



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE:		UPCOMING EVENTS:	
Message from Mrs. Barnes	1	27-6-25 FS, Y1 & Y2 Sports Day A letter has been emailed to parents providing further details. Children to come to school in their P.E. kit and wear it all day.	3-7-25 Sports Day—Early Years Class 9.15 am on the school playground
Governor Section	2	27-6-25 FS and Y1 pupils will be told who their teacher will be from Sept '25. Parents will receive a letter outlining this and other transition arrangements	4-7-25 Alternative Sports Day if it is wet on 27-6-25
Important Messages	3	30-6-25 Induction Meeting for parents of children starting school in September 2025. 7.00pm in the school hall Food tasting from 6.30pm	1-7-25 County Induction Morning—all children visit their new class/school
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1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES



I wanted to start this newsletter by letting you know how proud we are of our EYFS and KS1 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. On Thurs-

day 10th 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 for FS and KS1 is planned for Friday 27th June—we have sent 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 two weeks we will be providing you with details about classes and staff changes for the academic year 2025-2026, prior to the start of our transition programme which officially runs from 30th June. There are some staffing changes but full details of these will be provided, along with details of the transition arrangements for our pupils. 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.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

There is a misconception that governing boards are involved in the day-to-day running of a school. In fact, the board delegates those operational duties to the headteacher. This includes the recruitment of teaching and support staff. At JHSW, Mrs Barnes will frequently invite the governing board to provide a governor to participate in interview panels for new staff, giving a greater degree of transparency and external input in the recruitment process. I have been privileged to sit on a couple of interview panels this year, including the recent appointment of our two new assistant headteachers.

One area of recruitment that the governors are heavily involved with is the appointment of a new headteacher, especially relevant for our school following Mrs Barnes announcement to take early retirement earlier this year. I thought it would be interesting for parents and carers to give an overview of the appointment procedure and how the governors lead the process.

The first step is for the governors to choose a recruitment panel. In our case the panel was made up of six governors, all with differing skill sets and experiences. The headteacher appointment panel (HTAP) work on behalf of the board, reporting back on progress at intervals. The HTAP initially created a timetable for the process, including preparation of the information for the job advert, placing the ad, offering potential candidates the opportunity to visit the school, shortlisting candidates and finally interview dates.

As governors we need to ensure that any prospective candidate understands the strategic vision and values of JHSW and so we, the panel, then create a job and person description to reflect those requirements. This was all pulled together along with other relevant detail (salary details, safeguarding requirements etc) plus a welcome letter from James, our chair of governors; and put into a format for our eight-page candidate pack.

The advert for the role was placed along with the candidate pack at the end of January. We received five applications which we then shortlisted to three strong candidates for interview on one day in mid-February. We were joined throughout the day by a representative of Bucks Council Education Department to ensure a full, fair, and robust process.

Planning an interview day for a new headteacher can be a complicated process, trying to fit several tasks in around the school day and causing the least disruption to our children's education. In our case, these tasks included an Inbox exercise, being interviewed by a group of children, a lesson observation report, a presentation and finally a formal interview – a long day for candidates and the panel alike.

All three candidates demonstrated strengths in many of the tasks but as you all know now, one candidate, Mrs Parkinson, was by far the outstanding candidate.



Martyn Dolbear
Vice-chair of Governors

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 if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

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

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have school uniform in stock 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. The Friends of John Hampden also have good quality second-hand uniform available—please contact the school office with your requirements and we will pass your information to the FJH. They will also be organising times for browsing and purchasing from them. (See FJH section of this newsletter)



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.

Toys in school

Please can parents ensure their children are not bringing in toys from home in their book bags. Thank you.

4. CURRICULUM SECTION

Our EYFS and KS1 classrooms have been very busy during the first two weeks of this half term 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 focuses on a different country and studies its location, geographical features and climate as well as practicing important map skills.

