

Parkfield Press

7th March 2025

Welcome to this week's Parkfield Press

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for attending our recent Parents' Evening and for taking the time to complete our school survey. Your engagement and feedback are invaluable in helping us create the best possible learning environment for our children.

We were delighted to receive such a high number of responses to the survey, and we are thrilled to share that an incredible 99% of you said you would recommend our school to someone else. This overwhelmingly positive feedback is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the hard work of our pupils, and the wonderful support we receive from you as parents and carers.

In addition to your kind words, your feedback has provided us with valuable insights into areas where we can continue to improve. We have already started implementing changes based on your suggestions, ensuring that our school remains a place where every child feels happy, supported, and inspired to learn.

Thank you for your continued support and for being such an integral part of our school community. We look forward to working together to make our school even better!

Mr G Jones
Headteacher



Safety Week (10th February – 14th February)

Before half term, we immersed ourselves in 'how to stay safe' during our annual Safety Week. Each year group focussed on different aspects of Road Safety and Key Stage 2 focussed on Canal & River Safety and Railway Safety, as this is relevant to the local area. Year 6 children also made a road safety video which you can view here - <https://parkfield-primary-school.primarysite.media/media/year-6-road-safety-video>



We had lots of visitors, including the RNLI- who delivered a whole school assembly about Water Safety and beach flags. Year 3, 5 & 6, had specific workshops ranging from cold-water shock, rip currents, hazards in and around waterways and how to make emergency calls.

We were lucky enough to have the Fire Service visit, who spoke to the whole school regarding Fire Safety. After, they worked with Year 2 and Year 5 on different aspects of Fire Safety, which included how to 'Stop, drop and roll'; the importance of fire alarms in the home; safety within the home & outside and how to make an emergency call.

Our local PSCO spoke to Year 5 and 6 about 'the age of responsibility' and how to stay safe, act responsibly and manage risks.

Another area each year group focussed on were safe relationships, both on and offline, the PANTS rule and stranger danger. As part of celebrating our week, I asked the children to create PANTS posters outlining the PANTS rules. The winning PANTS have been displayed on our board in the hall and the winners chose a book with a PANTS theme!

Mrs Bowkett

UNCRC Article 24 (Right to stay safe)

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Trip to SS Great Britain – Year 2

On Tuesday 25th February, Year 2 went on an exciting trip to visit the SS Great Britain in Bristol as part of our history and English work.

The children took part in a workshop to find out what life would have been like on board the ship for children, exploring Victorian toys, looking at artefacts and practiced writing and drawing with pen and ink - it was very messy and we decided to stick with using pencils back at school!! They then took a tour of the ship and found out how the first-class passengers' experience on board compared with the steerage passengers, exploring their living accommodation and food.



The children then had a bit of time to explore the dry dock and saw the enormous propeller! Lastly, they went into the museum to explore Burnell's achievements before boarding the coach to return to school.

Year 2 were very well behaved and respectful - we were very proud of them all!

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March 2025

Yesterday we celebrated 'World Book Day' in school. Children came in dressed as their favourite book character or in their pyjamas – a brilliant effort was made by all and even the staff joined in!



We had a wonderful day full of activities focusing on oracy and drama and engaging with our class books, with a highlight being our class swap where our KS2 students visited our younger cohorts to share favourite stories and books.

We would also like to say a big thank you for your support of the recent book fair. We are very grateful to everyone who has purchased books, as the commission we earn all goes towards helping to replenish our school library. Thank you all for supporting this fabulous cause and we hope you will enjoy sharing the new books with your children.

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

International Mother Language Day – Monday 24th February 2025

On Monday 24th February we celebrated International Mother Language Day (IMLD) at Parkfield. We celebrated with a special non-uniform day: children came to school in home clothes, matching the colours of any flag in the world while children with home languages were encouraged to come to school in the traditional dress linked to their language(s). School was a riot of different colours and costumes.



