



Parkfield School

Hurn
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 6DF

Email: office@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk
Website: www.parkfieldschool.org
Telephone: 01202 592530
Headteacher – Mrs Justine Hardie

March 2024

Dear Parkfield Community,

Happy Easter to all! I extend my gratitude to every student, staff member, and parent/carer for their unwavering support and commitment to Parkfield School.

As we continue our journey of progress, we would like to commend the growing levels of professionalism displayed by our students. Moreover, it's great to note a surge in students excelling in extracurricular activities both within and beyond the school. These endeavours are pivotal for personal growth and flourishing.

Acquiring life skills not only enhances happiness and development but also looks great on a CV. We have also had an increase in community members reporting instances of kindness from our students. Let's keep this positivity coming!

With the onset of exam season, I would like to remind us of all the importance of being kind, working hard and looking after your physical and mental health.

Every young individual deserves success and it's imperative that we work together to support them during their assessments.

How wonderful that the sun has begun to shine on us all. The longer evenings bring a much lighter mood, and we are looking forward to the relaunch of our clubs for the summer term. Students, I encourage you to get involved.

You will find a very special picture below, our Easter reward winners from today's Easter Celebration.



Well done to all of you and we hope you enjoy your prizes! I wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Have a restful break and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Mrs Justine Hardie
Headteacher



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Registered office Address: Veale Wasbrough Vizards LLP, Narrow Quay House, Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA





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SCHOOL UNIFORM

After the Easter Holidays, we will be focusing on our students looking the best they can be to help them focus on being young professionals. As you are aware Mrs Hardie has introduced some fantastic, 'uniform add-ons' which have been designed for comfort whilst still presenting a professional look.

The uniform is still:

Girls:

Tartan skirt
(Year 11 can wear black pleated skirts – NOT tube skirts)
White shirt
Tie and Blazer

Boys:

Dark grey trousers.
White shirt
Tie and Blazer

The add-ons are:

Black sweatshirt with logo
Black polo shirt with logo
Girls - Black leggings with logo OR plain, unbranded leggings
Boys - Black cargo trousers

If your child wears a polo shirt or sweatshirt, they can do so instead of the white shirt, tie, and blazer. If your child is wearing a black sweatshirt (no polo) then they wear their white shirt and tie underneath, with no blazer. Leggings and cargo trousers must be worn with the polo shirt and sweatshirt. However, school skirts and trousers can be worn with a polo shirt and/or sweatshirt. Your child can wear black trainers with leggings and cargo trousers and black shoes with skirts and school trousers.

BEHAVIOUR

We are also updating an element of the behaviour policy. Currently, when a student receives a Red Card for reflection around disturbing the learning of others, they get an automatic detention at lunchtime. If they do not attend this detention without a valid reason, they are given an after-school detention.

For us to fine-tune our behaviour strategy and develop the expectations within our character curriculum, we have made additions to escalate our Behaviour Policy. After the Easter break, if a student refuses to attend their detention at lunchtime they will have an internal suspension on either a Tuesday or Thursday. If a student receives two or more red cards in a day or more than five in a week, they will be in an internal suspension for a day.

If a student refuses to complete internal suspension for the day or misbehaves during this time, this may lead to an external, fixed-term suspension.



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SCHOOL TRIPS, EVENTS, AND INITIATIVES

Class Photo Day, Tuesday 26th March – We had a very successful and efficient day with our school photos, these will be available for purchase after the Easter Break.

Year 6 are kick-starting their new project 'Britain at War' by visiting the D-Day Story Museum, where they get to take part in 'Make do and Mend' workshops and they can stand aboard the last surviving landing craft from D-Day itself. Pictures shall follow in the next newsletter. KS1 enjoyed a visit from Popwell Farm, pictures will follow in the next newsletter.

KEY DATES

HPV Immunisations	24 th April
GCSE Exams	2 nd May
Bank Holiday	6th May
Year 10 Work Experience	13 th May
Year 6 SATs	13 th – 16 th May
Half Term	27th April to 31st May
Year 4/5 residential	1 st July – 3 rd July
Year 10 Geography Trip	5 th July
Last Day of Term	23rd July

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

On the 24th April, the school nursing team will be at Parkfield School to administer HPV or MMR immunisations. The immunisations are available for everyone in year 8. A catchup session will also run on this day, for the HPV immunisations for those in years 9 – 11 who have been identified as not having previously received it.

A letter was sent out via email on the 15th March to those who have been asked to participate. If you have received this email for your child, please follow the link on the letter to either give or not give consent. For those who do not complete the online form, their child will not receive the immunisation. **We advise that students wear a short-sleeved shirt or top and bring a water bottle in with them on the day.**

Free School Meals

Free School Meal vouchers will again be issued for the Easter holidays. Families that receive this entitlement will receive £15 per week, per child. We have been asked to remind families that Free School Meal vouchers are part of a national grant, we will inform you as soon as possible if there are any changes to the issuing of these.



