



The John Hampden School Wendover



NEWSLETTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS

23rd July—Y2 Leavers Assembly
 Red Kites—9.30-9.50am
 Herons—10.00 -10.20am
 Firecrests—10.30—10.50am

23rd July—School closes for the summer at 1.30pm
 23rd July—NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

5th 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.

As we reflect on the year we are delighted that all pupils have had the chance to experience the wide range of activities that are traditionally on offer at the school e.g. Harvest, Sports Day, Christmas Performances, May Day, Open Evening etc. We have now completed our school improvement plan for 2023-2024 and I am proud that, once again, statutory assessments have shown that our pupils have managed to achieve well and maintain the high standards we come to expect at John Hampden. 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.

We are hugely grateful to Kate Walker and the rest of the FJH Committee for all their hard work this year—their fundraising efforts have been fantastic. Kate is stepping down from her role as Chair and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all she has done—she has been amazing!

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 Tuesday 23rd 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 **Thursday 5th 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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another school year draws to a close, it's always nice to reflect on the year's achievements - and why not!? Guided by our key values of Perseverance, Independence, Belonging, Collaboration, Reflection, Good Manners and Respect everyone at the school has worked exceptionally hard this year and we have seen many great results. These include our continued excellent results in pupil assessments (Phonics etc), everyone who partook and enjoyed the various school events (May Day Festival, Rock Steady Concerts, World Book Day, Easter trails, discos, Christmas shows etc), and not forgetting our Ofsted inspection.

If you have not done so already I would recommend you take 5 minutes to read the Ofsted inspection report, it has some great things to say about the school. As this was only a 'one-day' inspection, Ofsted were only able to confirm the school remains 'Good' (an achievement in itself for many schools). However, given the school has demonstrated many outstanding qualities....Ofsted are due to return at some point during the next calendar year to *complete a graded* inspection (watch this space!).

For many, the school term draws to an end with mixed feelings: jubilation that the school holidays have arrived, bringing a chance to re-charge batteries; sadness about saying good-byes to school friends; and perhaps trepidation about the new school year, when it arrives, with new teachers and classmates.

On this last point, I would encourage you not to worry too much. A lot of thought and effort is put in by the school to prepare your child for transition to their next class or transfer to their new school, to ensure they feel confident in their new environment and are able to progress to the best of their abilities right from the start of the new term. We really hope that your child feels very well prepared for the next stage in their education.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the John Hampden PTA. Yet again they have worked tirelessly over the course of the year to hold a number of immensely successful events. It takes a lot of effort to organise and ensure all these events are so well attended, run smoothly and raise such an amazing amount of money for the school. This year funds have been spent on some much needed items (which unfortunately the school budget just won't extend to), including fundraising for the Year 2 outside learning area, Galaxy tablets and play equipment.

Before I wrap up, just a little housekeeping for the Governing Body. We are sad to say good-bye to three of our amazing Governors. Firstly, an honourable mention to Ben Gattlin who has admirably and competently Chaired the Board of Governors over the last few years. Then we have Peter Hooper who has been a dependable rock for many years, contributing immeasurably to his Safeguarding role and our Teaching and Learning Committee. Finally, we have Toby Short who, amongst other activities, has worked tirelessly on the school's GDPR preparation and the IT system (often going above and beyond the call of duty). Thank you.

We are keen to ensure we remain effective as a Governing Board (particularly given the impending return of Ofsted!), so we will be looking to recruit several new Governors early in the Autumn term. If you are interested in joining the Governors, or know someone you might be (it does not have to be a parent of a current pupil), get in touch with myself or Mrs Barnes; we'd be happy to discuss the role.

Finally, a huge 'well-done' and 'thank you' to all the teachers, support staff, fellow governors and pupils who helped to make this another splendid year at John Hampden. We look forward to seeing everyone who will be with us in September; but equally we wish our Year 2 pupils all the best as they take the next step in their learning journey.

