



NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th March 2026

WEEKLY CLASS FOCUS



GLASTONBURY & VICTORIOUS CLASSES

You last had an FE newsletter update in November. So many exciting things have happened since then! Students continue to work on their personalised timetables that have included the following:

Skills for Life & Learning

Cooking; Gardening; Home maintenance; Literacy & ICT; Money skills; Phonics; Shopping; Speech & Language; Travel training (public buses & trains).



Personal & Social Development

All About Me (learning about their own SEND); Library Visits; Relationship, Sex and Health Education, Sensory Cooking, TAC PAC.



Sport, Physical Activity & Leisure

Basketball; Horse riding; Hydro; Physio; Table cricket.

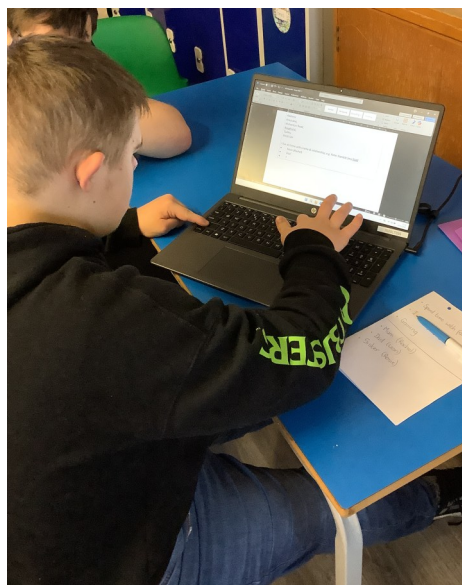


Vocational Studies

Employability skills; Enterprise (prep for school summer Fete); Litter picking

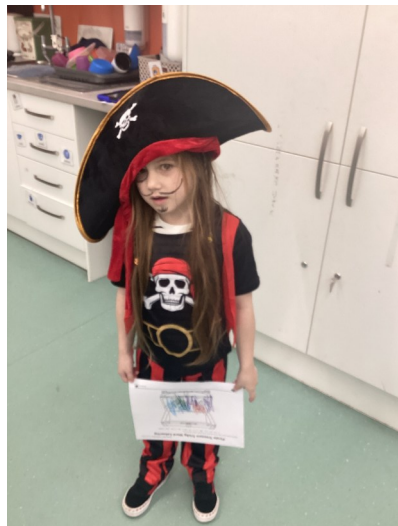
Developing Creativity & Expressing Art & Music.

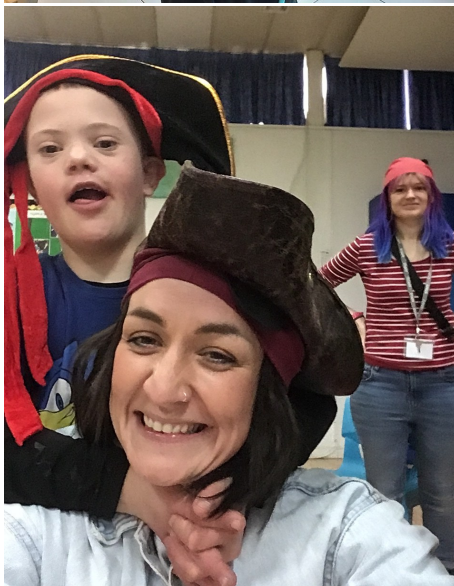
As well as their curricular offer, we have been trying to really add breadth to what we offer outside of our school hours programme. One standout event was when some of our students attended a disco for 16-19 year olds at The Orange Rooms in Southampton, joining this fun after a meal out at Wetherspoons! Another was attending the spectacular production of “The Ancient Oak of Baldor” at The Point Theatre in Eastleigh. Our sensory learners loved the show and had a great day out. We have also had a fabulous movie night with pizza and popcorn at the FE Centre. There is also more to come, so look out for reports on our trip to see Eastleigh FC play football and our work with The Freedom Through Expression art gallery in Alton.



WORLD BOOK DAY

What a tremendous effort was put into dressing up for our World Book Day today! Amongst the scurvy swine pirates an occasional alternative book character would appear just to keep us on our toes. The children had a wonderful time visiting the Openbox Theatre pirate workshop and were kept entertained by Kevin McDonald who took them on an interactive treasure hunt, finding clues to unlock his treasure chest while singing along the way. He already knew a few of our students and was able to adapt his show according to needs. It was brilliantly presented and appreciated by students and staff alike. Here are some of the photos taken from today and hopefully we will be able to share more with you next week.....





WHEELPOWER FESTIVAL

On Thursday 26th February, a small group of FE and Cello students attended the Wiltshire Wheelpower Festival in Salisbury. They had a fantastic day trying out a variety of wheelchair sports and meeting some great coaches along the way.

Their day started with some laser shooting, which was fantastic! Ellie, Jack and Zac were great shots and managed to hit all the targets. They then moved on to try badminton, where they used some new equipment enabling them to use nets to catch the shuttlecocks if unable to hit them. Ed really enjoyed racing to collect as many shuttlecocks as possible although, Gemma's driving skills were not that great, so lots were missed!



