



# NEWSLETTER

## Friday 10th January 2025

### WEEKLY CLASS FOCUS



## FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE

We last wrote about the FE students in September 2024 and they have packed in a lot since then. Here's just a taster of what they've been up to!



They were 'Ho Ho Hoping' that the FE Christmas Market would be a success and thanks to the incredible hard work of the FE students and fantastic support from the wonderful parents and staff of Icknield, they 'sleighed it' and raised a remarkable £475!! The students gained some valuable customer service and workshop skills when creating all the items they sold.

We have exciting plans this year to try and provide as many different off-site experiences as possible for our FE students, allowing them to generalise their skills in new situations. So far they've had a cinema trip to see Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, been Christmas shopping in Basingstoke and spent a day at the beautiful Mottisfont House. Some will be attending a post-16 SEND disco in Southampton in a couple of weeks, and there are also plans to visit the beach in the summer, go on a canal boat and trout fishing, to name but a few of their upcoming adventures!

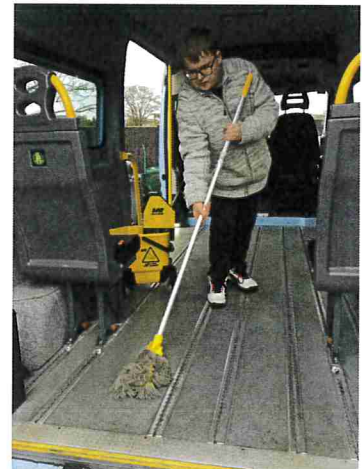
In the hope that they will stay active when they leave the FE, we try to get our pupils to experience and use local facilities as much as possible. Since September they have used the LTA tennis courts on Vigo Road, played 5-a-side football and water polo at Places Leisure and of course used the amazing Tedworth Equestrian Centre to go horse riding.

A number of our students have been developing their employability skills. They have taken part in team building activities to reflect on their skill sets. They have thought carefully about career choices matched to their skills, interests and abilities. They have looked for jobs online and have undertaken practice interviews. They have worked incredibly hard on this!!

A final mention should go to our now super-flexible students in their Pilates lessons! We have had a new instructor, Caron Arnold, who runs Andover Pilates Hampshire. Her knowledge and energy is infectious and all students have participated with enthusiasm and gusto which has been lovely to see!! This is her website if you or your children are interested in Pilates – she really is fab!! <https://andoverpilateshampshire.co.uk/>



Things to look out for on our next FE newsletter are the students' art work to be displayed at Andover train station, travel training lessons when we get out and about using local buses and trains, and the amazing achievements of our students working on specific physio and communication targets. Exciting times ahead!!!



### **WELCOME**

Katie Holloway, who has previously been a lunchtime assistant both at the FE Centre and at the school and has also been helping us as a member of bank staff, has now joined us as a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) in Maracas class. We are sure all the experience she has gained in her various roles her will put her in good stead for the times ahead.

### **PARENT GROUP COFFEE AFTERNOON**

Sharon Portsmouth, Family Support Practitioner, will be holding a coffee afternoon on 15th January at 1.30pm to discuss strategies/resources used for challenges faced during school holidays. Please could anyone wishing to attend advise the school office or Sharon. All parents/carers are welcome.



## USING CLASSDOJO EFFECTIVELY



We have found the ClassDojo system of communication to be very successful if used effectively by both the school and parents. It supports the functioning of school and class activities which, we are sure everyone can appreciate, is not always an easy task.

It is important that parents use this communication on a **daily basis**. Therefore please check on the following sections:

- ♦ **School Story**—This section is used for information that ALL parents need to have and read—e.g. the weekly newsletter, school closure, class closures etc.
- ♦ **Class Story**—This section is used to inform parents of events taking place in their child’s class and will often ask for replies back, e.g. organising trips etc.
- ♦ **Class Chat**—This section is used for private correspondence between parents and the teacher/ admin office, e.g. advising of appointments, payments, lunches, etc.

The Admin team will check Classdojo messages sent to the school throughout the day and Teachers will check messages before and after school hours.

**URGENT MESSAGES**—Please call the school office (01264 365297). For example—your child will need to be collected early etc.

*Thank you*

# SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



January	New Year	coat	gloves	scarf

## DIARY DATES — SPRING TERM (1) 2025

### JANUARY

- 14th Farleigh After School Club begins
- 14th Connect After School begins
- 15th Parents' Group (1.30pm –school)
- 15th Dance After School Club begins
- 16th Youth After School Club begins
- 17th Governors' Curriculum Meeting (11.15am)
- 21st Boccia & NAK Tournament (Cello)
- 23rd FE Disco, Orange Rooms, Southampton
- 24th Burns Day Celebration—wear tartan if you can!
- 27th Theme Week (2 of 3) —Video & Film



### FEBRUARY

- 4th ZooLab visit
- 4th Full Governors' Meeting
- 11th Marwell Zoo trip no.1 (Lower School)
- 12th Marwell Zoo trip no.2 (Lower School)
- 14th INSET DAY (FE only)
- 26th Mercury House Trip (moved from 11.02.25)
- 28th INSET DAY (Whole school)

## SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

The following students have been awarded the Class Star of the Week Award:

Chimes	- Delilah
Drum	- Órlaith
Maracas	- Frankie
Tambourine	- Archie R
Triangle	- George
Trumpet	- Donnell
Oboe	- Kieran
Banjo	- Destiny
Cello	- Maciej



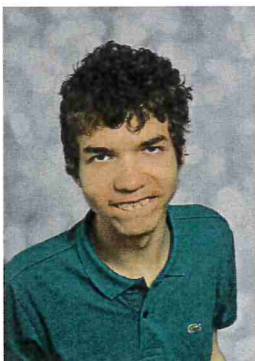
**The School Superstar of the Week is ...MACIEJ!!**

Maciej is a very popular student who has developed a great sense of humour and loves to trick the office and site staff! He is full of information especially regarding transportation and timetables. He is the definite person to go to if you need to know how to get from A to B. Maciej has worked hard in Shakespeare rehearsals and has the makings of a great actor. Maciej's ICT skills are available if anyone needs help navigating their way around a computer and he also enjoys challenging maths. His artistic side is quite unique also!

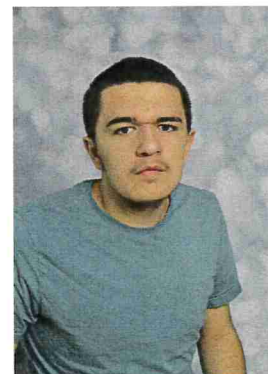
## FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

*(Personal, Physical, Independence, Cognitive, Communication)*

CHAMPIONS



Kobe and Jake



## BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK WERE....

Maciej, Cello - 16 yrs old  
Nirjor, Victorious - 18 yrs old

