

Parkfield Press

12th September 2025

Welcome to this week's Parkfield Press

On behalf of all the staff at Parkfield Primary School, we have been delighted to welcome you all to the 2025 - 2026 school year!

A special welcome must go to all our new families joining Parkfield this year, we very much look forward to sharing the primary school journey with you and your children.

It has been wonderful to see how well all the children have settled into their new classes and to feel the buzz of activity as you walk through the school, particularly with our new reception children who have really settled into their new routines and are already enjoying their learning. We're only just over a week into the new school year and already there has been so much going on around the school, with so much more to follow in the coming weeks and months.

We are looking forward again to building on a productive partnership with you all to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognise that to be successful at Parkfield, our children need support from both home and from school and we know that a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education.

If you have any problems or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher.

Mr G Jones
Headteacher



Staff News

We are so pleased to welcome Mr Harding (Year 5 Class Teacher) to Parkfield and also Mrs Lefever (Year 1 Class Teacher) who will be with us for this academic year covering Mrs Redwood's maternity leave.

We also welcome back Mrs E Bamford (Year 2 Class Teacher) and Mrs Cozens (PFSA) to Parkfield this school year after their maternity leave.

I'm sure you will join us in congratulating and welcoming back the relevant staff members.

School Office Hours

Please be aware that the school office is staffed from 8.30am – 4.30pm each school day.

If you need to contact the school outside of these hours, please either send an email to office@parkfieldschool.co.uk or choose the option to leave a message on the phone line.

The exception to this is for parents / carers with children in Swallows from 4.30pm – 6pm who need to contact the school urgently. Please contact the school via the phone line and we will endeavor to answer your call as quickly as possible.

We take child protection extremely seriously at our school. If you have a concern, you can speak to any of the school's designated and trained Child Protection officers: **Mrs Mitchell, Mr Jones or Mrs Bowkett**. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email **childrens@somerset.gov.uk**

PE Lessons

Please can we remind you that all pupils should come to school wearing the correct PE kit on the allocated PE day for their year group.

The correct PE kit for the Autumn term is as follows:

- **PE T-Shirt with Logo (Navy Blue)**
- **Leggings / Jogging Bottoms with Logo (Navy Blue)**
- **Hoody with Logo (Navy Blue)**
- **Trainers / Plimsolls**

Gym / Sports Shorts / Skirt with Logo (Navy Blue) can be worn if the weather allows.

Furthermore, for Health and Safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and no jewellery should be worn. Stud earrings will be allowed if they are unable to be taken out.

A reminder of the allocated PE days:

- Monday: Reception
- Tuesday: Year 3 & Year 6
- Wednesday: Year 4 & Year 2
- Thursday: Year 5 & Year 1

The safety of our children in school, especially during PE, is extremely important and we appreciate your support in making sure your child is wearing the correct kit. Please also ensure that all uniform and PE kit is named – we already have a substantial amount of lost property this term.

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Harvest Festival

Our annual Harvest Festivals will soon be upon us! Please find the dates that this event will be taking place for key stage below:

KS2 – Tuesday 7th October, 9:15am – 9:45am

KS1 – Wednesday 8th October, 9.15am – 9.45am

EYFS – Thursday 9th October, 2.45pm – 3.30pm (Family Learning Workshop)

We will once again be collecting non-perishable items this year to support the Taunton Food Bank. Most donations are keenly received however, we have been advised that the following items are in desperate need:

- **PASTA SAUCES**
- **TINNED FRUIT**
- **TINNED MEALS (MEAT & VEGETARIAN)**
- **CUP A SOUP**
- **SAVOURY SNACKS**

Please note that the Food Bank can only give out items that are non-perishable, sealed and in date.

For further information on the Food Bank see the website below:

<https://taunton.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

UNCRC Article 31 (Right to take part in artistic and cultural activities)

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School Meals / School Money

School meal bookings are open until October half term. Please ensure you book school meals for your children **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.

Teacher2Parents – if you have the Teachers2Parents app, please ensure that you have notifications switched on to ensure you are alerted to new messages. If you have been unable to log on to the app, please request a password reset from the school office.

