



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## NEWSLETTER

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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

<b>28-6-24</b> <b>FS, Y1 &amp; Y2 Sports Day</b> A letter will be emailed to parents providing further details. Children to come to school in their P.E. kit and wear it all day.	<b>1-7-24</b> <b>Induction Meeting for parents of children starting school in September 2024.</b> <b>7.00pm in the school hall. Food tasting from 6.30pm</b>
<b>5-7-24</b> <b>Alternative Sports Day if it is wet on 28-6-24</b>	<b>2-7-24</b> <b>County Induction Morning—all children visit their new class/school</b>

## 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES



I wanted to start this newsletter by letting you know how proud we are of our EYFS and Year 1 children for engaging so enthusiastically in the learning during their 'World Weeks'. It is incredible that the staff and children are able to display an incredible amount of learning and artefacts following just nine days of work—but the results are stunning and I think the children have gained a lot from these enrichment weeks. Later in this newsletter you will find out more about some of the activities that were completed. Year 2 will be starting their World Weeks later in the term.

On Thursday 11th July we hold an Open Evening at the school between 6.00pm and 7.00pm where we invite you to come, with your children, to look around the whole school. You can visit every classroom and see the learning that has gone on in each class. Children seem to enjoy the opportunity to take you around their school, visiting their current classroom, any previous classrooms and perhaps their new classroom too. Teaching staff will be in their rooms and they will have put together displays of work from World Weeks as well as other highlights from the year—we do hope you'll be able to come along.



Sports Day is planned for Friday 28th June—we will email a separate letter explaining the organisation for this event. Please follow the signs to reach the field and avoid causing any disturbance to pupils and staff at Wendover Junior School. If the event has to be cancelled due to bad weather we have an alternative date in the calendar. Please note, all Foundation Stage and Key Stage One children should come to school wearing their P.E. kit on the day. They will stay in their P.E. kit all day.

In the next newsletter, I will provide you with details about classes and staff changes for the academic year 2024-2025, prior to the start of our transition programme which officially runs from 2nd July. There are some staffing changes but full details of these will be provided. More details of transition arrangements will be provided in a separate letter which will be emailed to you within the next two weeks. We will soon be sending home a sheet to complete with your child about their interests, influences and role models outside school—please do send your completed form back in so it can be passed to their next class teacher. (EY, FS and Y1 only). Our aim, as always, is for the best possible transition into, within and out of the school and we will do our best to facilitate this.



We are pleased to announce that we will continue to work in collaboration with Premier Education to provide a summer holiday club this year for children at our school. Further details will be sent out within the next few weeks.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

### Moving spelling forwards

At The John Hampden Infant School, phonics has been a high-profile area for many years. For any children struggling with their reading, paying close attention to letters and the sounds they make helps them a great deal. But did you realise that fluent knowledge of phonics helps all children with their writing too? If children have to think too much about the spelling of the words they are writing, they can get overwhelmed and then struggle to think about the content of what they are writing – this is called cognitive load. A focus on spelling fluency means that writers can become more automatic and accurate with their spelling and are freed up to think more about the content of what they write, the vocabulary choices, sentence structures, punctuation, entertaining their reader etc.

The School Development Plan has a section on further improving spelling:

Goal A: Quality of Education: “By July 2024, to ensure continuity and progression across the school in the use of strategies to improve teaching and learning of spelling.”

