

## Welcome to this week's Parkfield Press

And just like that, another term is over!

We wish you all a restful spring break and hope you are able to enjoy some lovely family time together. We hope the summer term will bring with it some much-needed sunshine and the children will be refreshed and raring to go with another fun-packed term of learning and enjoyable events planned.

We look forward to seeing you all when we return on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Mr G Jones  
Headteacher



PARKFIELD SCHOOL  
*felicitas per ardua*

## STEM Week – Spring Term (31<sup>st</sup> March – 4<sup>th</sup> April)

Last week, we fully immersed ourselves in all things STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths.) The children explored different themes focused around Biodiversity. During the week, Peter Littlewood from Better Planet Schools, spoke to the children in Key Stage 2 about topics such as; classification, bees and their role in pollination, endangered animals and worldwide habitats.

We also had Nick from Bug Fest return to Parkfield. What a treat that was! He brought with him an array of huge bugs and creepy crawlies. Many children were brave enough to hold these monsters and well done to all the courageous adults who let Nick place an enormous tarantula onto their hands to crawl about!

**EYFS** – The Reception children enjoyed a variety of STEM activities during the week, such as deciding which materials will be good for bug hotels and making homes for minibeasts. They also enjoyed creating zoos using maths apparatus.



**Year 1** – Chaffinch and Sparrow classes took the opportunity to explore the school grounds on a nature hunt. The children journeyed on a learning walk to the playgrounds, adventure playground, field and secret garden. Using their knowledge of plants, the children then played entertaining games of 'Horticulture' where they had to describe plants that grew within the school grounds. They also made some amazing flower themed sun catchers that could be hung from trees.



**Year 2** – The children in Year 2 learnt about which devices they could use to take photos and how to take a good photo, using the theme of 'biodiversity' and increasing our green space as the inspiration for vegetable themed photographs. They also used googly eyes to characterise vegetables and photographed them in interesting places! Dove and Nightingale classes also spent time discussing what a plant needs to grow and be healthy and then created a drama to show this. The children recycled plastic bottles and created a plant pot to grow seeds.



**Year 3** – Skylark and Starling classes have been very busy thinking about bees and their importance. During the week, they worked incredibly hard to make a nest for bees, using clay to secure bamboo in tin cans and then covering the cans in jute string. The children enjoyed finding out about Charles H Turner, who found out that bees can see colour! In maths, the children used our Zoo theme to investigate numbers of animal legs and have created a stop frame animation moving a bee across a daisy.



**Year 4** – The year 4 children used Chromebooks to research environments and then created an oracy themed drama that describes endangered species in their environments. They have used their willow bending skills to make a wind chime. As an additional oracy task, the children created an audio production podcast discussing endangered animals across the globe and in their zoo themed maths investigation, they created a zoo based on keeping animals.



**Year 5** – In Year 5, the children focussed on microorganisms during STEM week. They learned about different types of bacteria and classified them based on whether they are harmful or helpful. They then set up a science experiment to test how unclean different surfaces in the classroom were by touching the different surfaces and then touching different slices of bread. These will now be left in sealed plastic bags over the Easter break, we will watch and observe to see if mould grows as we expect! Heron and Swan classes also learned that bread contains a helpful bacteria called yeast which allows it to rise and explored this by baking some bread rolls of their own, even decorating them to look like bacteria using rosemary, seeds and food colouring! We have also produced our own 'Washing hands' infomercial video on how to keep Britain safe from germs.



**Year 6** – Falcon and Kestrel classes discussed the evolution of worms and cacti, identifying the evolutionary benefit of the spines and tough skin for a cactus and discussing how worms have light-sensitive cells rather than eyes. Speaking of worms, the children also enjoyed using their position and direction knowledge in maths to play a game of battleships-- er, Battle Worms! The children also enjoyed their design and technology project to design their own creature, thinking about how it has evolved before using TinkerCAD (computer-aided design) to create a models from 3D shapes. These are now being 3D printed - how exciting! Lastly, year 6 have explored the Mariana Trench, which is the deepest point of the ocean. They looked at the different creatures that live in the trench and how they have adapted to survive the dark, cold and the extreme pressure of the ocean depths.

An amazing week was had by all with some fabulous learning – well done Parkfield!

**UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)**

## Easter Reading Challenge

During the Easter holidays, we are setting two photographic reading challenges for the children. You can pick one or even both of them!

**Challenge 1:** Take a photo of yourself or your family reading in an unusual or interesting location.

**Challenge 2:** Take a photo of yourself reading in a setting or scene that appears in the plot of your book whilst dressed up as one of the book's characters.

The School Readership Team will be choosing a winner from each year group. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: A certificate, 5 House Points and a £5 gift card

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: A certificate and 5 House Points

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: A certificate

Entries should be emailed to the class email address (ie [kestrel@parkfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:kestrel@parkfieldschool.co.uk))

HAPPY READING!

**UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)**



## Music – March Madness

Last month the school took part in March Madness. Each class was randomly assigned a song in a knock-out style competition where we voted on our favourite songs from each decade to see which song and decade would come out on top.

The children enjoyed listening to music from different eras and comparing them. The winning song was 'I gotta feeling' by The Black Eyed Peas which meant that Falcon class got a dance party in the hall.



We also revealed the mystery voter (in case of any tie breaks) as our very own Mrs Waugh!

## UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

## Music – Castle Community Concert

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, members of our Year 5 & 6 Choir performed at the annual Community Concert at Castle School alongside children from Castle, Trull, Bishop's Hull and Bishop Henderson schools.

It was a fabulous evening with a rich and varied programme that featured choral singing, orchestral playing and even some steel pans! The choir represented Parkfield School beautifully and gave a wonderful rendition of the song 'The Sun Comes Up' by Andy Silver. They also joined in with the massed choir number 'Hey Jude' by the The Beatles at the end of the concert.

Well done to all that took part!



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

## Dance – Premier Showdown

Over the last 10 weeks, a group of Year 5 children have been busy learning and rehearsing a very complicated dance routine in preparation for a performance at the Tacchi Morris in Taunton.

They have worked extremely hard to learn the routine despite how complicated it was. All of their efforts were worth it, when they gave fantastic performances across two shows last week.

The children represented Parkfield extremely well and made us all so proud in their performances. Well done Year 5 Dancers!

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

## Cross Country – Year 5 / Year 6

A group of 20 Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in another cross-country race a few weeks ago. Working extremely hard in warm conditions they all ran fantastic races.

A big congratulations to George R, Thomas P, Daniel S and Maggie D in Year 6 who have all qualified for the Cross-Country finals in May, we wish them all good luck!

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

## Football – Trip to St George’s Park

A small group of Year 5 and 6 Girls Footballers were extremely lucky to travel to St Georges Park to watch the England Lionesses open training session last week.

The girls made the long journey and were greeted with milkshakes and snacks on arrival. This was then followed by watching the England Women’s Team train whilst having some lunch. After the training session finished, the Lionesses came and met with our students and signed autographs, the girls were very excited to meet some of their heroes!



The children represented Parkfield brilliantly and we hope they all had the best time. A massive thank you to Mr Step for organising such a fantastic opportunity for our children.

## Attendance Update – March 2025

We would like to thank you for all your efforts in ensuring your children have good attendance and for following our absence procedures when they are away from school.

We believe good attendance is vital to ensure all children can meet their full potential.

Every Day counts			Every minute counts		
100% attendance	0 days missed	No learning missed!	Always on time!	No hours missed!	No learning missed!
97% attendance	5 days missed	A weeks learning missed	5 minutes late each day	15 hours missed	3 days learning missed
94% attendance	12 days missed	2 weeks and 2 days learning missed	10 minutes late every day	32 hours missed	6.5 days learning missed
90% attendance	19 days missed	3 weeks and 4 days learning missed	20 minutes late each day	65 hours missed	13 days learning missed
85 % attendance	30 days missed	6 weeks of learning missed	30 minutes late each day	95 hours missed	19 days learning missed
80% attendance	40 days missed	8 weeks of learning missed			

In August 2024, the way in which attendance is monitored and reported to and by the LEA was revised. After allowing a transitional period of two terms, we now need to ensure our procedures follow these LEA processes.

