

Pickwick Papers – Edition 3 – Term 5

Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

Welcome to the third edition of our Pickwick Papers Trust newsletter. It has been a busy and exciting return to school after the Easter holidays, and has been great to see the children settling back into school life and enjoying the better (on the whole!) weather over the last month.



Many of you will be aware that as a Teaching School and Trust, we work with and have developed partnerships with a wide variety of schools across the region. When our Trust was founded in August 2017, one of our objectives was to expand the number of schools in our family and be able to work with, learn from, support and share practice with more schools.

In November 2019, we were delighted to welcome Ludwell Primary School into the Trust, and over the last year have been talking to three schools in South Wiltshire, near Salisbury, about the possibility of them joining us too.

We have been working closely with the staff, leaders and governing bodies of Greentrees Primary School, Winterslow CE VA Primary School and Pitton CE VA Primary School, who have now submitted academy orders to the DfE. If all goes to plan, the three schools will join us, ready for the new academic year.

This is a really exciting time for us all – we are really looking forward to welcoming Greentrees, Winterslow and Pitton into the Pickwick family, and exploring the variety of ways we can connect, support and challenge each other for the benefit of the children and staff in all our schools.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please drop us an email – I'd be delighted to share the journey we've been on together and tell you more about each school.



Governor vacancies

Would you like to make a positive difference to our children's education?

Several of our schools have vacancies on their Local Governance Committees (LGCs).

Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to children's education, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment.

To see if there are vacancies at your child's school please contact the school office.

Parent webinar links

- [Resilience for Learning/Wellbeing](#)
- [Managing digital parenting](#)
- [Helping your child with anxiety](#)

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Indhu Rani Day at Corsham Primary School

Each year, children from every year group at Corsham Primary School organise events to raise money for Chandha, a young boy living in Sembadiyuthu, India. This event is named 'Indhu Rani' after the first child who was sponsored many years' ago, before 2007.

Money raised is sent to Chandha to contribute to his education. Chandha has been studying at home in recent times, as well as playing with his friends and catching fish in the nearby river, while his parents go to work on agricultural land. Last year, CPS raised £1,460 on Indhu Rani Day.

Ivy Lane School's stunning new classrooms

The £1.3 million building work, at Ivy Lane School, to create a stunning new set of classrooms has now been completed. The Year 1 and Reception children have moved in and are enjoying the fantastic new facilities. There are a few finishing touches still to do, but we are delighted with the spacious, attractive learning environment and the children love it.

Huge thanks to TG Escapes, Shawn Donneky and the incredible staff at Ivy Lane School for managing this project in the middle of a pandemic!



Basic Skills Award – Corsham Primary

Corsham Primary has been fully recommended for the Basic Skills Award, which ascertains the level of provision in English and Maths across the school. The Assessor enjoyed finding out how opportunities for Reading, developing Vocabulary and Language, and Arithmetic skills were shared and celebrated with the children, and how the school supported families and pupils during the recent lockdowns. Well done to everyone in the CPS family as they continue to collaborate and work in cohesion to ensure that the basic skills provision is meeting the needs of all learners at the school.



Bike and Scootability

Children at Aloeric Primary have been embracing healthy ways to travel to school, with bikeability and scootability lessons taking place over the last few weeks. Great to see the bike and new scooter racks full of leg-powered transport!

Basic Skills Award QC

Queen's Crescent School has again been awarded the Basic Skills Quality Mark which is an internationally acknowledged accreditation supporting and recognising improving standards in the provision, practice and performance of English and Mathematics, and provides evidence of high-quality education.

Well done to everyone at Queen's Crescent on this achievement!

Ludwell – 4th class

Projected pupil numbers for children starting school in the Autumn look good across our schools, and we are looking forward to welcoming a new cohort of Reception children into the Pickwick family in September.

Due to the high numbers of families choosing to send their children to Ludwell Primary School again this year, and growth at the school, we are delighted to say that the school will grow from 3 to 4 classes in Sept.

This is testament to the hard work and fantastic teaching and learning taking place at the school – huge thanks to all the staff at Ludwell.