The phonics scheme adopted by the school (Super Sonic Phonic Friends, or SSPF) takes this theme up into Year Two. On some recent visits I have been privileged to see how children are supported with their spelling. Some of the strategies I have seen in action include:

Consistency of actions from all through the phonics scheme’s journey (eg ‘Listen with Len’)

Demonstrating analogy, ie the similarities between a known word and a harder, lesser-known word (eg we know ‘break’, have a go at ‘steak’)

Some of the SSPF pictorial clues are deliberately not very obvious, meaning the children’s vocabulary is expanded and challenged (eg for the spelling rule ‘-ed’ for past tense verbs, the picture of a hug was indicating the spelling ‘cared’ and the picture of a bike was not to cue in to ‘rode’ but instead to ‘cycled’)

Use of sound boxes, eg:

th	r	oa	t
----	---	----	---

s	p	r	ea	d
---	---	---	----	---

...to help the children to hear all the separate sounds they’re writing

Linking spelling to meaning, vocabulary, synonyms and patterns

Ways of learning irregular words, like ‘could’ and ‘steak’

Teachers and teaching assistants modelling thought processes of narrowing down possibilities for spelling tricky bits

Next academic year promises to take this excellent work even further forward, with even more children benefitting from the now well-embedded phonics scheme.

If you’re a Word Nerd too, try these books out:

‘The Lost Words’ by Mcfarlane and Morris

‘200 Tricky Spellings in Cartoons’ by Stanton

*Kirsten Snook, Parent Governor*



Kirsten Snook  
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 speak to them at the school gate so please feel free to email the Chair of Governors, James Edley, [Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](mailto:Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk) if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

## 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

### Early Years Class 2024-2025

We still have a few places available in our Early Years (Cricket) class for September 2024. If you are interested in a place and your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, you are welcome to contact the school and register your interest. Contacting us soon will ensure your child can be helped to settle quickly by participating in all the planned transition activities this term, prior to the September start.



### BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (OOSC)



The John Hampden School Wendover runs a high quality wrap-around-care provision for pupils at the school, as well as for siblings and Year 3 pupils at Wendover Junior School.

If you are looking for reliable, fun and professionally run childcare for your son or daughter, now or for the next academic year, do contact the OOSC Team:

Out of School Care contact number: 07506195699

Out of School Care email address: [oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk)

### SCHOOL UNIFORM



We will be receiving a delivery of new uniform stock in the next few weeks and we hope that any parents of children who already attend the school and wish to purchase uniform for the next academic year will complete a uniform order form, available on the school website (under the key information tab), and return it via email or through the postbox in the entrance hall. We will get the order ready and send it home with your child before the end of term. Whether it is a new reading folder, P.E. kit, a sun hat or a complete set of new uniform—we hope to have enough stock for you to be prepared for the Autumn Term.

### Polite Request

We do understand that from time to time last minute arrangements need to be made for collecting children from school. In such circumstances we are grateful for a phone call to the school office so the teacher can be informed before opening the door at the end of the day. If however, the arrangement is not a last minute one, it is acceptable to put a message in the Home School Diary to communicate the change, rather than contacting us directly on the phone at one of the most busy times of the school day.

If your child attends our OOSC provision please inform them separately if changes to attendance or collection arrangements need to be made.

Thank you.

### SIGNING HOME/SCHOOL DIARIES

Please can we remind parents that we encourage you to hear your child read for a short amount of time each day. 'Little and often' is the best way and we would ask that you sign your child's diary when you have heard them and indicate which pages you have listened to.

## 4. CURRICULUM SECTION

Our EYFS and Year 1 classrooms have been very busy these past two weeks with our children taking exciting journeys of discovery and experiencing a range of learning opportunities in our annual World Fortnight. During this time, each class focusses on a different country and studies its location, geographical features and climate as well as practising important map skills. But it's also a fantastic chance for the children to discover and compare the colourful cultures, traditions, clothes, food and festivals from a country other than their own.

Crickets have enjoyed play-based learning both inside and outside with maps and artefacts, as well as going on learning journeys with the Gingerbread Man to Wendover and Kenya.

In Foundation Stage each class spent time finding out about the UK and learning to name and recognise its countries. They also focussed on London and built models of famous London landmarks in group collaboration. Then they compared our island to Iceland before studying their own class country. Ladybirds looked at Kenya and created their own pictures of African masks and made pasta jewellery, Honeybees tasted food and dressed in costumes of Thailand, while Caterpillars, discovering Australia, tried their hand at some beautiful, aboriginal inspired, pointillism art.