Have a lovely summer



James Edley

Chair of Governors

chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk

3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES

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 **Tuesday 23rd July**. No tickets are required but please follow the indicated route on the morning.

Finally, just a reminder that for everyone term ends at 1.30pm on Tuesday 23rd 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.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The School Council representatives have done a fantastic job again this year sharing their thoughts about different parts of school life including; lunchtimes, our school values and transition to a new class/school. They enjoyed an end of year party to celebrate their achievements. Earlier this term, Year Two representatives met with Year Three School Counsellors from Wendover Junior School to discuss transition arrangements between the schools. Thanks to Gail Simpson for attending with the children from WJS. Answers to questions were then shared with all Year Two

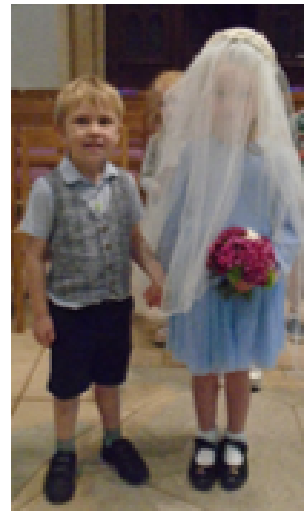
4. CURRICULUM

Our Wedding at St. Mary's Church.

Foundation Stage have been learning about weddings and wedding traditions around the world. We read *The Scarecrow's Wedding* written by Julia Donaldson and we went to visit St. Mary's Church for Rev. Sally to tell us all about a Christian Wedding.



She showed us some photos of weddings and talked about what happens at a wedding.



We decided to arrange our own wedding and George was the Father of the Bride and Hannah was the Bride.



Jasper was the Groom and Zac was the Best Man.

The Bride and groom said some very important words to each other and made promises to look after each other when they were well and when they were poorly. Zac gave Rev. Sally two Haribo rings which the Bride and Groom gave to each other.

Miss Tiffin read a poem and all Foundation Stage sang a song together. Finally Rev. Sally pronounced that they were now married and they were Husband and Wife.



The Bees came to visit Foundation Stage.

On the 25th of June the Mid Bucks Bee Keeper Association came to visit Foundation Stage. The purpose of the visit was to talk to the children about how important Bees are in pollinating our flowers. Kevin, Mary, and Ann showed the children a selection of pictures showing the different bees that we might find in our gardens.



Kevin told us that bees were often found in the ground and we should ask our grown-ups not to cut the grass really short as this might hurt these bees. Bees pollinated our flowers and plants which means that they will grow and produce other flowers and fruit.

Each class had a chance to spend time watching the bees in the observational hive the children and they were able to find the queen. The queen has a longer body than the worker bees and the drones. All the bees in the hive are female apart from the drones who are male. The drones don't live in the same hive all the time as they move from hive to hive.



The children got the chance to taste the honey that the bees produce. They all thought that it was delicious.

The children also got to try on a bee keeper suit and were able to look at beeswax and how it's made into candles.



5. PUPIL'S SECTION



Eco-matters

Just before the Easter break, the children from Year Two planted wild flower seeds in the meadow in order to improve the diversity of insects that frequent this space. The seeds were kindly donated by the Chiltern Society. Amanda and a group of volunteers from the Society led the planting session after spending some time preparing the ground. The fruits of their labour are stunning – a wide variety of flowers and grasses have attracted many insects like damselflies, beetles and several species of bee. Classes across the school have visited the meadow to complete Science related learning, including lessons about mini-beasts and micro-habitats by Year Two.



SPRING '24



SUMMER '24

Back in Spring, The Chiltern Society also helped to prepare the vegetable garden for planting. The school gardening club and other children from different classes worked really hard to dig, plant, water and weed and are proud of what they have achieved. There are a variety of fruit and vegetables that are growing really well – we may need a larger display area for the harvest produce later this year!



SPRING '24



SUMMER '24



The Tiger worms in the school wormery continue to thrive under the care of the Year Two classes who have been feeding and checking on them.