The Year 6 children participated in our IMLD Assembly by sharing their mother languages with the whole school. We heard greetings in over 15 different languages and practised sounding them too. It was great fun and gave us the chance to enjoy a selection of the different languages we have in the Parkfield community.

This year's theme was "Our Language Garden". All the children coloured in a flower with the colours of their flags. These will become a permanent display in school by the door to our school hall where everyone can see our Language Garden.



We celebrate IMLD to raise awareness of language (including endangered languages), cultural diversity and multilingualism around the world and we thank you for your support.

UNCRC Article 30 (Right to learn and use the language of their family)

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Maths Challenge – Year 6

On Wednesday, four members of Year 6 visited King's College to participate in a maths challenge against teams from other schools in Taunton.

Caylub, Natty, Adde and Chloe faced many tough problems, including a 'Countdown'-style round and a problem-solving relay race! The team represented the school superbly, relished the challenge and even came away with a few goodies, too!



UNCRC Article 29 (Right for education to develop a child's talent)

Playmaker – Year 5

The Year 5 children were invited to Bridgwater and Taunton College this week to begin the training for their Playmaker Award.

The award sees the children work through various tasks and challenges to learn how to be a playground helper. They all worked really hard in their first session and we hope they are looking forward to continuing their training. Well done Year 5!



UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Netball – Year 5 / Year 6

The Year 5 and Year 6 Netball squads have been extremely busy recently. The teams are getting regular training sessions with Mrs Waugh and Miss Kneller and their hard work has been rewarded in their recent fixtures.

The competitive squad hosted a SASP tournament and won all 3 of their games, putting them through to the area finals coming up soon. The friendly squad put out 2 teams recently and played a tough 6 fixtures against other schools only losing 3 games between the 2 teams. All of the children have shown great teamwork and hard work over the last few weeks and we are very proud of their performances.

UNCRC Article 29 (Right for education to develop a child's talent)

Cyclo-Cross – Year 6

A team of eight Year 6 boys took part in our first Cyclo-Cross event this week.

The event consisted of a 7-minute time trial, to complete as many laps as they could to be added to their team total. There was a lot of waiting around while they took turns to race but the boys showed real team spirit by giving each other tips and cheering each other on.

It was a real pleasure to watch and there was some excellent cycling. A big thank you to the parents who came along and supported (and waited)! We should have the results soon!

UNCRC Article 29 (Right for education to develop a child's talent)

School Gates

We would like to remind you that parents / carers must leave the school site by 9am each morning.

We are experiencing an increase in the number of adults who are not leaving promptly after dropping off their children to class. Our school gates must be closed and locked at 9am, as this is the time that children begin to move around the school site and we must follow our safeguarding policies to ensure the children are safe.

If you are running late and cannot get to your child's class and then exit the school site by 9am, please sign your child in through the school office.

Please also be reminded that bikes / scooters should be pushed and not ridden when past the school gates.

School Meals

We are pleased to confirm that bookings for school meals are now open until the end of the school year.

Bookings for week commencing 21st April (the week we return after the Easter break) will close on Sunday 30th March 2025. If no bookings are made, your child will need to bring a packed lunch to school.

All other school meals must be booked **at least** two weeks in advance to ensure meals are secured prior to booking closing. A reminder that all meal bookings should be 'checked out' even if you are entitled to Universal / Free School Meals at no cost.

The menus along with full ingredients / allergen information can be viewed on our school website by following this link - <https://www.parkfieldschool.co.uk/school-lunches-snacks-and-milk/>

Swallows

We are pleased to confirm that bookings for AM & PM Swallows sessions are now open until the end of the school year.

We would like to remind you that booking for Swallows closes at 6pm on a Friday evening for the following week. Please ensure you book your required sessions by this time, so that we are able to plan staffing and activities effectively.

Please also be aware that the final serving for breakfast in AM Swallows is 8.15am. If your child is arriving at school for AM Swallows after this time, please ensure they have already eaten at home.

Bookings for Summer term clubs will be opening soon – further information will follow next week.

