

The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Four Friday October 17th 2025

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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 - they have shown such enthusiasm, kindness, and resilience. Personally, I have had a wonderful first half term as Headteacher. It really is a privilege to lead such a fabulous school.

On Tuesday 7th October, we held our Open Morning session for prospective parents. Around 20 families visited the school, enjoyed a short presentation (with fantastic contributions from our pupils!) took a guided tour and were entertained during Mrs Mannering's singing assembly. The feedback was wonderfully positive and it was such a pleasure to share everything that makes our school so special. We will be holding two more sessions on Thursday 23rd October and Wednesday 19th November, so if you or anyone you know is looking for a Nursery or Reception place for September 2026, 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 on Saturday 29th 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 3rd 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 2026 now is the time to start thinking about your application. If you live in Buckinghamshire visit the council's website between 05 November 2025 and 15 January 2026 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.



DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDER	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
SUNDAY 26 th October 2025	MONDAY 3 rd November 2025
SUNDAY 2 nd November 2025	MONDAY 10 th November 2025
SUNDAY 9 th November 2025	MONDAY 17 th November 2025
SUNDAY 16 th November 2025	MONDAY 24 th November 2025
SUNDAY 23 rd November 2025	MONDAY 1 st December 2025
SUNDAY 30 th November 2025	MONDAY 8 th December 2025
SUNDAY 7 th December 2025	MONDAY 15 th December 2025
SUNDAY 28 th December 2025	MONDAY 5 th January 2026
SUNDAY 4 th January 2026	MONDAY 12 th January 2026
SUNDAY 11 th January 2026	MONDAY 19 th January 2026
SUNDAY 18 th January 2026	MONDAY 26 th January 2026
Sunday 25 th January 2026	MONDAY 2 nd February 2026



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Curriculum and Teaching

SCHOOL TRAVEL SUCCESS!

We were delighted to recently be awarded a 'Good Travel Plan' 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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Pupils Section: What Do You Know About Our School Values?



In Crickets Tommy said he shows good manners by saying please and thank you. Skye said that persevering means trying and trying again.



Harry from Honeybees class said to have good manners you need to say please and thank you. Annabelle H said she likes to collaborate and when we collaborate we work together.



In Caterpillars Jenson said that he is independent and that he can draw pictures all by himself. Isabella said that she likes collaborating with her friends and they play lots of games together.



In Ladybirds Oliver said that he likes to reflect. He said that he thinks about how models are made out of different materials. He thinks carefully and then makes it even better. Ivy F said that she is very independent. She said she can put her coat on all by herself and even pull the sleeves out.



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Pupils Section: What Do You Know About Our School Values?



In Badgers Louis said that belonging is being in John Hampden. He said he used to be in Honeybees and now he is Badgers. He misses Honeybees but loves being a Badger because there is an awesome outdoor garden. Alba said that she is independent because she remembers to walk wonderfully around the school. She said that she can get dressed independently.



In Squirrels, Yaazhnila knows that collaboration means working with friends, tidying up together and building things with a friend. Joshua said persevering is trying by yourself. He perseveres to write at school and to climb at the park.



In Hedgehogs Esme said that good manners means saying please, thank you and being polite. She said teachers say I am polite. Hugo said that respect means looking after things. Hugo said he looks after shells, toys and property.



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Pupils Section What Do You Know About Our School Values?



In Herons Isabelle said good manners means please thank you, excuse me and opening the door for someone. She said she always says please and thank you. Reggie said that reflect means to make things better. He said he takes a breath, reflects and thinks how to make it better.



Wilbur in Firecrests said he shows respect and looks after property and listens to the adults. He said it is important to do that. Isla said that she perseveres and keeps trying because she knows you can't do everything yet.



In Red Kites Ethan says that perseverance means trying and keeping on trying. He said he wants to keep trying with handwriting, to make it better and to take time not to rush. Hudson says that when he is writing independently in English, writing by yourself makes yourself feel proud.



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Safeguarding Update from Ann Whytewood 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 our historic Safety Week which is a very important part 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 Whytewood
Safeguarding Governor



