



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Polite Reminder

Please could all Pre-Prep parents be aware of minibuses returning to school at pick up time, and keep an eye on your children.

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

National Anti-Bullying Week has really raised the profile of bullying and has been the focus of assemblies, Circle Time and CWB lessons. The children discussed the types of bullying - physical, verbal, emotional and cyber-bullying and the clear message from them was that they want to be part of making Berkhampstead a bully-free school. The children identified a range of people they could speak to and steps they could take to play their part.

We were thrilled to welcome an 'old-girl' back to Berky this week as Bea (Year 6 last year) visited along with some of the cast from Dean Close's production of 'Oliver!' The visit included a talk about life in Victorian times. Bea, along with friend Hannah, gave a super rendition of 'It's A Fine Life' - and it certainly is! The Prep children (Years 3 to 6) have been invited to the performance in a couple of weeks' time.

Year 5 visited the Living Rainforest on Tuesday - see the report on News from around the school.

There are some very exciting computing developments going on. Mr Banks has taken delivery of some 'Crumble' computer controllers and we have also had 30+ 'Microbit' computers delivered. These are great devices which give the scope to be really creative with teaching the children about computer control and will further develop programming skills in an engaging way. I am pleased that the School Governors have agreed to an exciting development with regard to updating the iPads (now over 5 years old) that we use within our teaching - I can say more after the Full Governors' Meeting next Tuesday. Governors will be in school during Tuesday to spend time with children and staff - they do say that they enjoy the lessons and time with the children far more than the meeting! Do take the time to chat to them if you see them around at drop-off or pick-up times.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



Year 1 with their teddies
for Children in Need

FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
AUTUMN TERM

Diary dates...

THE WEEK AHEAD

Wed 23rd Nov

3.15pm - Rugby U8 and U9
v Dean Close (A)

2.15pm - Hockey U11A, U11B,
U10A, U10B v Cheltenham
College Prep (A)

3.30pm - Hockey U9A, U9B,
U8A, U8B v Cheltenham College
Prep (A)

Thu 24th Nov

Year 4 Talk on Judaism

Fri 25th Nov

Year 4 trip to Goodrich Castle





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Don't Forget!

To vote on
'Young Games Inventor 2016!' -
to help Kayley and Daisy
in Year 6:
[www.brainbox.co.uk/home/
ygivotte-2016](http://www.brainbox.co.uk/home/ygivotte-2016)

News from around the school...

OFF TO EXPLORE THE RAINFOREST WITHOUT LEAVING THE UK!

The warmth and humidity hit you as soon as you entered the glasshouses of the Living Rainforest at Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire. There are 700 species of plants and animals, and birds, butterflies and lizards roam free in the tropical environment. The children learnt about the 'Amazing Adaptations' of the plants and animals of the rainforest: the bird eating spider and insect eating pitcher plants that lie in wait for their prey, the plants with leaves of giant proportions which grow so well in the steamy atmosphere to capture as much sunlight as possible, the Goeldi monkeys which can jump a fantastic 4 metres to escape predators and the blue poison dart frogs that need no camouflage as they have enough poison in their skin to kill 6 humans! The 2-toed sloth called 'Cinnamon' was spotted curled up in one of the trees and was a popular attraction. The children listened well to our tour guides and answered questions sensibly and accurately. In the afternoon, they had an hour's free time in the glasshouses to visit as many of the exhibits as possible as they worked out the answers to the Rainforest trail worksheet.

Well done to all the Year 5s for a successful and enjoyable trip.

AUTUMN RECITAL

On Tuesday we had our first Recital of this year with a wonderful variety of instrumentalists from Y3 - Y6 playing violins, violas, cellos, clarinet, recorder, flutes, bassoon, piano and cornets. The music ranged from Baroque and Classical through to Jazz, Film and even an expressive own composition played by composer Rowan M. The appreciative audience were given a real treat of musical performances with several children performing for the first time.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports report...

RUGBY

U9 Wycliffe rugby festival

On Wednesday the U9 boys travelled to Wycliffe for a rugby festival. They played four matches against Prior Park, St Hughes, Tockington Manor and Wycliffe. The sports fields at Wycliffe have a punishing slope to them which meant that one team in each match had to run up the slope to score tries. The boys played very well and we only had to run the slope once in the match against St Hughes. All four matches were victories with a total of 18 tries scored and the boys only conceded 2 tries which was excellent. The tackling was very good, the boys were getting tackles in early and really working hard to prevent the other teams from making progress. There were some great runs and the boys worked well as a team. Euan, Ed, Jensen, Noah, George and Andrew all scored tries with Euan scoring an amazing 9 tries!

Excellent results from all matches and the boys deserved each win - many thanks to our loyal supporters.

