



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

17.5.25 FJH May Fayre 12—3 pm	23.5.25 School closes for half term at 3.15pm
19.5.25 Assessment week	2.6.25 INSET DAY no pupils in school
	3.6.25 School re-opens

1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

With just one week to go until there is another short holiday it seems as though this half term has flown by. Nevertheless, at John Hampden, we appear to have fitted all that needs doing into the time available. Over the last fortnight I have been delighted to see the school values shining through as I have visited each classroom. Our pupils are collaborating with one another successfully, individuals are persevering with the activities being offered and reflecting on their learning. I have been especially impressed by the independence being demonstrated in all year groups when children are engaged in child-initiated learning. Of course much of this is facilitated by the carefully and thoughtfully planned curriculum and the creation of an enriching learning environment by staff.



On Thursday 1st May we welcomed Year 2 parents into school to watch our traditional May Day celebration. This tradition has been a regular feature at the school for over 30 years and this year we were especially proud of our current cohort of KS1 pupils who put on such a fantastic show. Thanks to you, they all looked wonderful in their summer clothes and thanks to the teaching staff for their skill in introducing the children to a range of country dances, Maypole dances and Morris dancing. There was also some wonderful singing, under the direction of Mrs. Mannering. We held a good dress rehearsal the day before the performance, which our EYFS watched. However, it left us wondering whether the classes had peaked too soon but, as usual, they didn't let us down and they truly shone throughout the performance. Special thanks to the pupils who took on the roles of lucky sweep, May Queen, May King and their attendants—they performed their roles beautifully. There are some other photographs on the website to help you get a feel of the event but the staff were definitely left with a reminder of the value of these enriching activities which allow our school values of collaboration and perseverance to shine through.

So, the first half of the summer term is going well and we are excited by the prospect of further events planned for the rest of the academic year. We will keep you updated and confirm specific times but, this year, you can expect:

- FJH May Fair—Saturday 17th May between 12 noon and 3pm
- Sports Day on Friday 27th June
- Induction meeting for new EYFS parents on Monday 30th June
- Children to meet new class teachers/visit new schools on Tuesday 1st July
- Leaving Foundation Stage—assemblies for the three classes 16th (Caterpillars), 17th(Honeybees) and 18th July (Ladybirds)
- Leavers' Assembly for Year 2 classes on Wednesday 23rd July

Thank you for your continued support.

2. GOVERNOR SECTION

I do hope that you are all enjoying the lovely weather that we have been experiencing, though a bit of rain would be nice, after all, we all need balance in our lives.

A couple of weeks ago I was privileged to come into school to enjoy time with the children during our (now) annual Governors Day. This helps us as Governors see the workings of the school at first hand and allows the opportunity to listen to children and school staff. We as a team get the opportunity to learn something new and build our collective understanding, after all even as an adult “every day is a school day”!

We had a wonderful meeting with children from all age groups to discuss the school values, the children did most of the talking and were confidently able to explain to the Governors their understanding of the values, why they are important and what success looks like. The important thing about these values is that they will be transferable as our infant children develop into juniors, seniors and eventually to adults. These are great foundations for future challenges and opportunities.

During Assembly that day, Mrs Bowman launched NumBots and the children were very excited, Mrs Bowman explained that Maths teaching for the whole school was her responsibility and that she was always looking for ways to make it fun and to help the children build confidence.

Mrs Bowman & Mrs Shrimpton have organised NumBots to be available for every child at JHSW and this is meant to be independent learning, with no adult support required. So I’m afraid for those parents that are “gamers”, hands off this is strictly for the kids...

The children’s excitement was clear, they asked lots of questions, including what happens when you get to Diamond, “that can’t be the hardest, can it?”, it was lovely to see the enquiring minds in action. Building confidence around Maths is crucial for future success as we find Maths in all walks of life and aptitude in Maths influences our ability to assess risks and consequences.

Lastly I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff at the school, when the Governors are there during a normal working day we can see how hard everyone works and how committed they are to the children. This is very much appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing the JHSW community on Saturday at the Summer Fayre.



Ruth Falkus

Co-opted Governor



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

NURSERY PLACES—SEPTEMBER 2025

In September 2025 we will, once again, open the doors of our Early Years Class (Cricketts) for a whole new class of children. Our 26 place nursery class runs from a purpose built classroom at the front of the school and has its own outside area. Places for the Cricketts Class can be in demand and we only have capacity to take 26 children for the next academic year. Therefore if you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 and you are interested in the Early Years Class at John Hampden for September 2025, we would urge you to complete an application form as soon as possible.

