



NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 22nd July 2026



THE PROM 2026

Our new venue the, Wolverdensene Club, hosted 12 students, their families and over 20 staff who wanted to join the celebrations and what a celebration it was!!!

Attendees were greeted by TEN incredible 'posh cars' from the "Free cars for proms" Facebook group. Students were given the opportunity to get in and have their photographs taken by our amazing photographer Pete.



Once inside, everyone could see the beautifully decorated function room, following our floral theme, using flowers grown by FE students. The prom attendees were then treated to a slideshow of pictures of our six leavers: Ed, Haoran, Jake, Nirjor, Sofiia and Tim. The photo's spanned their whole Icknield journey, so there were some super cute pictures to wow the crowd!



The night finished with everyone dancing to what can only be described as an eclectic mix of music that was put together by our students! What a great way to say goodbye and good luck to our six leavers. Icknield wishes you well.



ANDOVER CARNIVAL 2026



Shiver me timbers and all hands on deck! What a fantastic time was had showing off the school's amazing pirate themed carnival float on Sunday at the Andover Carnival.

Students attending the After School Carnival Creation club worked so hard over the summer term to create the main structure of the float. Panashe, Ruby and Shelby focused on the finer details such as painting the intricate map designs whilst Freya, Arthur, Elliott, Terrence and Delilah B smashed out some amazing sponging skills to create all the sea and sand. Trumpet class students worked together to paint the palm trees whilst Upper School students made lots of sea creatures to go in the sea. Chimes students got stuck in painting the jellyfish balls that Carnival Club had papier-machéd earlier in the term. They also had fun painting some bigger decorations. Missy took great care choosing the colours for her big crab and painting it carefully.

Panashe, Freya, Arthur, Phoebe, supported by family and staff, made fantastic pirates on the float, singing, dancing and waving to everyone as the carnival procession went through Andover town. They were also joined by Steph, Polly and Jazz with their children and partners. Many familiar faces were seen waving from the crowd.



A big thank you goes to Laura, Steph and Jazz with their crew mates who assembled the float early Sunday morning ready for all the pirates to jump aboard and set sail on the float. Sarah, Kelly and Jazz packed it all down after the fun was done.

The floats are judged on a public voting system, and the winners are announced at the carnival after party on 29th July (we may have a pretty good shot at getting a rosette from everyone's amazing work!)



EASTLEIGH RAILWAY TRIP

The sun was shining when Drum class set off to visit the railway on Tuesday. Despite the longish drive to Eastleigh the children were happy on the minibus, listening to music and watching the world go by the window.

When they got there they had just missed a train so they sat on the platform and had a snack. The children waited so well! Sam found a Thomas the tank engine ride-on toy to sit on whilst Chloe preferred to look at the track and Zach wandered to the end of the platform looking for a good stick to flap.

When the train arrived they all got on and a huge congratulations goes to Charlotte who transitioned from her wheelchair to the train with no hesitation despite it not being a normal thing to do. They got to meet a ticket collector like the one in their story 'The Train Ride' and then everyone enjoyed the movement of the train as they headed out of the station. Elana thought the ride was very funny, giggling all the way up the track!

When the class arrived at the next station the driver let some of the children sit in the driving seat of the diesel engine. They then walked to the park where Tiger loved the trampoline and climbing frame - you'd never know he had previously shown no interest at all in the play equipment in our local Andover parks!



Meanwhile Jack loved swinging high on the swings. It was then time to head back to the train and enjoy the return ride, sadly not getting to experience the dark tunnel as described in their class story.

Once back the students enjoyed picnic lunches before heading back to the bus. Thanks to Paul for driving them!



DEREK WEEKS

Many, many, many thanks to Derek Weeks who once again has amazed us all by gifting a £15 Tesco voucher to each of our children in memory of his sister Christine, who was one of the first students at Icknield in 1966. We hope he has a wonderful summer riding his bike and enjoying the long walks we know he so loves, and that your child enjoys spending their voucher over the summer holiday.

THANK YOU!!!



BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK

Olly, Chimes - 13 yrs old

BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS...

Alex, Tambourine	- 7 yrs old
Elliott, Trumpet	- 12 yrs old
Mabel, Trumpet	- 16 yrs old
Summer, Victorious	- 17 yrs old
Finlay, Harp	- 13 yrs old
Delilah, Maracas	- 7 yrs old
Amelia, Trumpet	- 14 yrs old
Noah, Tambourine	- 9 yrs old
Leon, Cello	- 16 yrs old



AUTUMN TERM 2026-27

SEPTEMBER

1st	INSET DAY (WHOLE SCHOOL)
2nd	INSET DAY (WHOLE SCHOOL)
3rd	RETURN (WHOLE SCHOOL)
16th	Flu Immunisations (Yr R to age 18)



OCTOBER

13th	Full Governors' Meeting (4pm)
26th-30th	HALF TERM



NOW COMES THE SAD BIT.....

It is time to say goodbye to these legends. It has been a privilege to have known them, aiding their education to prepare them for their future lives. There is no doubt we will miss them all.



