



# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## In this issue:

Message from Mrs Parkinson	1,2
Curriculum Section	3
Walk To School Week	4
Governor Section	5
Friends of John Hampden	6
Important Information	7,8
Social Media	9
Diary Dates	10

## *Issue Fifteen Friday May 1st 2026*

The first half of the Summer Term is already whizzing past at remarkable speed and what a glorious start it has been, with such beautiful sunshine lifting everyone's spirits. Last week I had the opportunity to take part in a learning walk, and it was truly a joy to observe the many ways in which the children have progressed. From their growing independence and resilience to the quality of their work and their engagement in lessons, the positive development across the school is clear to see. It is evident that the children are embracing new challenges with confidence and pride, and this strong start sets a wonderful tone for the weeks ahead.

Today I was so very proud of Year 1 and Year 2 for their tremendous performances in our traditional May Day Celebration. They truly embraced the spirit of the occasion and filled the hall with so much joy, enthusiasm, and confidence. The maypole dances were absolutely delightful, with the children weaving the ribbons beautifully and showing such focus and teamwork. Their traditional dances were performed with so much energy and charm, and it was wonderful to see the children taking part in these much-loved customs with such excitement. Our Morris Dancers were fantastic, full of character, confidence, and enthusiasm and brought so much tradition to the celebration. The singing was simply amazing, with the children singing so proudly and beautifully, filling the hall with such happiness and warmth. It was a truly special celebration of tradition, community, and the wonderful talents of our children. Well done, Year 1 and Year 2 — you made us all incredibly proud! Thank you to Year 2 parents for attending.

May Day has been a cherished tradition at The John Hampden School for over 30 years. It is a special rite of passage for our Year 2 pupils. This celebration becomes a treasured memory that stays with them long after they leave our school.



# The John Hampden School Newsletter

In assembly, we focused on a simple but powerful question: “Are you okay?” We talked about the importance of looking out for one another and taking the time to check in with our friends. The children explored how sometimes people may not feel ready to share how they are feeling the first time they are asked, and how showing patience and kindness by asking again can make a real difference when someone begins to feel more comfortable. Since then, I have been so pleased to see this message put into action across the school. On several occasions, I have witnessed children thoughtfully asking one another if they are okay, demonstrating genuine care and empathy. I was particularly touched during a recent classroom visit when a child turned to me and asked if I was okay. Such a small gesture, but one that reflects the supportive and compassionate culture we are continuing to nurture together.

Enjoy the long bank holiday weekend.

**Steph Parkinson – Headteacher**



# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Curriculum Section – Birds Of Prey

We were extremely lucky to have some special visitors in Foundation Stage last week.

The staff from Berkshire Birds of Prey brought some amazing owls and other birds of prey. We were so excited to hold Toodles the Indian Scoops Owl and we learnt all about the different calls that the owls make. We also discovered the importance of the colour of each owls eye and whether they are diurnal, nocturnal or crepuscular. We even met some Owl Babies! It was a really special day!





# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Walk To School Week

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May is national "Walk to School Week." This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to enjoy the benefits of walking to school whilst having fun and staying active. We are challenging families to walk to school at least three times during this week. Every journey counts! If you live too far to walk the whole way, you could:**

- Park further away and walk the last 10-15 minutes (we call this "Park and Stride")
- Get off the bus one stop early
- Walk part of the way with friends or neighbours

**To make walking a bit more of an adventure Buckinghamshire Council have created a "Scavenger Hunt" you could do on the days you walk to school. This will be sent to you in a separate email titled Scavenger Hunt. Simply print off and join in at home! Hand your scavenger hunt into school at the end of the week and your child will receive a bonus WOW badge to take home. If you don't have a printer at home, please come to the office where we will provide you with a copy.**





# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Governor Section

### Governor Day – Wednesday 25th March

*Before the Easter holidays, I had the pleasure of attending a rehearsal for the Intergenerational Concert, which featured a performance by the Musical Theatre Group.*