During this half term, we have held two wildlife evenings with talks by Amanda from the Chiltern Society. The families who attended were fascinated to hear the facts that Amanda shared and the children enjoyed going on a mini-beast hunt in the meadow and the opportunity to complete a sensory herb identification checklist. Also, it was wonderful to learn about the different species of animal that frequent the school grounds at night! These include; foxes, badgers and even Muntjac deer.



Many thanks to Amanda for leading the sessions and for the on-going support of the Chiltern Society.

We are excited to announce that due to their kind donation (from lottery funding), we are now in receipt of a rain garden which will be planted up over the summer – more to follow about this in the Autumn term!

Year Two Fund Raising Event

On Monday, Year Two enjoyed a morning of quizzes and Bingo with refreshments to keep them going!

Thank you to the children and families for their kind donations. We raised a total of £166 with the proceeds going to two locally based charities.



Year 2 trip to Collings Hanger Eco Farm

Last week Year 2 visited Collings Hanger Eco Farm, a family run farm nestled in the Chiltern Hills. Their visit was to support their learning about mini beasts and consolidate their knowledge from previously taught Science topics. The children had a whole day to explore the farm and with Virginia the Farmer as their tour guide, the children had hands on experiences of varying types of farming. The children learned that the farm is organic, registered with the Soil Association and produces high quality beef from the cows. They keep free range pigs in beautiful woodland and grow ancient varieties of cereals too. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning how organic farming works and how it helps to ensure safe, healthy food that is produced in a natural environment and promotes a better quality of life for both humans and animals alike. It was also lovely to walk around the 'kitchen' style garden and identify the different herbs, fruits and vegetables. A huge thank you again to our parent helpers, without your help this event would not have taken place.

5. PUPIL'S SECTION

We recently had a wonderful Sports Day with the sun shining brightly and lots of people attending which was lovely to see thank you. The children were fully engaged and involved in participating in a variety of races including the egg and spoon race, the obstacle course, the sack race, the running race and 'the long snake' race. We even had races for the mums, dads and toddlers with so many of you taking part. The children had a brilliant time joining in, collaborating, cheering on their friends and being part of a special occasion. They did themselves and us proud. A big thank you to everyone who was involved it really was a team effort. Below are some of the children's comments:

Ladybirds

Audrey - I liked everyone trying their best.

Hudson - "I ran really fast and I won"

Honeybees

Neve - "I liked all of it. I felt proud doing it in front of my family."

Jasper - My favourite part was seeing my brother getting his sticker."

Caterpillars

Chelsea - "I enjoyed the egg and spoon race because my mummy got to watch me."

Dougie - "I like the running race. I nearly won."

Squirrels

Matilda - "I enjoyed running the races because it was amazing!"

Fred - "I enjoyed the beanbag race because I really like balancing things."

Hedgehogs

Libby - "Sports Day was really fun because the races were really fun. I enjoyed the obstacle one because I liked the hoop."

Noah - "I really enjoyed it because I liked doing the racing. My favourite one was the bean bag on my head as I was quite good at that."

Badgers

James - "I liked the obstacle course because I tried more than one skill."

Dylan - "I loved the bean bag because I could balance really well."

Firecrests

Poppy - "I liked the obstacle course race, it was hard and I tried my best and that is all that matters."

Felix - "I liked the bean bag race because I was good at balancing the bean bag on my head with my hands by my side."

Hérons

Mason - I enjoyed the running race because I like running really fast."

Madeleine - "I liked the obstacle race because it was fun skipping through the hoops."

Red Kites

Sakina - "The obstacle race was great fun because we had to do all the different things like skipping through a hula hoop, run with a bean bag and jump in a sack."

Otto - "I enjoyed the lying down race. I knew what to do because we had practiced it a lot"





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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.

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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.

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

The Safe Place Scheme



What is the Safe Place scheme?

