

Welcome to this week's Parkfield Press

As we head towards the end of the academic year, the atmosphere in school is vibrant and exciting as we finish off topics and work towards our end of year shows and concerts. We're so excited to share our performances with parents and carers over the coming weeks.



Thank you to everyone who came to support our annual Parkfield Summer Fete last week – with particular thanks to all volunteers who have worked hard to make this an amazing event for everyone to enjoy.

Staff News

Many of you will know Dee Howie, who has been a familiar and valued member of the Parkfield family for over 22 years serving as our MDSA Leader.

Unfortunately, due to ongoing ill health, Mrs Howie will not be returning to her role at school. While we are saddened by this news, we are immensely grateful for the dedication, care and commitment she has shown to generations of Parkfield children and families throughout her many years of service.

On behalf of the entire Parkfield community, we would like to thank Dee for her outstanding contribution to our school and wish her strength and our very best wishes.

Mrs Howie will always be remembered as an important part of the Parkfield family and we know many families will join us in sending her their warmest thoughts.



Retirement – time to relax!

It is with a mix of gratitude and sadness that we share the news that Mrs Edney will be retiring at the end of this academic year.

Mrs Edney has been an incredibly valued member of our school community, offering support, care, and encouragement to so many children over the years. Her dedication, kindness, and ability to bring out the best in every pupil has made a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed by both staff and students alike.

We are sure many of you will want to join us in thanking Mrs Edney for her years of hard work and commitment, and in wishing her a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement filled with new adventures, travels and relaxation.



Pupil Leadership Team Success at Children's Parliament – Year 6

We are incredibly proud of our Pupil Leadership Team, who represented Parkfield brilliantly at the Children's Parliament and were crowned winners following their outstanding five-minute presentation.

Speaking with confidence and maturity, the children showcased our commitment to Health and Wellbeing at Parkfield, explaining complex ideas such as the Polyvagal Theory and our use of the owl, tiger and turtle brain in a clear and engaging way. They impressed judges with their deep understanding of how we support both self-regulation and co-regulation, sharing practical strategies for helping everyone return to their 'owl brain'—a calm, focused state ready for learning.

The team answered questions with ease and demonstrated real pride in the inclusive, supportive culture we have built together as a school community.

To top off this fantastic achievement, they won a fully funded day trip to Carymoor for an experience that will further develop teamwork, resilience and confidence.

A huge well done to our amazing pupils – you have truly done Parkfield proud!



UNCRC Article 29 (Encourage children's respect for human rights)

Year 5 – Civic Award

On Wednesday 20th May 2026, Year 5 proudly hosted their annual Civic Award Fundraiser. This year, the pupils chose to support Love Musgrove with the money being used to support The Beacon centre, a charity close to all of our hearts.



Our Year 5 students worked exceptionally hard in the lead-up to the event – baking delicious desserts and decorating the hall so beautifully. They also organised an amazing auction and received generous donations from local businesses through their carefully crafted letters. We were also blown away by the kindness of our families – thank you for your support!

Thanks to the incredible efforts of our pupils and the generosity of our community, we raised an amazing **£2,098.23!** These funds will go towards buying specialised equipment to help reduce hair loss during chemotherapy treatment.

It was a truly special evening filled with community spirit and we couldn't be prouder of our students. We're already looking forward to next year's event!



mademoiselle
DESSERTS

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Bugfest

Reception children had an unforgettable time at Bug Fest, where they were introduced to an amazing range of minibeasts and even had the chance to hold some of them. Their eyes widened as they met a millipede, a surprisingly friendly cockroach, the impressively clawed McPinch Face the scorpion, and the wonderfully calm tarantula, Twilight Sparkle.

They also discovered a death-faking beetle, watched a centipede scuttle about and learned fascinating facts about how each creature lives, moves, and protects itself. The workshop was a perfect mix of excitement, bravery, and curiosity, giving the children a hands-on experience they'll be talking about for days.



Year 3 and 4 Brave the Beasts at Bugfest!

