

Parkfield Press

19th December 2024

Welcome to this week's Parkfield Press

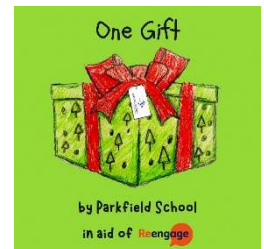
Welcome to the final Parkfield Press of 2024! We've had a fabulous and busy few weeks in school since our last newsletter.

The annual Parkfield Christmas Fayre took place on Friday 29th November. It was a huge success and we're very grateful for how well the fayre was supported by the school community. Thank you to Sam Bolt, our PTFA Chair, and her team for putting together such an incredible event - they raised an astounding **£5,500.77!!** We will look forward to spending this on improving the learning facilities for our children. Sam would also like to pass on her thanks to all the volunteers, staff and the community for attending the event.



We have had great fun performing our Christmas Nativities and concerts over the last two weeks. Congratulations to everyone who took part in these performances – you all worked so hard on learning lines and songs and you were all amazing! Thank you to all the families that attended and supported the children. Photos have now been uploaded onto the gallery on our website for the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performances. KS2 Concert photos to follow shortly!

And lastly, a massive thank you to everyone who has downloaded, supported and shared our charity single 'One Gift' – we are delighted to have been raising much needed funds for Re-engage and truly appreciate your support. We are so proud and thankful for our children and staff for their efforts in bringing this project to life and working so hard.



We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 6th January 2025.

We wish you and your families a very merry Christmas, from all of us at Parkfield.

Faith Week (25th November – 29th November)

Faith Week was a great success again this year, with many enrichment opportunities for the children and adults to enjoy. Each year group fully immersed themselves in different faiths and learnt about religious beliefs, practices and festivals, in addition to cooking, sewing and oracy opportunities.

It was a busy week where Year 4 visited the Muslim Centre in Taunton and Year 1 visited St John's Church and met Rev Julia French. We also had many visitors into school, who spoke to the children. Justine Wooley from St Michael's Church did an assembly on the Nativity and later on in the week Rev. Deborah Kirk from Temple Methodist spoke to all the children about Advent. Our EYFS and Year 2 children took part in Judaism workshops - learning all about Jewish weddings, Shabbat and Hannukah. Year 3 and Year 6 took part in an Indian Dance workshop after the whole school enjoyed Indian drumming and a dance off! Year 3 focussed on Diwali and Rama and Sita, while Year 6 explored the Dharma, Diety and Atman.

In addition to the above, all children had the opportunity to take part in an oracy opportunity- where they could use drama to explore their thoughts and opinions with others. The curriculum kitchen was in full use with everything from mince pies to samosas on the menu.

Finally, the children thoroughly enjoyed creating their very own Christmas decoration by either weaving or learning how to stitch and decorate. So many children demonstrated resilience with this task and were so proud of their outcome- so it deserves a place at the FRONT of the tree for sure! ☺

When talking to the children, it was clear that they all got a lot out of the week and could tell me lots of information about the faith they focussed on. All in all- it was a huge success. A big thank you to Mrs Knutt for organising and all the staff for their enthusiasm and energy to make this week so memorable.

Mrs Bowkett

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

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**

Nativity – Reception

Last Friday, our children in Robin and Wren classes performed their wonderful Nativity 'Angel Express' to a large audience of their parents / carers and families. All the children really enjoyed singing the songs and did so well to learn all of their lines.

We are so very proud of them all!

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



Christmas Concert – Year 1

Wow! What a great Year 1 Christmas Concert at Parkfield! Year 1 worked so hard learning all the songs and lines for their Christmas Concert.

The children learnt about different countries and how they celebrate Christmas and also thought about different cultures and traditions.

The Year 1 team are so proud of the children and how they performed and we know they feel very proud of themselves. Amazing job Year 1 – well done!

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



Nativity – Year 2

Our Year 2 children gave an incredible performance of 'Lights, Camel, Action!' for their Nativity this year and didn't they do an amazing job!

Everyone worked so hard to make the performance magical for our parents / carers and families with some show-stopping dance moves!

Well done Year 2!

