



The John Hampden School Newsletter

A very warm welcome to the new school year!

Issue One Friday September 5th 2025

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and are feeling rested and ready for the exciting term ahead. It has been such a joy to see the children returning this week, full of energy and smiles and to warmly welcome our new children and their families into our school community. I am absolutely delighted to be writing to you as the new Headteacher. It is both an exciting new chapter for me and a real privilege to lead such a wonderful school. I am very much looking forward to working closely with children, families and staff to continue building on the wonderful strengths of our school.

The newsletter contains a range of important information, key dates and updates about school life. Please take a few minutes to read it carefully so that you are fully informed and up to date with everything that is happening. Fortnightly newsletters will be emailed to parents using the contact details you provided when your child was admitted. If your email address has changed recently, please let the school office know. Newsletters can also be sent to both parents if required, please do let us know if this would be helpful. Please do look out for the next full newsletter, which will be emailed on Friday 19th September.

Just a little reminder that children should arrive at school at 8.45 a.m. We do recognise that, particularly at the start of term, it can take a little time for our younger children to make their way to the classroom door due to queuing, but I promise it soon becomes much quicker! Whenever possible, I will try to be outside as the children come into school so do come and speak to me if you need to. I am always happy to make appointments to speak to parents about any more serious concerns/issues at a mutually convenient time.

We are all looking forward to a happy and successful year at The John Hampden.

Steph Parkinson - Headteacher



The John Hampden School Newsletter

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	16.9.25	9.00 am
Honeybees	19.9.25	2.30pm
Caterpillars	19.9.25	2.30pm
Ladybirds	18.9.25	2.30pm
Badgers	17.9.25	2.30pm
Hedgehogs	17.9.25	2.30pm
Squirrels	17.9.25	2.30pm
Red Kites	16.9.25	2.30pm
Heron	16.9.25	2.30pm
Firecrests	17.9.25	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

We are excited to share that we will soon be launching our school Facebook and Instagram which will be used to showcase learning and give families a window into school life. Before we begin posting, a parental permission form will be sent home to ensure that we have consent for the use of children's photographs online. Only pupils with parental permission will appear on our social media.



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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 14th September for your child to start receiving the meals on Monday 22nd 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. 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 8th September (completed prior to your child starting in their new class) so they will receive a hot meal week commencing 8th and 15th September. You need to log in by 14th September to order meals for week commencing 22nd 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.

DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDER	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
SUNDAY 24 th August 2025	MONDAY 1 st September 2025
SUNDAY 31 st August 2025	MONDAY 8 th September 2025
SUNDAY 7 th September 2025	MONDAY 15 th September 2025
SUNDAY 14 th September 2025	MONDAY 22 nd September 2025
SUNDAY 21 st September 2025	MONDAY 29 th September 2025
SUNDAY 28 th September 2025	MONDAY 6 th October 2025
SUNDAY 5 th October 2025	MONDAY 13 th October 2025
SUNDAY 12 th October 2025	MONDAY 20 th October 2025
SUNDAY 19 TH October 2025	MONDAY 27 th October 2025



The John Hampden School Newsletter

PE KIT

Please would you ensure that your child has the correct P.E. kit in school. Navy shorts and a white round necked T shirt are needed for Gym and Dance activities. Plimsolls or trainers, sweatshirt and tracksuit bottoms are needed for Games activities which often take place outside. Children with long hair should have it tied back on P.E. days and stud type earrings should be removed or covered with tape. Please provide the tape and ensure your child can cover their earrings independently.

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.



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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



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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.

'Staff at The John Hampden School have created a delightful learning environment in which all pupils can thrive and flourish.' Ofsted

The staff and governors of the school warmly invite parents of prospective pupils to attend an open morning at the school on either Tuesday 7th October 2025, Thursday 23rd October 2025 or Wednesday 19th November 2025.

A presentation will start at 9.15a.m will finish with a tour of the school. Please phone or email the school office to register your interest and to book a preferred time. The John Hampden School Wendover

Wharf Road

Wendover

Bucks

HP22 6HF

Tel: 01296 622629

email: office@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk





The John Hampden School Newsletter

PUPIL PREMIUM FREE SCHOOL MEALS

The Government gives money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'. For every child registered, The John Hampden School Wendover gets £1,455 this year to support that child.

How does it work?

1. First check if you qualify—it is not just if you are unemployed (see the list below)
2. Registering is really quick and easy—if you think you qualify, contact Mrs Mohammed in the school office who will help you register
3. The school will receive £1,455 to provide additional educational support or to subsidise educational costs for your child
4. Your child does not have to take advantage of the lunches that are provided, the school still gets £1,455 extra

Details and confidentiality are strictly maintained at all times so please talk to us about registering your child as soon as possible.

If you feel you are not currently eligible but your circumstances change in the future, please come in and see us.

Do you qualify?

You can register if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £16,190
- Where they are entitled to Child Tax Credit and also Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school meals.

Did you knowjust registering your child for Free School Meals means the school gets extra money?

Register now to make sure we don't miss out



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Our Parent Teacher Association, known as The Friends of John Hampden, play a vital role in school life. Not only do they work incredibly hard to raise valuable funds that directly benefit the children, but they also organise events that bring our school community together socially. Their efforts make a real difference, and we are very grateful for their continued support. There are some important dates coming up – please take a look at the flyer for more details.

Friends of John Hampden Dates coming up

* Friday 5th Sept (after drop off)

Tea and coffee in the hall - open to all parents. If you are new to the school, come along and meet a few friendly faces!

* Tuesday 9th Sept (before drop off):

Tea and coffee from 8am - open to all parents. If you are new to the school, come along and meet a few friendly faces!

* Thurs 18th Sept 8pm:

Mornings too busy? Come and meet some folks in the Craftyard. Open to all parents.

* Tues 23rd Sept 8pm:

Pints and plans! Come to The Red Lion and help us come up with some ideas for 25-26. We're raising money for new computers.