After School Clubs

Please could we politely request that the school office is informed if your child will not be attending a club that they have been booked into.

Whilst we appreciate that circumstances change and sometimes children will need to be collected at 3.30pm rather than attending their booked club, when a child is not present for the club register our safeguarding protocol is triggered. We are currently having to spend additional time each afternoon speaking with various members of staff to ensure that children have been safely collected.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

EYFS / KS1 Cake Sale - PTFA

A reminder that our PTFA will be holding a cake sale next Friday 14th March.

Please could we politely ask for cake donations from our EYFS / KS1 parents/carers, either store bought or homemade with a list of ingredients used. Please could donations be brought to the school office on Friday morning.

The cake sale will be held after school on the front playground and cakes are available for all students / families to purchase.



Online Safety Focus

In recent weeks, the Online Safety Champions have been discussing online bullying and the risk it poses to children of all ages.

Switch has some links for videos and other useful resources:

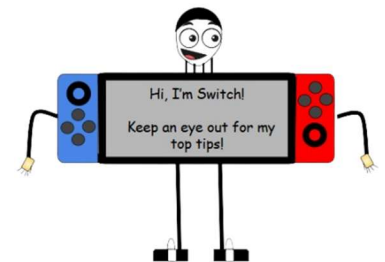
Cyberbullying parent guide

<https://youtu.be/vogLHYOACyw>

Interactive learning:

https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-matters/lesson/is-it-funny-or-is-it-hate/?user_type=parent

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/cyberbullying/deal-with-it/>



UNCRC Article 17 (Right to access information from the media)

Out of School Achievements – Music

Congratulations to Alice P and Matilda H (year 4) who both took part in Taunton Festival of the Arts in February.

They competed as part of the Taunton Suzuki Group in the 'large ensemble - 13 years and under' category, winning the Talbot cup for their performance!

Well done both!

UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)



Out of School Achievements – Tennis

Sophie T (Year 4) was selected to represent Somerset at tennis in the under 9 girls 'County Cup' competition last weekend. Playing at no 3, Sophie won both her singles and doubles matches against her Cornwall opponents in impressive style, 4-0 for both matches! This helped her team to third place behind Devon and Avon, whose standard of tennis was very high and Somerset couldn't quite match them this time. Nevertheless, a fun and enjoyable day of county tennis was had!

Congratulations Sophie!

UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)



Out of School Achievements – Swimming

Taunton Swimathon took place on the weekend of 15-16th February and several Parkfield students took part.

Firstly, on Saturday Flo B (Year 6) and Sophie T (Year 4) swam as part of a 5-strong children's team associated with the hydrographic office. Swimming in relay, they managed an impressive 98 lengths (or 2450m) in 53 minutes raising money for charity as they did so.

On the Sunday, Sophie swam again, this time accompanied by her friends Ella W (Year 4) and Alice P (Year 4) in a team of just the three children. This time they swam 100 lengths (2500m) in 53 minutes and also raised £185 between them for charity! Well done all.



UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

House Points

House points are given out to reinforce and reflect the school values that the children are demonstrating at the time. Every two weeks the house points are collected and there is a running total of each houses total score. The winning house each term will receive a prize!

Well done Venus – our current leaders!

MARS 945	MERCURY 986	PLUTO 1002	VENUS 1007
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Key Dates

March 2025	
Thurs 13 th	Tempest Photographs – Vista for Reception & Year 6
Fri 14 th	KS1 – PTFA Cake Sale
Fri 28 th	KS2 – PTFA Cake Sale
Mon 31 st – Fri 4 th	STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Week
April 2025	
Fri 4 th	Easter Basket & Bonnet
Fri 4 th	End of Spring Term 2025
Tues 22 nd	Start of Summer Term 2025

We will endeavour to stick to the proposed dates and times. However, there could be times when events/dates will need to be changed. If this does happen, we will give you as much notice as possible.

Parkfield Press

7th March 2025

Thank you for continued help and support.



