



The John Hampden School Wendover



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NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

7th October—Open Morning for prospective families

Week commencing 14th October—Parents' Evenings

BOOKING CLOSES AT 9.00 am on 7th October

21st October—Assessment Week

25th October—School closes at 3.15pm for half term holiday.

FJH Halloween Trail and Cake Bake after school

4th November—School re-opens and Safety Week

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

In an infant school, at the beginning of a new school year, I think it is particularly important for the children to be given time to settle into their new classes, getting to know their teachers and teaching assistants. We have spent time in the first few weeks focusing on our 'Behaviour Expectations' and reinforcing our core values so that all pupils are fully aware of the things that are important to our school community. I regularly visit and teach classes and it is very encouraging to watch the children adjusting to the routines and expectations of school life. We aim to have a positive approach to behaviour management, and our behaviour expectations highlight what children should do, rather than what they should not! In each class, we have a 'Recognition Board' where children's names are written as soon as we spot them doing something particularly impressive. We believe it is important to acknowledge when children do well and at John Hampden, this is done in a variety of ways. Feedback from teaching staff is the most immediate method, but stickers and pebbles are also used as reward tokens in many of the classes. Children are sent to me or Mrs Parkinson to share their learning when they have done exceptionally well and we reward this behaviour with special stickers and a gold star to take home. Each Friday we are holding our 'Over & Above' assembly, in which children from each class are chosen to receive a special certificate and sticker. This is awarded by the class teachers and teaching assistants for exceptional behaviour or exceptional learning. Children receiving the 'Over & Above' certificates are invited to sit on special chairs and a star is put onto our display board in the hall to remind us of their achievements.

A silver cup is awarded to the 'Class of the Week'. So far Honeybees, Badgers and Hedgehogs have won the cup—I'll leave your children to tell you who won it today!

Finally, the 'Scroll of Honour' is unfurled. The scroll contains the names of any child in the school who has been spotted by any adult for doing something special. The children are asked to stand and the whole school sing a congratulatory song to them. Each child whose name is on the scroll will bring home a special certificate so you know what they have done to impress us. They will also be given a yellow badge to wear on their jumper during the following week.

We also like to celebrate achievement outside school and we have a display board in the corridor to showcase the talents of our pupils. If your child is awarded a certificate or an award for swimming, dancing, sport, music etc. we are happy to take a photograph or photocopy and put it up on the board.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Parent's Evenings where we can provide you with feedback about how your child is settling in to their new class. **All Crickets Class parents will be invited to enter the classroom via the drop off/exit door. For the rest of the school, parents should enter via the main front door and you will be directed to a waiting area outside your child's classroom.** Please remember that your appointment only lasts for 10 minutes—if it appears that you require more time, a new meeting will need to be arranged as others are delayed if your appointment overruns. If, following your meeting, you would like to speak to me or Mrs Parkinson about any matter please come to the main entrance where we can arrange a mutually convenient time and place to speak. Thank you for your continued support.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Although I am the newest member of the JHWS governing board, I am not new to governance and I'm not actually new to the school. Our son, Thomas, left Red Kites class in July of this year after three happy years and I have been on a governing board in another Bucks primary school for the last 10+ years.

Even after a very short period of time, and just one governing board meeting, it has been quickly apparent that the John Hampden School Wendover has a governing board that is fully committed to the wellbeing and outcomes of our children and covers a wide breadth of experience and skill sets.

School governance is a little like alchemy – you don't really know anything about it until you're in it. This is especially true for any new governors that don't come from an education background. There are so many acronyms and abbreviations – it can be a bit overwhelming in the first few months of the governance journey.

When anyone asks me what being a school governor entails, I tell them that it comes down to four key areas:

Support – it is the governors' role to support their Head teacher. We delegate the day-to-day operational duties of running a school to our Head teacher and our support enables them to do this effectively.

Challenge – it is our job as 'critical friends' to challenge the school leadership to ensure that we understand that the school is being run in line with the strategic direction we have agreed.

Evidence – we evidence how the school is meeting our strategic plan through governing board meetings, looking at performance data and most importantly through school visits. As governors, we need to see how our children are learning.