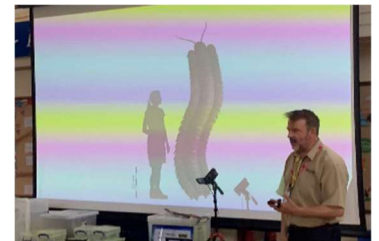
Year 3 and Year 4 children transformed into fearless entomologists this week during an unforgettable, hands-on Bugfest Workshop. The classroom buzzed with excitement as children got up close and personal with some of the planet's most fascinating invertebrates.

The children absolutely loved meeting a star lineup of exotic creatures. They learned remarkable survival facts about a giant cockroach affectionately named Marmite, and discovered how a massive millipede called Big Bertha navigates her world using hundreds of tiny legs.

The session then took a thrilling turn as the focus shifted to arachnids. The children learned all about the delicate ecosystems of spiders, culminating in a visit from a stunning, furry Tarantula.

While the children showed incredible curiosity, it was our brave school staff who truly stole the show by volunteering to hold the Tarantula themselves!

Thank you to the Bugfest team for bringing science to life and well done to Year 3 and Year 4 for showing such exceptional curiosity and courage.



Year 5 and 6 experienced the Bugfest!

The children learned a lot about the habitats of a range of insects and mini-beasts. They saw stick insects and cockroaches, tarantulas and millipedes. Among the fascinating facts that they discovered were that ladybirds are a type of cockroach, that some beetles' exoskeletons can withstand a very large amount of pressure even if you pinch hard and that if all the fruit flies had enough food to keep reproducing, in a year, the fruit flies would be larger than the Sun!

Nick explained that the composition of the air had changed and so now we do not have enormous bugs - however, millions of years ago, millipedes used to be far larger than people and also there were once scorpions that were eight feet long! Luckily, the children learned how to handle tricky scorpions: "big claws, tiny sting"; "tiny claws, big sting". This means that usually if the tail is small but the claws are large, the claws are more dangerous, but if the tail is big but the claws are small, it probably has some dangerous venom. Additionally, Year 5 and Year 6 met some snails and discovered that they are hermaphrodites - both male and female at the same time!

We learned a lot about habitats and how species are adapted and a lot of children courageously stepped up to handle the creatures.



UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Family Learning Workshop

Year 3

Year 3 were delighted to welcome families into school for their recent Family Learning Day. Parents and carers joined them for an hour of learning and creativity, and it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces. During the session, families worked together on our Ancient Egyptian topic. The children loved creating their own Egyptian sarcophagi and sphinx models using clay, showing great imagination and care with their designs. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm for learning and creativity shared between children and their families.



Alongside this, there was a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, with opportunities to take part in simple activities together, including yoga poses and enjoying games such as UNO and chess. It was lovely to see families learning and playing side by side.

Year 4

Our Year 4 Family Learning Day was a fantastic success, focusing on health, well-being, and collaborative fun.

Creativity & History

Families dove straight into our Ancient Greek topic with fantastic enthusiasm.

- Parents and children worked together to sculpt detailed clay minotaurs.
- Teams used traditional patterns to decorate custom Greek vases.
- Art sessions encouraged teamwork, communication, and creative expression.

Wellness & Mindfulness

The morning balanced creative hard work with relaxing physical and mental exercises.

- Instructors guided families through calming yoga sessions.
- Participants learned stretching techniques to boost physical health.
- Cooperative board games promoted laughter and positive social interaction.
- Complex puzzles challenged families to exercise their problem-solving minds.

A Huge Thank You - It was wonderful to see our school hall filled with so many smiling faces. Thank you to all the parents and carers who took time out of their busy schedules to learn alongside their children and make the Family Learning Workshops so memorable.

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Year 4 – digestive system

Year 4 threw themselves into a digestive system adventure with unforgettable enthusiasm recently and things got very *messy*. After exploring how our bodies break down food, the children rolled up their sleeves, grabbed their “stomachs” and “intestines”, and set to work making their very own model poo.