Cricketts have enjoyed various experiences using 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 focused on London and built models of famous London landmarks in group collaboration. Then they compared the UK to Iceland before studying their own class country. Ladybirds looked at Egypt and learnt about some Egyptian landmarks. Honeybees learnt about some Thai culture 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 learnt about the Geographical features of Japan. Squirrels class focused on Mexico and discovered it has a rainforest and a desert. They then compared Mexico to the UK. Meanwhile, Hedgehogs class focused on Brazil and compared Wendover to Rio De Janeiro. Each class used their knowledge of their country to write an information page.

In Year 2, Firecrests have been focusing on the tropical island of Sri Lanka. Herons class have been exploring cold earthed Alaska and Red Kites have been going further south in Ecuador.

World Weeks enthuses the children and each year, we are delighted by the Geographical skills and knowledge they have amassed during these weeks. Be sure to ask your EYFS or KS1 learner for some facts about their focus country. They really have been loving to learn!



5. PUPIL'S SECTION

Cricketers



Sullivan learned that Jambo means hello
Grace liked the drummings.

Ladybirds



Teddy liked the Big Ben with the five bells in it when it chimes.
Timothy enjoyed building the London Eye.

Honeybees



Ruby learned lots about London. It is the capital of England and it has the River Thames. They made models of lots of landmarks in London.

Effy loved learning about the Northern Lights. They are made by bits of the sun breaking off. They are beautiful.

Caterpillars



Oliver said he enjoyed making his London Bus. He painted it red.

Matilda knows that the United Kingdom is made up of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Squirrels



Sophie said World Weeks were good because it was so interesting. Mexico is 8 times bigger than the UK.

Lo loved World Weeks because it was super fun and they were independent by writing a Mexico book.

Badgers



Neve liked learning about the countries. They eat sushi in Japan because they are surrounded by water.

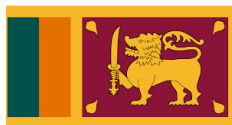
Oliver learned in Tokyo there is a crossing where 3000 people can cross. Japan is in Asia.

Hedgehogs



Frank enjoyed doing his homework about Brazil. He thought that Brasilia has always been the capital city but Rio de Janeiro is. Isla enjoyed learning facts about sugar loaf mountain, and then she decided to draw it and with water colours she did some mark making on her drawing.

Firecrests



Isabelle enjoyed learning about the elephant festival and making 3D elephants. Benjamin enjoyed the Sri Lanka maths—packed suitcases, looking at weight, grid references, currency and went on a safari looking at completing pictograms and tallies.

Red Kites



Sienna learned that Ecuador gets its name from the Spanish word for equator. This is because the equator runs through the middle of the country. Ewan really enjoyed making an inca storehouse out of clay. The real ones were made from stone with a straw roof, this was where the Inca tribe kept their food cool.

Hérons



Maisie enjoyed learning all the numbers and greetings in Inuit.

Aubrey really loved learning about the Alaskan wildlife and using the information to compare them using a Top Trump style game.

6. FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN



What better way to celebrate the end of the school year than with a Summer BBQ
and a Simon Says Magic Show!



Sausages and burgers from Block & Butcher
Salads (new this year)
Licenced bar
Pudding stall (donations very welcome)
Simon's Amazing Magic Show from 7-8pm.

Please pre-order your food at tinyurl.com/TheFJH before midday on Friday 27th June. We will place the order with Block and Butcher that afternoon.
















Food tokens will be sent home in book bags - **please bring these with you on the day.**

We need volunteers! If you can do a stint on the bar, puddings or BBQ please sign up at signup.com/go/vSRdanW

We look forward to seeing you there. From the FJH team x

7. 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 9th 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 2024. We received an unannounced spot check from the Local Authority to check our administration and storage of this statutory assessment. No issues were identified!</p> <table><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, in infant schools, early childhood illnesses impact 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;">Attendance </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.</p> <p>Recently, Foundation Stage classes have enjoyed walking around Wendover and going to St Mary's Church for a wedding!</p> <p>Year One classes have visited Whipsnade Zoo and in the next few weeks, Year Two are taking their classes to visit a farm and an eco-garden.</p> 	<p>Our final full governing board meeting of the academic year took place yesterday and we worked collaboratively to start to establish the priorities for our school improvement plan 2025-2026.</p> <p>The plan is formulated by taking account of stakeholder views, data analysis, external feedback and new educational directives/initiatives. Parents views are important and analysis of the recent annual questionnaire has helped to identify areas to focus on from a parental perspective. Class Council Circle Time and School Council Meetings help to guide us from the perspective of our pupils.</p> 												

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Parents and Carers,
Can you donate any of these things
for our outdoor areas?

