



The John Hampden School Newsletter

In this issue:

Message from Mrs Parkinson	1
Attendance and Punctuality	2
Important Information: Christmas Performances	3
Curriculum and Teaching: Growth Mindset	4,5,6,7
Curriculum and Teaching: Safety Week	8,9, 10
Curriculum and Teaching: E:Safety	11, 12, 13
Governor Section	14
The Friends of John Hampden	15, 16
Applying For School Places: Infant and Junior	17
Diary Dates	18
Miscellaneous	19

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

As we return to school, our curriculum theme for the first two weeks is 'What Can I Do To Keep Myself Healthy and Safe?' The children have thoroughly enjoyed the first of these two enrichment weeks, taking part in a range of exciting activities and engaging with special visitors who have helped bring their learning to life. I'm sure they have been eager to share some of their experiences with you at home. Please see further information in this newsletter about Safety Week, which highlights some of the wonderful learning experiences and key messages the children have explored.

The next half term is always such an exciting and magical time in school. The children will be taking part in a range of creative and festive activities as we build up to one of the highlights of the year — our Christmas performances in December. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the children's talents and the joy of the season and I'm really looking forward to sharing these special moments with you all.

Steph Parkinson - Headteacher



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025

Attendance and Punctuality

As we move into this busy and exciting half term, it's also a time of year when we often see more seasonal illnesses. While we understand that children can become unwell, it's really important that they attend school every day they are well enough to do so, as good attendance makes a significant difference to both learning and progress. Part of my role is to monitor attendance and punctuality regularly. Attendance checks take place twice each term, and parents will be contacted if a child's attendance gives cause for concern. We ask that parents and carers continue to be vigilant regarding sickness, diarrhoea, and respiratory illnesses, including raised temperatures. Children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea, and those with a high temperature should only return once their temperature has returned to normal.

Punctuality is equally important. Arriving on time not only helps children develop good habits for the future but also ensures they don't miss out on key learning activities and important learning that takes place first thing in the morning. Please remember that children should not arrive before 8.45 a.m. (unless they attend Breakfast Club), as classrooms are not open before this time. Once the gates and doors are closed, any late arrivals must enter through the main school entrance.





The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025

Important Information

We are looking forward to putting on Christmas performances for you to attend this year. There will be separate Year Group performances so please note the following dates:

Early Years Class (Cricketts)	Foundation Stage	Year 1	Year 2
One performance on 2-12-25@ 9.30a.m Max. 2 adults per child attending (tickets will be issued but there is no charge for this short performance)	<u>Performance 1:</u> 03-12-25@ 9.30a.m <u>Performance 2:</u> 04-12-25@ 9.30a.m Max. 2 adults attending per child (Tickets available)	<u>Performance 1:</u> 16-12-25@ 2.00p.m <u>Performance 2:</u> 17-12-25 @ 9.30a.m Max. 2 adults attending per child (Tickets available)	<u>Performance 1:</u> 16-12-25@ 9.30a.m <u>Performance 2:</u> 17-12-25@ 2.00p.m Max. 2 adults attending per child (Tickets available)





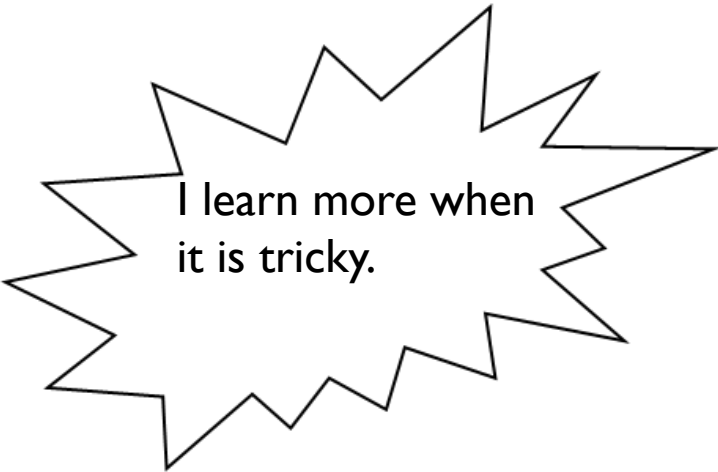
The John Hampden School Newsletter

Curriculum and Teaching- Growth Mindset

Our final week of half term was 'Growth Mindset' week where the children have been learning about and practising how to have a growth mindset attitude to learning. As a school we have been exploring the themes of how mistakes help us to learn, the power of 'YET' and how we can have perseverance and resilience. Here is some of the language we have used and some of the elements the children have enjoyed.