Secondary School Applications

FOR THE ATTENTION OF ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS / CARERS

The online form for secondary school applications opens on **Monday 15th September 2025**. Please ensure you have completed and submitted the application form by the **closing date of 31st October 2025**.

Important information from Somerset Council:

If your child is due to transfer to secondary school next September, please be aware that places in Taunton and Wellington are limited due to a high birth rate. It is really important that you apply on time (deadline 31st October 2025) and choose 3 preferences of school. We also **strongly recommend** you include your catchment school as one of your preferences.

If you do not include your catchment school among your preferences and are refused your preferred schools, we cannot guarantee your child a place in the local area. Your child may then be offered a place at a school further away with no entitlement to travel assistance.

Guidance on the application process can be found at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/secondary-admissions-guide/>

The online application form can be found at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september/>

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

School Run Complaints

We have recently received several complaints with regard to vehicles and pedestrians at school drop off and collection times.

We would like to remind you to please park / pull over considerately of our neighbours and others, ensuring driveways and paths are not blocked and to be aware of your surroundings.

Please do not park on double yellow lines.

Please do not pull over into the bus stop, this is not a parking space, or use the on-site staff car park.

Please do not stop on the road to let your child out of the car, please find somewhere safe to pull over.

As pedestrians, please be aware of the zebra crossing – if you do not intend to cross the road, do not congregate close by as this is confusing to drivers on what is already a busy road during drop off / collection times.

We are aware that parking close by to school can be difficult but please assist us in being considerate to others, to ensure the safety of everyone.

Swallows / Clubs Sessions & Payment

Our Swallows / Clubs sessions qualify as a childcare and therefore can be paid for with childcare vouchers.

Childcare vouchers are exempt from national insurance contributions (NICs) and income tax for employees, up to a certain value. All employers are able to run a childcare voucher scheme either through HMRC or other companies. The school can accept all types of childcare vouchers as full or part payment towards your session fees. If applicable, you may like to speak to your employer to find out which childcare voucher company they are registered with.

To make a voucher payment to the school, you will probably require the following details:

- **Ofsted Number:** 123714
- **School Name:** Parkfield Primary
- **Address:** Parkfield Primary School, Parkfield Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4RT

Most childcare voucher companies provide access through their websites to an online account for parents and we recommend this as the easiest way to make your voucher payments to us.

HMRC voucher payments – please send us the following information each time a payment is made (alternatively, you can send a print screen of the transaction showing the following):

- Date the transaction is reaching the school account (not the date the transaction is authorised)
- Payment reference
- Amount
- Reference number (start with the first letter of your child's name followed by three letters of the surname/family name and a five-digit number ending with the letters TFC)

Other providers – normally a payment notification email is sent automatically direct to the school. Once we receive the payment notification, we then credit the School Money account manually. Please check if the school is registered with the company you are using.

To ensure that making a payment is as easy and stress-free as possible, please make payment well in advance. Childcare voucher and HMRC tax-free payments take between 3 – 5 days to reach us, so please allow two weeks from the payable date when you send them and for our finance team to credit your child's online School Money account.

Unfortunately, we are not able to process voucher payments set for in the future.

Childcare vouchers are only acceptable for the following eligible activities:

- Swallows (wrap around care) Club
- After school Clubs
- Holiday Camps

Childcare vouchers **are not** accepted for the following:

- School lunches/meals
- School trips during school hours or related to the school curriculum
- Residential trips that take place away from the school's registered premises
- School activities ie: Swimming etc

Please be aware that, under HMRC rules, any overpayment of childcare vouchers cannot be refunded directly to parents due to the tax benefits received on purchase.

Swallows / Clubs Sessions & Payment continued

Bookings need to be made with payment and in advance using our School Money online payment system. To ensure a place is available for your child to attend Swallows wrap around care, **bookings must be made by the Thursday (5pm) prior to the week required**. We are unable to give refunds or credits for any changed/cancelled bookings where less than 7 days notice has been given.

Swallows Morning Club

- 07:50 - 08:50 (£3.80)

Drop off from 07:50 at the main entrance / office.