If we fill all 26 places in September with eligible children (admission criteria apply) we are not planning to admit further children after Christmas or after Easter so you may only have one chance to secure a place.

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 oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk

or visit the school website (OOSC tab) where you can find out more.

We currently charge £6.00 for Breakfast Club and £14.00 for After School Club. Breakfast and an after school snack is included in the price.

ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRES

Each year, at around this time we issue parents/carers with a questionnaire to gain your feedback about the school. A paper questionnaire has been put into your child's book bag today—we would love as much feedback as possible and the closing date for returning them to school is Friday 13th June.

REMINDER—SCHOOL UNIFORM

This is a further reminder that all school uniform must be named. With warmer weather, more children will be taking off their coats, cardigans and jumpers and if they are not named there is the real possibility that they may find their way into the lost property box where it is very difficult to match it with the real owner.

REMINDER—SCOOTERS AND BIKES ON CAMPUS

This is a reminder that children should not be riding their bikes or scooters on the school grounds—they should dismount at the beginning of the campus and walk them to the parking bays.

WATER BOTTLES & SUN CREAM

In anticipation of some lovely warm weather to come, it is particularly important that children in Years 1 and 2 bring a **named** water bottle to school. Children are given water at break time but it is good for them to have their own bottle in the classroom so they can stay hydrated. Early Years and Foundation Stage classes have access to water all day long.

We advise parents to apply sun cream to their children before they come to school. It is possible to buy cream that only needs to be applied once and this avoids children having to bring their own bottles to school. If you believe your child needs sun cream applied more often, please let the class teacher know and they can organise times for this to happen. Children should be taught to apply their own cream -thank you.

COATS

Whilst the weather is hopefully warming up (and drying up) please be reminded that children must still bring in a coat every day as outdoor learning continues whatever the weather and as we are not adverse to a sudden rain shower children still take their coats outside during these lessons and at break times and lunchtimes.

HEADLICE

We have several cases of headlice in the school at the moment. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat accordingly.

CHRISTMAS TREE FARM, CHESHAM

Many thanks to Christmas Tree Farm in Chesham for our cheque for £35—this is due to the high number of pupils and parents who bought a tree from the farm last Christmas.

4. CURRICULUM 1

On Monday, year 1 had a wonderful surprise in their outdoor area! There had been a visitor, but we weren't sure what that visitor could have been. We looked carefully at these clues (a large, shiny egg shell that was cracked in half, a straw nest, large footprints and burnt wood) and decided a dragon had been!



We enjoyed writing clear instructions to help someone rescue and capture the dragon. We are still waiting for it to be captured!

Leo "I thought it was a dragon because bits of the logs were burnt. I think we will catch it".

Alice "It was a dragon because there was three footsteps and then it flew and dragons fly".

Max "I think a dragon could have escaped out of the egg. I think he could have eaten some of the food in the lunch hall. The egg was red and it looked like a fire dragon egg".

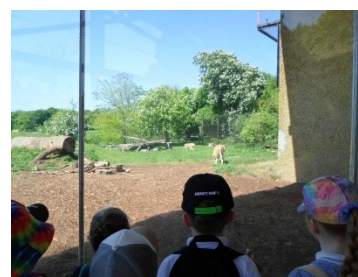
Delilah "I think it breathes out fire. I thought it was a real dragon. We could catch it with two nets. Then we will quickly make a trap and trap the dragon when it gets in".

Harriet "I was surprised- it was a very big egg! I think it was a dragon. I think we make a hole to catch the dragon".

Oliver "It was big and had a load of burnt logs from a dragon. I felt surprised because it was a dragon. We can get two trees and a net to catch it".

5. CURRICULUM 2

On Tuesday 13th May, Year One visited Whipsnade zoo. We were lucky to have such beautiful weather which meant we saw lots of the animals, such as: lions, tigers, meerkats, elephants, giraffes, zebras, butterflies and crocodiles.



While we looked at the different animals, we talked about which animal group they belong to (mammal, amphibian, fish, bird, reptile) and how we know. We also looked at what the animals were eating to know whether they are a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore.

During our workshop, we sorted pictures of animals and looked at thermal images of animals to find out if they are warm or cold blooded animals.

Otis "I learnt that meerkats have tails. I liked the workshop because we learnt lots of things about animals, like bats don't have furry wings."

Wilbur "I enjoyed spotting the elephants cool down. I like seeing the giraffes. I learnt that elephants need to eat 20kg of food a day."