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



Christmas Concert – KS2

On Wednesday evening, almost 180 of our KS2 children took part in our annual Christmas Concert at Queen's College Theatre. The children entertained an audience of 500 people with their beautiful singing and incredible readings – there was even a guest appearance of the staff choir!

Thank you so much to all the families for supporting us by transporting the children to and from the venue, and to those that came along to watch the performance. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

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

Trip to Taunton Brewhouse – Year 2

Ready to start their new writing unit in January, the Year 2 children spent last Thursday morning at The Taunton Brewhouse to watch a live show of Pinocchio.

Everyone had a super time; the children were so engaged and excited by the show - we look forward to reading their amazing stories inspired by this next term!

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



Trip to Taunton Museum – Year 3

Year 3 visited Taunton Museum at the beginning of the month to consolidate their learning about the Stone Age in history. It was so lovely to hear the children all sharing their learning with such passion during the workshops.

The children were then given the opportunity to make a necklace of teeth, handle artefacts, dress up, make cave paintings and answer a worksheet trail while looking at the exhibits. The children also had the chance to talk about animal fossils dating back to the Stone Age.



All the children had a great time immersing themselves into pre-history – well done Year 3!

UNCRC Article 28 (Right to an education)

Sports Games Festival – Year 5

The Year 5 children went over to Taunton and Bridgwater College to take part in a sports festival run by the students. They got to have a go at a number of different sports and matches. The children showed great team work and were able to showcase what fantastic sports persons they are.

It was great to be able to watch the children interact with each other out of a normal PE environment and support each other in different sports. Well done to you all.

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

Richard Huish Fundraiser – Year 1

Year 1 were fortunate to have students from Richard Huish College join them for a fundraising activity for the charity 'Christmas Sparkle'.

The students worked with the children to have festive fun by decorating biscuits, designing a Christmas tree, paper plate decoration and a Christmas tree bauble decoration. We hope to do the same in the future.



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

School Council

On Friday 29th November we ran the Festival of Light Stall at the PTFA Christmas Fayre. The stall celebrated different religions around the world and we wanted to show that we respect all religions because we are a Rights Respecting School.

We made Christingle, Menora, Diva Lamp and Islamic Prayer mat craft kits and everyone loved them! This was to demonstrate the importance of Article 14 of the UNCRC. Please do visit our stall in the Summer term.

Thank you for your support. 😊

Mrs Bowkett & The School Council

UNCRC Article 14 (Right to believe and practise religion)

School Meals

Please be aware that school meal bookings for the first week back at school are now closed. If you have not booked lunches for week commencing 6th January 2025, please ensure you send your child(ren) to school with a packed lunch.

Bookings are open for the rest of the Spring term so we would highly recommend booking for the whole term during the festive break. 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.

Lost Property / Pre-loved Uniform

We have already accumulated a vast amount of lost property this school year. Please could we remind you to **label all uniform** so that we can do our best to return lost items to your children.

We encourage parents to look for lost property in the storage boxes on the Year 3 decking.

Also near the decking, there is now a good selection of pre-loved uniform in the PTFA shed which is available for anyone who needs it – please help yourself. If you would like to give a donation in return for pre-loved uniform, this can be given to the school office who will pass on the funds to the PTFA.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all families who have donated pre-loved uniform and the PTFA who organise the uniform for us.

UNCRC Article 27 (adequate standard of living) Food, clothing, a safe home.

Contacting Class Teachers

Please be aware that whilst each classroom has an email address, which you are welcome to use to contact your class teacher, the inboxes are unfortunately not monitored continuously through the school week. If your email requires urgent or immediate attention, please forward to the school office at office@parkfieldschool.co.uk or telephone the school office on 01823 282125.

If you are contacting us regarding your child's attendance, this should be sent to the school office on the details above to enable us to keep accurate and up to date information on our school registers.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Online Safety Focus

This week's website recommendation from the Online Safety Champions is ...

<https://cerebra.org.uk/download/learning-disabilities-autism-and-internet-safety>

Cerebra, a charity for children with brain conditions has produced this comprehensive advice for children with learning disabilities, autism and other special educational needs.