*To borrow a phrase from a certain Headteacher, “Wowsers Trousers!” I was truly blown away by the passion, talent and confidence of every child who performed. It was wonderful to see not only how much they enjoyed the experience, but also the pride they clearly felt in their achievements.*

*I would also like to extend a special congratulations to those children who performed solo pieces. To sing with such confidence at a young age is incredibly impressive and deserves particular recognition.*

*As both a parent and a governor, the rehearsal served as a powerful reminder of the vital role the performing arts play in nurturing essential life skills such as confidence, resilience and teamwork.*

*Finally, it’s important to remember that performances like this are only possible with the dedication and commitment of the school staff. My sincere thanks go to everyone involved, with particular appreciation to Mrs Mannering for her hard work in bringing the concert together*



**Emma Ramell – Parent Governor**



# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Friends of John Hampden

May Fair – Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> 12pm – 3pm

The Friends of John Hampden are an integral part of our school and their efforts to raise funds to benefit all pupils in the school are truly magnificent.

The next big event from the Friends of John Hampden is the May Fayre. This is traditionally a large fundraiser and we would encourage everyone to come along on Saturday 16th May—the majority of the Fayre will take place outside and there will be plenty for the whole family to do. I know the committee of the FJH will be keen to hear from anyone who is available to help on, or before, the day. If you are able to support them you can contact them via your class representative or email [FJHVolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:FJHVolunteers@gmail.com)—many hands make light work!





# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Important Information

As warmer weather approaches, just a reminder about sun protection. We ask that children have long-lasting sun cream applied before they come to school. If your child has particularly fair skin, please talk to the class teacher if sun cream needs to be applied more regularly. In these circumstances we ask that children are taught how to apply their own sun cream .

Children should be provided with a named sunhat or cap in the summer. At school we prefer children to wear a hat or cap rather than sunglasses if possible.





# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Important Information

### **FOUNDATION STAGE IMPORTANT DATES**

Each year our Foundation Stage Classes put on a performance for their parents/carers to celebrate their time in Foundation Stage. The dates for these performances are as follows:

Wednesday 15th July @ 2.30pm, Thursday 16th July @ 2.30pm and Friday 17th July @ 2.30pm

We will advise you in the next newsletter which day each Foundation Stage class will put their performance on.

### **Scooters Down The Driveway**

A polite reminder to all families that scooters should not be ridden down the school driveway. This area can become busy, particularly at drop-off and collection times, and riding scooters here presents a significant safety risk to both children and adults. We kindly ask that children dismount and walk their scooters while on the driveway to help keep everyone safe.





# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Social Media at The John Hampden School

 **Something exciting is coming...** 

We are delighted to share that our John Hampden School Wendover social media page will soon be up and running.

Our social media presence will be a place to celebrate learning, share special moments from school life and keep our community connected. From classroom highlights to events and achievements, we look forward to sharing all the wonderful things that make our school a place of 'Loving to Learn'.

We would love for parents and families to support our page and help us grow our online community, so please

 LIKE,  FOLLOW and  SHARE by clicking the icons or links below:

[https://www.facebook.com/share/1a33nHyQdR/?mibextid=wwXlfr@john\\_hampden\\_school\\_Wendover](https://www.facebook.com/share/1a33nHyQdR/?mibextid=wwXlfr@john_hampden_school_Wendover)

#JHSW #LovingtoLearn #Wendover #Buckinghamshire

**Daisy Berry – Social Media**





# The John Hampden School Newsletter

## Diary Dates – Summer Term 2026

- 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Day 9.30am Year 2 parents invited**
- 4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank holiday Monday – school closed**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May - break up for half term 3.15pm**
- 1<sup>st</sup> June – INSET Day – school closed**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June – World Week**
- 8<sup>th</sup> June – World Week**
- 26<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July – alternative sports day**
- 9<sup>th</sup> July – Open Evening**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July – last day of term. Leavers Assembly Year 2.**
- School closes at 1.00pm**