Lo "I learnt that some animals have fur. All lions and tigers eat meat."

Millie "Some animals have warm blood and some animals have cold blood. I saw the lion cubs- they're mammals."

Louis "We saw zebras, tigers, lions, elephants and giraffes. In the workshop we sorted animals into mammals, amphibians, fish, birds and reptiles."

Mila "We learnt the names of groups of animals. I liked seeing the lions, they had cubs."

6. THE FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN

JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL

MAY FAIR

Saturday 17th May
12am to 3pm

JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL
WHARF ROAD, WENDOVER

PRIZES GALORE!

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- children's Maypole dancing •
- raffle prizes • sweetie jars •
- barbecue •
- bottle tombola •
- games and fun •
- children's ride •
- market stalls •
- ales, pimm's and soft drinks •
- and much more!

Save the date and please volunteer if you can!
More info to follow via the class reps.

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:

<p>GOAL A: QUALITY OF EDUCATION</p> <p>Developing the ability to read widely and accurately in order to gain fluency and comprehension is a key part of early education and at JHSW there are numerous opportunities provided throughout the school day for children to practise and develop their reading skills. However, our best readers tend to be those who have a language rich environment at home along with regular opportunities to read there and be read to. Encouraging the 'little and often' approach to reading is one we advocate and we are pleased to see when reading diaries are signed regularly by a parent/carer. Last week we received a generous donation from the Lionel Abel-Smith Trust which will allow us to purchase more non-fiction texts to enhance teaching and learning. We are grateful to the Trustees for thinking of us.</p> 	<p>GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES</p> <p>Our School Values link explicitly with Personal, Social and Health Education (P.S.H.E) teaching at the school. Each half term there is a particular focus on a Value and for the first half of the summer term the focus is on Respect. The related teaching is wide reaching and includes respect for property e.g. the equipment the children are provided with to use on the playground, as well as respect for other people.</p> <p>Assemblies will also feature this core school value prominently. Each KS1 class also has a (P.S.H.E) board in the classroom where the children help to generate a display to exemplify the value.</p> 
<p>GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</p>  <p>Safety on and around the campus remains a priority for all providers on the campus. There are regular meetings between all interested parties, including representatives from Wendover Parish Council and local community groups. Following the most recent meeting, plans are in place to have more days when unauthorised vehicles are challenged for attempting to drive onto the campus. Other deterrents are also being considered to reduce irresponsible and dangerous parking, especially in areas where road markings are already in place.</p>	<p>GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT</p>  <p>Today is the deadline for submitting our final budget to the Local Authority. Although we are in the early stages of the new financial year, we have over £100,000 less funding this year due to lower numbers in the reception classes in 2024-2025 (the majority of our current funding links to pupil numbers in the October 2024 school census.) So, we need be prudent to ensure the in-year outturn by the end of the 2025-2026 financial year is, at least, balanced. The loss of pupil funding means we need to continue to look at all our self-generated income streams to ensure we are maximising every opportunity to provide high quality education within a limited budget.</p>



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

You're Invited! Connect, Create and Celebrate – Sunday 18th May at 3pm at St Mary's Church, Wendover

We'd love to invite you and your family to our next **Connect, Create and Celebrate** service on **Sunday 18th May at 3pm**.

This relaxed and friendly event is packed with activities for all ages, refreshments to enjoy, and a real sense of community. This month, we have something extra special to celebrate – we'll be baptising two young boys during the service.

It's a wonderful opportunity to come together, have fun, get creative, and share in this joyful occasion. Whether you've been before or it's your first time, you'll be warmly welcomed.

We hope to see you there!

Thank you

Nadine

Nadine Rose

Associate Priest

St Mary's Church Wendover &

St Michael's and All Angels Halton



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

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

ON YOUR MORTGAGE



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



**Visit a farm & discover
the world of farming!**

8th June 2025

Buckmoorend Farm

Butlers Cross | HP17 0UT

11am to 4pm

**COME ALONG TO ENJOY A FUN FAMILY DAY AND LEARN ABOUT
EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES AT BUCKMOOREND FARM!**

DISCOVER the world of animals, crops and machinery

TASTE our delicious produce in our farm shop and kitchen

ENJOY some great produce from our local suppliers

WATCH a butchery demonstration from our onsite butchers

TAKE part in fun activities for young and old

MEET our amazing animals

Buckmoorend
farm shop | butchery | kitchen

www.buckmoorendfarm.co.uk



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Open Farm Sunday is managed by LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming). Charity no. 1045781

