Grotto tickets available. 200 tickets up for grabs on ParentPay. £4 per child.



15 Nov

Rainbow Hamper Day. Children to arrive at school with at least one item for their class rainbow hamper in exchange for a **colourful tights/socks day.**

18 Nov

Raffle tickets available. A RallyUp link will be sent out soon where you will be able to view prizes and buy tickets.

25 Nov

Jam Jars. Please hand them to your child's teacher
WRAPPED SWEETS ONLY & NO NUTS PLEASE

29 Nov

Donation Day! Mufti Day!

Please bring your donations to the school office. Children are welcome to wear their own clothes to school in exchange for all your wonderful donations:

- Gifts for Wrap a Present
- Christmas jumpers
- Toys
- Bottles
- Cakes



Payments accepted:



A huge thank you, in advance, for your generosity and enthusiasm
in helping to make our fundraiser a success

From the FJH team

Registered charity no. 1070370

8. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We aim to keep you fully informed of our actions linked to the school improvement plan. Since the beginning of this academic year we have made progress linked to the actions outlined below:

GOAL A: QUALITY OF EDUCATION

So far in the Autumn Term 2024 we have implemented a transition curriculum which has been monitored through: checking learning environments inside; observations; book scrutiny and formative assessment in maths, English and phonics.

By now Early Years & Foundation Stage children have all been assessed using a Baseline Assessment tool and we will use the resulting data to plan learning experiences to meet the needs of this cohort of children.

The week before half term was assessment week where teachers used time to gain final pieces of evidence to support their on-going teacher assessments. Specific interventions and support will then be offered to children of all abilities. At this stage of the year we are focussing on understanding your child's current strengths and areas for development rather than trying to award a summative judgement.



GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR & ATTITUDES

Since the beginning of the Autumn Term we have continued to reinforce our Behaviour Policy by spending time focusing on our core Values and our Behaviour Expectations. We feel it is vital to reinforce the features that underpin our ethos and vision with all our pupils. We have monitored the implementation of our Behaviour and Self-Regulation policy and each week we are noting the children who have experienced the protective and educational consequences associated with not adhering to the Behaviour Expectations. We look to collaborate with families to support children who are experiencing any behavioural difficulties in school and behaviour management plans are implemented, where necessary, with a positive approach to encouraging and supporting appropriate learning behaviours.



GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The fortnight of work linked to Health and Safety will be enhanced by having a number of visitors to talk about how their work helps to keep us safe and healthy. So far, feedback from the children has been very positive and they appear to have learnt a great deal. This is just one example of how we are aiming to achieve an exciting, memorable and engaging curriculum.

Safety week has provided a good opportunity to reinforce messages about e-safety. Mrs Shrimpton has reinforced important messages about internet safety with all our pupils and there are reminders of these messages in each classroom in the form of a class e-safety charter.



GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

At John Hampden, we have a senior leadership team made up of Mrs Barnes, Mrs Parkinson and Mrs Spencer. We firmly believe that this model of distributed leadership enables the most effective leadership of the school. James Edley remains as the Chair of Governors and he is being ably assisted by the other governors in the team.

Since the beginning of term these teams have been working to ensure the School's Self-Evaluation and the School Development Plan are accurate representations of where we are currently and where we hope to get to by the end of this academic year. These documents reflect a range of views and an array of data that is available to us.

The school's new website is constantly evolving and, as important stakeholders, we would always be happy to hear your suggestions for how it could be improved further.

**SENIOR
LEADERSHIP TEAM**

9. MISCELLANEOUS



WENDOVER EVENING WI

INVITE YOU TO ITS

**CHRISTMAS
FAIR**

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

10AM-12:15PM

At The Memorial Hall, Wharf Rd, Wendover
FREE ENTRANCE



Supporting:
Little Princess Trust,
Aylesbury Women's Aid.
Raising funds for the
Wendover Evening WI.



VISIT SANTA AND CHRISTMAS STALLS
FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

Charity Number: 284827



Christopher Pallet

Professional advice since 1973

Proudly sponsoring



Christopher Pallet, Wendover's longest established independent estate agent are proud to be sponsoring Friends of John Hampden School.

As Part of our sponsorship we will be donating £100 to the school, for every parent/guardian or teacher that successfully sells their property through Christopher Pallet Estate Agents in Wendover.

Residential Sales & Lettings

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For all your property requirements contact
wendover@christopherpallet.com
or call 01296 625000



Hampden Financial Services are proud to be offer Parents, Guardians and Staff of John Hampden School the opportunity to review their mortgage and also raise funds for John Hampden School.

For every mortgage completed via Hampden Financial Services, Hampden Financial Services will make a £50 donation to John Hampden School.

So whether you are looking to remortgage or move home please contact us via below and just mention John Hampden School when you make initial contact.

Phone – 07812 063256

Email - Jeff.harris@hampdenfs.co.uk

Feel free to check out our reviews on Facebook and google under Hampden Financial Services

Terms and Conditions are available on request

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS

ON YOUR MORTGAGE

