

The

BERKHAMSTEAD
School
Cheltenham

Times

14th October 2011

Diary Dates

15th October 2011

Sat 15 th Oct	9.30am – 12.00 noon – Open Morning
Mon 17 th Oct	6.00pm – Reception Parents' Evening
Tue 18 th Oct	Reception, Year 1, Year 2 - Literacy Day Workshop 4.00pm – Chess v St Gregory 12 Players (A)
Wed 19 th Oct	Year 2 Design and Technology Day 2.30pm – Rugby U11A, U11B v Rendcomb College (A) 6.00pm – Nursery Parents' Evening
Thu 20 th Oct	9.00am – Year 2 Class Assembly Year 4 Trip to Goodrich Castle 6.00pm – Year 1 and Year 2 Parents' Evening
Fri 21 st Oct	Pre-Prep Japanese Culture Day 2.15pm – Pre-Prep Asian Feast

**Saturday 22nd October – Sunday 6th November
HALF TERM**

November 2011

Mon 7 th Nov	Return to School
Tue 8 th Nov	Academy Portraits for individual photographs 6.00pm – 5W Parents' Evening
Wed 9 th Nov	Year 1 Trip to Stroud Museum 2.30pm – Rugby U11A, U11B v St Edwards (H) 2.30pm – Hockey U11A, U11B v St Edwards (A) 3.15pm – Hockey U10A, U10B v St Edward's (A)
Thu 10 th Nov	6.00pm – 5M Parents' Evening
Fri 11 th Nov	2.50pm – Rugby U8 v Richard Pate (A)

Dear Parents,

Half term is approaching rapidly and there's now a distinct hint of autumn in the air. Lots has been packed in so far and there is much still on before the break. It was lovely to see so many of you at the Harvest Festival service at All Saints last week. The Pre-Prep rendition of, 'Cauliflowers Fluffy' was super, and the rather more traditional hymns were enjoyed by all too. Well done also to Sarina for reading so clearly.

May I extend an invitation to you to come along tomorrow to Open Day. It gives a great opportunity to chat, drink coffee and eat freshly baked croissants but, more importantly, you can see so much of what the children have been doing over the term so far and perhaps take the time to chat to any prospective parents about what makes Berky such a great place. The more the merrier – Welsh rugby fans do feel free to come a little later and keep the score to yourselves!

During the Half Term break work will start on making the Pre-Prep entrance rather more welcoming. There will be alterations to allow access to the School Office without having to ring the bell and wait outside.

I will be away from School next week for 3 days on an ISI Inspection. It is a privilege to be able to look at another school in detail and I invariably return from these pleased with how our school compares yet inspired to adopt some element of 'best practice' from the School I have visited.

I am delighted to let you know that the cyclists – pupils and staff – that rode the Cotswold Bike Ride for the British Heart Foundation raised the most money for the 'school' category and have been invited to an awards ceremony next month. Well done to those pupils whose enthusiasm inspired us all to have a go!

RPC

PRE PREP AND EARLY YEARS

Thank you all for your generous donations for our Harvest Festival. Friday's afternoon service in our local church was lovely and I am sure that the Open Door Project was most grateful for all the produce. The Year 2 children made a very special visit to the Lilian Faithfull home in the morning to sing their Harvest song, deliver the beautiful gifts of fruit and flowers you sent in and talk to the old people living there. Everyone was delighted with them and they made us very proud by being friendly and well-mannered towards everybody; the delicious cakes and drinks they received were well deserved.

Thank you to those parents who are lending us their children for tomorrow's Open Morning; I am sure that they will have plenty of fun as well as being a credit to our school!

Looking forward to next week, please send back your slips about our Storytelling and Japanese Culture Workshops as soon as possible. Also, if there is anyone else who is willing to donate some food for our Friday afternoon Asian Feast, please let the Office staff know.

If you have not yet signed up for Parents' Evening, the lists are still up on the board in the main Pre-Prep Hall; should you have a problem with that evening, please speak to your child's teacher to arrange an alternative time.

Please could parents and younger siblings stay on the other side of the fence once the duty members of staff have brought the children outside to play at 8.30 a.m; it is very difficult to supervise the children effectively if some of the parents are still in the playground. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Nursery children have been very busy over the past few weeks. They have been exploring salt dough and created some lovely hedgehogs!

They thoroughly enjoyed the visit from the Beckford Animal Hospital. This visit led to the home corner being changed into an animal hospital. The children worked very well together setting it up and ensuring the animals had many toys to play with! All animals have had lots of love and cuddles from the children.

