

The

BERKHAMPSTEAD
School
Cheltenham

Times

30th September 2011

Diary Dates

3rd – 15th October 2011

Mon 3rd Oct	10.00am – Vale Animal Hospital to visit Nursery
Tue 4th Oct	1.00pm - Year 5 Science trip to Cheltenham Ladies' College
Wed 5th Oct	2.30pm – Rugby U11A, U11B v Wycliffe College (A) 3.30pm – Hockey U10 A, U10B v Richard Pate (A)
Thu 6th Oct	4.00pm – Hockey U9 v St Edward's (A) 4.15pm – Cross Country at Old Pats
Fri 7th Oct	10.30am – Year 2 to visit Lilian Faithfull with Harvest gifts 2.30pm – Harvest Festival, All Saints Church – Parents welcome 7.30pm – PTA AGM and Quiz Night
Mon 10th Oct	6.00pm – 4T Parents' Evening
Wed 12th Oct	2.30pm – U11 Hockey v Rendcomb College (A) 2.30pm – Rugby U11A, U11B v Hatherop Castle (A) 6.00pm – 4M Parents' Evening
Thur 13th Oct	4.15pm – Cross Country at St Edward's 8.00pm – PTA Meeting, Pre-Prep Hall
Fri 14th Oct	8.45am – PTA Coffee Morning (Pre-Prep Hall) 2.50pm – Rugby U9 v Richard Pate (A) 3.15pm – Rugby U8 v Dean Close (A)
Sat 15th Oct	9.30am – 12.00 noon – Open Morning

Dear Parents,

I hope that you enjoy reading the Summer edition of the Berky Blazer, enclosed with this Newsletter – and also available on line (see the homepage of the website and the News page for past editions). The wonderful range of what we do here at Berky is reflected in its pages and there are some super pictures and articles. Should you want another for friends or family then do ask at the School Office. The lovely weather has made this week delightful and children are welcome to wear Summer Uniform until further notice. It is lovely to see so many people walking to school and dogs may of course come along and do the school pick-up/drop-off. Would you please ensure that they do not come onto the school premises and are not tied to gates and fences such that they are an obstruction.

The traffic survey has come to a close and has registered that there is still some illegal parking going on – many thanks again to the vast majority who are supporting parking legally and with consideration and so keeping the children safe. I encourage you all to do so.

There is much to look forward to, fixtures have begun in earnest and the children are enjoying the competition. Speaking of which, the PTA Quiz and AGM looms on the horizon – looking forward to seeing you there; it is always a super evening (my team – it's never too early to start revision!)

Our Autumn Open Day is to be held on Saturday 15th October – you are all very welcome to come along and have a tour of the school, a cup of coffee and some freshly baked biscuits and to see what is going on. The last ISI Inspection report remarked that our ‘children are proud of their school’ and we see it daily. They are invited to come and conduct tours and show prospective parents what life at Berky is like – a separate letter will follow with details.

RPC

VR SESSIONS

There will be a VR Session for Year 6 tomorrow morning, Saturday 1st October from 8.30am until 10.30am. Please bring a snack and wear home clothes. Please report to the Prep playground. Please don't tell Mr Cole and Mr Milner the rugby score when you pick up!

AM

PRE PREP AND EARLY YEARS

The term is flying past and the Pre-Prep halls are now looking distinctly Oriental, thanks to the Year 1 and 2 artists. Do take a look at Year 2's responses to Hokusai's painting 'The Great Wave' and Year 1's Japanese dolls and cherry blossoms as you pass through!

Clubs for Years 1 and 2 are now under way and many children are eager participants in the Andy Tucker Football Club and Mrs. Sallis's ever-popular music clubs – Crash, Bang, Wallop (percussion) and Strum It (ukulele). The music clubs are so over-subscribed that Mrs. Sallis has had to split each one into two separate sessions! If you have any problem attending on your allotted day, please speak to Mrs. Sallis.

The Year 2 children have had a fun-filled week looking at a lovely boxful of Japanese artefacts from the museum, sampling different fruits, creating their own smoothies and making papier mache volcanoes. The climax of the week had to be when we made the volcanoes erupt – very exciting!

If you wish to come into the Pre-Prep building first thing in the morning, please use the side (playground) door rather than ringing the front door bell as the Office staff are extremely busy at this time of day. Thank you.

The Nursery children have been very busy over the past few weeks. They listened and responded to a piece of music by Vivaldi. This inspired them to create some beautiful autumn collages including a group and individual creations. These creations are displayed in the book area of Nursery; please feel free to come and admire them.

Alongside learning French the children have been learning another language: Russian! Arina Byndyu's Mummy has kindly volunteered to teach the children some Russian. They have thoroughly enjoyed learning Russian games and numbers. The children have been saying "Hello", "Goodbye" and "Thank you" in Russian. Thank you very much to Mrs Byndyu for your time and patience!

Reception children have been exploring 2D shapes and proved to be very good detectives spotting a variety of shapes around the school. They enjoyed talking and describing shapes to each other.

Berky Bear has been introduced to Reception children and they were very excited hearing and seeing photographs of his travels around the world. If you have planned a holiday and would like to take Berky Bear along please come and see us. He is little and will fit into your suitcase easily and is a very well behaved bear! Berky loves to travel all around the world and having his photograph taken at the different destinations.

GA/HRW

SCHOOL OFFICE

Please could all Pupil Information Sheets be returned to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

FRIENDS OF BERKHAMPSTEAD

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Quiz night and AGM next Friday. If you are able to provide a raffle prize please leave it in the school office. Many thanks.

There are a lot of cake tins in the Pre-Prep food technology room from summer term cake sales. Please collect these plus any left in school for today's cake sale as soon as possible. Unnamed containers will be thrown away next Friday.

There is a "Thank you" card from Mrs Tulacz on the PTA notice board in the foyer of the school; if you are able, please stop by and have a read.

Finally, on the morning of Friday 14th October from 8.45am to 10.00am the new PTA Chair, Adrian Bird, will be hosting a PTA coffee morning in the Pre-Prep Hall. This will be a great opportunity to meet others involved with the PTA, make new friends, and swap ideas for building the Berky community and for fundraising. It would be great to see you there!

Jayne Main

Match of the Week

Rugby

U11A v Richard Pate

The U11s had a very tough encounter on Wednesday against a very good Richard Pate side. We conceded several tries in the first half and had little possession. However the second half was much better. Tackling was more committed and we began to make some inroads of our own. Although we were well beaten there was a great attitude amongst the boys and they will have learned a great deal from it. Well done to all the team.

PMcC