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



Clare Dowell
Nurture Support

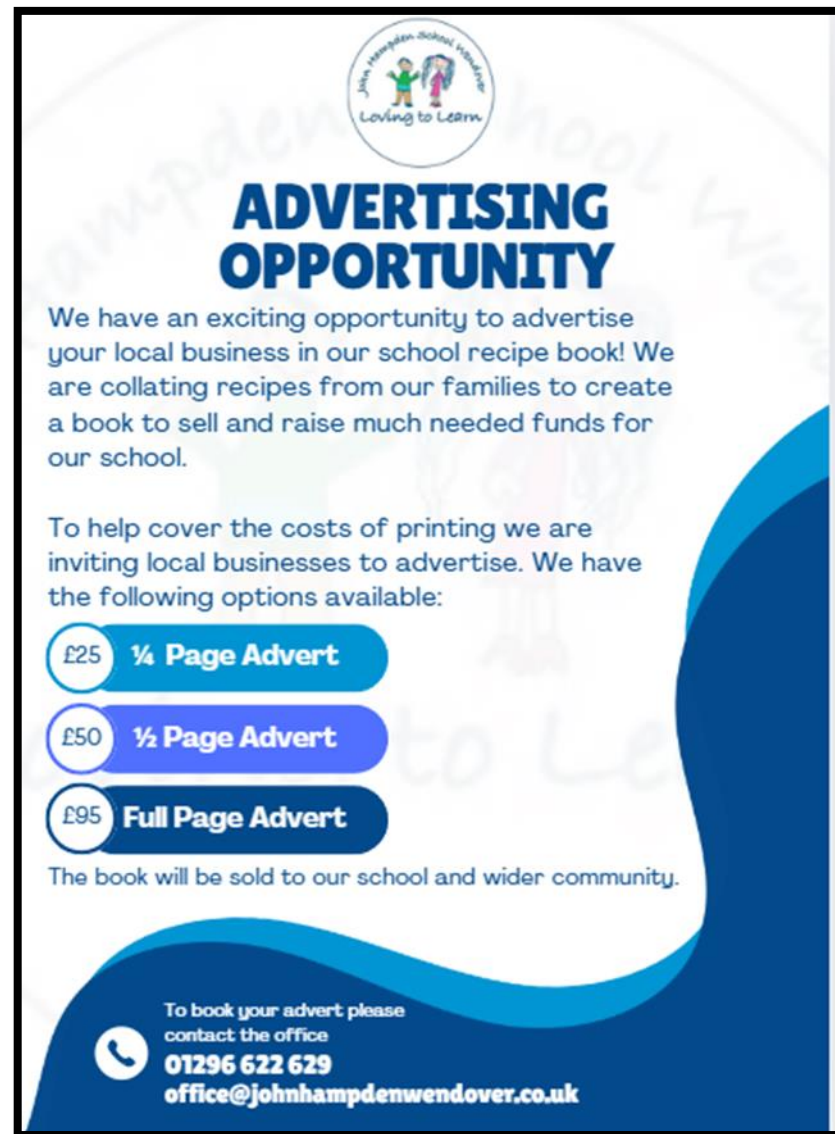


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Health Week Competition Time

After half term, we will be holding our traditional Health and Safety Weeks, where the children will focus on the question: “How do I keep myself healthy and safe?” Throughout the week, they will take part in a range of activities and discussions designed to help them understand the importance of looking after themselves, making safe choices, and developing healthy habits. This year, as part of Health and Safety Week, we are excited to launch a special project: creating a John Hampden Healthy Recipe Book. We would love families to send in their favourite healthy recipes that others might enjoy trying at home. These could be for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or dessert. All entries will be carefully shortlisted and the final selection will be used to create our very own recipe book, which will be published and ready to buy just in time for Christmas. This is a wonderful opportunity to share ideas, celebrate healthy eating and create something lasting for our school community. If you know of anyone who would like to advertise in our recipe book, please let us know.

office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk




ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

We have an exciting opportunity to advertise your local business in our school recipe book! We are collating recipes from our families to create a book to sell and raise much needed funds for our school.

To help cover the costs of printing we are inviting local businesses to advertise. We have the following options available:

- £25 ¼ Page Advert
- £50 ½ Page Advert
- £95 Full Page Advert

The book will be sold to our school and wider community.

To book your advert please contact the office
01296 622 629
office@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk



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Diary Dates – Autumn Term

20th October – Growth Mindset week

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

24th October – School finishes for half-term at 3.15 pm

3rd November – School opens after half-term

3rd November – Safety Week

10th November – Health Week

19th November – 9.15 am Open Morning for prospective EYFS (Nursery and FS) parents

2nd December – 9.30 am EY Nativity

2nd December – 10.30 am FS dress rehearsal

3rd December - 9.30 am FS Nativity

4th December – 9.30 am FS Nativity

5th December – INSET day

8th December – SEN reviews

9th December – SEN reviews

Upcoming Events:

24th October—School closes at 3.15pm for half term holiday.

3rd November—School re-opens and Safety Week





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THE JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER OPEN MORNINGS NURSERY AND RECEPTION PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026



23RD OCTOBER 2025
9.15 AM
19TH NOVEMBER 2025
9.15 AM

COME AND SEE OUR SCHOOL IN
ACTION!

YOU WILL MEET:

- OUR CHILDREN, OUR
TEACHERS AND OUR STAFF



Call our office to book a place:

01296 622629

or email

office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk



LIGHT PARTY

31 OCTOBER
FROM 10AM TO 12PM

FREE BREAKFAST | CRAFTS | PUPPET SHOW | GAMES

Get to school safely



STOP
behind the
patroller



WAIT
until they tell
you to cross



WALK
Cross the road in front
of the patroller

Parents and guardians

You are responsible for your children's safety, even when there is a school crossing patroller on duty.



**Buckinghamshire
Council**