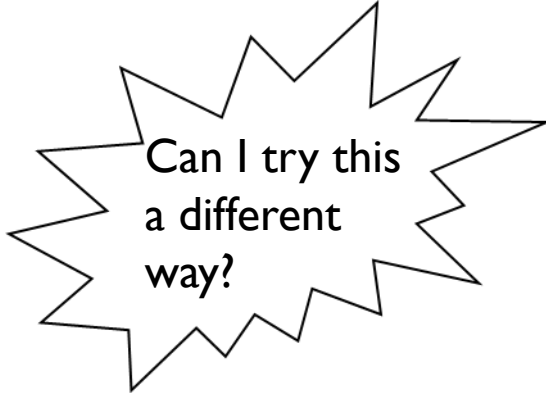
I can't do
this...YET!



I learn more when
it is tricky.



Mistakes help
me learn.



Can I try this
a different
way?



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Curriculum and Teaching

Foundation Stage

- We read the stories 'Giraffes Can't Dance' and 'The Dot' and used this language:
- It's ok if I get it wrong.
- I'm getting better.
- I can't do this...yet.
- This is hard but I can do it.



Iwan – "If we find something hard we don't give up. We persevere until we can do it!"

Alfie – "I grew my brain and really listened to the feedback from my friend and my second draft is so much better."

Roman- "When it's tricky I do my best. I use my brain."

Harlow- "Sometimes I find it tricky to swim on my back. I keep trying."



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Curriculum and Teaching Year 1

We read the stories 'The Most Magnificent Thing' and 'The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes' and used this language:

- I'm not there yet but I'm learning.
- Mistakes help me learn.
- I can do hard things.

Tayiba- "If you're sad when you first do something you get happy if you keep on trying."



Sophie- "If something is tricky keep on trying."

Millie- "You have to persevere if you can't do it YET."



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Curriculum and Teaching Year 2

We read the stories 'After the Fall' and 'Rosie Revere Engineer' and used this language:

- Can I try this a different way?
- I'm proud of my effort.
- I learn more when it's tricky

Neve- "When you make mistakes it's ok because you learn more when you make mistakes."

Hudson- "I can do this!
Say it when you are stuck."



Lacey- "We learnt that growing your mind is like growing a plant, instead of using water you use work. We learnt you don't give up, you say you can't do it yet."





The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025

Curriculum and Teaching- Safety Week

This week the children have been taking part in Safety Week. It is an important and exciting week with lots of activities and visitors!

In EYFS the children have been learning:

- Ways to be kind to other people
- How to follow our school E-Safety charter
- How to stay safe around water
- What to do if I fall in water
- That police, firefighters, doctors, nurses and dentists help to keep us safe
- To call 999 in an emergency
- How I keep my body safe and what to do if I don't feel safe
- Other people I can go to for help (NSPCC, Childline)

"You hold a grown ups hand around the road." Amelie



Antonio
"You need to keep looking even when you cross the road on a zebra crossing and you don't run!"

Eleanor
"The police came and we got to carry their vest. We went inside the van."



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Curriculum and Teaching

In Year One the children have been learning:

- How to get on and off a scooter safely, walk with a scooter, how and when to stop safely
- How to tell if something is a medicine, that only the Doctor prescribes us medicine, we must only take medicine with our name on it, we must always follow the instructions to take medicine safely and only adults give us medicines
- How to follow our school E-Safety charter
- How to stay safe around water
- What to do if I fall in water
- What an emergency is and to call 999 for help
- How to spot and stay safe around dangers in the home
- What bullying means and to get help if I or someone else is being bullied, not to be a bystander
- How the police help us to stay safe
- What to do if I am lost
- How I keep my body safe and what to do if I don't feel safe
- Other people I can go to for help (NSPCC, Childline)

Arlo: "We saw Mrs West with her lollipop! She keeps people safe on the road!"

Ruby: "we learnt that you can't share medicines. You must ask an adult before you go to a device and only go on games you have been taught to go on."



Lucas: "Don't cross the road without looking. Don't take medicines if you are not sick."



