



Pickwick Papers – Edition 32 – Term 4 – Mar 2026

Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

I hope you are enjoying the warmer weather and lighter evenings, and had fun on World Book Day!

Once again, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff, children, parents and governors who work so hard to make our schools such special places.

Have a wonderful Easter and well-deserved break. Relax and rest well, and enjoy time with your families...



North Dorset Hub Hercules Theatre Trip

Year 6 children from across Pickwick's North Dorset hub of schools visited London this term. Their first stop was Buckingham Palace to take photos and see if they could spot the King!

They walked through St James's Park and saw the London Eye before heading through Horse Guards Parade to Downing Street. They saw Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, and strolled along the River Thames.

After a delicious dinner together with children and colleagues from across the North Dorset hub of schools, they then headed to Trafalgar Square and the Theatre Royal Drury Lane to watch Hercules! They loved the singing, the acting and incredible stage changes. A fabulous time was had by all!



Train to Teach with us

Do you know someone who is keen to become a teacher? We can help! We have partnered with the [OTT SCITT network](#) to train teachers through Pickwick.

We have training hubs in Corsham (North Wiltshire) and Salisbury (South Wiltshire) and our strong network of schools enables us to provide school placements which are local to trainees. We offer primary and secondary, and both full and part time routes. Find out more [here](#).

Pupil Premium Application

Your child may be able to benefit from free school meals if you get income support, income-based jobseekers' allowance or income-related employment and support allowance.

The government makes a pupil premium payment to schools for each child entitled to free school meals, which can help provide targeted support and challenge.

Please speak to your school if you think you could be eligible.



Working at a Pickwick school is busy and very rewarding. Our schools have high expectations of their staff teams, and staff work hard to provide the very best experiences and outcomes for all the children across the Trust.

To help us recruit, train and retain the very best people we offer our staff a range of benefits to help them thrive and excel in their roles. Examples include:

- A real family and togetherness feel, where everyone is supported, included and listened to
- High quality teaching and support staff, committed to working collaboratively – strong professional learning communities
- Strong central team committed to providing a high level of support and challenge for staff at all levels
- Family friendly policies and a strong commitment to flexible working
- Access to employee wellbeing support and counselling
- Generous contributory pension provision
- Strong terms and conditions for all staff, with transparent policies – staff consulted directly with on all HR policies
- Free tea and coffee
- Free eye tests for regular screen users
- Free annual flu-jab
- Partnership with car purchase/lease scheme to reduce costs
- Cycle to work scheme
- Emergency salary advance scheme
- Wiltshire Reward Scheme and Blue Light Card

As we shared with you in the last edition of Pickwick Papers, our Vice Chair of Trustees Gill Clark has been awarded an MBE for services to education.

On Tuesday 10 March, she received her award from the Princess Royal at Windsor Castle.

We are all very proud of Gill and are hugely grateful for the incredible support and challenge she provides for us.



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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