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CAREERS

Once again it has been a busy time in Careers. KS4 Assemblies have included Rockley College, offering an outdoor course. Remember they have two upcoming open days, May 1st & June 12th.

We are also lucky to have Nathan Elson from the Submarine Division representing the Royal Navy. Enjoyed by all, a KS3 assembly is in the planning.



The spotlight is on Year 10 each year, preparing them for the next steps. They experienced Mock Interview Day, where a team of employers held 20-minute 1-1 interviews with each pupil, and they then received written feedback at the end. This was followed by the whole year group taking part in two workshops focusing in on interview skills and teamwork. Our young people responded extremely well to all aspects of the day; employers were impressed.

The big event for Year 10 in March was the Career and Apprenticeship Show at the BIC. This exciting career event brings together employers and providers showcasing a range of opportunities for young people in a lively, interactive, and informative setting.



Pupils had 90 minutes to explore the stands on offer, gather information and talk directly to colleges and employers. Feedback was positive, with pupils now having gained an awareness of a spectrum of possibilities for their next steps. The event was open to parents from 4 pm and was attended by some of our parents. Historically this event has been held on alternate years.

I am pleased to announce that because of its success, the organizers are now holding it annually. Get ready, Year 9!



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ENGLISH

Year 11 have been moving forward with their revision of the key skills they will need for the exams. There are also revision sessions planned for students during the Easter break for anyone who wishes to continue their revision during the break.

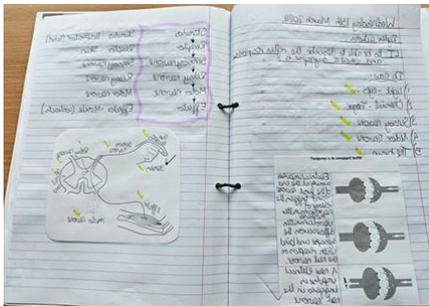
Year 10 are preparing for their Speaking and Listening Assessments which will be taking place the second week after the Easter break. Students have prepared a range of speeches from 'Feminism and Barbie' to 'How Simon from Lord of the Flies is the representation of human goodness'.

Years 7,8 and 9 have all been studying Shakespeare this term. This will prepare them for their future studies as they will do Romeo and Juliet as one of their GCSE texts going forward.

SCIENCE

Year 11 have been revising hard for their exams and making personalised revision plans based on their most recent mock results.

Year 10 have been learning about the nervous system and hormonal control and after Easter will be moving on to preparation for their mocks, which will take place at the end of year 10. KS3, years 7,8 and 9 have been learning about chemical reactions, photosynthesis, and diseases. Building on their knowledge from the previous year, in preparation for the KS3 science assessments at the end of the academic year. As a school, we celebrated British Science Week with activities and tasks relating to science!



THE ARTS

This term we have been focusing on the preparation for GCSE and BTEC students. Year 10 BTEC performing arts students have nearly completed their component 1 assignments and year 11 BTEC performing arts students have completed their final performance exam. In Art, the students in Year 10 have made a great start to their Component 1, based on Marine life. They have also been putting lots of different skills to good use, which will help them to develop their ideas for Component 1. The Year 11's are working on their chosen theme for their Component 2 exam piece, in preparation for their exam after the Easter holidays. The two groups will have their 10-hour exam on the 16th - 17th and the 18th -19th April.



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PSHE

Year 8 has been learning about Multiculturalism and diversity this term. Elise and Elsie in 8 Jemison did a fantastic piece of work where they put themselves into other people's shoes and tried to imagine what it must be like to be a refugee and leave your home behind to start a new life.

ICT

As we near the end of another engaging term in our ICT department, we're thrilled to share some highlights of what our students have been up to.

Year 11

Our Year 11 students have completed all their coursework with flying colours! We're proud to announce that our pupils have achieved some remarkable results, with one student even achieving a perfect score of 100%! Congratulations to all our Year 11 students on their outstanding achievements.

Year 10:

In Year 10, students have wrapped up their first coursework project and have now delved into the fascinating world of data analysis and Excel, well I think it's fascinating! It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm as they explore and engage with these essential ICT skills with some great results hopefully to follow!

KS3

Our KS3 students have been immersed in a diverse range of activities, from Python coding to Adobe Illustrator. They've also been honing their computational thinking skills, all while taking part in some thrilling Minecraft build challenges (definitely not some pupils' first time doing this!) It's been fantastic to witness their creativity and problem-solving abilities flourish throughout these activities.