**As such, from April 2025, holidays during term time, where 10 or more sessions are missed (1 day = 2 sessions), will trigger a warning penalty notice and a fine, unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

Families will also be contacted if a child becomes persistently absent (below 90%). This is to enable us to work together to offer support in improving attendance. If you need support with your child’s attendance, please reach out to a member of our inclusion team.

If you would like further details, do not hesitate to contact the school office, alternatively follow the link to view our attendance policy. [Parkfield School Attendance Policy 2024 - 2025](#)

# Parkfield Press

8<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## PTFA KS2 Cake Sale – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Thank you so much to everyone that donated and purchased cakes at the KS2 Cake Sale – an incredible £288 was raised!!

All the left-over cakes were donated by the PTFA to Taunton Fire Station and Ambulance Service.

Thank you again to the PTFA volunteers and everyone who supports the PTFA events – the money raised makes a huge difference to the school and enables us to give our children experiences that wouldn't otherwise be available.

## 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 28<sup>th</sup> April will close on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025. If no bookings are made, your child will need to bring a packed lunch to school. Bookings for week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> April have already closed.**

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/>

## After School Clubs (April – July 2025)

We would like to confirm that bookings for after-school clubs for the summer term **will close on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

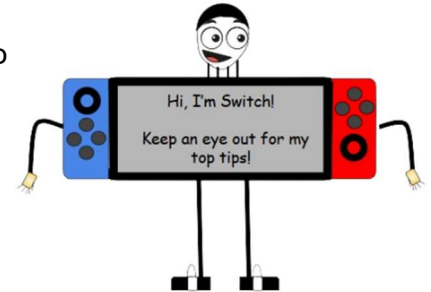
A reminder that places are limited for all clubs, so please log on to School Money or [www.eduspot.co.uk](http://www.eduspot.co.uk) to book a place for your child/ren as soon as possible.

SCHOOL CLUBS Summer Term 2025										
	Club	Cost	Year	Start Time	Finish Time	Start Date	End Date	Collection Point	No of Weeks	Venue
Monday	AM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	28.04.2025	07.07.2025	Front Entrance	8	Swallows
	Recorders/Ocarina	£0	1,2	11:50	12:20	28.04.2025	07.07.2025	-	8	Music Room
	Gymnastics	£28.80	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	28.04.2025	07.07.2025	Front Playground	8	Hall
	Athletics	£28.80	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	28.04.2025	07.07.2025	Front Playground	8	Field
	Art	£16.00	3,4	15:30	16:30	28.04.2025	07.07.2025	Woodpecker Class	8	Yr 4 Woodpecker Class
	PM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	28.04.2025	07.07.2025	Front Entrance	8	Swallows
Tuesday	AM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	Front entrance	11	Swallows
	Recorders/Ocarina	£0	3,4	12:20	12:40	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	-	11	Music Room
	Recorders/Ocarina	£0	5,6	12:00	12:20	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	-	11	Music Room
	Choir	£22 / £0	1,2	15:30	16:30	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Music Room
	Rounders	£39.60	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Field
	Dance	£39.60	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	Side Playground	11	Hall
	Art	£22.00	5,6	15:30	16:30	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	Kestrel Class	11	Yr 6 Kestrel Class
	PM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	22.04.2025	08.07.2025	Front entrance	11	Swallows
Wednesday	AM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	Front entrance	11	Swallows
	Orchestra	£0	3,4	12:00	12:30	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	-	11	Music Room
	Choir	£22 / £0	3,4	15:30	16:30	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Music Room
	Art	£22.00	R (Reception)	15:30	16:30	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	Wren Class	11	Reception Wren Class
	Multisport	£39.60	1,2	15:30	16:30	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Field
	Cricket	£39.60	5,6	15:30	16:30	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	Side Playground	11	KS2 Playground
		PM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	23.04.2025	09.07.2025	Front entrance	11
Thursday	AM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	Front entrance	11	Swallows
	Orchestra	£0	5,6	12:40	12:40	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	-	11	Music Room
	Choir	£22 / £0	5,6	15:30	16:30	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	Side Playground	11	Music Room
	Gymnastics	£39.60	1,2	15:30	16:30	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Hall
	Cricket	£39.60	3,4	15:30	16:30	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	Front Playground	11	KS2 Playground
	Art	£22.00	1,2	15:30	16:30	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	Chaffinch Class	11	Yr 1 Chaffinch Class
		PM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	24.04.2025	10.07.2025	Front Entrance	11
Friday	AM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	25.04.2025	11.07.2025	Front Entrance	11	Swallows
	Multisport	£39.60	1,2	15:30	16:30	25.04.2025	11.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Field
	Multisport	£39.60	R (Reception)	15:30	16:30	25.04.2025	11.07.2025	Front Playground	11	Field
	Football Girls	£39.60	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	25.04.2025	11.07.2025	SidePlayground	11	Field
	PM Swallows	£3.60 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	25.04.2025	11.07.2025	Front Entrance	11	Swallows