In Year 1 Badgers have enjoyed learning about Japan's Cherry Blossom Festival celebrations and made koi carp kites as well as beautiful cherry blossom paintings. Squirrels class focussed on Mexico and discovered that it has a rainforest and a desert. They made their own desert art work and learnt the moves for a Mexican dance to a Mariachi band. Meanwhile, Hedgehogs class focussed on Brazil and looked at carnival and made carnival head-dresses and they have written postcards to share their knowledge of the different features of Brazil.

In a few weeks time Year 2 classes will begin their World Week studies. Firecrests will be focussing on the tropical island of Sri Lanka. Herons class will be exploring cold earthed Alaska and Red Kites have be going further south in Ecuador.

With the majority of the fortnight's learning all country-focussed, World Fortnights really enthuse the children and we are always delighted by the geographical skills and knowledge they have amassed in these weeks. Be sure to ask your EYFS or Year 1 learner for some facts about their focus country. They really have been loving to learn!

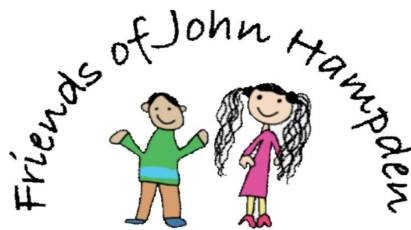




# Christopher Pallet

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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[christopher\\_pallet\\_homes](https://www.instagram.com/christopher_pallet_homes)


















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For all your property requirements contact  
[wendover@christopherpallet.com](mailto:wendover@christopherpallet.com)  
or call 01296 625000



## 6. 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: QUALITY OF EDUCATION	GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES												
<p>The week beginning 10th June sees our Year 1 pupils taking part in the statutory phonics check. The check is administered by our Year 1 teachers, following all the guidelines and we now need to wait for the threshold score to be published in order to see whether our pupils have been judged to be meeting the expected standard. Several children in Year 2 also completed the check as they did not meet the threshold score when they completed the check in the Summer Term 2023.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="533 748 762 981"> <tr> <td>in</td> <td>ot</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>at</td> <td>vap</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>beg</td> <td>osk</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>sum</td> <td>ect</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	in	ot		at	vap		beg	osk		sum	ect		<p>At the end of each half term we formally monitor attendance and look carefully at cases where levels of attendance drop below the expected 95%. Looking into the reasons for absence helps us to determine whether we need to take any actions. Unfortunately, cases of chicken pox and other childhood illnesses have impacted attendance levels for very legitimate reasons this year. I am grateful to parents who submit leave of absence requests prior to taking children out of school. Please note that decisions about whether leave of absence requests are granted are considered on an individual basis taking account of the information provided on the request form. Annual reports, sent home early in July will provide an attendance percentage for each child.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Attendance</b> </p>
in	ot												
at	vap												
beg	osk												
sum	ect												
GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT												
<p>During the year we have been delighted to be able to take the children out on some local trips and to take every opportunity to invite visitors into school to enhance the curriculum. Recently, Foundation Stage classes have enjoyed walking around Wendover and going to St Mary's Church for a wedding! Year One classes have visited Whipsnade Zoo and in the next few weeks, Year Two will have enjoyed a visit from an author and are also taking their classes to visit a farm and an eco-garden later in the term.</p> 	<p>We are working hard to re-establish our School Travel Plan and we hope to be ready for accreditation at the end of July this year. We have always tried hard to encourage safer routes to school and to educate our young pupils about road safety but there will now be a more concerted effort to raise the profile of such initiatives again. We recently shared information with parents/carers about an opportunity to have child car seats safety checked.</p> 												

## 7. MISCELLANEOUS



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](mailto: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**