<p>Good quality plant and animal books suitable for 5-7 year olds</p> 	<p>Wooden scaffold boards</p> 	<p>Wooden sleepers</p> 	<p>Large sheets of fabric material</p> 
<p>Tarps</p> 	<p>Cargo nets</p> 	<p>Garden netting</p> 	<p>Long wooden sticks/broom handles</p> 
<p>Thick ropes</p> 	<p>Washing up bowls</p> 	<p>Large plastic pipes or tubing</p> 	<p>Guttering</p> 
<p>Milk crates and crates of different sizes</p> 	<p>Compost</p> 	<p>Logs</p> 	<p>Large log slices</p> 



The John Hampden School Wendover

Midday Meals Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy from September 2025 for a Midday Supervisor Working hours would be 12 noon – 1.30pm Monday to Friday (7.5 hrs per week) term time only. The applicant would preferably have some experience of working with children, however this is not essential as full training will be given.

Start date: 4th September 2025

Closing date: Friday 11th July

The salary will be Bucks Pay Range 1A.5 (£23,797 Pro rata, £12.33 per hour)

If you are interested in this post please call the school office on: 01296 622629 or email: office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk to receive an application form.

Please return completed applications as soon as possible. Suitable candidates may be interviewed before the closing date and John Hampden School Wendover reserves the right to withdraw the position if an early appointment is made.

Safeguarding Statement

The successful candidate will have due regard for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children as stipulated by the Child Protection Policy. Safer recruitment procedures are in place and any appointment will be subject to satisfactory references and statutory checks including an enhanced DBS check and an



It's not too late to leave **YOUR MARK**



A beautiful wooden tree has been carved by Wendover local, Bob Duggan and the Wendover Shedders. We're offering parents, guardians and family members as well as former pupils, staff, governors and the wider community an opportunity to purchase a wooden leaf or acorn, which will be added to the tree and displayed permanently in the school.

The leaves and acorns will be engraved with a name or a short message and will remain there to be seen for many years by generations of John Hampden children and parents.

This is your opportunity to support the school and the children in a creative and lasting way. The tree will become a permanent part of the building, displayed as a grateful acknowledgement of your support and generosity.

*To donate a leaf or acorn
please go to*

FRIENDSOFJOHNHAMPDEN.CO.UK

Our Leaves for Learning tree has been in place for a while now and the Wendover Shedders, with the help of Mrs Barnes and a group of children from across the school, have fixed the first batch of leaves and acorns.

We plan to fix a second batch before the end of term, so if you would like a leaf or acorn with your name/message on to feature on our tree please place your order before 1 July.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this fundraiser so far. From the FJH team x



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

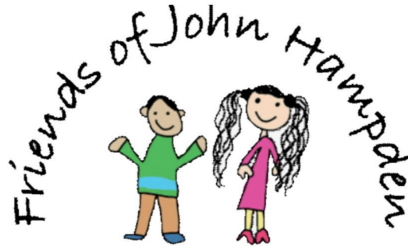
YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS
ON YOUR MORTGAGE