Training – there is certain training that governors must take, such as safeguarding, and there is a very broad range of additional training providers available for us to learn all of the skills required for good governance. Continued training makes us better governors.

Now that may sound like a lot to take on but I can honestly say that my time as a school governor has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. I have met fellow governors from all walks of life – from vicars to company directors and from full time parents to retired Ofsted inspectors. I would strongly recommend it to anyone who is looking to give a couple of hours a week to a volunteering role.

I look forward to meeting many of you and who knows, maybe some of you will consider being a school governor at this incredible school?



Martyn Dolbear
Co-opted Governor

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, James Edley, Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

LOOKING FOR A NURSERY/ RECEPTION PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025?



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.

Pupils 'love to learn' at this school, fully reflecting the school's motto. They are highly motivated and behave very well. High expectations permeate every aspect of school life, and pupils flourish, both academically and socially.

Ofsted 2024

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

Monday 7th October at either 9.15am or 10.30am.

or

Monday 18th November at either 9.15am or 10.30am.

Please contact the school office via phone or email to book

01296 622629

REQUEST FOR WOODEN PALLETS

If anyone has access to spare wooden pallets, Year One would really appreciate them for their outside learning environment. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

HARVEST THANKS

Many thanks to all who donated produce for our Harvest Festival. This was given to the Women's Refuge in Aylesbury, who were very grateful.

Thanks too if you formed part of the audience, we hope you enjoyed the performances.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Please do not use mobile phones whilst on the school grounds. In this way, we are safeguarding our pupils by ensuring there is no chance of anyone taking unauthorised photos/videos within the school environment. Please remind others of this message if you spot anyone on their phone—it is a shared responsibility. This is also applicable when bringing or collecting from our Out of School Care provision.

5. CURRICULUM

Welcome to Mathematics at The John Hampden School!

Now that the settling in period has successfully passed and we are looking forward to what the rest of this academic year holds, I thought I would introduce myself. I am Mrs Bowman and I am the Mathematics Lead at The John Hampden School. It is a post that I have been fortunate to hold for some time now, and it has been a privilege to oversee significant changes in the way that Mathematics is delivered in our setting over this period.

You may have noticed that Mathematics is taught in a very different way from when you were at school and this is a great thing! Pupils are encouraged to explore number, to increase their fluency and to notice patterns, so that they can apply this knowledge to key areas of the curriculum. We support the small steps, big impact approach to teaching Mathematics, where children are encouraged to use manipulatives, to build numbers and discuss their findings. Explicit links are made regarding the world around us, and children discuss why developing our Mathematical knowledge is so important for our daily lives, from learning the time, to working out change, to weighing ingredients out accurately and comparing temperatures in different climates.

There is no doubt that myself as Mathematics Lead, the dedicated team of teachers throughout the school and our wonderful TAs and LSAs are integral to ensuring that your child is fully supported and feels successful during their Mathematical journey through this school. However, your positive involvement as parents is essential too! Here is why:

At school we fully recognise that there is a significant correlation between Mathematical success and a child's confidence. From my own observations throughout the school and from NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics) based research, it is incredibly clear that children achieve when they are happy and confident in what they are doing. Therefore, we have worked very hard on creating a setting that is an explicitly safe place where children can get stuck, make mistakes, require support and find challenges difficult. It is this focus that enables children to take risks and learn from them which builds confidence and in turn builds success.

We are very keen for parents to become involved in supporting their child with Maths at home, but it can be difficult to know where to start. So below I have listed a few ideas which may help you going forward.