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## Online Safety Focus

With so many sources of information online, some children might struggle to make sense of what is true. This half term, the Online Safety Champions have been learning more about how we can manage online information. We explored the differences between belief, fact and opinion and thought about what reliable sources look like.



### Switch's Top Tips:

- Set Privacy Settings and Limit Personal Information
- Encourage Fact-Checking
- Use Trusted Websites and Resources
- Explain the Concept of Misinformation and Disinformation

Misinformation is false information spread by people who think it's true.  
Disinformation is false information spread by people who know it's false.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/fake-news-and-misinformation-advice-hub/find-the-fake/>

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

### Out of School Achievements – Martial Arts

Amelia E (Year 5) recently attended her next panel grading – this was a 3-hour long martial arts exam where she was being assessed by masters, and even a grand master!

She once again overcame the mental and physical challenges, and we're so pleased that she has passed and is now a deputy black belt, only 1 away from black! She now has to wait a minimum of a year before she can go for the next grade.

Congratulations Amelia!



## UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

### Out of School Achievements – Trampolining

Congratulations to Ella W (Year 4) who has been selected to join the South West DMT (double mini trampoline) team and is also first reserve for the trampoline team.

Her selection came after a successful weekend competing in the South West regional finals at Bath University where she won a gold medal for DMT and a bronze medal for her trampolining. The South West region is one of the largest in Britain comprising of 7 counties - Bristol, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Devon, Wilshire and Cornwall. She will now join the squad for training in June to then compete in the inter-regional finals in July.

Well done Ella!



## UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

# Parkfield Press

8<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## 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 spring term winners!**

<b>MARS</b> 1491	<b>MERCURY</b> 1499	<b>PLUTO</b> 1573	<b>VENUS</b> 1713
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**The winning value this term was RESPECT – well done Parkfield for being respectful students!**

## Key Dates

<b>April 2025</b>	
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of Summer Term 2025
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 3 – Sports Games Festival (Bridgwater & Taunton College)
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 – Playmaker (Parkfield School)
<b>May 2025</b>	
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 4 – Ancient Greek Workshop
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	BANK HOLIDAY
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 – Trip to Noah's Ark Zoo
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 – Kilve Activity Day
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup>	Reception - NCMP
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – Family Learning Workshop (9.15am – 10.15am)
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 – KS2 Assessments
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 – Trip to Bristol Museum & Bristol Synagogue
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	Reception, Year 3 & Year 6 – Space Dome
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Health Week
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup>	Years 1 & 2 – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup>	Years 3 & 4 – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 5 – Civic Award Evening (6pm – 8pm)
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception – Multi-Skills Festival (Castle School)
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Years 5 & 6 – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	HALF TERM

**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.**

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# Parkfield Press

8th April 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](mailto: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 Press

8th April 2025



ChatHealth



Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

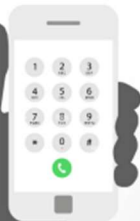
Emotional health

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**



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.

Improving  
LIVES

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](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice)

Contact us via email  
[choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk)  
or scan the QR code



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**This is our game.**

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Participants receive a personalised New Balance shirt with their name and chosen number.

Sign up today

[dynamoscricicket.co.uk](http://dynamoscricicket.co.uk)

**FRIENDS OF FRENCH WEIR PARK**

**SPRING TRAIL**

MONDAY 21ST APRIL  
10.00-12.00AM

OUTSIDE COACH

£2.00 per child,  
includes a small prize

PLEASE USE WOOD STREET OR  
TANGIER CAR PARKS

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