The Safe Place Scheme was launched in Buckinghamshire in 2012, and has built a network of suitable venues and businesses such as local shops and libraries, where anyone can go for help and assistance if they find themselves in need whilst out and about in their local community. The scheme covers towns and villages in all of Buckinghamshire (except Milton Keynes).

Having access to a 'Safe Place' offers anyone vulnerable who is feeling confused, scared or upset, to have somewhere they can go to ask for help. They may simply need directions, or may wish to make a telephone call to someone they trust - either to collect them, or advise them on what they need to do.

Above all the scheme aims to provide reassurance, so that vulnerable people can lead independent lives and feel safe whilst out in Buckinghamshire.



How does the scheme work?

This sticker is displayed in the window of a business to identify the premises as a safe place.

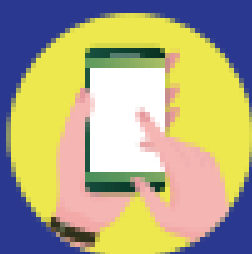
A vulnerable person can go in, approach a member of staff and ask for assistance.



Working together for a safer Buckinghamshire

The role of a **Safe Place** business

If a vulnerable person seeks help, a member of staff would be expected to:



Make a phone call where necessary either to one of the numbers on the emergency contact list provided to the premise, or to their trusted person; they may have a Safe Place emergency contact card (please note you do not need a Safe Place emergency contact card to use the scheme).



Offer reassurance and keep the vulnerable person safe until the situation is resolved. This might include a quiet place to sit down or a glass of water.

How can a business get involved?

If you own or manage a business and would like to become a 'Safe Place' please contact the Buckinghamshire Council Community Safety Team via email at safeplace@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

How can I get a Safe Place Emergency Contact Card?

If you know of someone who would benefit from the scheme and would like more information or would like a card to carry around with their emergency contact details, please contact safeplace@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



For further information about the Safe Place scheme and the areas covered please scan the QR code.

Follow us for community safety updates and advice:



@Bucks_Safety



@BucksCommunitySafety

FREE SUMMER SESSIONS



YOUNG CARERS

CONSERVATION - NATURE - CAMPFIRES - ART

This summer Lindengate Gardens, based in Wendover, is running **free drop in sessions** for young carers **aged between 7-15 years** old who support a friend or family member who has **mental health needs**.




During each sessions there will be the chance to learn about nature conservation, take part in pond dipping, relax and cook food on our fire pits or take part in nature-based art. These sessions will be a great way to meet other young people who are also carers. We will also be running a **Pop Up Cafe** so the person you care for can relax with a cup of tea and cake whilst you enjoy the session.

Dates:

7-12 year olds
Every Thursday 10:30am-12:30pm
from 1st August - 29th August

13-15 year olds
Every Friday 1:30pm-3:30pm
from 2nd August-30th August

Book Now:

-  01296 622 443
-  referrals@lindengate.org.uk
-  next to Dobbies Garden
Centre, Wendover, HP22
6BD

www.lindengate.org.uk

This course is commissioned by NHS Oxford Health as part of the National Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme





Sunday 14 th July	3.30-5.00pm
Sunday 21 st July	10.40-11.40am
Sunday 11 th Aug	3.30-5.00pm
Sunday 18 th Aug	10.40-11.40am
Sunday 8 th Sep	3.30-5.00pm
Sunday 15 th Sep	10.40-11.40am

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www.facebook.com/MessyChurchWendover

We meet at Wendover Christian Centre



Hi everyone, to celebrate the launch of Gusto, and the beginning of the summer holidays, we shall be arranging a treasure hunt for all those children who might like to head over to Ashfold Park for a Gelato and refreshment.

On Tuesday 23rd, there will be a number of red and blue Gusto disks dotted along the route between the school complex and Gusto, located on Castle Park road (next to Ashfold Park). The Red disks shall be for those children participating from Wendover Junior school and the blue disks, for children John Hampden.

Those lucky enough to find a disk, will receive a Gusto treat - in case of holiday commitments, the disk will be valid for up to 2 weeks.

We look forward to seeing you next week