Positive Experiences	Firstly, it is essential that you try to refrain from discussing any negative experiences you had around Maths as a child. You would be surprised how easy it is for children to assume that because you did not like Maths or you found it hard, that they should feel the same. This is truly what we don't want, so focus on the positives!
What we are learning sheet.	Refer to the 'What We Are Learning Sheet' on the school's website. Details of what your child is being taught that week is recorded there, along with the rest of your child's subjects. You can use this to ask more specifically about their day.
Board and card games.	Games are a fun way of getting involved with Maths. Snakes and Ladders, Shut the Box, Uno, Top Trumps, Dominoes are a few that you can start with. Dobble although not number based helps to improve focus and concentration. It sharpens the neural pathways that help us to recognise similarities and differences which is an important part of developing number sense.
Cooking together.	Baking/cooking is a lovely way to become involved in everyday Maths and you get a delicious treat at the end of it. Measuring out ingredients together using scales. Setting the timer and temperature. How much more do we need? Using a recipe as a reference point also helps with reading, instruction writing and Maths all at the same time!
Money, money, money.	Nowadays we all use our debit and credit cards to pay for things and so the use of cash is becoming less and less. Despite this it is a really good idea to have a selection of coins and notes on hand to play with/ and use. Recognising coins even in Foundation Stage is important as using these coins helps to cement their worth. Going to the shop and buying something or creating your own shop at home is really useful and great fun too.
Helping around the home.	DIY is also a useful way of getting children involved in everyday Maths. Measuring a space for a bookcase or comparing the length of a piece of wood to see which is most suitable, is time well spent in order for measurement to become something your child is comfortable with. How many paces do you estimate it will take to get to the kitchen from the front door? Let's find out if you are right.
Journey to and from school.	On the way to school there are so many opportunities to engage in Mathematics. Looking at odd and even numbers on the doors of houses. Numbers on car number plates. Which is bigger? Which is smaller? Skip counting in 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s. Playing fizz buzz. How many red cars do you see on the journey?
Hundred squares.	Even using a simple hundred square to discuss one more, one less, or ten more, ten less is really useful.
These are just a few ideas and of course you may already have some favourites of your own.	

Sarah Bowman
Maths Co-ordinator



5. PUPIL'S SECTION

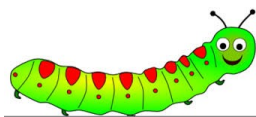
On Thursday 26th September we held the Foundation Stage Harvest Festival and on Friday 27th our KS1 children performed. Each class had been practising their own performance in the classroom so it was lovely when they had the opportunity to watch others in their year group perform. If you were able to attend we hope you enjoyed the show!

We thought you might like to read about what the children enjoyed about their Harvest performances:



Teddy said he liked seeing his mummy and singing.

Esme said she liked singing to her mummy. Her favourite poem is Leaves Are Falling.



Joseph liked the golden corn, he enjoyed singing it. Also he liked seeing his mummy because he didn't think she was coming. It was good when everyone clapped them. Marianna sang Big Red Combine Harvester and The Golden Corn. She enjoyed singing. Her mummy was watching and had happy tears.



Margot liked singing songs to the grown ups. She liked Big Red Combine Harvester.

Ruby really liked the Owl song because she likes the funny actions.



Wilbur liked singing for the harvest and he really liked singing in front of his mummy and waving at her.

Alice liked singing Autumn Leaves with everyone and seeing her mum and dad watching.



Millie liked singing the songs.

Harry liked performing to an audience.



Penelope felt nervous but she persevered.

Rayaan was happy when they were singing Autumn Leaves.



Holly said they performed Bean Harvest. She enjoyed the French Bean part of the song as it made her laugh. It was scary to perform at first but it was fine in the end. Louis liked doing the actions to Runner Bean because it was fun. He felt nervous to begin with but he was happy at the end.



Bethany really enjoyed singing the Harvest Samba. The actions were fun to do.

Theo liked singing with everyone together. It sounded really good.



Aisha said they sang the song We're so Thankful and she loved doing the actions.

Alexander said it was really fun performing their own song and watching the other classes.



FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL

Halloween Trail & Cake Sale

FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER

AFTER SCHOOL

SUGGESTED DONATION £2 PER CHILD

7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The leadership team at the school, which includes the Full Governing board, has agreed the long term strategic aims for the school. They are as follows:



Each year we review and use these strategic aims to underpin our annual School Development Plan where we identify key targets and success criteria within four 'Goals'. The goals link to the Ofsted Inspection Framework:

Goal A: Quality of Education—including targets linked to curriculum intent, implementation and impact

Goal B: Behaviour & Attitudes—including behaviour; attitudes to learning; attendance and punctuality

Goal C: Personal Development—including pupil voice; equalities and diversity; personal, social and health education; extra-curricular activities; support for learning

Goal D: Leadership & Management—including collaboration arrangements, deficit recovery; professional development for staff; safeguarding; managing workload

The annual school development plan 2024-2025 is available on the school website and each fortnight you will receive an update on our progress towards meeting the targets in the plan in this newsletter

TEACH IN BUCKS RECRUITMENT FAIR

*Interested in becoming a teacher?
We want to meet you!*

Saturday 9 November 2024
10am – 3pm

 **Buckinghamshire New University | Aylesbury Campus**



Event Programme

Featuring presentations from a number of organisations including the Department for Education and several of the county's school and university based Initial Teacher Training providers:

- 10.00am** **Doors open – opportunity to review local providers**
- 10.30am** **Get into Teaching**
- Presentation by a representative from the Department for Education
- 11.30am** **How to Apply – Applications, Qualifications, and Compliance**
- Presentations by Astra SCITT, Buckingham Partnership SCITT and Insignis SCITT
- 12.30pm** **Training Programmes:**
- 1. Early Years and Primary Teacher Training**
 - Presentations by Buckinghamshire New University and Buckingham Partnership SCITT
 - 2. Secondary Teacher Training Programme**
 - Presentations by Astra SCITT and Insignis SCITT
 - 3. Teaching in Further Education**
 - Presentation by the Buckinghamshire College Group
- 1.30pm** **Opportunity to review local providers**
- 2.00pm** **Routes into Teaching:**
- 1. The Apprenticeship Route into Teaching**
 - Presentation by Astra SCITT and Insignis SCITT
 - 2. The Assessment Only Route into Teaching**
 - Presentation by The Buckingham Partnership SCITT
 - 3. University Routes into Teaching**
 - Presentation by Buckinghamshire New University
- 2.30pm** **Opportunity to review local providers**
- 3.00pm** **Close**

If you have any queries about the event, please email teachinbucks@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Programme is subject to change



Register for a **FREE** ticket:
Eventbrite





ELLESBOROUGH SILVER BAND AUTUMN CONCERT



An afternoon of live music from stage and screen

Saturday 12th October

3:00 - 5:00 pm

The Church on Fairford Leys, Hampden Square,

Fairford Leys, Aylesbury

HP19 7HT



**No ticket required - donations at the door to support the
Karibuni Children charity and the band**



**Refreshments and Karibuni merchandise available in the
interval**



**Transforming young
Kenyan lives.**

Registered UK Charity Number 1044872



Visit our website to book/join/follow us
ellesboroughsilverband.co.uk
Follow us: @EllesboroughSB @EllesSB



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

Mortgages | Surveys | Conveyancing | Land & New Homes | Professional Advice



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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



Weston Turville
Parish Council



CLIMATE
ACTION
WESTON
TURVILLE



Scan me!

ECO family FUN DAY

FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES
AT WESTON TURVILLE VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER

10AM - 4PM

Event Highlights

Activities & Crafts
Art competition
Pumpkin Carving Competition

**FREE RAFFLE
GUIDED NATURE WALKS
TOP ENERGY SAVING TIPS
STALLS AND TALKS ON:
RETROFITS AND RENEWABLES
WILDLIFE AND GARDENING ADVICE
BIKES & DOCTOR BIKE CLINIC
(BRING YOUR BIKE)**

Join Us for a
Spectacular
ECO Family
Fun Day!

Street food
vans &
Refreshments





Church Farm invites you to our...

Pick Your Own Pumpkin Patch

October weekends from 5th to 27th, 10am - 4pm.

World's End Lane, Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire

- Thousands of pumpkins, gourds and squash
- Loads of different varieties, for carving, cooking, & decoration
- Hot drinks and food
- Face painting
- Bale play



Visit www.churchfarmbucks.co.uk for updates and more information

Or follow us on Facebook and Instagram @ChurchFarmBucks