Game Jam

This term, we introduced our inaugural school-wide Game Jam, and we're delighted to report that it was a resounding success! We were overwhelmed by the number of entries and the sheer quality of the games submitted. The enthusiasm and talent displayed by our students were truly remarkable. Stay tuned for the results, which we'll be sharing very soon. Given the tremendous response, we're already planning to make the Game Jam a regular event in our school calendar.

We're immensely proud of the hard work, dedication, and creativity demonstrated by all our students this term. As we look forward to the remainder of the academic year, we're excited to continue providing engaging and enriching experiences in ICT.



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HUMANITIES

In Geography Year 7 students are going on a journey around Africa and looking at the challenges and opportunities the continent faces. Year 8 geographers are studying megacities and have been experiencing what life is like to live in Mumbai. In Year 9 we are looking at the natural world and understanding the importance of the UK's ecosystem and the pressures it is facing with a focus on our nearby national park of the New Forest.

Year 10 has been focused on understanding UK landscapes and are now using our wonderful coastline to understand the coastal landscapes in the UK and prepare for their field trip to Swanage in the summer term. Year 11 is completing the challenge of resource management with a focus on water management before moving on to the issue evaluation for paper 3 whilst completing exam practice and refining their geographical skills.

In Religious Studies Y7 students have been learning about stewardship and the responsibility of everyone to take care of our planet for future generations. Y8 students have been learning about Abrahamic faiths and are now focused particularly on Islam. Students in Y9 have been learning about Buddhism and those in Y11 are spending their valuable learning time revising Christianity and Islam, Beliefs and Practices, ahead of their upcoming GCSE.

Historians of Year 7 are focusing on the Renaissance and how Europe explored its ancient past to inspire art, technology and science which would change the world forever. The Industrial Revolution is happening to Year 8 as they study whether the period really had 'dark satanic mills'.

Year 9 is looking to more recent history by studying the turning points of World War Two – from Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain to the lesser-known key moments like the 10-day Battle of Crete. Years 10 and 11 are both studying Health and the People, with Year 11 building up to their GCSEs by focusing more on exam skills and pulling all their knowledge together. We're also encouraging people to bring in historical objects they may have at home to inspire other students, if you have anything interesting, you'd like to share please let me know! Year 11 students were looking at gas masks and ration books.



PE AND SPORTS

KS3 students have had engaging, insightful and fun experiences in PE this term while looking at Alternate Games. They have explored new-age sports, urban sports and para sports with pupils enjoying the new skills they have learned along the way.

Year 10 must be congratulated on the collective efforts they have shown throughout the completion of the first component of their BTEC Sport course. Pupils have been working hard on their first pieces of coursework and shown remarkable support for one another throughout their deliverance of a warmup. The new term brings with it a new component, we look forward to working with pupils through this.

Year 11 continue to work hard in lessons and prepare for their final exam for the course which will be on 9th May. Recent mock tests show pupils' continuing commitment to their learning. If this is maintained, they will be fully prepared for the exam.

Our enrichment opportunities continue to flourish with Badminton proving to be a very competitive and fun sport and it is delightful to see pupils making the most of the opportunities they are given.



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EXAMS

Our GCSE and BTEC Tech Award exams start in school on the 2nd May 2024 with Digital Information Technology. The students have already been issued a draft timetable and a final copy will be handed out after the Easter holidays.

GCSEs taken by students at Parkfield School are governed by the Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ), the body that defines the exam regulations that the school and students must follow.

From Year 10 onwards students are made aware of these regulations and the behaviour that is expected of them during exams, and it is the student's responsibility to conduct themselves accordingly.

Please follow the link [Information for candidates documents - JCQ Joint Council for Qualifications](#) to view a series of 'Information for Candidates documents' produced by JCQ.

Thank you for your cooperation and Good Luck Year 11!

ATTENDANCE

As we come to the end of another term, we would like to congratulate those students who have finished the term with 100% attendance. We know how hard you are working to keep your attendance up and congratulate each of you. You should be very proud of your achievement.

We also would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of attendance for all our pupils, we will be kicking off our 'attendance matters' refresh for next term. The standard expectations of absence reporting, and attendance are as detailed below, these standards apply across the school and to all year groups.

- Absences are to be reported by 8:40 am, any absences not reported by this time are marked as unauthorised.
- Medical appointments are to be arranged for out-of-school hours, if however, this is not possible at least 24 hours' notice must be given. A medical appointment leave request form must be completed and appointment confirmation to be provided.

Our Attendance Improvement Commitment

As part of our commitment to improving the outcomes for our young people, Parkfield School expects a minimum attendance of 97%. Research shows that children who attend school regularly, have improved outcomes socially and emotionally, as well as academically.

We are pleased to announce that we now have two Education Welfare Officers who are working with us, to identify students and their families who may require further support to improve attendance. If your child's attendance is under 90%, please expect to receive communication from either the school or the Education Welfare Officer.

