

Pickwick Papers – Edition 13 – Term 3 – Feb 2023

Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

It has been so good to see the dark, damp days of early January changing into brighter, sunnier weather (even though we are still scraping our cars in the morning!)

It has been a pleasure to spend time in schools across the Trust again this term and see how engaged and involved the children are in their learning.

Have a wonderful half term holiday and fantastic break – I look forward to seeing you in Term 4.



Industrial Action – next date 2 March

Thank you for your support and understanding about the industrial action that took place this term in many of our schools across the Trust. We really appreciate your messages expressing support, and recognise the challenges many of you faced in managing this.

The National Education Union and other education unions are continuing talks with the government to try to address the funding challenges schools are facing, as well as seeking a fully funded pay increase for staff, in line with inflation.

As I noted in my letter (18 January 2023), the NEU declared four days of strike action in our region of the country with the remaining dates being: Thursday 2 March 2023, Wednesday 15 March 2023 and Thursday 16 March 2023.

Schools will contact you a couple of days before each strike day to let you know which, if any, classes are affected and need to close, and will confirm on the morning of each planned strike day if additional classes are affected.

New Trust Member

We are delighted to welcome Paul Hughes as a new Member of Pickwick Academy Trust's governance team.



Paul has over 18 years' experience as a Governor and Chair of Governors at Greentrees Primary School. After a short break from governance, he is back joining our Member Group.

Paul is a legal and commercial professional working in the Defence and Security Sector. He is also the Group Leader of a Sea Scout Group in Salisbury.

Clerk to Governors

We are recruiting for a Clerk to Governors at Aloeric Primary and Gillingham Primary.

Please email / ask at the school offices for more information.

Twitter

Follow us on Twitter:
@PickwickTrust



How does Governance work in our Trust?

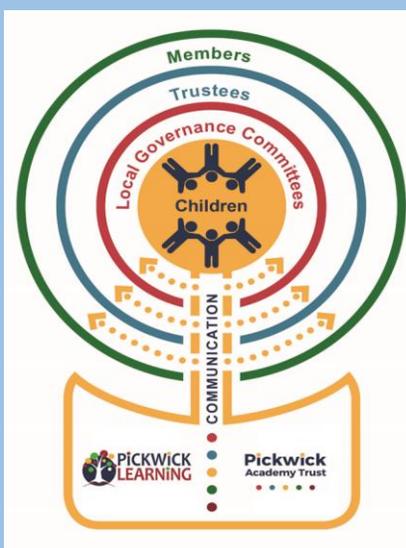
Starting at school level, with the children at the centre of everything we do, each school has a **Local Governance Committee** where governors have three core functions:

1. Ensuring the clarity of the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction, in line with the Trust vision
2. Holding the Head and senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and pupils
3. Providing support to monitor school expenditure

Next, we have a Board of **Trustees** who perform the roles above but focused at Trust level, holding the executive team to account for every school's educational and financial performance.

The final layer is our **Members** Group, whose role it is to oversee the operation of the Trust and hold the Trust Board to account.

All of these roles are performed by experienced and dedicated volunteers who give their time for free to support our work across the Trust. [Click](#) for more information on our governance.



Parent Webinars

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

[Helping your child with anxiety](#)

[Digital Parenting](#)

Our schools

Pickwick Academy Trust is made up of 9 community and church primary schools across Wiltshire and North Dorset and is organised into two hubs.

We have the privilege to be responsible for the education of nearly 3000 children, and we employ over 400 staff.

To find out more about our schools click on the links below:

[Aloeric Primary School](#)

[Corsham Primary School](#)

[Gillingham Primary School](#)

[Greentrees Primary School](#)

[Ivy Lane Primary School](#)

[Ludwell Primary School](#)

[Pitton Primary School](#)

[Queens Crescent School](#)

[Winterslow Primary School](#)

To watch a short video about each school, click [here](#) and select a school from the coloured tab.

Pitton win Song for Christmas Competition

Pupils from Pitton Primary have won the Song for Christmas competition, arranged by Salisbury Radio. The song was chosen because it was a Pitton Christmas favourite, introduced several years ago by Miss Pearce. The children loved singing this unusual version of 'While Shepherd's Watched' which was written by the folk singer, Kate Rusby. For more information and photos click these links: [Trust article](#); [Bath & Parent Magazine](#) article.



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