



# The John Hampden School Wendover



## NEWSLETTER

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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>4-7-25</b><br><b>FJH Summer Barbecue</b>   | <b>11-7-25—Annual Reports sent home</b>  |
| <b>10-7-25</b><br><b>Open Evening—come and walk around the school with your child 6pm-7pm</b> | <b>Farewell to Foundation Stage assembly—parents invited</b><br><b>16-7-25 Caterpillars @ 2.30pm</b><br><b>17-7-25 Ladybirds @ 2.30pm</b><br><b>18-7-25 Honeybees @ 2.30pm</b> |

## 1. MESSAGE FROM MRS BARNES

### HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO THE EYFS TEAM AT JHSW!



I am delighted to let you know that on Wednesday evening, Mrs Parkinson and her whole EYFS Team won a much coveted Buckinghamshire School Award for the 'School with Excellence in Early Years'. Five of the team were invited to an awards ceremony where their success was announced and where they were given a wonderful trophy—congratulations to them all for this well deserved recognition.

With only a few weeks until the end of the academic year, our thoughts turn to plans for September 2025. Ensuring a smooth transition into, out of and within John Hampden becomes a priority for us now and we have started a planned programme of transition arrangements to prepare the children for the next stage in their school journey. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns regarding the transition arrangements for your child.

I am gradually completing many tasks for the final time and our recent FS and KS1 Sports Day was a prime example of this. It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers arrive to cheer on their children and I hope you agree that our pupils really shone on the day—exemplifying our school values brilliantly. My thanks to the governors who stood on the finish line issuing stickers to those who had done well, to Miss Fox (P.E. co-ordinator) for organizing the event so well and to Premier Education for their expertise in teaching the children the skills they needed and for helping to run the event on the day.

One of my real regrets is that I will not be leaving the school in a strong position financially—this is certainly not a result of poor financial management. The situation has occurred largely as a result of issues that are beyond our control. I will be sending all parents a letter soon, giving more details about the challenges faced by JHSW but I want to reassure you that we are working closely with the Local Authority to try and find solutions to some of the barriers to funding that we have experienced. We have also contacted Greg Smith, MP, who will be visiting the school soon to gain a better understanding of the financial challenges we face and how they have occurred.

**We look forward to seeing you and your children** at the Open Evening on 10th July. This is a chance for the whole family to tour the school, meet staff and visit old and new classrooms.

On Friday 11th July you will receive your child's annual report.

## 2. GOVERNOR SECTION



James Edley  
Chair of Governors

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](mailto:Chair@johnhampdenwendover.co.uk) if you would like to raise a matter for discussion.

### 3. IMPORTANT MESSAGES



#### **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 address: [oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:oosc@jhampden.bucks.sch.uk)



#### **Early Years Class 2025-2026**

We still have one place available in our Early Years (Cricketts) class for September 2025. If you are interested in a place and your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you are welcome to contact the school and register your interest. Contacting us soon will ensure your child can be helped to settle quickly by participating in some of the planned transition activities this term, prior to the September start.

#### **RELATIONSHIPS POLICY**

The time has come for us to review our Relationships Policy once again. If any parent/carer would be interested in contributing to this review, Mrs Spencer is holding a meeting at the school on Tuesday 15th July @ 6.00pm. Please phone the school office 01296 622629 if you would like to take part.

#### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**



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We hope that any parents of children who already attend the school and wish to purchase uniform for the next academic year will complete a uniform order form, available on the school website (under the key information tab), and return it via email or through the postbox in the entrance hall. We will get the order ready and send it home with your child before the end of term. Whether it is a new reading folder, P.E. kit, a sun hat or a

complete set of new uniform—we hope to have enough stock for you to be prepared for the Autumn Term.

#### **P.E. Kits**

Following our planned sports day, this is just a reminder that children do need to bring their P.E. bags back to school as P.E lessons are continuing. Thank you.



#### **SCOOTERS**

This is just a reminder that children (and adults!) should not ride their own scooters or bikes within the school grounds . Please only start riding when you have exited through the school gates. Please also leave your scooter in the scooter park by the front gate—don't park it outside your child's classroom.

Thank you—this is for the safety of everyone.

## 4. CURRICULUM & PUPIL SECTION

We recently had a wonderful Sports Day, as did Crickets, 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 lying down' 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:

### Crickets

*Henry – I liked running.*

*Jenson – I loved waving at my Mummy and Daddy.*



### Ladybirds

*Charlie – I liked the running race because I sprinted across the finish line.*

*Esme – I wined the egg and spoon race and it was so difficult and I really concentrated to cross the finish line.*

### HoneyBees

*Aqsa – I loved that Year 2 helped. My sister helped and was at the finish line.*

*Noah – I liked the obstacle course as I skipped through the hoops.*

### Caterpillars

*Marianna – I loved racing my friends and watching the grown-ups and toddlers race. It was so much fun!*

*Joseph B – I liked the running race the best and that Mummy and Daddy could watch me.*

### Squirrels

*Louie – I liked the running race because it was hard and fun.*

*Orla – I liked the egg and spoon race and I didn't even drop it!*

### Hedgehogs

*Olivia – I really liked the running race because we could run fast with our friends.*

*Audrey – I enjoyed the obstacle race because we got to do the egg and spoon, hula hoops and bean bags and I love them all!*

### Badgers

*Lacey – I liked the obstacle course because I liked the hoops and skipping is my favourite.*

*Mila – I liked balancing the bean bag on my head.*

### Firecrests

*Alfie – I liked the lying down race as you got to run a lot and lie down on the floor.*

*Alexander – I loved the egg and spoon race because it was really fun as I had to go through lots of things and the egg and spoon is my favourite.*

### Hérons

*Arlo – I liked the running race as I normally come near the end but I ran really fast and came 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

### Red Kites

*Sylvie – I loved that we all supported each other.*

*Aleena – The beanbag race was the most fun. I didn't drop it once.*



## 5. CURRICULUM & PUPIL SECTION



This 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 various 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 (which we were allowed to stroke) 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. The ride on the trailer pulled by a tractor was certainly a highlight! A huge thank you again to our parent helpers, without your help this event would not have taken place.

