



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue One Friday September 4th 2026

A warm welcome to the new school year!

I hope you all enjoyed a restful summer break, enjoyed the superb sunshine and are ready for the exciting term ahead. It has been wonderful to see the children return this week, brimming with energy and enthusiasm, and to welcome our new families into The John Hampden community.

This newsletter contains important information, key dates and updates about school life. Fortnightly newsletters will be emailed to you using the contact details you provided at admission. If your email address has changed, please inform the school office. We are happy to send newsletters to both parents if needed, just let us know.

Children should arrive at school at 8.45 a.m. We understand that, especially in the early weeks, younger children may need a little extra time to reach their classroom door due to queuing, but this will soon speed up!

Whenever possible, I will be outside as children arrive, so please feel free to speak to me if you need to. I am always happy to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time to discuss any concerns.

We are all looking forward to a happy and successful year at The John Hampden. Please look out for the next full newsletter on Friday 18th September.

Steph Parkinson - Headteacher





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At the beginning of each school year, we invite parents to attend an induction meeting held in your child's classroom. During these sessions, class teachers will share information about the curriculum, routines, and expectations and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. We appreciate that not everyone is able to attend, so the key information will also be made available on the class page of the school website. Parents please enter via the classroom doors as usual.

Class	Date	Time
Cricket	15.9.26	9.00 am
Honeybees	18.9.26	2.30pm
Caterpillars	17.9.26	2.30pm
Ladybirds	18.9.26	2.30pm
Badgers	9.9.26	2.30pm
Hedgehogs	9.9.26	2.30pm
Squirrels	9.9.26	2.30pm
Red Kites	8. 9.26	2.30pm
Heron	8.9.26	2.30pm
Firecrests	8.9.26	2.30pm



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Exciting Things!

Our School Values

At the start of every school year we shine a spotlight on our school values. Each week we will be focusing on one value. This will either introduce the value for Nursery or Foundation Stage or to help the children deepen their understanding and apply in their everyday lives.

To include families in this journey, class teachers will be sending home a simple, fun activity each week linked to the value we are exploring. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss the value at home and encourage children to put it into practice beyond the classroom.

Next week our focus will be on Perseverance. Please keep an eye out for your child's activity and enjoy joining in!

Facebook and Instagram

Last year we launched our school Facebook and Instagram which is used to showcase learning and give families a window into school life.





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SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please note that if you did not pre-order a hot lunch for your child prior to the start of this academic year you will need to provide a packed lunch for them. If you want your child to receive a free hot meal at lunchtime you need to log in to your ParentPay account as soon as possible and order the meals you require. Next week, all Foundation Stage parents and parents of new children will find an activation letter with your ParentPay username and login details in their child's book bag. Orders must be placed by midnight on Sunday 13th September for your child to start receiving the meals on Monday 21st September. If you have any problems logging into your account or ordering the meals please contact Emma in the school office who will help you with this on 01296 622629 or email office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk

If your child has any allergies or special dietary needs you must liaise directly with Chartwells, our hot meal provider, to organise special meals. Their contact details are: www.chartwells.co.uk It is important that you also inform the school of the information you are sharing with Chartwells so we are aware.

For Foundation Stage classes, we will repeat your paper order from 7th September (completed prior to your child starting in their new class) so they will receive a hot meal week commencing 7th and 14th September. You need to log in by 11th September to order meals for week commencing 21st September. Thank you.

Lunchboxes & Food Brought into School

As part of our commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles and in line with our Healthy Schools Award, we ask that children's lunchboxes reflect a balanced, nutritious approach to eating. Please include items such as fruit, vegetables, sandwiches or wraps, and healthy snacks, while avoiding sweets, chocolate bars, and fizzy drinks. We also have a number of children in school with allergies, so we kindly remind all parents not to include any nuts or nut-based products in lunchboxes. For the same reason, we do not allow children to hand out sweets, cakes, or similar items to other pupils when celebrating birthdays. Thank you for your support in helping us to create a safe and healthy food environment for all of our children.



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Dear Parent / Guardian,

****Meal Ordering & Cancellations****

Please see ordering timetable below.

All orders will need to be completed by midnight Sunday one week prior to the actual consumption week. Please see below

Sickness - The parent needs to call the Chartwells Customer Care Line on 07818 944478 before 9am every day of the child's sickness. A credit is given from the second day onwards.

School trips and other cancellations – 48 hours' notice before 9am prior to the event, the parent needs to call the Chartwells Customer Care Line for the meal to be cancelled and a credit given.

For all other enquires please email creativekitchenadmin2@compass-group.co.uk

DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDER	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
SUNDAY 23 RD AUGUST	MONDAY 31 ST AUGUST
SUNDAY 30 TH AUGUST	MONDAY 7 TH SEPTEMBER
SUNDAY 6 TH SEPTEMBER	MONDAY 14 TH SEPTEMBER
SUNDAY 13 TH SEPTEMBER	MONDAY 21 ST SEPTEMBER
SUNDAY 20 TH SEPTEMBER	MONDAY 28 TH SEPTEMBER
SUNDAY 27 TH SEPTEMBER	MONDAY 5 TH OCTOBER
SUNDAY 4 TH OCTOBER	MONDAY 12 TH OCTOBER
SUNDAY 11 TH OCTOBER	MONDAY 19 TH OCTOBER



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COATS

The children will be working outside at certain points throughout the day so it is important that they have a coat in school every day. Rain does not stop us going outside!

UNIFORM

If you still need to purchase any uniform you can download a uniform order form from the school website and email it to the school office or post it in the secure post box outside the school office. You can pay by cheque, cash or via bank transfer. If you opt for an online payment the banking details can be found on the order form.

Holiday/Leave of Absence Requests (PLEASE NOTE)

In conjunction with our Liaison Group we have agreed a consistent attendance policy. Leave of absence will not be granted during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents wishing to request leave of absence for their child must use the correct form which is available on our website or from the school office. This must be completed at least four weeks before the proposed absence, wherever possible.

Reminder

This is a reminder, in line with Buckinghamshire Council guidelines, that no dogs should be brought onto the school campus and there should be no smoking on the school campus.

Polite Request To Parents/Carers of Pupils in EYFS

Please could you support us in reminding your children that they should not be playing or using the equipment outside the classrooms at drop off or pick up times. We have spoken to all the classes and told the children that these areas should only be used when school staff are supervising but it would be very helpful if you could reinforce this message too.

Thank you