



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## NEWSLETTER

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

20th July—Y2 Leavers Assembly  
 Red Kites—9.30-10.00am  
 Firecrests—10.15 -10.45am  
 Herons—11.00—11.30am

20th July—School closes for the summer 1.30pm

20th July—NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

6th Sept—School reopens 8.45am

## 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

Well, we have almost come to the end of another academic year and as this is the final newsletter of the term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given the school this year—we are fortunate to have parents who are genuinely interested in their child's learning and supportive of the school in general. As we reflect on the year and the progress that has been made in terms of school improvement I believe we can congratulate ourselves on another successful year. Back in September we reminded our pupils of our seven core values: belonging, collaboration, perseverance, independence, good manners, reflection and respect and I have spent the year watching these values being demonstrated on a daily basis. Emphasizing these values has helped to further develop our ethos of 'Loving to Learn' and I hope you found the end of year reports reflected the values that are being encouraged.

Despite the challenges that Covid has brought this year, we are delighted that we managed to remain open all year and all pupils have had the chance to experience the wide range of activities that are traditionally on offer e.g. Sports Day, Christmas Performances, Open Evening etc.

We have now completed our school improvement plan for 2021-2022 and I am proud that, despite disruptions to education over the previous two years, the re-introduction of statutory assessment has shown that our pupils have managed to achieve well. It is also pleasing to note that we have continued to enhance and improve our practice in terms of the learning opportunities and welfare we offer.

It is with sadness that we have had to say goodbye to a number of staff and governors during the year and we wish them every success in their new ventures. On Wednesday 20th July we also have to say goodbye to our Year 2 children and their parents —the children have been stars and I am sure they will continue to thrive in their next schools.

I hope you all have a very happy, safe Summer Holiday and I look forward to seeing our new Early Years, Foundation Stage, Year One and Year Two children back in school between 8.45am and 8.55am on **Tuesday 6th September**.

On the first morning of the new school year, staff and signs will be positioned near the entrances the children should use from the first morning onwards. School finishing time remains the same, at 3.15pm (Early Years and Foundation Stage part time pupils will leave at 11.45am and 12.05 pm respectively). All parents should collect their children from the same door that they use in the morning. Children will not be allowed to leave with anyone we are not expecting to collect them.

Have a wonderful holiday with your children.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION

Hello All,

Wow what a first year I have had as the Chair of Governors. The first school year that has been uninterrupted by lockdowns since 2020. Firstly I would like to pass my sincere thanks to Mrs Barnes and her entire staff of teachers, teaching assistants and midday meal supervisors for their hard work and dedication to the school and children over this year.

In my first newsletter piece this year I wrote about children transitioning into the school and how, after some tears on the first few days, within weeks there were smiling faces walking through all of the doors. Being in and around the school this year has allowed me to see just how important school is to the children. The friendships being built, the interactions with multiple new adults, then onto the learning and at John Hampden the children certainly demonstrate the mantra 'Loving to Learn'. I have been on some fantastic Governor visits this year; with Foundation Stage children to Wendover Library, to see a PE lesson with Year 1 and observed a busy design and technology session in Year 2. The fascination coupled with the determination of the children has allowed them to achieve so much this year, as parents I think you should be very proud.

For me there is sad news in that the second of my three girls is leaving John Hampden this year. I cannot believe come September I will only have one left but I suppose I should look at that as a positive! The school year feels long when you are in the throes of Winter and you have all the time in the world with your children in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and key stage 1 but in the blink of an eye it's Summer term and another school year has been and gone.

The upside and privilege for me this term was not only attending sports day but being at the finish line to congratulate the children and hand out those coveted stickers! I hadn't been able to attend sports day prior to this one despite having had a child go all the way through the school. The day was a fantastic success the weather smiled on us and the organisation by Mrs Mills, PE subject lead, Mrs Barnes and Premier Education was fantastic. The children loved it and the adults did too (I won my race 😊)

I cannot do justice to all of the great things that have taken place at John Hampden this year in one page so will sign off here and wish you all a great summer break.



Ben Gattlin

Chair of Governors

[chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk](mailto:chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk)

P.S. If you would like to know more about the Governors and what we do please drop me an email or come find me and chat on the school run!

### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

#### EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

We are experiencing some exceptionally warm weather at the moment. The school will remain open for the remainder of the term and our plans for extreme weather are put in place. This includes risk assessing the use of outside space, ensuring regular hydration opportunities and minimising time outdoors for our young pupils, especially during the hottest part of the day. Please make sure your child comes to school with sun cream applied and with a named sunhat to wear. Children in KS1 should be provided with a named water bottle which must not contain juice or squash please. Children in EYFS have access to water at all times so do not need to bring in their own water bottle. Please see the advice on the NHS website—Public Health England—Beat the heat.

