

Karen and Matthew Stedman live in Southsea with their children, Thomas, aged ten, and Imogen, aged eight.



## Thomas and Imogen enjoy working and playing in the friendly atmosphere of Wimborne Junior School

### Exciting activities

Karen and Matthew are delighted with the varied opportunities Wimborne Junior offers children in addition to the work they do in the classroom. Karen says: 'Thomas and Imogen are offered fantastic opportunities such as outings, residential trips and sports. Thomas loves football and the highlight of his time at Wimborne has been representing the school in football matches. Imogen was in a school play before Christmas and worked with older children, which was good for her social skills.'



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## Settling in

Thomas and Imogen both coped with moving up from the infant school well. 'The junior school managed the transition really smoothly. The children had spent a few days there in the summer term to get them used to it and they were fortunate enough to have some great teachers after they started,' Matthew says.

## Sports clubs

'Thomas has been on a sleepover in Year Three and other exciting residential trips in Year Four and Five. Sometimes the trips involve the whole class and sometimes it is an extension and enrichment opportunity for a particular group of children. Thomas has done one for maths and has also had a university taster day. The school provides great after school clubs for the children and Thomas has enjoyed football and cricket,' Matthew says.

## Academic progress

'Both children have done well academically. Thomas has been pushed by the school to help him fulfil his potential. They set him challenging homework and provide useful feedback after it has been marked but have also given him extra help when he has needed it, such as support to improve his handwriting.'

## Building confidence

Imogen had done well in the infants but when she went up into the junior school she found she wasn't in the same class as her two best friends. Karen says: 'She was disappointed to begin with but I believe this has helped her grow as a person. She has broadened her circle of friends and become more confident.'

## Valuable experience

'The school has also provided Imogen with some wonderful opportunities. She is the school council representative for her class,

which has been good experience. In the juniors they are given responsibilities and she has become a rabbit monitor to help look after the school pet and is an 'early bird' who goes in early to help the teacher set up.'

## Power Point

'They have recognised her potential and the fact she loves learning and have given her additional work to push her. For the topic 'Stone Age to Iron Age' she made a model of Stonehenge and put together a power point presentation about it for her homework. Imogen also has keyboard lessons after school.'

## Parents welcomed

Matthew is pleased Wimborne Junior encourages parents to become involved. 'At parents' evenings the teachers are always very welcoming and helpful and demonstrate how well they know the children. They have family learning weeks when you can go and watch a lesson and parents are also invited to go on school trips.'

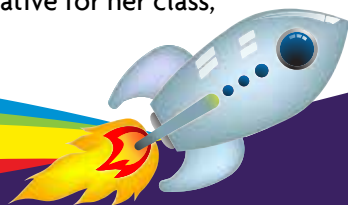
## Kept informed

'The school communicates well with us and sends us a weekly newsletter. If the children bring a letter home, they email it to us as well in case it is overlooked. The Friends of Wimborne put on good social events so we can mix with other parents. We have been really pleased with Wimborne Junior and are happy to recommend it to other families.'

## Children say

Thomas says: 'I really enjoy maths and PE because we do different activities and learn in an active way. The best thing about being in Year Five is being able to become a Sports Leader.'

Imogen says 'I love my school as everyone is nice to each other and I help with the school pet. My teacher is kind and has helped me learn well. I think I have done well and was pleased when I got my awards.'



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