Join us at one of

## **WENDOVER SINGERS**

*Community Choir & Children's Choir*

### **MIDSUMMER CONCERTS**

**Saturday, 22 June 2024**

**6.30pm - 8.30pm**

or

**Sunday, 23 June 2024**

**3.00pm - 5.00pm**

at St Mary's Church, Wendover HP22 6NL

**Tickets: Adults £10, Children £5**  
available at JUST shop, Wendover High Street  
or [wendoversingers@gmail.com](mailto:wendoversingers@gmail.com)

[www.wendoversingers.com](http://www.wendoversingers.com)





## KID'S COMPETITION TO DESIGN A WILDLIFE GARDEN POSTER



- Design and draw on paper what you would have in your wildlife garden.
- How can you make it attractive for wildlife?
- What would you include in your poster?
- Think about the wildlife habitat you want to create. Where does the wildlife like to live? What do they eat and drink? Where do they have their young?
- Bring your poster design to Ellesborough Playground on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm for judging\*. The competition is open to all age groups. Please make sure your name and age are on the back of the paper.
- Winning entry will have their design recreated on one of our own village allotments.
- All entries will receive a packet of native wildflower seeds to plant.

\*If you can't attend on the day please contact Helen Holman [HelenHolman@epcouncil.co.uk](mailto:HelenHolman@epcouncil.co.uk) to make prior arrangements. Ellesborough Parish Council are committed to conserving and enhancing biodiversity.



## Meet the Candidates:



**Carissma Griffiths**  
Labour Party



**Greg Smith**  
Conservative Party



**Anja Schaefer**  
LibDem Party



**Greg Smith**  
Green Party



**Yvonne Wilding**  
SDP Party



# WENDOVER GENERAL ELECTION HUSTINGS 2024

**Wednesday 19th June**

**7.30pm – 9.30pm**

**at St Mary's Church**

Church Lane, Wendover HP22 6NL


**Come along and hear  
from the 5 candidates  
for Mid Buckinghamshire  
constituency**

You are invited to submit questions to the candidates by emailing:

[hustings@stmaryswendover.org](mailto:hustings@stmaryswendover.org)

or by hand to JUST, 11 High Street, Wendover  
no later than **Monday June 17th.**



 Wendover Music presents:

## MINI MOZART!

Interactive Classical music concerts for children and parents,  
featuring live musicians and loads of fun!

**Saturday 15 June 2024**

St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Wendover HP22 6NL

At 10.00-10.45 and 11.00-11.45

Price: £7.50 per ticket

The concerts will be based on the King's birthday  
and feature the story *The Emperor's New Clothes*. Fancy dress optional!



Tickets:

www.shutterstock.com · 260894912

<https://www.wendover-music.org/virtual> / 07812 984236 / Just shop

# CELEBRATE WORLD MUSIC DAY ON 21ST JUNE WITH RHYTHMS OF AFRICA

Join us for a fun and interactive African drumming workshop led by an experienced musician. Children will find their sense of rhythm as part of the drum circle.

In this workshop, you will:

- \* Learn the basic techniques of African drumming.
- \* Explore different traditional rhythms from west African regions.
- \* Jam alongside others and create a powerful group performance.
- \* Discover the rich history and cultural significance of African drumming.

<<https://educationgroup.cdn.salesforce-experience.com/cms/delivery/media/MCAED34V476BF45GSLYFLHBB3X4Y?oid=00D4K000001m4GIUAI&channelId=0ap4K0000008kB9QAI>>

World Music Day is a global celebration of music in all its forms. What better way to mark the occasion than by learning the exciting and ancient art of African drumming?

Limited spaces available, so book your spot today!

Call 01536 411334 or click here

<<https://enquiries.educationgroup.co.uk/e/1028871/tm-campaign-701N100000CMiMxI-AL/2tr94/189730605/h/Fp98gC4v7hoIoApXfAhnMNaorAGYq4mEue2UbV0YeXA>> to request a call back with our live availability.