U9 Rugby v St Edward's

Last Friday the U9 boys travelled to St Edward's with the hope of continuing their unbeaten run. This was a tough match; however the boys didn't play to their usual high standard. St Edward's put in lots of strong tackles and they were well organised which led to them scoring 3 tries in the first half. In the second half our boys played slightly better and defended against St Edward's well. St Edward's scored no more tries; however unfortunately neither did we. The match ended 3-0 to St Edward's. It was an unfortunate result; however things did improve in the next match. Many thanks to our loyal supporters.

U10 Rugby v King's Worcester Won 30-5

A really hard-fought game in which Berky really had to compete at a high level to stay in the game. The game started brightly with King's surging forward but Berky proved equal to the task and tackled ferociously.

Eventually this led to turn over ball and Berky surged forward and Adam went over for the first try. Each player had upped their game and players who had previously been slightly reticent in making tackles were now going forward and taking on players bigger than themselves. George and Benji as ever led the charge forward, but both Elliot and Rumhann also tackled fiercely. In the ruck, Jack, James and Adam rucked and counter rucked fantastically. James scored Berky's second try after some great passing.

With each scrum Rhys marshalled the backs and tried to create overlaps and mark effectively. This he did brilliantly and led by example making great tackles and came off with a war wound at the end of the game. Adam went over for Berky's third try. Benji made a great run up the wing and was tackled just a few feet from the try line and bundled into touch.

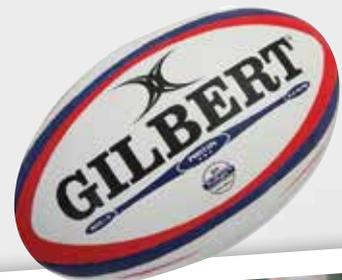
A well deserved try for George made the score 20-0. The game from the school may look at little one-sided but it was anything but. Benji had to make a great try saving tackle to prevent King's going over early in the second half and the rucking and counter rucking by King's was very effective. Berky had to tackle hard. Charlie and Charlton made some good runs and tried to off-load in the tackle. King's fought back magnificently and scored a consolation try but Adam sealed the victory with two more tries. This was by far Berky's toughest game but the boys rose to the challenge and it was great to watch the team play so well.

U8 Tag Rugby v Rendcomb

Rendcomb only had one team so each of our teams, the Buffaloes and the Bisons, played one half. Both of our teams dominated Rendcomb showing a great improvement in their play from when we first started. The number of mistakes has dropped and team work has improved as our players are being encouraged to share the ball as much as possible.

There was a good mixture of fast runs with the ball, secure passing and excellent defensive tagging. Everyone got stuck in and played their part. The Bisons won 8 - 2, tries from Otto, Max, Alex S and Jonny. The Buffaloes won 7 - 3, tries from Will, Alex D, Jack, Sebastian and Griff.

Well played boys.





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Sports report...

HOCKEY

U8 Blue v St Edward's

We arrived at St Edward's very excited, but very cold, on Thursday afternoon. It was the U8s' first hockey match representing Berkhampstead and we were raring to go! For a first match, there was some super play. Eleri, Becky and Eleanor played BRILLIANTLY in defence and put up a very tough barrier for St Ed's to get past. There was lots of excitement to get the ball from all the girls, therefore some improvement on spacing out and using the wings was needed. Unfortunately, St Ed's managed to sneak 2 goals in; however that didn't dampen the spirit of the girls who gave 110% until the final whistle.

U8 v Rendcomb

Last Friday we hosted another match on the MUGA. All the U8s played a mixed team of Rendcomb U8 and U9s. This was a very exciting prospect for the girls, playing a team of Year 4 girls! We knew this would be quite a tough game, however, the girls did not back down. The girls demonstrated that spacing out was second nature and did not need to be reminded to use the wings. There was great play in our attacking half, however, not enough to secure any goals. The Rendcomb girls put on a fantastic performance and the final result was not as hoped; however the girls really did not give up until the final whistle. Well done girls!

All U8 v Hatherop

Blue 1-0 Red 0-1 White 0-1

The U8 were very lucky, and also very excited, to be playing their first home game, but also the first match on the MUGA. All 21 girls in Year 3 played a third each.

The Blue team played first. A great start, with a fantastic improvement on spacing out! The girls were using the wings and looking up before passing the ball successfully. The defence were on superb form and fought to keep the ball away from their goal for the majority of the game. One fabulous goal was scored by Joy, ensuring the Blues won 1-0.

The Reds and Whites both played brilliantly. The communication between the girls was excellent and we saw great dribbling up the wings, and solid defence. Unfortunately goals were scored in both the Red and White matches by Hatherop; however this encouraged the Berky girls to run faster and tackle harder, and really proved they are becoming very competent hockey players.

Girls, you should all be very proud with the overall score of 2-1 to Hatherop. Well done!