**Our Early Years class have their Sports Day on Monday 18th July at 9.30 a.m. The plan is that this will still go ahead because it is scheduled for early in the day when it is cooler and it should only last for about 20 minutes. If necessary we will move the event into the school hall.**

#### YEAR 2 LEAVER'S ASSEMBLY

The individual Year 2 class Leaver's Assemblies take place at the times indicated on the front of this newsletter **on Wednesday 20th July**. No tickets are required but please follow the indicated route on the morning.

**Finally, just a reminder that for everyone else term ends at 1.30pm on Wednesday 20th July and there is no After School Club on this day.**

#### MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Can I please remind all parents that any medication kept in school must be collected at the end of term. We will endeavour to hand it over on the last day. Any medication left at the end of term will be taken to the pharmacy for disposal as we can't keep medication on site over the long Summer break.

#### LOST PROPERTY

We put out tables of unnamed lost property at the recent Open Evening. Please check the lost property boxes by the end of term if you are still missing something as all items left will be handed over to the FJH to sell as second hand uniform if they are not claimed.

#### SCROLL OF HONOUR

If your child has been included on the Scroll of Honour this year please would you check that you have returned the special yellow badge. These are loaned for one week and should have been returned—they are very precious to us!

#### AGE RESTRICTIONS

Observations of some of our children suggest that they are being influenced in their play, their comments and their concerns by DVDs and games which are given guidance ratings that make them unsuitable for infant aged children. We would ask you to be vigilant in terms of what your young children have access to. There is a reason why some of this content is deemed unsuitable and we would ask you as responsible parents/carers to consider whether the content they may be being exposed to may upset younger or more sensitive children or whether it may impact negatively on the language they use or the behaviour they exhibit at school or with their peers.

## 4. CURRICULUM

### Design and Technology

The children in Years 1 and 2 have just completed their final Design and Technology project of the year. They had to plan, design, make and evaluate their products.

#### Year 2

Following their trip to the farm, the children had to design a moving vehicle that could safely transport a farm animal. Using the 'Chooser Board' they had to decide what materials they needed, the types of joins they would use, and how they would finish their product.

Here are some comments from the children:

Red Kites : Sylvie - I really enjoyed making a shelter for my animal and I could do it by myself because it was a cold glue gun. Noah - I could make a fold back door so it looked real and it could really open and close.

Hérons : Arthur – I liked using the see-through plastic to make the windscreens and foil for the side mirrors. Alice – I enjoyed putting the wheels on the vehicle using axle holders and to see them move.

Firecrests : Yash – I enjoyed making farm vehicles because we could make them move with a chassis or axle holders. I chose the chassis and I am going to test it at home and see how much weight the trailer will hold. Phoebe – I enjoyed seeing the vehicles on Open Evening because it gave me ideas to how I could make mine even better. I would make my trailer lower so it is easier for the animals to get on.



#### Year 1

Linked to the Science topic of 'Animals' the children had to create an animal home for their chosen animal. The home had to have shelter, a place for exercise and an eating area. The children also used a 'Chooser Board' and to complete their project they used the skills taught across the year, such as making flaps for doors and a flange to join a tube.

Here are some comments from the children.

Hedgehogs : Sam H – I enjoyed doing the challenge of putting it together. My home was for a monkey I liked the shelter I made because it looked nice and shady for the monkey. Emily – I enjoyed making the animal home because it was hard to chop the lolly sticks but it was fun. My home was for a penguin. I put real stones on to stop the water coming out of the penguin's pool.

Badgers : Mia B – I liked that we got to take time and that we could use whatever we wanted. Max – I liked that we could choose the animal and build a shelter for it.

Squirrels : Emma – I enjoyed making the animal home because I am an artist and an inventor so I could make the home. Toby – I learnt the skill of turning a box inside out so that the picture on the box didn't show and we could make it the colour we wanted.



Heather Beattie

Design and Technology co-ordinator

## 5. PUPIL'S SECTION

### Year One Celebration Day

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July, Year One had a special day to celebrate all the children's hard work and achievements whilst in Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers classes.

The children came to school looking bright and colourful in their own clothes. They enjoyed some outside play which included using some PE equipment to create and play their own games. They had fun with sand, water, aqua beads and bubbles amongst other things. The children all decorated some biscuits and had a lovely time spreading the colourful icing and adding a selection of sprinkles. Each child should now sleep peacefully with the dream catcher that they made by threading wool around a plate and adding some feathers. It was quite a challenge and definitely required perseverance! The ice cream snack, which was enjoyed whilst watching a film, was also a very special treat. The children had smiles on their faces throughout the day and all the happy chatter and laughter was lovely to hear. Hopefully lots of fun was had and some happy memories made to end a very successful and busy year for the Year One children.