The John Hampden School Newsletter

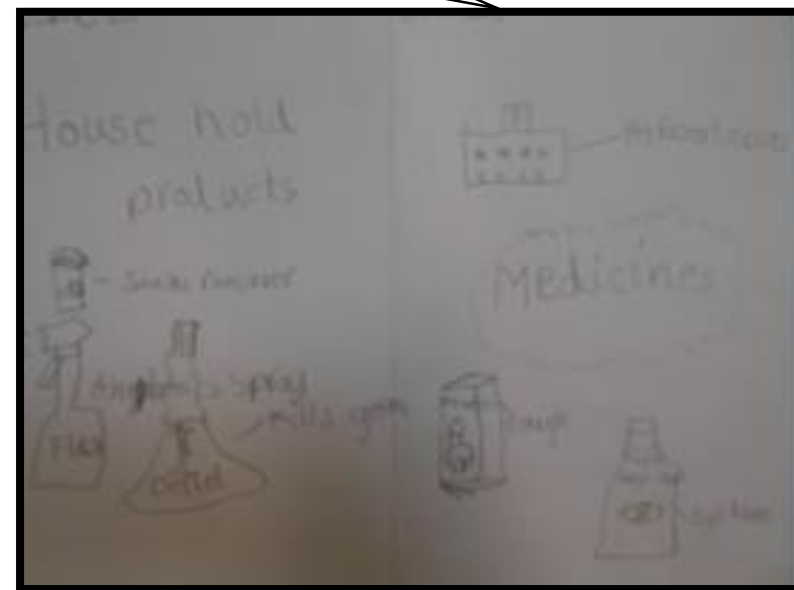
Curriculum and Teaching

In Year Two the children have been learning:

- How to get on and off a bike safely, walk with a bike, how and when to stop safely on a bike, where I can ride my bike and that I should always wear a helmet when riding my bike
- That some household items are not safe to use
- That only the Doctor prescribes us medicine and we must only take medicine with our name on it, we must always follow the instructions to take medicine safely and only adults give us medicines
- How to find and follow our school E-Safety charter
- How to stay safe around water and what to do if I fall in water
- What bullying means and who to get help from if I or someone else is being bullied
- How to identify an emergency, how to call 999 and what to say
- How I keep my body safe and what to do if I don't feel safe
- Other people I can go to for help (NSPCC, Childline)

Harry

"I learnt that if you're on your bike and you are about to cross the road, if you're on your bike you might get squashed."



Olivia

"When we were learning about road safety. If you cross the road, at the crossing you press the little button and wait for the green man."

Zac

"I learnt some things at home you can't touch, like fly sprays. We learnt the green cross code."



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Safety Week - E-safety

Our children have never known life before the online world and are getting more and more tech savvy at an earlier age. This causes many of us anxiety because we are not experts, we have not grown up in the age of online technology and we have not had childhood experience to draw upon when providing guidance for our own children.

However, the reality is, that we do live in a fast-paced, ever evolving digital world. At The John Hampden, we believe that it is our role to ensure that pupils learn to become digitally literate, so that they can use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology, at a level suitable for the future workplace and so that they can be active participants in the digital world. It is also our joint responsibility, with you as parents, to help them understand how to keep themselves safe online.

E-Safety is a key part of Computing at John Hampden. In addition to the termly e-safety assemblies and the use of stories, the children are reminded how to keep themselves safe online at the start of every weekly Computing lesson. We teach the children not only how to keep themselves safe online in school, but also remind them that it is even more important when using devices at home as they may not have the same firewalls installed on them.

As part of Safety Week, all children attended differentiated e-safety assemblies led by Mrs Shrimpton, which covered important messages about e-safety, such as, knowing who to ask for help if they feel uncomfortable online, the importance of being kind to their friends online as well as in person, of not talking to strangers, and a basic understanding for Year 2 as to what their digital footprint is.





The John Hampden School Newsletter

Safety Week - E-safety

It came to our attention during the Year 1 and Year 2 assemblies, that there are a large number of children who said that they are allowed to use some social media sites such as Instagram, Tik Tok and Snapchat independently/unsupervised. The site that children spoke about using the most was Snapchat. This is extremely concerning, especially given the recent news that Snapchat is the most widely-used platform for online grooming (NSPCC Nov 2024). The BBC revealed details only a couple of weeks ago about an 8 year old girl who was messaged on a gaming app by a groomer who encouraged her to go on to Snapchat for a conversation, and then asked her to send videos and photographs of herself.

We recognise that even our very youngest pupils are increasingly using a range of different, internet connected technology at home, so to support you, we thought it might be helpful to direct you to some useful, age appropriate websites.:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

This is split into different age ranges to give relevant information for each age group. You can visit the Parent/Carer section for advice, or the 4-7 child section to share animated stories and games with your children.

A good site for Early years resources would be www.childnet.com

This has some great picture books (Digiduck) for parents to read with children. These can be downloaded as pdf or read on the website, they also have some great advice pages.