Next was wheelchair rugby and the students worked together to throw and catch the balls, increasing the distance and working on their skills. They also enjoyed watching a game of rugby. Zac loved seeing the players crash in to each other and he was amazed at the speed!



After lunch, they participated in a boccia session with a great coach who encouraged everyone to try their best. The games were close, with both teams winning a few rounds each. Ellie showed that she had a good throwing arm and didn't even need the ramp! Well done, Ellie! Jack also showed off his aiming skills and was able to knock the other team away from the jack in a few rounds.



The group finished the day with some table tennis, which mostly ended in the staff running around trying to pick up the balls! Ellie had so much fun and got so tired, she nearly fell asleep!

A huge thanks goes out to Linda (Ellie's mum) and Mike (Jack's dad) for accompanying them and making it possible to take the group out.

PARENTS' GROUP

Sharon Portsmouth, Family Support Practitioner, will be holding the next Parents' Group/Coffee Afternoon on **Wednesday, 18th March at 1.30pm** at school. Refreshments will be available while having a general chat. You may have some interesting news that may help other parents or just need to unload some worries you have yourself. Please come along and meet others who are in similar situations.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

"When attending the coffee groups I always find listening to and sharing our difficult experiences very helpful as well as having positive outlooks. Very inspiring". Dani (George's mum)

OPAL (OUTSIDE PLAY AND LEARNING)

Opal play is going from strength to strength at Icknield School. Some of the parents will have seen only this week all the staff outside exploring the play resources and coming up with new and exciting ways to engage the children.

To support the play continuing to grow we are going to be theming our weeks and making sure there is lots of exciting variety.

This week we have been focusing on balls and bubbles! The children had such fun playing all week with the new ideas. Over the next few weeks we will be exploring, shaving foam, cereal, flour, dressing up, small world, pots and pans, den building and much more!

If you have a play idea that you remember as a child or that you know your child really loves, please could you dojo your class teacher so the idea can get shared across the school to continue to make play time as exciting and engaging as we possibly can!



DANCE CLUB



Please scan the QR code, and complete the form to register interest for your child to attend the **FIRST EVER EDCDANCE CAMP**. The camp will be hosted at Whitewater Primary school in Hook (RG27 9BG). Monday 3rd August to Friday 7th August. The camp will run from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM and will cost £40 per day. There will also be an option for early drop off and/or late pick up, for an additional cost.

More information to follow after interest has been registered 😊

Duke of Edinburgh's Award 

Inclusive Andover Mencap Group

Supporting young people aged 14–24 with learning disabilities to achieve Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards!

What We Offer:

- ✓ Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards
- ✓ Friendly & Supportive
- ✓ Qualified DBS-Checked Leaders

Activities Include:

- ✓ Camping & Hiking
- ✓ First Aid & Life Skills
- ✓ Swimming, Horse Riding & More!

Our Success:

- ✓ 53 Awards Achieved!
- ✓ 26 Gold Awards at Buckingham Palace!

Every Wednesday 7.00 – 9.00pm

**The Wellington Centre,
Andover, SP10 2EG**

07796 232769
bastewart171@gmail.com

Build Confidence • Gain Skills • Make Friends!

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



Mother's Day	vegetable	cucumber	tomato
lettuce	pepper	peas	carrot

SPRING TERM 2026

MARCH

- 13th Immunisations Catch up (yrs 9-11)
- 13th Inclusive PE Event at Applemore Leisure Centre
- 17th Full Governors' Meeting (4pm)
- 17th Partial upper school—cinema visit
- 18th Parents' Group Meeting—1.30pm
- 20th Comic Relief
- 20th Down Syndrome Day (Odd Socks)
- 24th Hants Music Special Event, Winchester
- 27th **INSET DAY (FE only)**
- 30th-10th April—**SPRING BREAK**



SUMMER TERM

APRIL

- 13th-15th Partial Upper School Residential, Calshot
- 17th HPV Immunisations (Yr 8)
- 24th **INSET DAY (School & FE)**



MAY

- 4th **Bank Holiday**

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK WERE....

James, Maracas - 16 yrs old

BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEKEND ARE...

Arthur, Trumpet - 15 yrs old



Get into Teaching... with us!



If you are interested in any of the following, then please get in touch:

- a School Experience Day
- An online Information Event
- Applying for our courses

Email us on: teachertraining@hispmat.org



SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

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

Chimes - Jack B
Drum - Zach
Maracas - Zack
Tambourine - Coulson
Triangle - Archie R
Trumpet - Elliott
Oboe - Chris
Banjo - Archie W
Harp - Danny
Cello - Ellie



The School Superstar of the Week is CHRIS!!!

Chris is a fun guy who loves to socialise and interact with staff and fellow students. He is a smiler with a very infectious laugh. At his insistence, adults join him whenever he wants to run and side-step around the playground (they are exhausted after a 10 minute session!) Chris can be affectionate and gives the biggest of bear hugs—he's a strong lad. He also enjoys keeping staff entertained by singing along to tunes and looks forward to swimming sessions at the Leisure Centre where he loves splashing about and has no hesitation in going underwater.

FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

(Personal, Physical, Independence, Cognitive, Communication)

CHAMPIONS



Fergus

and

Tim