There was laughter, squealing, and plenty of proud faces as they squeezed, squished and recreated the entire journey from mouth to... well, the end. It was hands-on science at its finest, and the class absolutely loved every gloriously, gross moment.



UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Year 6 - Somerstage

Our talented Year 6 pupils have recently had an amazing day preparing for their end-of-year production, *Grimm – Once Upon A Musical*, with Somerstage Musical Theatre School

The Somerstage team visited us at Parkfield and worked with our principal cast on their scripts, before leading a fantastic singing workshop focused on projection and harmonies. The day finished with an exciting acting workshop where all Year 6 pupils explored characterisation, stage presence and confidence-building techniques.



Both staff and pupils had a brilliant time and the excitement for the performance is definitely building! We can't wait to see our Year 6 stars shine on stage in just a few weeks' time.

A HUGE thank you to Somerstage Musical Theatre School for visiting us and for providing such a memorable and inspiring experience for our children!

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

Year 5 – Huish Visit

Last week, Year 5 had the amazing opportunity to visit Richard Huish College to experience a range of exciting workshops. This was part of our ongoing Civic award which the children have been working on all year. The children took part in 4 different lessons: chemistry, languages, music and law.

During chemistry they completed a range of experiments to create different gases: carbon dioxide, oxygen and hydrogen – they particularly enjoyed testing the hydrogen by creating the 'squeaky pop'! Their favourite by far however, was creating elephants' toothpaste – it was amazing!

During their law session, they learnt all about the rule of law – one of our British Values – and explored ancient laws that are still in place. Did you know, it is against the law to walk the streets carrying a whole salmon! They were dressed up in outfits to represent the different roles and took part in a mock court case – the defendant was found guilty!



They learnt all about the weather in French and during music, they used a computer program to create their own unique piece of music, followed by a samba themed drumming session.

All the children had a fabulous time and learnt new skills. Thank you to Mrs Parkes for organising, Huish College for hosting and all the staff who helped run the day. The time spent will go towards their 1b 'Learning New Skills' part of the award.



UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Sports Day 2026

EYFS Sports Day – Sunshine, Smiles and So Much Fun

Our EYFS Sports Day was a truly sunny afternoon of excitement, energy and endless smiles. The children shone from start to finish, embracing every challenge with enthusiasm and showing just how much they've grown in confidence and skill this year.

The pupils took part in six different activity stations, each designed to showcase their developing throwing and jumping skills. From aiming beanbags to leaping as far as they could, every child gave their best effort and cheered on their friends with wonderful encouragement.

There was plenty of laughter too, especially during the fun-filled sack race, where hopping, wobbling and the occasional tumble only added to the joy of the moment. And of course, the highlight for many was the soggy water obstacle course, which brought splashes, squeals and a perfect way to cool down in the warm weather.

To round off the afternoon, the children lined up for an exciting sprint race, giving one last burst of energy as families cheered them down the track. The atmosphere was brilliant – full of pride, joy and celebration.

We then welcomed the youngest members of our Parkfield community to join in the fun with a delightful toddle race. Their tiny steps, big smiles and enthusiastic cheering from the crowd made it a heart-warming finish to a fantastic day.

Well done to all our EYFS children – you made the day unforgettable.

Year 1 & 2 Sports Day – A Fantastic Day of Fun and Team Spirit

Our Year 1 and 2 Sports Day was a wonderful celebration of energy, effort and enjoyment from start to finish. The children began the morning with a fantastic round of field activities, where they showcased the throwing, jumping and movement skills they have been practising in PE. Every station was filled with determination, teamwork and plenty of smiles.

As the day moved into the afternoon, families were treated to a lovely mixture of races. The children competed both individually and as part of their team, showing confidence, resilience and brilliant sportsmanship. From steady balancing to speedy sprints, each race highlighted just how much progress the children have made this year.

The excitement reached a peak with a firm favourite – the water obstacle race. There were splashes, laughter and a few very soggy competitors, making it a perfect way to cool down and end the racing programme on a high.

To finish the day, we invited our youngest Parkfield community members to join in with our much-loved toddle races. It was heart-warming to see the older siblings stepping in to support, guide and cheer them along the track, creating a lovely sense of togetherness.