Parents/carers must accompany their child to the club entrance and ensure that the child is handed to a member of the Swallows staff. The staff member will then check the child's name against the booking register.

There are plenty of resources available for your child to play with until it is time for school. All children are accompanied to their respective classes at the start of the school day.

Breakfast is served between 07:50 - 08:15. Breakfast is a choice of: milk, cereals, toast & spreads or fruit.

Swallows Afterschool Club

- 15:30 - 16:30 (£3.80)
- 15:30 - 17:30 (£7.60)
- 15:30 - 18:00 (£9.50)

The following sessions are available for those children who take part in an onsite club/activity:

- 16:30 - 17:30 (£3.80)
- 16:30 - 18:00 (£5.70)

Class teachers are notified which child is attending a school club in advance.

Children are taken to the Swallows club by a member of the class team and signed in the Swallows register. Once a register has been taken, children are offered a snack (fruit/biscuit/ raisins etc). You are welcome to send a snack with your child.

Collection point for Swallows club is the Main Office.

Other School Clubs

As well as our popular Swallows Club, when possible, there are lots of things to do after school at Parkfield School. Whether your child is sporty, musical, arty or if they just enjoy trying out new things with friends then we hope there is something that will interest them.

Class teachers are notified in advance which child is attending a school club. Children are taken to their respective club by a member of the class team and signed in the club's register.

Places for clubs are limited and are offered on first come first serve basis.

Please note, children must be collected no later than the time booked. Collecting after/after later than the booked time may incur a late collection charge (This will pay for any additional operational costs that caring for a child outside the booked Swallows/clubs hours.)

Amendments/changes/cancellations made to any bookings (Clubs/Trips/any School Activity etc.) after the closing date, regardless of the reason, are unfortunately non-refundable.

Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate spectators in any of the clubs.

All bookings and payments need to be completed online using School Money <https://eduspot.co.uk/>.

Out of School Achievements – Schools Triathlon 2025

We recently received communication from the team who organised the Knight Frank Schools Triathlon, informing us that Parkfield School pupils raised an astonishing

£7,013!



An incredible £1,779 has been donated to our school's chosen charity, which this year was Love Musgrove.

A huge well done to all who were involved and took part – we're so proud of you!

UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

Out of School Achievements – Tennis

Jack P and Sophie T (Year 5) competed in the Somerset County Championships for tennis at U9 level on 24th August in Burnham-On-Sea, with both playing some excellent tennis in their group and placing fixtures against some of the other best players in the county in their age group.

In his group, Jack had a long, exciting match against a boy who finished the tournament as runner-up, with Jack eventually emerging victorious in three sets with a very close score of 9-7 6-8 10-8. Sophie lost her semi-final to the eventual tournament winner but came back to win her 3/4 playoff with ease, winning 7-3 7-3 to finish third overall. Sophie also played in the U10 age group on 26th August, against players a year older than her, and comfortably won her first ever 'green ball' match 4-2 4-1, only losing in the quarter finals to the tournament winner.



Well done to Sophie and Jack!

UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

Key Dates

September 2025	
Mon 15 th – Tues 16 th	Year 6 Bikeability Course – Group 1
Weds 17 th	Year 3 – Invasion Games Festival (Castle School)
Weds 17 th – Fri 19 th	Year 4 – Residential Visit to Kilve
Mon 22 nd – Tues 23 rd	Year 6 Bikeability Course – Group 2
Weds 24 th	Year 5 – Trip to Wessex Water
Weds 24 th	Year 2 – Multi-Skills Festival (Castle School)
Fri 26 th	PTFA Quiz Night
Mon 29 th	PTFA AGM (7.30pm)
Mon 29 th – Tues 30 th	Year 6 Bikeability Course – Group 3

Key Dates Continued...

