



# Parkfield School

Hurn  
Christchurch  
Dorset  
BH23 6DF

Email: [office@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:office@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk)

Website: [www.parkfieldschool.org](http://www.parkfieldschool.org)

Telephone: 01202 592530

Headteacher – Mr Jeremy Payne

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

## The clock keeps ticking forwards...

Well, the nights are closing in and the cold is creeping towards us... There are uncertainties about what lies ahead and understandably we would all like a little more certainty about everything. None of us have a magic wand but we do belong to the Parkfield Community and together we can be a little stronger together. We had a great training day last week where as a staff team we began a move towards more simplified school rules and conversation that will enable the whole community to have clarity and purpose in our shared goals. We will share this with you with the official launch after the October half term, but in a nutshell we are going to be 'Ready', 'Respectful' and 'Safe'. Here are the other main headlines:

- **Attendance.** Not going to lie, this is a big issue for us at Parkfield. Our attendance record has been getting worse over time, and it's something we have to get a grip of. Children missing days of school for illness etc. is something that we (and you) can accommodate and manage, however the more school that children miss, the more they fall behind in curriculum knowledge and the harder it is to keep up with where they need to be. I'm conducting a review into our attendance policy and procedures, and more will come on that in the future however for now, I just wanted to re-iterate how important it is for your children to be in school so that we can give them all the tools they need to be as successful as they can be into their future. *(Just a thought: the more successful they are, the better a retirement home they can afford for you...!!)*
- **Nut free school!** We have children in our community whose health and wellbeing can be seriously compromised if they come into contact with any form of nuts. If it was your child you would be vigilant and focussed every second of the day to keep them healthy and safe. Please make sure that you don't send any form of nuts into school with your child that could harm someone else's.
- **SEND update.** We now have a new SEND email address - [send@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:send@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk). Please use this address for any SEND related enquiries including; requesting meetings, questions regarding provision or other SEND related matters. This way we can ensure that your queries can be passed to the correct person in a timely manner. We're also excited to share that we will be starting up some parent coffee mornings soon to allow you, as parents, to meet with others who may be facing similar challenges to you and can support you in the SEND journey whether this is to do with navigating school, feeling isolated as a parent, the EHCP process or just getting together to share tips in making life for your young people that bit easier. We will be trialling a format this half term and will begin with an invitation only event with the view of spreading this more widely into the future.
- **Toys in school.** Everyone likes toys, and everyone has their favourites...!! But please can we ask you to make sure that your children leave their toys at home and don't bring them into school. They are something to look forward to at the end of a school



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day – they don't need to be there during the day because they actually cause more problems than solutions.

- **Safeguarding children.** For obvious reasons, please can I remind you not to leave your children unattended before the 08.40 start of the school day as there is no other adult who is overseeing their safety. Additionally, if your child is going to be picked up by anyone other than you (who is not already identified on our school system) at the end of a day please can you ensure that you contact the school office to inform us. We cannot release any child to any adult who had not been authorised in advance.
- **Clubs start this week!** I want to say a huge thank you to all of my colleagues who are stepping up and providing additional clubs and opportunities for our children. We can't wait to hear how everyone is getting on. If there is anyone out there who feels that they could offer an extra-curricular club with a passion of theirs, please get in contact with the office so we can discuss it!!
- **Year R to 6 Disco – November 4<sup>th</sup>.** Tickets are now on sale for this wonderful PFA social event. 'Baby Shark' is almost certainly on the hit list, as are many others that none of us old folk will ever have heard of. Please contact the school office or look on the Parkfield PFA facebook page for more information if you would like to book tickets.
- **New website.** We are building a new website for our school community and it requires quite a bit of admin work that could be done by a keen individual who has a little more time on their hands than we do with the day to day running of a school.... I would be very grateful to find an individual or individuals who could support us in this task to expediate the process so that we can celebrate more of what we do, promote the great things that happen here and make ourselves more accessible to you – our parents! Please contact the school office if you feel you could help in any way. We need YOU!!
- **Parents and Friends Association.** We have a wonderful PFA at Parkfield who support us in many ways, principally in putting on additional activities that enrich our children's lives and raise money for extras that the school budget may not stretch to. They are ALWAYS looking for more volunteers and support – please consider throwing your hat into the ring!! Contact the school office if you would like to be put into contact with the team and offer some time, however small or large that may be.
- **Would you like to volunteer to help learning here?** There are many occasions in the year (especially as we are now emerging from the difficulties of Covid), where we will benefit from parent volunteers. That could be school trips, listening to readers, supporting at events etc. If you would be interested in helping us in any way, please contact the school office so that we can proactively run the checks that are necessary to legally allow you to come into school and work alongside our children. If we get the checks done now, you will be free to help when the occasion arises!! Thank you in advance for every volunteer – you ALL make a difference!

Quite a long Sunday night read, for which I both apologise and don't.... I want to keep you updated on where we are as a school and unless I phone you all individually for a chat this is



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the easiest and most effective way of keeping you informed and aware of our community needs and information.

I LOVE Parkfield and everything I have seen of it so far. There are things we can make better, and things that we already do that put us head and shoulders above the rest. Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement. Thank you for working with us when things maybe don't work as well as all of us would wish. Thank you for helping us drive forward the Parkfield community and looking towards such a wonderful vision for our future.

I can't wait to get cracking again on Monday morning!

With my best wishes,

Jeremy  
Headteacher

#teamparkfield  
#letsrockandroll  
#wecanruletheworld



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