Get SMART | Childnet – visit the “Know It All” Section for an interactive guide about online safety.

www.childline.org.uk

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



Mrs Shrimpton (Computing Subject Leader)

Thank you to Mrs Norman and Mrs Burrows for organising Growth Mindset Week and Safety Week. We look forward to next week where we will be learning – how do I keep Myself Healthy? To start the week, we would love you to join in our Family Fitness Fun on Monday at 8.30am in the playground.

Join us for Family Fitness Fun!

Join us in some fun filled exercise to start our 'Health Week'. The whole family can join in and get warmed up for the day!



Where: John Hampden School playground

When: Monday 10th November 2025

Time: 8:30am



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025

Governor Section

We are delighted to announce the appointment of two new Parent Governors, Emma Ramell and Zoe Gumm, to our Governing Body. They bring a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and a strong commitment to supporting our school community. Our Parent Governors play an important role in representing the views of parents, contributing to key decisions and helping to ensure that the school continues to provide the very best education and care for all children. We look forward to working closely with them and benefiting from their insights and support.



Emma Ramell



Zoe Gumm



Congratulations to the winners of the Halloween Cake Completion:

Raya in Crickets
 Oliver in Ladybirds
 Matilda in Honeybees
 Harlowe in Caterpillars
 Blake in Badgers
 Jack in Hedgehogs
 Finley in Squirrels
 Isabella in Firecrests
 Harriet in Herons
 Spencer in Red Kites

Huge thanks to everyone for supporting the recent FJH Halloween Trail. A whopping £1013 was raised. We appreciate all the effort that went into making the event so spookily spectacular and successful.





The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025
Friends of John Hampden



CHILDREN IN NEED - the children may come to school in their own clothes (or something spotty) on Friday 14th November in return for a minimum donation of £1 (any coin denominations) which will be sent to the BBC Appeal.

We are planning another MUFTI Day on Friday 28th November. Children will be able to wear their own clothes in exchange for a donation for the Christmas Market including:

- Bottles for the tombola
- Jam Jars

(We can never have enough Jam Jars – you are more than welcome to make more than one!)





The John Hampden School Newsletter

Issue Five Friday November 7th 2025

STARTING NURSERY (EARLY YEARS) IN SEPTEMBER 2026

If you, or someone you know, has a child who is eligible to start in our Nursery Class in September 2026, an application for a place can be made directly with the school at any time (application form is available on the school website) Places will be allocated in mid April or just before. We have an Open Morning on 19th November or take a look at the John Hampden School Wendover website where we have information about the school.

STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

If you, or someone you know, has a child who is eligible to start in reception in September 2026, an application for a Primary School place must be made in the next few months. The Primary School online application service opened on 5th November 2025 and the deadline for online applications is midnight on 15th January 2026. Please note that a place in the Early Years Class at John Hampden does not guarantee you a place in the school—an online application must still be made. Parents should use the following website to make their application:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/>

MOVING UP TO JUNIOR SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2026

Parents/Carers of Year 2 children at John Hampden must apply for a Junior School place for their child. The Junior School online application service opened on 5th November 2025 and the deadline for online applications is midnight on 15th January 2026

Parents should use the following website to make their application:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions>



The John Hampden School Newsletter

Diary Dates – Autumn Term

3rd November – Safety Week

10th November – Health Week

14th November – Children In Need Day (Children to wear their own clothes in exchange for a donation)

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

29th November – Stay and Play session – prospective parents and pupils Nursery and Reception 2026

29th November – FJH Christmas Fayre 12.00pm – 3pm

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

15th December – KSI Dress Rehearsal

16th December - Year 2 Christmas Performance 9.30am

16th December – Year 1 Christmas Performance 2.00pm

17th December - Year 1 Christmas Performance 9.30am

17th December – Year 2 Christmas Performance 2.00pm

18th December – Christmas Parties

19th December – School closes for holidays at 1.00pm





The John Hampden School Newsletter



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



Charity no: 284827

In aid of



Wendover Evening WI



Invite you to their
Christmas Fair
Saturday 15th November
10.00am to 12.15pm

The Memorial Hall, Manor Road, Wendover

FREE ENTRANCE

Visit Santa
Christmas Stalls for all the Family

Supporting Florence Nightingale Hospice (Charity no: 1119499) and
Medical Detection Dogs (Charity no: 1124533) and
raising funds for Wendover Evening WI.

**Medical
Detection Dogs**