Here are some comments from the children;

"I liked the outside activities because we got lots of fresh air and it was really fun. It was the best day ever!" Florence R- Hedgehogs

"I particularly enjoyed eating the ice cream because we got to watch Cars the movie at the same time. I enjoyed making the biscuits too because we made two each. I put blue and green icing on mine with mini marshmallows and sprinkles." Jack B- Hedgehogs

"I liked it when we made the dream catchers and we put feathers on them" Kelsey- Badgers

"I liked the feeling of the aquabeads. They felt so smooth in my hands." Sofia- Badgers

"I enjoyed decorating the dream catchers and sewing with the wool." Alma- Squirrels

"I liked using the creation station to make Mr Googly! I used pipe cleaners, foam shapes, a googly eye and feathers. " Henley—Squirrels





## 6. MISCELLANEOUS

### **Feasibility study highlights challenges of energy transition in schools**

Buckinghamshire Community Energy has published the results of a feasibility study analysing the energy transition prospects for seven major public buildings in Wendover.

Conducted in collaboration with Buckinghamshire Council and specialist energy consultants for schools, ReEnergise, and funded by the Rural Community Energy Fund, the study paves the way to protect the organisations from the recent dramatic energy price rises, as well as reducing the carbon footprint of the buildings.

The study aimed to assess the feasibility of putting all seven buildings onto a district heat network powered by a ground source heat pump. It also looked at what was needed in terms of insulation and energy efficiency measures as well as the potential for installing solar panels to reduce the cost of electricity sourced from the Grid.

The seven buildings involved in the study include: John Colet School, John Hampden School, Wendover Junior School, Wendover Swimming Pool, Wendover Youth Centre, Wendover Memorial Hall and Little Acorns Kindergarten.

Collectively, they are responsible for emitting 398 tonnes of carbon emissions per year, at a taxpayer cost of £143,500 in energy bills. This is likely to go up by at least 50% as energy price rises hit contracts later this year. They were therefore ideal targets for slashing energy use, as Buckinghamshire aims for net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest.

The 123-page study, which included technical assessments of the current heating and power supply to each organisation as well as energy assessments, concluded that because almost all of the gas boilers on site are relatively new, it does not make sense to take them all out and replace them with a ground source heat pump system at this stage. Instead, it is likely that air source heat pumps will replace the existing boilers as they reach end of life.

On energy efficiency, the report found that, “The performance of the buildings varies from Commercial EPC grades A to D, and many would benefit from simple measures such as cavity wall or loft insulation. Along with some external roof insulation and point of use (PoU) water heaters, these measures could reduce heat and hot water demand on the Campus by nearly 20%.”

Study authors ReEnergise have estimated the cost of energy efficiency measures on the campus could cost as much as £550,000, but the long-term benefits in terms of savings and carbon emissions reductions make this a logical investment.

The study found that the installation of solar panels on the roofs could provide as much as 450MWh of electricity, which equates to about 63% of actual demand. The estimated £500k investment for this could come from Buckinghamshire Community Energy with investment from its Members who are drawn from the local community.

Kirsty Shanahan, Development Director at Buckinghamshire Community Energy, says the team are pleased with the depth of information obtained, but are aware that there is still a long way to go.

“The amount of investment required is significant in terms of ticking off all the things we need to do at the Wharf Road Campus sites to reduce their carbon footprints,” she says. “There are also a lot of stakeholders and moving parts, but we are prepared to work hard with Buckinghamshire Council to deliver decarbonised and reduced energy use for these organisations, and we are already discussing the Development Phase of the project in which we will decide what to do and how to actually deliver it.”

The Wendover Wharf Road Campus Decarbonisation project is one of many such projects that Buckinghamshire Community Energy is progressing as it supports local businesses and public organisations to switch to low carbon energy.



## **WENDOVER SINGERS CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

**When:** 3 October 2022, 16.30-17.30 for 8 weeks

**Where:** St. Mary's Church, Wendover

**Who:** Children between the ages of 6 - 10, no auditions necessary, just a love of music and a willingness to learn and have fun

**Contact:** [darina.barrons@gmail.com](mailto:darina.barrons@gmail.com)

**Deadline:** 31 August 2022 to register your child's interest



**Note:** Wendover Singers have applied for grant funding to cover two terms of Children's Choir pilots (Autumn 2022 & Spring 2023). We hope to be successful but await decision from a well known community funder. If funding is successful, the pilot scheme will be free of charge.