The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression.

Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 Hours of Learning Lost Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best levels/grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school, which will help in the future.
95%: 10 days absence a year – 50 Hours of Learning Lost These pupils are less likely to achieve their target levels/grades and will start to find it difficult to maintain a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.
90%: 19 days absence a year – 95 Hours of Learning Lost The Government classes pupils in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work and achieve their target levels/grades. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by BCP Council, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.



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PLACE2BE

As part of my work with Place2Be, I try and raise the profile of this wonderful charity that supports children throughout the UK. I have made the scary decision to try and run (walk/hobble!) the 25 KM Jurassic Coast run this May to raise funds for our work.



<https://www.ultrachallenge.com/jurassic-coast-challenge/>

Since joining Parkfield in 2022, I have seen around 200 of the school's children in one-to-one sessions. It's a positive thing! Place2Be sessions are about being heard and then growing in self-awareness to think about and take control in some measure of emotions, decisions and actions that encourage personal growth and resilience. We all know that can be a bit of a hill climb but it's an important one. I'd be grateful if you could take the time and a small part of your purse to support me as I try and climb those hills!



My Just Giving Page is below. www.justgiving.com/page/mark-henwood-parkfield

Parenting Courses – Primary – Easter Deadline

Over the last year, many parents at Parkfield have taken up the free 6-week online Parenting course offered by Place2Be. The next deadline for application is 1st April. See the link if you would like more information or to sign up. <https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/support-for-families-in-place2be-schools/parenting-smart-online-course/>

Place2Be also offer lots of free access to information and training about parenting matters at their Parenting Smart website - <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Navigating Exam Season

Exams can be a challenging time for young people, and many young people can feel worried and stressed in the lead-up to exams. As parents and carers, it can be difficult to know what we can do to support them. We've shared some tips on supporting your child if they're feeling stressed about exams.

Look for signs of stress.

Stress can present differently in everyone. Signs of stress could include not sleeping or sleeping more than usual, losing interest in food, or eating more than usual, being irritable, having headaches or stomach aches, being negative, feeling hopeless, or not enjoying activities they previously enjoyed.

If you notice your child is struggling, ask them what you can do to help them.

Talk about stress and nerves.

Remind your child that it's perfectly normal to feel worried or stressed about their exams. The key is to put these nerves to positive use. Talk openly about how you cope with your stressful situations, so your child has a positive role model for managing their emotions and time.

Practice relaxation techniques with your child, we love these ideas from NHS Scotland –

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/preventing-falls/fear-and-anxiety-about-falling/relaxation-techniques-to-help-prevent-falls>



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Support your child to create a routine.

Routines and rituals can help your child keep healthy habits and can help you ensure your child is getting enough sleep and eating well. If they haven't already, encourage your child to create a revision plan or timetable, splitting their day up into chunks. Encourage them to take regular breaks – which they could use to have a meal, get some exercise, or unwind – and try to discourage them from staying up late revising.

Try not to add to the pressure.

Many young people feel pressure to do well in their exams to make their teachers, or families proud. Try not to add to this pressure. Be reassuring, positive, and help put things into perspective. Remind them that there is more to life than their grades, and their results don't define who they are. Reassure them you will be proud of them 'no matter what'.

Make yourself available to listen.

Sometimes your child may not want to talk, and we mustn't force them to have a conversation they don't want to have. Please make yourself available but don't pressure them to talk. You may find that your child opens up in situations where they feel less pressure – for example when you're in the car on the way home from school, or during a walk.

Help them unwind after exams.

Find ways to help your child unwind after each exam, so they don't dwell on things they could have done better or differently. After each exam, you and your child could watch a film or enjoy your favourite meal together before they start revising for the next test.

For more guidance or support if you are concerned about your child's stress:

During exams, Place2Talk remains available at school.

Outside of school:

Text CONNECT to 85258 for free to speak to Shout.

Call 0800 1111 to speak to Childline or visit childline.org.uk for their free online chat or you can visit place2be.org.uk/help for more advice.



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SAFEGUARDING

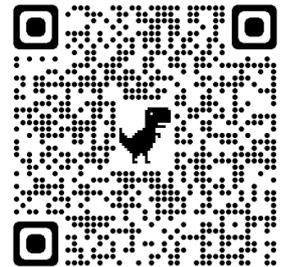
Emergency Contacts:

We ask that you check your emergency contact information is up to date in our records, contacts are used in the case of absence checking, first aid incidents and to discuss the welfare of your child(children). If there are any changes or updates, kindly inform the school office promptly so these details can be updated.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising Appeal for Hillview Primary School Student with terminal cancer.

Please see the QR code for more information and the GoFundMe link to donate:



We wish all our families a restful Easter break and for those observing it, Ramadan Mubarak!

Best Wishes,
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