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

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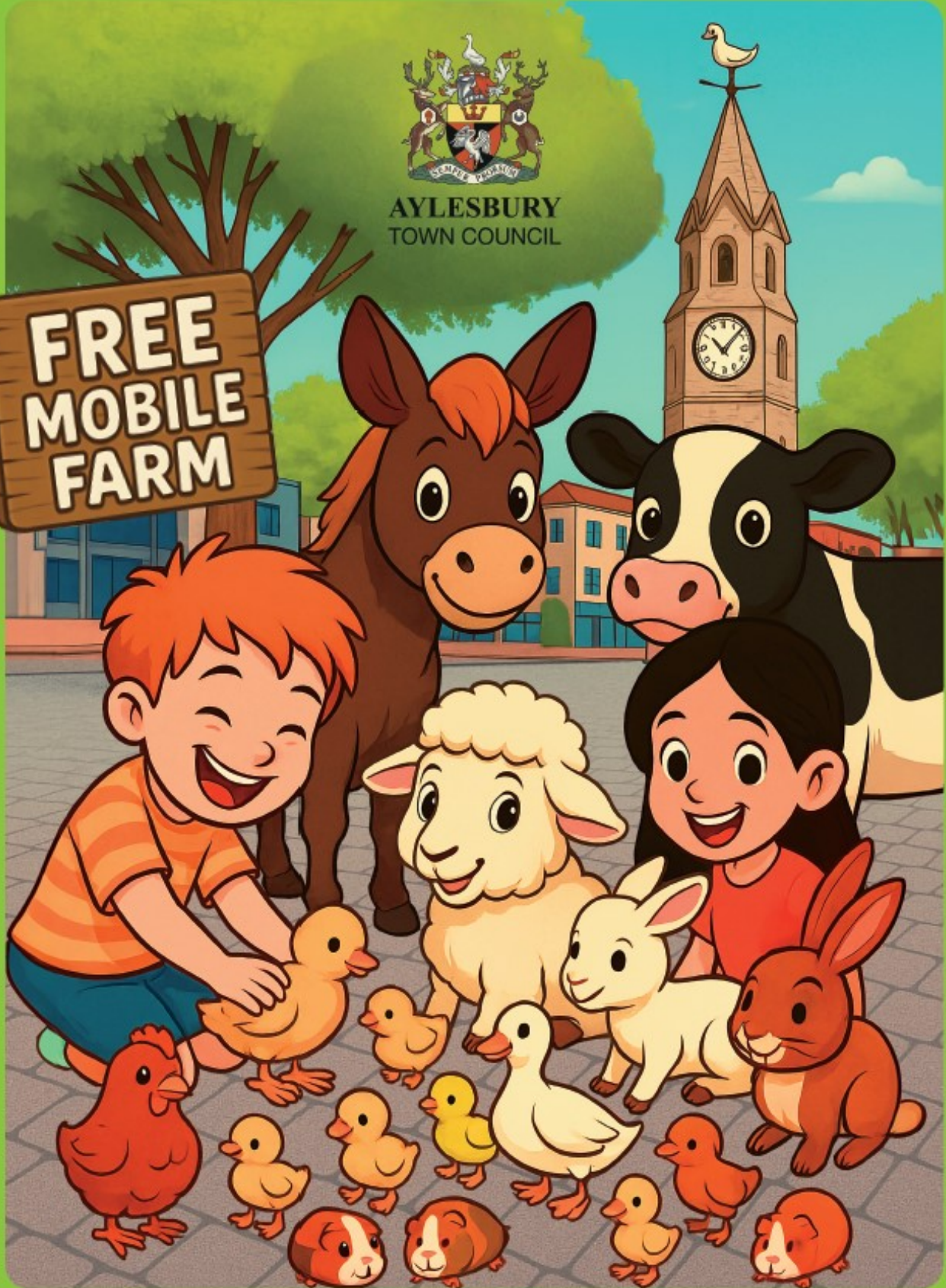
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For all your property requirements contact
wendover@christopherpallet.com
or call 01296 625000



AYLESBURY
TOWN COUNCIL

FREE
MOBILE
FARM



Thursday 31 July
Market Square
11am - 3pm

Sponsored
by
PEGASUS
GYM



#SupportLocal



BUCKS COUNTY SHOW

Children's Competitions

For Under 5's to 16 with free entry to all competitions

Unlock your creativity at the Bucks County Show!

Kids of all ages can participate in exciting categories like crafting a harvest picture, creating a fairy garden on a plate, baking apple scones, drawing woodland animals, making pen holders, decorating plant pots, and more.

Show off your unique talents and make this year's event unforgettable.