October 2025	
Weds 1 st	Kestrel Class – Trip to Hinkley Point
Weds 1 st	Phonics Session for Parents / Carers (3pm – 3.30pm)
Thurs 2 rd	Phonics Session for Parents / Carers (3pm – 3.30pm)
Mon 6 th – Tues 7 th	Year 6 Bikeability Course – Group 4
Tues 7 th	KS2 (Y3 / Y4 / Y5 / Y6) – Harvest Festival (9.15am – 9.45am)
Weds 8 th	Falcon Class – Trip to Hinkley Point
Weds 8 th	KS1 (Y1 / Y2) – Harvest Festival (9.15am – 9.45am)
Thurs 9 th	Reception – Harvest Festival Family Learning (2.45pm – 3.30pm)
Fri 10 th	Non School Uniform Day & School Disco (PTFA)
Tues 14 th	Heron Class – Trip to Avalon Marshes
Fri 17 th	Tempest Photographs – Individuals
Tues 21 st	Swan Class – Trip to Avalon Marshes
Tues 21 st	Year 1 – Grace Darling Workshop
Tues 21 st	Parents Evening (3.50pm – 6.50pm)
Wed 22 nd	Parents Evening (3.50pm – 6.50pm)
Thurs 23 rd	Year 3 – Trip to Taunton Museum
Thurs 23 rd	Year 2 – Florence Nightingale Workshop
Fri 24 th	INSET Day
Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st	HALF TERM
November 2025	
Mon 3 rd	Back to School
Tues 4 th – Thurs 6 th	Book Fair
Fri 7 th	Tempest Photographs – Families & Siblings
Mon 10 th – Fri 14 th	Anti-Bullying Week (Odd Socks Week)
Tues 11 th	Year 6 – Remembrance Service (10.30am – 11.10am)
Thurs 13 th – Fri 14 th	Anti-Bullying Workshops
Thurs 13 th	Pembrokeshire Information Meeting for Year 6 Parents / Carers (3:45pm)
Mon 17 th	Road Safety Workshop
Fri 21 st	Children in Need Day
Fri 21 st	Flu Vaccinations
Fri 21 st	Non-Uniform Day for PTFA Christmas Fayre donations (Bottles & chocolates)
Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th	Faith Week
Tues 25 th	Kilve Residential Meeting for Year 3 Parents / Carers (3:45pm)
Fri 28 th	PTFA Christmas Fayre (6pm – 8pm)

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

12th September 2025

Thank you for continued help and support.



Gareth Jones
Headteacher



Felicitas Per Ardua
Success and Happiness Through Hardwork



Contact Details

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Parkfield Road
Taunton

Tel: 01823 282125

E-mail: office@parkfieldschool.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/parkfieldschooltaunton>

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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STIKINS[®] Name Labels SIMPLY STICK IN & STAY IN



Save Time & Money
Reduce Lost Property



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WWW.STIKINS.CO.UK

STIKINS – Parkfield PTFA
Fundraising Number – 15416



 ChatHealth

 Somerset Council

- 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 Chat-Health 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

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



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PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

More fun, More friendships, More smiles during the school holidays!



Book today
premier-education.com



Excellent
Trustpilot

★ Parkfield Primary School, Taunton, TA1 4RT

★ Multi Activity camps available

★ Running 8:30am - 4pm

★ Running 29th October - 31st October

★ £28.99 per child, per day

★ Available to children aged 4-11

★ Book at www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps
★ Contact dcrysell@premier-education.com for queries

PLEASE BRING

A PACKED LUNCH
PLENTY OF WATER
SUITABLE CLOTHING
LOADS OF ENERGY!

Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this holiday period as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, performing arts, and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy!

Book now for a holiday full of excitement!

HOLIDAY CLUBS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!



TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 20% OFF...AND GET 20% OFF TOO!

*To Supply Refer a friend discount on new bookings only.



Based on over 20,000 reviews

The Parkfield PTFA QUIZ!

Open to All

Dust off your thinking caps and rally your brainiest pals because the Parkfield PTFA Quiz is back! Get ready for a night of laughs, fierce competition, and maybe even a little bit of glory (or the wooden spoon)!


Friday 26 September 2025 Door Open At 7:00pm

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

6 PER TEAM • **£5 PER PERSON** • **RAFFLE ON THE NIGHT**

All proceeds from the evening will go to the Parkfield PTFA

FOR FULL SIGN UP DETAILS, FOLLOW THIS LINK OR USE THE QR CODE



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