A huge well done to all our Year 1 and 2 children for their enthusiasm, effort and brilliant attitudes throughout the day.

Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Sports Days

What a fantastic 2 days of sport for our KS2 children at Parkfield!

The morning sessions consisted of 5 field events and a fun race, with children competing in houses. Events included the javelin throw, discus throw, shot put, long jump and triple jump — all skills they have been working so hard to perfect during PE lessons. The final event of the morning was a hilarious sack race which brought huge smiles to everyone's faces, especially when the Year 5 and 6 children got the chance to race Mr Wright!

In the afternoon, the children competed in 4 brilliant track events: sprint, relay, long distance and an obstacle course. The Year 5 and 6 obstacle course even included water to help cool everyone down in the lovely weather! The sports days ended with the Year 6 children getting soaked on their final primary school sports day – a perfect way to celebrate such a special occasion!

An amazing few days for the children – we are so proud of their commitment to sport at Parkfield!

We hope you will all agree that the events were a great success and a wonderful chance for the children to show off their talents. After adding together the totals from both the morning field events and the afternoon track races across every class, the final scores are:

- **Venus** – 557
- **Mercury** – 589
- **Pluto** – 618
- **Mars** – 643

A huge well done to all of the children once again! They all represented their classes extremely well and ran some fantastic races!

UNCRC Article 29 (Right to develop talents and abilities)

Celebrating Sports Leaders

Over the four days of Sports Day events, our incredible Parkfield Sports Leaders have shown exactly what makes them such a valued part of our school community. Their commitment, maturity and enthusiasm have been nothing short of exceptional. These pupils gave up their own time to ensure every event ran smoothly. They took responsibility for setting up equipment, packing away and keeping each area organised, all with professionalism that would impress any adult team.

Throughout every Sports Day they were a constant source of support for the younger children. Whether offering a helping hand, giving clear instructions, or providing encouragement when someone felt unsure, they demonstrated patience, kindness and genuine leadership. Many took charge of teams and races, guiding pupils with confidence and ensuring everyone felt included and ready to take part. Their efforts are a true reflection of the fantastic children we have at Parkfield. These four days simply would not have run as successfully, or as smoothly, without their dedication and hard work.

A huge well done to each and every Sports Leader. You have made us incredibly proud. We would also like to give a special mention to the four children from Kingfisher who helped with the Year 5 and 6 Sports Day. And finally, a heartfelt thank you from Mrs Waugh and Mr Lake, who are ever so grateful for everything you have done. Your contribution made this year's Sports Days truly special.

UNCRC Article 29 (Right to develop talents and abilities)

Sports Games Festival – Year 6

Last month, our Year 6 children had a fantastic time visiting Castle School to take part in a sports festival alongside pupils from a number of local schools.

Throughout the day, the children enthusiastically participated in a wide range of activities, including cricket, netball, boccia, tag rugby and frisbee.



They showed great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship, while having lots of fun trying new challenges. The festival also provided a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to meet and mix with children from other schools, building confidence and making new friendships.

We are incredibly proud of how well our Year 6 children represented the school and would like to thank everyone involved in organising such an enjoyable and memorable event!

UNCRC Article 29 (Right to develop talents and abilities)

Sports Events

Swimming Gala Success for Our KS2 Team

Our KS2 swimmers made a real splash at this year's School Swimming Gala, delivering a brilliant blend of determination, skill, and team spirit. Eight enthusiastic children took to the pool, competing across all four main strokes – freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly – and they rose to the challenge with confidence and pride.

From the very first race, it was clear that this group had come not only to compete but to enjoy every moment. Each swimmer gave their all, showing strong technique and impressive stamina. Whether powering through a length of butterfly or gliding smoothly in backstroke, they demonstrated just how much their hard work in lessons and training has paid off.

The relay races were a particular highlight. The team's communication, quick changeovers, and sheer determination shone through as they worked together seamlessly. Their energy on poolside was infectious, cheering each other on and celebrating every finish.