Isla from Firecrests said 'I liked exploring the meadow and making bookmarks with flowers.'

Iona from Firecrests said, I liked seeing and feeding and touching the pigs.'

Ethan from Herons said, 'I enjoyed the pigs, feeding them and stroking them, they looked similar.'

Coco from Herons liked stroking Harry the sheep because he felt like a carpet!

Salma from Herons liked the tractor ride—it was bumpy.

Holly from Herons enjoyed going in the greenhouse where they were growing aubergines, pepper and cucumbers.

## 6. FRIENDS OF JOHN HAMPDEN (FJH)

# *It's not too late to leave* **YOUR MARK**



A beautiful wooden tree has been carved by Wendover local, Bob Duggan and the Wendover Shedders. We're offering parents, guardians and family members as well as former pupils, staff, governors and the wider community an opportunity to purchase a wooden leaf or acorn, which will be added to the tree and displayed permanently in the school.

The leaves and acorns will be engraved with a name or a short message and will remain there to be seen for many years by generations of John Hampden children and parents.

This is your opportunity to support the school and the children in a creative and lasting way. The tree will become a permanent part of the building, displayed as a grateful acknowledgement of your support and generosity.





*To donate a leaf or acorn  
please email*

**FJHVOLUNTEERS@GMAIL.COM**



## 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:

| GOAL A: QUALITY OF EDUCATION   | GOAL B: BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES  |
|--|--|
| <p>As we head towards the end of term, our subject leaders are required to reflect on the programmes of learning that have been delivered in each year group across the school and to evaluate their action plans. The impact of their work this year in developing their subjects is recorded and shared with the link governor. We are pleased that our governors have regularly come into school to meet subject leaders and to observe the different areas of learning being delivered. Visits are always followed up with a written report.</p>    | <p>On 30th June the annual attendance figure for each pupil will be calculated. This percentage figure will be included on your child's annual report which is due out on 11th July. 95% is the expected attendance figure for our pupils. Any unauthorised absences are also shown on the end of year report. The expectation is that no child should have unauthorised absence on their school record. If your child is unable to attend school this should be communicated on the first day of absence so the reason can be recorded.</p>    |
| GOAL C: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT   | GOAL D: LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT  |
| <p>Transition arrangements are now at the top of our agenda. We have spent time in the last two weeks confirming the staffing and the organisation of classes for September 2025. The transition programme has started to be rolled out now and started with the meeting for parents of new EYFS pupils. Our new pupils will make three visits to the school over the next few weeks and all pupils will be given a similar number of chances to visit their new classes. At JHSW we work hard to provide as many activities as possible to ensure our pupils (and their parents) are well prepared for the next step in their educational journey. Our aim is for the children to be able to get to know new teaching staff and new learning environments prior to the summer break to alleviate any associated worries or anxiety.</p>  | <p>Our final full governing board meeting of the academic year has now taken place and we worked collaboratively to start to establish the priorities for the school improvement plan 2025-2026. The plan is formulated by taking account of stakeholder views, data analysis, external feedback and new educational directives/initiatives. Parents views are important and analysis of the recent annual questionnaire has helped to identify areas to focus on from a parental perspective. Class Council Circle Time and School Council Meetings help to guide us from the perspective of our pupils.</p>  |

## 8. MISCELLANEOUS



# NATURE SUMMER CAMP

Discover the wonders of nature, learn about local wildlife, and enjoy fun activities in the fresh air.

For young people aged 5-12 years old.

- Nature-based activities
- Outdoor Games
- Nature Walks
- Gardening
- Cooking, arts & crafts

**£40  
PER DAY**



**11-15TH AUGUST 2025**

**9:00am-3:30pm (Early Drop 8:30am)**

Lindengate Gardens is based next to Blue  
Diamond Garden Centre, Wendover, HP22 6BD

**BOOK NOW**

Visit Our Website  
[lindengate.org.uk/events](http://lindengate.org.uk/events)







# SUMMER HOLIDAY SWIMMING COURSE

The Wendover Pool, HP22 6HF



## DATES AND TIMES

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| MONDAY 28 <sup>TH</sup> JUL    | 09:30 to 11:00 AM |
| TUESDAY 29 <sup>TH</sup> JUL   | 09:30 to 11:00 AM |
| WEDNESDAY 30 <sup>TH</sup> JUL | 09:30 to 11:00 AM |
| THURSDAY 31 <sup>ST</sup> JUL  | 09:30 to 11:00 AM |
| FRIDAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> AUG     | 09:30 to 11:00 AM |



30 minute lessons

£68 for 5 day course

Limited to 6 children per class

Beginner through to advanced lessons

## MORE INFO!

[aquadragons-swimschool.co.uk](http://aquadragons-swimschool.co.uk)



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