Gareth Jones
Headteacher



Felicitas Per Ardua
Success and Happiness Through Hardwork



Contact Details

Parkfield Primary School
Parkfield Road
Taunton

Tel: 01823 282125

E-mail: office@parkfieldschool.co.uk

We are very grateful for the ongoing support we receive from the

**The Howards Family Charitable
Partnerships Programme**



Thank you, Howards (Citroen/Honda/Hyundai/MG/Peugeot/Suzuki) Taunton

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PARKFIELD SCHOOL
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Premier Education will be running the **Easter Holiday Camp 2025** at **Parkfield School** on the following dates:

Multi-Activity Holiday Camp

Start date: Mon 14th April 2025

End date: Thu 17th April 2025

www.premier-education.com



Premier
Education

INSPIRING
ACTIVITY

- Parent-funded:

If you would like to book a place for your child/children to attend the Easter 2025 holiday camp, please click the following link: <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/camps/search/?location=ta14rt&radius=10>

- HAF/HHH funded:

Premier Education will be running the HAF/HHH camps this Easter. The eligible families who would like to book a place for their child/ren will need to complete their booking at <https://playwaze.com/discover> and follow the email instruction/s that were sent 30th January 2025. If any of the eligible families have not received the email, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

UP TO
15%
DISCOUNT!

PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Premier Education | INSPIRING ACTIVITY

PARKFIELD SCHOOL

SCAN HERE FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps

Trustpilot
Based on over 20,000 reviews

Parkfield Primary School, Taunton, TA1 4RT

Activities include Archery, Gymnastics, Football, Arts & Crafts, Dodgeball, and many more!

14th April - 17th April 2025, 08:30 - 16:00 Age 4-11

★15% DISCOUNT available until Wednesday 13th March 2025

Visit www.premier-education.com to book
Contact dcrysell@premier-education.com for queries

See you soon!

PLEASE
BRING
PLENTY OF WATER
SUITABLE CLOTHING
LOADS OF ENERGY!

Our Holiday Camps keep children entertained, safe & on the move during the school holidays.

A bucket load of fun activities, every school holiday. With great value sports, performing arts, and games to enjoy each half term, we have plenty for your children to get stuck into in the school break.

Book now for a school holiday full of fun!

SCAN HERE FOR MORE
INFORMATION
or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps

Trustpilot
Based on over 20,000 reviews

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ChatHealth



Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

Emotional health

is your child
5- 19 and are you
looking for confidential
help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact
your School Nursing Team

Just send a text

07480 635 515



Improving
LIVES

Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service, it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.

There aren't any places at my preferred school, what can I do now?

I'VE MOVED INTO THE AREA AND NEED HELP FINDING A SCHOOL FOR MY CHILD.

CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL, AND CAN I LODGE MORE THAN ONE APPEAL?

IS THERE ANYONE THAT CAN SUPPORT ME PREPARING FOR MY APPEAL?

CHOICE ADVICE

Somerset Choice Advice is a free and impartial service which supports families with advice and practical support through the school admission and appeals processes.

This service exists to ensure that parents can play an active and informed role in securing a school place for their child



Call us on **01823 356 903**



Fill in our online form
www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice



Contact us via email
choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk
or scan the QR code



Women's Work Lab



Mums! Ready to join our hive?

Our powerful programme is created by mothers, for mothers. Join the community of women at our hive where we give you the tools, techniques and work experience to rediscover employability skills and explore your path so you can find work that works for you and your family.

- Training two days a week - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Bespoke 121 career coaching
- Work placement
- Practical career support/CV writing/interview/job search
- Career support: ongoing coaching after completing the course and access to a mentor

Support with travel expenses available. Open to mums ages 19+ (no upper age limit) who are not working and in receipt of benefits.



Log on to see if there is programme coming up near you
www.womensworklab.co.uk

Find out more by getting in touch with Sarafina our Team Administrator.
✉ sarafina@womensworklab.co.uk



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