All that effort earned them a fantastic 3rd place overall, a result they should be incredibly proud of. It was a true team achievement – every swimmer contributed, supported one another, and represented the school with positivity and sportsmanship.

A huge well done to our KS2 swimming squad. You made a splash, you made us proud, and you showed what teamwork really looks like.

Year 6 Cricket Champions at Queen's College Festival

Our Year 6 cricket squad delivered an unforgettable performance at the Queen's College Cricket Festival, showcasing skill, determination, and brilliant teamwork from the very first ball.

Eight talented children represented the school, taking part in three group-stage matches with one clear goal – to reach the final! They rose to the challenge spectacularly, winning all three games, including a standout victory against the host school. Their consistency, focus, and team spirit set them apart throughout the competition.

Finishing top of the table, the team advanced to the final brimming with confidence. In a thrilling match, they maintained their momentum, played with maturity beyond their years, and secured a well-deserved win, crowning them Festival Champions.

A huge well done to every player for their effort, sportsmanship, and positive attitude. The whole team contributed to this success, and they should feel incredibly proud of what they achieved.

A special congratulations goes to Elliot B, who was awarded 'Best Fielder' of the entire festival – a fantastic individual honour that reflects his sharp reactions, commitment, and excellent defensive play.

What a day, what a team, and what a result.

Year 3 & 4 Cross Country – Fantastic Effort in the Heat

Our Year 3 and 4 runners showed incredible determination and spirit at the recent Cross Country event, taking on a challenging course in very hot conditions. What made the day truly special was the mix of experienced runners returning to compete and children taking on their first ever race, all of them giving their absolute best.

From the starting whistle to the final sprint, every child demonstrated resilience, positivity, and brilliant sportsmanship. Whether they were pushing for a top position or simply focusing on finishing strong, each runner contributed to a fantastic team performance.

A huge well done to Leo B in Year 4, who delivered an outstanding run to finish 2nd overall – an impressive achievement in such tough weather.

Most importantly, congratulations to all of our runners. Competing in high temperatures is no easy task, yet every child rose to the challenge with determination and a smile. You represented the school brilliantly and should feel very proud.

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

House Points

House points are given to pupils to reinforce and reflect the school values that they are demonstrating at the time. The total for each house is updated every two weeks, until the end of each term.

Well done Mars – our current winners!

MARS 1212	MERCURY 1132	PLUTO 1162	VENUS 1121
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The winning value is RESPECT – well done Parkfield for being respectful students!

Key Dates

July 2026	
Mon 6 th	Orchestra Performance (9.30am)
Tues 7 th	Year 4 – Trip to Dawlish Warren
Wed 8 th	Year 6 – Production (6pm – 7pm)
Fri 10 th	Year 2 – Trip to Carymoor
Fri 10 th	Reception – Pirate Workshop
Fri 10 th	Year 5 – Mayan Workshop
Fri 10 th	End of Year Reports to Parents / Carers
Fri 10 th	Year 6 – Celebration Event, 3:30pm – 4.30pm (Y6 Children only)
Mon 13 th – 16 th	Year 6 – Residential Visit to Pembrokeshire
Tues 14 th	Year 1 - Summer Concert (10am)
Wed 15 th	Year 2 – Summer Concert (10am)
Thurs 16 th	Reception - Summer Show (10am)
Mon 20 th	KS2 (Y3 / 4 / 5 / 6) Summer Concert (6pm – 7pm)
Tues 21 st	Year 6 – Leavers Assembly, 10am – 11am (Year 6 Parents / Carers only)
Wed 22 nd	INSET Day / End of Summer Term 2026

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.

Thank you for continued help and support.



Gareth Jones
Headteacher



Felicitas Per Ardua
Success and Happiness Through Hardwork



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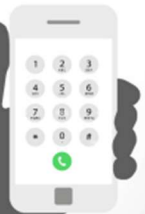
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School transitioning
Emotional health



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

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.

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

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Parkfield Press

3rd July 2026



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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



NEW MINI TEAMS

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