

Pickwick Papers – Edition 29 – Term 1 – Oct 2025

Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

Welcome to another edition of the Pickwick Papers.

I can't quite believe that term 1 is nearly over and that half term is upon us already. Enjoy the crunchy leaves and cosy sleeves of Autumn over the half term break.

I hope you have a well-deserved rest with your families.



Pitton Primary is 175 Years Old!

On 10 October this term, Pitton celebrated 175 years of operating as a school. It was a privilege to attend their celebration event, which welcomed pupils, families, staff, villagers, governors and many generations of previous pupils, staff members and families, for which Pitton holds a special place in their hearts.

The Headteacher, Emma Wilkinson, made a wonderful speech, the choir sang and the community shared tea and cake, took home a commemorative 175 year mug and watched as a time capsule was buried for future generations to discover. Visitors were able to see photos displayed of the school throughout the ages and share their memories.



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](#).

Pickwick Trust USPs

- Primary-only family of community and church schools
- Children at the centre
- Inclusive – all children flourish
- A real sense of togetherness with children and adults collaborating at all levels of the organisation
- Exceptional quality of teaching and learning
- Strive to achieve the very best academic, emotional and social outcomes for children
- Developmental, not judgmental, school improvement approach
- Strong business, finance, facilities and HR functions support schools
- Celebrate each school's uniqueness
- Ethical and values-based
- Outward-facing

Woodford Valley Ofsted – GOOD in all areas

On 24/25 June 2025, Ofsted carried out a routine inspection at Woodford Valley CE Primary Academy. We are all delighted that the inspection team found the school to be strongly GOOD across ALL areas of the framework. A huge well done and thank you to Headteacher, Donna Young, and to everyone working, learning and supporting in Woodford Valley for your hard work and dedication.

Quotes from the Woodford Valley inspection report:

- “Woodford Valley is a school where everyone works together to create a happy, inclusive and purposeful community.”
- “Care, trust and respect shine through. This reflects the school’s core values, which include courage, compassion and friendship.”
- “The school has high expectations of pupils, and, as a result, pupils achieve well.”
- “The school has worked hard to address the areas identified at the time of the last inspection. As a result of this work, published outcomes for 2024 in English, reading and mathematics are now above national.”
- “The school provides a curriculum that excites and motivates pupils to engage in their learning.”
- “Staff are skilled in the teaching of phonics and reading.”
- “The school identifies pupils with special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND) quickly and effectively.”
- “Pupils’ personal development is a strength of the school. It provides pupils with rich developmental experiences.”
- “The school encourages pupils to develop their interests and talents. There is a wide range of clubs on offer, which include music, sport and mindfulness.” [...] “Pupils relish the roles and responsibilities on offer.”
- “The school appreciates the effective support, guidance and challenge the governors and trust provides. Staff are proud to work at the school.”
- “The school provides significant pastoral support to pupils and their families. Parents are delighted with the school and appreciate all that it does for them.” “Pupils develop a ‘strong sense of belonging’.”

North Wiltshire Hub



South Wiltshire Hub



North Dorset Hub



St Georges - SIAMS

St Georges CE Primary School had a routine Church of England SIAMS inspection this term.

The inspector was delighted with the school’s strong ethos and values, concluding that it is “living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish.”

She went on to say that “the deeply embedded vision has ensured that St George’s School provides a secure, nurturing and loving environment”, which has enabled “pupils to fulfill their potential and ‘let their light shine’ in the school and their community.”

Collective worship was praised for its important contribution to spiritual flourishing in the school community.

Pupil Outcomes 2025

We are delighted to report that the Trust’s overall key outcomes data is higher than national and Wiltshire LA and Dorset LA figures. We have also improved in every outcome figure compared to 2024 data.

Thank you to everyone for working so hard to ensure our children achieve great results!

Outcome	Pickwick	National
KS2 RWM	65%	62%
Y1 Phonics	82%	80%
EYFS GLOD	74%	68%
Attendance	95.4%	93.3%

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