



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Four Friday October 16th 2026

I hope you found this week's meetings with teachers helpful. We like to hold them early in the term as it gives us a lovely opportunity to share how your children have settled into their new classes. As we near the end of the first half term, I think we are all ready for a well-deserved break! It's been a busy half term and the children have worked incredibly hard. I am so proud of every single one of them as they have shown such enthusiasm, kindness, and resilience.

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Next week we will have our first Open Morning session for prospective parents. Families will visit the school, enjoy a short presentation (with fantastic contributions from our pupils!) and take a guided tour. We will be holding two more sessions on 12th November and 25th November, so if you or anyone you know is looking for a Nursery or Reception place for September 2027, please get in touch with the school office to book a visit. We're also excited to host a Stay and Play event for prospective Nursery and Reception children in on Saturday 28th November at 9.30-11.00am.

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable half term break. We are already looking forward to the second half of the Autumn term and all the fun and festivities it brings. We can't wait to see everyone back, rested and ready, on Monday 2nd November.

Steph Parkinson - Headteacher



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Applying for Primary School Places (new EYFS cohort and Year 2 moving to Junior School)

If your child is due to start infant or junior school in September 2027 now is the time to start thinking about your application. If you live in Buckinghamshire visit the council's website between 4th November 2026 and 15 January 2027 to apply for a place for your child online.

Voluntary Contributions

Many thanks to all parents who have chosen to pay the voluntary contribution this term. We will send out reminders, just in case anyone who intended to pay had forgotten to do so.

Clothing, Coats and Lost Property

As the colder weather approaches please make sure your children bring a named, warm coat to school everyday. Please could you also check that your child's clothing has the correct name in it. For example, sometimes children wear clothing that has belonged to an older sibling and if the siblings name is still in the clothing there can be confusion if there is another child in the class with that name.





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Lunch Choices

Please note that you need to order by midnight on a Sunday for your child to receive the hot meal one week later. For hot meals commencing 2nd November you would be required to order no later than midnight on Sunday 25th October.



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Curriculum and Teaching

SCHOOL TRAVEL SUCCESS!

We were delighted to recently be awarded a 'Good Travel Plan' again as part of the Modeshift STARS Accreditation. A School Travel Plan (STP) is a document that identifies local issues relating to the school journey, sets out a strategy of agreed aims and identifies a package of measures designed to promote more sustainable travel choices for pupils, parents, staff and visitors to our school. Unauthorised vehicles on the campus and poor parking are hazards for the whole school community. The school campus are working collaboratively planning activities to highlight sustainable travel choices.





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Governor Section

Safeguarding Update from Ann Whytwood Safeguarding Governor

As the school's Safeguarding Governor, my role is to work closely with staff to make sure that our policies and practice keep every child safe, happy and ready to learn. I regularly meet with Mrs Parkinson as the Designated Safeguarding Lead to review procedures and ensure that safeguarding remains at the heart of everything we do. Safeguarding isn't just about keeping children safe in school, it is also about supporting their wellbeing and helping them to learn how to keep themselves safe in different situations. Next half term, children will be learning about how to keep themselves safe during specific lessons which is a very important parts of our curriculum. Please remember that if you ever have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, you can speak to any member of staff, who will ensure your concern reaches the right person. You can also find our Safeguarding Policy and contact details for the Designated Safeguarding Leads on the school website. Together, we all play a part in keeping our school community safe and nurturing.



Ann Whytwood
Safeguarding Governor



Steph Parkinson-DSL, Clare Norman DDSL, Steph Burrows DDSL



**Caroline
McLoughlin**
Nurture
Support



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Diary Dates – Autumn Term

19th October – Growth mindset week

20th October – 9.15 am Open Morning for prospective EYFS (Nursery and FS) parents

23rd October – 9.15 am Open Morning for prospective EYFS (Nursery and FS) parents

2nd November – School opens after half-term

12th November – Open Morning for prospective EYFS (Nursery and FS) parents

25th November – Open Morning for prospective EYFS (Nursery and FS) parents

1st December - FS dress rehearsal

2nd December – 9.30 am FS Nativity

3rd December - 9.30 am FS Nativity

4th December – INSET day

8th December – 9.30 am EY Nativity

14th December – Dress Rehearsal Christmas Performances Year 2 9.30am Year 1 11.00am

15th December - Christmas Performances Year 2 9.30am Year 1 11.00am

16th December - Christmas Performances Year 1 9.30am Year 2 11.00am

18th December – Christmas Parties and finish school at 1.00pm

