

# Pickwick Papers – Edition 22 – Term 6 – July 2024

## Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

It has been another busy and exciting term in all our schools. It has been so wonderful to see the residential trips, church visits, Year 6 productions and leavers dos, and so much sport taking place across our schools!



I had the privilege of attending Milton on Stour CE Primary's residential trip to Hooke Court this term and was reminded of how different school is now when compared to Victorian times! Ivy Lane were also at Hooke Court in the same week, and it was a joy to see the children solving problems and building rafts together. Have a wonderful summer holiday all!

## Review of the year 2023-2024

As a Trust, we are always striving to improve and looking at what more we can do to support schools, but we wanted to take a moment to share some of our successes from 2023-24:

- Successfully transitioned Alderbury & West Grimstead CE Primary, Longford CE Primary, Milton CE Primary, St George's CE Primary, St Gregory's CE Primary and Wyke Primary schools into the Trust expanding our three hubs to include a total of 15 schools and over 3600 pupils
- Pitton CE, Ludwell and Corsham primaries achieved strongly Good Ofsted inspection outcomes
- Developed a new Initial Teacher Training partnership with Oxfordshire SCITT to continue training our own teachers
- Strong school to school peer review process in place for staff and children, visiting each other's schools
- Strong and embedded professional learning communities

## Our 2030 Vision

As the academic year comes to a close and we consider our priorities for next year, I thought it would be useful to remind you of Pickwick Academy Trust's 7 key 2030 vision statements...

1. All children thrive socially, emotionally and academically
2. KS2 RWM combined as a Trust is 80%
3. We are an employer of choice and truly 'one organisation'
4. Our schools are centres of excellence in their chosen fields
5. We are secure and sustainable financially
6. We are carbon neutral
7. We are a Trust of 32 primary schools across 4/5 hubs, each with nursery provision onsite or strongly linked

## X (Twitter)

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# Successful Ofsted Inspection at Corsham Primary School

On 18/19 June 2024, Ofsted carried out a routine inspection at Corsham Primary School. The school was last inspected over 11 years ago, so we had lots we wanted to share with the inspection team about the wonderful education practice, curriculum and experiences for the children at the school. We are all delighted that Ofsted found the school to be strongly GOOD in all areas of their framework. Well done to everyone working, learning and supporting at Corsham Primary School for all your hard work and dedication.

## Quotes from the inspection report:

- “Corsham Primary School is a welcoming school where everyone gets along. Dedicated staff greet pupils warmly when they arrive.” “Across both sites, staff value the opportunities to work together.”
- “The school works diligently to refine and improve the curriculum so that pupils learn more over time. This helps pupils get off to a positive start to their education.”
- “The school is a safe place to learn. Staff expect pupils to behave well and follow the ‘golden rules’, and they do. If pupils have any worries, they feel confident talking to adults or using the ‘I wish my teacher knew’ box. A highlight for many pupils in the ‘celebration assembly’, which recognises pupils’ achievements. This inspires pupils to aim high.” Staff “appreciate how school leaders consider their wellbeing and listen. This makes for a happy and committed staff team.”
- The school provides many memorable experiences to broaden pupils’ horizons and expand their minds. These include residential trips, talent shows and fundraising events, such as ‘Indhu Rani’ day.”
- “The school’s enquiry curriculum is ambitious.” Pupils “enjoy being scientists, historians, mathematicians and artists. Teachers have a comprehensive overview of what pupils need to learn and when.”
- “Reading is at the core of the school’s curriculum. The inviting libraries and class reading areas are home to a range of high-quality books. Staff have carefully mapped out the books pupils will encounter as they move from year to year. These inspire pupils to read more widely and use more adventurous vocabulary in their writing.”
- “The school’s phonics programme and matched books help pupils develop reading accuracy. By the end of Year 1, most pupils gain a strong grasp of phonics. Any pupil who falls behind in their reading gets swift support to help them catch up.”
- “Teachers’ subject knowledge is secure. They present clearly and revisit important knowledge at the start of lessons. Teachers use wall displays and quizzes to help pupils make sense of [their] enquiry questions.”
- “The school’s process for identifying pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities is comprehensive. Staff give well-targeted support to help pupils overcome barriers to learning.”
- “Governors and Trustees know the school well. They bring a strong set of skills and experience to their roles. They ask searching questions to hold school leaders to account for pupil’s outcomes and attendance.”

### North Wiltshire Hub



### South Wiltshire Hub



### North Dorset Hub



## Parent Webinars

[Resilience for Learning and Well-being](#)

[Helping your child with anxiety](#)

[Digital Parenting](#)

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