It is lovely to observe the children participating in their letters and sounds group activities. We observe them going on listening walks, using a variety of instruments outside and enjoying miming activities. The Nursery staff look forward to sharing with you the children's progress on Wednesday 19th October.

The Reception children have been busy with a variety of activities over the past two weeks. The children found lots of gingerbread 'wanted' posters within the Reception area this week and have thoroughly enjoyed listening and responding to the story. They have created story maps and made puppets to re-tell the story. We are looking forward to next Tuesday's story making workshop where the children will be involved in story making.

The children have been enjoying measuring themselves and objects this week. They are looking forward to making milkshakes and weighing ingredients to make chocolate rice crispy cakes planned for next week.

All the children have settled into Reception very well and we are looking forward to sharing their progress and experience with you at our Parents' Evening on Monday. Please complete forms in Reception foyer. **GA/HRW**

MUSIC

Some of our keenest musicians and singers are auditioning for the National Children's Orchestra and National Children's Choir in the next 2 weeks. We wish them all the very best of luck. **PM**

CHRISTMAS BOXES

As usual we shall be collecting 'Christmas Boxes' on behalf of Samaritan's Purse. Last year we sent off between 80-100! Please bring your shoeboxes into school after half term and before 9.00am on Thursday 10th November. You can leave them in the school foyer. Thank you. **Rachel Holder**

Match of the Week

Hockey Reports

U10A v Richard Pate School

Berkhampstead 9 Richard Pate 0

This was a superb game in every respect and the team were considerably stronger than the Richard Pate's team. Strong defending by Molly, Jessica and Susie, great link play by Hannah and super attacking skills by Achsah, Lucy, Tabitha and Alice led to a fantastic 9-0 win. Beth in goal saved their one shot well and a special mention to Alice who scored 6 goals! Amazing play girls!

10B v Richard Pate School

Berkhampstead 2 Richard Pate 0

Again another super game and the girls battled hard throughout. This was a closer game than the A match but nevertheless Berky deserved their 2-0 win. Special mention to Matilda Munn who was playing in her first hockey match for Berky and was like a tiger in defence and on the wing Amelia was playing beautiful hockey and ended up scoring both of the goals. Well done to the whole team.

U11 A's v Rendcomb

Berkhampstead 7 Rendcomb 0

I took lots of girls to this match as the Rendcomb team were not as strong as last year's team. We played 3 lots of 10 minutes in order for everyone to have a game. The Berky girls created lots of space and were soon hitting the backboard of the goal. At the end of the first game the score was 5-0 to Berky. The winning streak continued in the next 2 mini matches and our girls swapped on and off and often played out of position. The final score was 7-0 to Berky and a special mention to Nina and Maddy who stepped up to play in the A team for today's match. Well done to all!

Rugby Reports

U11 A v Wycliffe

Berkhampstead 47 Wycliffe 10

The U11 team bounced back from the previous week's match with a superb performance. There was great improvement with lines of running, tackling and passing. Tries were scored Luis (3), George (2), Archie and Fraser. A fantastic effort!

U11A v Hatherop

Berkhampstead 30 Hatherop Castle 10

The U11 team continued their winning ways with a fine victory against Hatherop. Tries were scored by George (3), Fraser (2) and Robert. There were also excellent performances by Lukas, who was secure under the high ball and made some excellent runs and by Tom Woodward who has made great improvement with his tackling. Well done to all the team.

U11B V Hatherop

Berkhampstead 15 Hatherop Castle 15

The B team performed superbly in a very evenly contested match. Samuel had a super game, scoring 3 tries. He was well supported with excellent contributions from the captain, Felix, and great line out play from Benjamin. There was also some ferocious tackling from Remo. Well done to all the team.

PMcC

U9 v Hatherop Castle

Berkhampstead 11 Hatherop Castle 8

U9 v Rendcomb

Berkhampstead 3 Rendcomb 4

Following a fabulous 11 – 8 victory against Hatherop Castle the U9 rugby team travelled to Rendcomb for a ‘Tag’ rugby game recently. Although a little slow to adapt to the non-contact game the team played well and produce some strong running to score three tries. Unfortunately we found it hard to ‘grab the tags’ in defence, letting in four tries and narrowly losing the game. Great effort though and the team are improving all the time. We look forward to the Richard Pate’s game today.

RPC