Full details overleaf!

Prize money is awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

buckscountyshow.co.uk

**FREE CHILD
TICKETS**
(SEE OVER)





Children's Competitions

Please state age on day of show on entry form. Entries are free of charge!

- CH1 A 'HARVEST' PICTURE – cutting and sticking activity. (Exhibitors under 5yrs)
- CH2 FAIRY GARDEN ON A PLATE – any medium. (Exhibitors 5-7yrs)
- CH3 APPLE SCONES - see recipe. (Exhibitors 5-7yrs)
- CH4 WOODLAND ANIMAL – picture using coloured pencils – max A4. (Exhibitors 5-7yrs)
- CH5 MAKE A PEN HOLDER – any medium. (Exhibitors 5-7yrs)
- CH6 DECORATED PLANT POT - 1 item – max 20cm x 20cm. (Exhibitors 5-7yrs)
- CH7 CHEESE TARTLETS – see recipe. (Exhibitors 8-12yrs)
- CH8 MINIATURE GARDEN IN SEED TRAY (Exhibitors 8-12yrs)
- CH9 WOODLAND THEME – picture using oil pastels. (Exhibitors 8-12yrs)
- CH10 A GARDEN SCULPTURE – any medium. (Exhibitors 8-12yrs)
- CH11 GLUTEN FREE VICTORIA SPONGE – see recipe. (Exhibitors 13-16yrs)
- CH12 WOODLAND ANIMAL – picture using watercolours – max A3. (Exhibitors 13-16yrs)
- CH13 DOOR RING/WREATH – any medium - max 35cms diameter. (Exhibitors 13-16yrs)
- CH14 MIXED MEDIA PICTURE – any medium, digital or other – A3. (Exhibitors 13-16yrs)

Children's Photography (Entry fee £1)

Each exhibit must be unframed and mounted on stiff black card.

Maximum size 50cm x 40cm. Prints may be colour or black and white.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| H42 HAVING FUN - (Exhibitors 5-7yrs) | H43 WEATHER - (Exhibitors 8-12yrs) |
| H44 RED - (Exhibitors 13-16yrs) | H45 SHADOWS - (any age) |
| H46 WOODLANDS - (any age) | H47 BUCKS COUNTY SHOW - (any age) |

Please visit www.buckscountyshow.co.uk or scan the QR code for more details and set recipes, which will be found in the Home & Garden Schedule.



FREE CHILD TICKETS

You can book entry tickets online and take advantage of our FREE child ticket offer. The offer is to get up to 3 FREE child tickets (up to 16yrs) with a full paying Adult or over 65 ticket when purchased online. To take advantage book online using code 'SCHOOL25' at checkout.

This offer ends at midnight on 27th August 2025.

<https://buckscountyshow.ticketsrv.co.uk/tickets/104>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Mind Morning: Theme - Managing Emotions

CREATING A **FREE** SPACE FOR ALL **PARENTS/CARERS**
TO MEET, MINGLE AND NETWORK WITH OTHERS
WHO CAN RELATE, WHILST ENGAGING WITH VARIED
TOPICS, TO HELP LEARN NEW WAYS TO SUPPORT
AND BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR CHILDREN.

TO BOOK ON SCAN QR CODE BELOW
LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

SCAN HERE ↗



M o n d a y
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T H E
G A T E W A Y
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ECO CHURCH
AN A Rocha UK Project



10am - Joint service with guest speaker John Weaver

11am - Coffee followed by Eco Church children's activities and displays

1pm - Bring your own picnic

3.30pm - Tea



WENDOVER



- ❖ Take part in nature surveys of the churchyard,
- ❖ Make your own bird feeder
- ❖ Find out about reducing plastic and recycling
- ❖ Churchyard trail and visit the Wendover Wildbelt
- ❖ Scavenger hunts
- ❖ Bark and leaf rubbings
- ❖ Make your own terrarium
- ❖ Plant seeds and build a new bug hotel

SUNDAY 29 JUNE

ECO CHURCH SILVER

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

AT ST MARY'S CHURCH,