Ed

Ed's journey at Icknield since 2011 when he was just 3 years old, has seen him be a well-loved member of Chimes class (or Sensory Ed class as it used to be) and then move onto FE, where he has become a huge personality! Just when we thought a group of teenagers could not be any louder, Ed joined and ramped up the volume levels!! We always notice when he is not in and how quiet it is! We will perhaps have to record to an infamous Ed "hhheeeeeellllllloooooooo" to play if things get quiet without him. It has been amazing to see what a popular member of the FE Ed has become, with



both staff and students loving spending time with him. Ed has seemed to have most enjoyed the social element of FE and being out and about in the community, whizzing around on buses and trains. Ed heads off to Newbury College in September. He has had a number of transition sessions there and we know already that Ed has made himself known to his new staff and peers!! We wish him well there and hope that he pops back once in a while to see us.



Jake

Jake joined Icknield in 2012 when he was 5 years old. In his time at Icknield Jake has grown both physically (lots!) and as a young man. He has learned so much and developed some great functional skills that we hope will serve him well in the future. When Jake builds trust with a member of staff and those around him, we have seen him do his most impressive work, accessing the local community, using cafés and making choices, going litter picking with peers, using public transport, making his own breakfast, communicating



With us when he doesn't want to do something, letting us know when he does want to do something and finding ways to help regulate himself when he is finding life a little tough. We are so proud of what we see Jake achieve each day and we wish him all the best as he begins his life after Icknield.



Tim

The Tim that leaves Icknield this summer is vastly different to the one that joined in 2011. He has made so much progress, as a learner and in so many areas of his life. He leaves us as a kind, warm-hearted, helpful, and well-liked young man, with a breadth of excellent independent living skills. We hope he is as proud of himself as we are of him! Tim has decided to push himself by signing up for a challenging course at Andover College and we are very proud of him for making that choice. We wish him well on the course and hope he pops back occasionally to see us to share his successes.



Haoran

Throughout his time at Icknield Haoran has impressed staff with how he has overcome challenges to achieve great things. Despite the communication challenges, he has managed to build connections and friendships which has been a joy to see these. Haoran has made himself an integral part of the FE having built strong relationships with staff he trusts. He would often check in with staff, looking at his calendar, to ensure he knew what was happening now and next, gaining the reassurance he needed if he was worried about something. In his final year with us Haoran has become an enforcer, a kind of self-appointed



prefect, making sure all the new students were where they should be, doing what they were supposed to doing! His trademark 'bops' on the head (Haoran's affectionate way of letting us know he liked us), will be sorely missed. We hope he has lots of fun and new adventures at Andover College.



Nirjor

Nirjor has been an absolute joy to have at FE. He is a practical young man who has put these skills to great use in lots of ways. Most lunch times you will find him in the kitchen helping clean and tidy things away. He has always put in a huge shift when it has come to our gardening weeks, painting fence panels and clearing and organising things after big FE events. At our Christmas market he independently ran the stall in the kitchen, which was a great celebration of how amazingly well he has done with his English and speaking skills. He has the kindest soul and always looks out for those in need. We are confident he will excel at Andover College in September because all of the wonderful traits he has.



Sofiia

Sofiia joined us in Year 11, having moved to England from the Ukraine. She quickly settled in. She accepted the challenge of finding ways to communicate with her peers and did all she could to let them know when she wanted to interact and enjoy their company. Her tenacity in the face of both communication and physical challenges has been an inspiration to us all. She has made lots of friends and connected with staff who love spending time with her. Sofiia's infectious smile will be missed by us all and we hope she enjoys making new friends at Andover College.

....AND NOW THE STAFF



Chloe came to Icknield as a school leaver, carrying out an apprenticeship with BCOT (Basingstoke College of Technology). She did so well that she was awarded the Work Based Apprentice of the Year Award 2025 by BCOT! Chloe has worked mainly with our younger students, who will miss her greatly. She has now managed to secure a position at Treloars School where we wish her well with her future career.



Lola

Lola was originally an Andover College student carrying out her work placement here as part of her course. She loved it so much she decided to volunteer before taking on the role as a full time LSA. Her training and recent employment here has seen her involved with many of the students throughout the school and she will be taking this experience and knowledge with her to Exeter House Nursery in Ludgershall. Good luck Lola!

....AND A GOVERNOR

Felicity Etherington has completed her four year term as a parent Governor. Fee is a great advocate for her daughter Mabel who is moving to the FE Centre in September. Fee has made a huge contribution to the Governing body, particularly to Curriculum Committee. She has been in to school on many occasions to observe both formal and informal learning, such as playtime. Fee was part of the Governor team that navigated our last Ofsted inspection when we maintained our Outstanding grade. On behalf of the school I want to thank Fee for all of the work she has put in as a Governor.



So, we now have a vacancy for a parent Governor. No experience is required and training is provided. We do need a commitment to one meeting per half term that takes place on the penultimate Tuesday between 4-6pm. Could any interested parents please make contact by 3.30pm on 4th September. If more than one candidate comes forward there will be an election amongst the parents.

HAPPY SUMMER HOLIDAYS!

As we draw a close on another school year, we wish you all a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing you all on

THURSDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER 2026

PPICC CHAMPIONS OF THE YEAR



PHYSICAL

Tinashe—FE
Jack B—Upper School
Sam—Lower School



PERSONAL

Zac—FE
Luci—Upper School
Freddie—Lower School

INDEPENDENCE

Nirjor—FE
Chris—Upper School
Órlaith—Lower School

COMMUNICATION

Ed—FE
Elliott—Upper School
Noah —Lower School

COGNITIVE

Tim —FE
Terrence —Upper School
Ayla—Lower School