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

Out of School Achievements – Trampoline Championship

What a great weekend for Parkfield in the Schools Trampoline Championship South West Regionals, with a host of medals won in both team events and individually! Following on from the girls' success last year, this year Parkfield had a team in both the boys and the girls events.

Representing Parkfield in the Boys Novice Years 1-6 team were Jack W (Year 2), Sammy R (Year 4) and Jack P (Year 4). They jumped brilliantly with some very tidy routines to place second as a team. Not only that, but both Jack P and Sammy R also received individual medals for placing 4th and 5th respectively out of 22 trampolinists. What a brilliant result for the boys team!



Representing Parkfield in the Girls Years 1-6 Novice team event were Eloise T (Year 3), Ella W (Year 4) and Bethany B (Year 6). They equally performed tremendously well in a really tough group to also end up in second place! Alongside this, Ella W managed to place 1st out of 75 children after performing two flawless routines to take the gold medal. What a fantastic achievement for the girls team!



As both teams placed in the top 2, they will now compete in the next stage (English semi-finals) in Southampton in January 2025!

We congratulate their brilliant success at the competition and we wish them good luck in the next round!
Go Parkfield!

UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

Out of School Achievements – Gymnastics / Ballet

Congratulations to Darcie T (Year 2) who took part in the TTGA Gymnastics competition at the weekend and placed 3rd for her floor routine and joint 1st on beam, and then winning a silver medal overall.

This follows on from Darcie's recent success in her RAD Primary Ballet exam, where she passed with a distinction. Well done Darcie for all your hard work!



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 house's total score. The winning house each half term will receive a prize!

Well done Venus – our winners for the Autumn term!

MARS 1343	MERCURY 1438	PLUTO 1517	VENUS 1609
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The most rewarded school value for the Autumn term was – **RESPECT**

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Key Dates

January 2025	
Mon 6 th	Start of Spring Term 2025
Fri 10 th	Pantomime – Jack & The Beanstalk
Fri 31 st	Year 3 – Ancient Egyptians Workshop
Fri 31 st	Year 6 – Charles Darwin Workshop
February 2025	
Fri 7 th	Non School Uniform & School Disco (PTFA)
Fri 7 th	Year 6 – Instrumental Recital (St John's Church, 2pm – 3pm)
Mon 10 th – Fri 14 th	Safety Week
Tues 11 th	Parents Evening (3.50pm – 6.50pm)
Wed 12 th	Parents Evening (3.50pm – 6.50pm)
Thurs 13 th	RNLI Water Safety Workshop
Thurs 13 th	Year 4 – Net / Wall Festival
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st	HALF TERM
Mon 24 th	Back to school
March 2025	
Tues 4 th – Wed 5 th	Story Explorer Workshops
Tues 4 th – Thurs 6 th	Book Fair
Thurs 6 th	World Book Day
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.

Thank you for continued help and support.



Gareth Jones
Headteacher



PARKFIELD SCHOOL
Alacris per ardua

Felicitas Per Ardua

Success and Happiness Through Hardwork



Childcare Voucher Payment

The school accepts many different types of childcare vouchers: Sodexo, Computershare, Faircare, Gov.UK etc

For identification purposes and audit trail, we require the following information each time a new transaction is made: Reference number, date of transaction, value, Provider, child's name.

This will help the school transfer credits in a timely manner. Thank you for your support.

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

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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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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 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

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TIGERS

HUISH TIGERS ABILITY

PAN DISABILITY FOOTBALL FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY AGED CHILDREN, WELCOMING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ANY DISABILITY OR ADDITIONAL NEED. (EHCP NOT REQUIRED)

SATURDAY MORNING

9:30-10:30AM

@ RICHARD HUISH COLLEGE

TA1 3DZ

CONTACT TIM LEGG
FOR ANY FURTHER INFO
Timl@richuish.ac.uk



**SIGN UP
HERE!**



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TIGERS



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

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CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL CAMP.

8-13 years

Price - £20per day or £35 for 2

**30TH & 31ST
DECEMBER**

10am-3pm

@ RICHARD HUISH COLLEGE

TA1 3DZ

CONTACT TIM LEGG
FOR ANY FURTHER INFO
Timl@richuish.ac.uk



huish
SPORT



**SIGN UP
HERE!**



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