

The *Blazer*

BERKHAMPSTEAD School
Cheltenham

BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL MAGAZINE

AUTUMN 2013

inside:

Cows Sent!

Terrific Trips

Science Detectives

Drama in Pre-Prep



A Royal Performance

What an endorsement for Berkhamstead to be invited to sing for HRH Prince Charles – a privilege and testament to our reputation for excellent music. Our children enjoy their singing and embrace all things musical – their double basses, French horns, clarinets and percussion – they play a whole range of instruments and their enthusiasm is clear for all to see. New joiners, of which we have many, have expressed delight and surprise at the sheer range of fabulous opportunities that Berky children have had this term. Their comparisons with other schools have been extremely favourable. At Berky we do music with style.

And it's not just music – not by a long way! Sport is highly regarded. Success on the hockey pitch this term has been unprecedented with the teams developing superbly as the weeks went on. There were wins aplenty with several teams remaining unbeaten all season. Matches were played enthusiastically and mutual encouragement was very much in evidence. This is no doubt down to the excellent coaching staff whose supportive positive approach gives every child the

confidence to do their best. We often compete in matches against schools with better physical facilities and we hold our own - the attitude of the children and quality of the coaching team make the difference. Drama too this term has been super; I've observed some inspiring lessons and I know that Pre-Prep children and their parents have enjoyed some high quality performances.

And so to the cerebral. Chess has had another splendid term. Popular across the year groups, Berky children enjoy their club and competitive matches and do well. Puzzles and challenges have again been embraced – we celebrate enquiring minds. The new Current Affairs board in Prep is sparking interesting discussion. Standards of academic work are very high as Writer of the Week and the number of Commendations awarded show. At Berky it is cool to work, to be involved and cool to do well; this leads to success across the board whether it be in Entrance Exams, sports fixtures, Music Recitals or any opportunity to participate. Do turn the page and read all about it!

Richard Cross, Headmaster

Regular features: Musical Notes ▷ Sports Reports ▷ Nursery News ▷ Staff on the Spot

Back to School

It was back to school for author and illustrator Helen Cowcher when she returned to Berky where she had been at school in the 1960s. Her love of Art and words was fired here and she has gone on to write wonderful books about the natural world. Our young Berky artists learnt more about Africa and were inspired by her talk on book design. She showed us the original paintings for her two African books, 'Whistling Thorn' and 'Desert Elephants', Nursery children enjoyed two lovely stories and all loved seeing the large scale illustrations of toucan, sloth, penguins and elephants.

Mrs Agg



999 Call!

Police at Berky? Invited in, of course and what a super time the children had clambering in the police car and playing with the equipment - the siren was SO loud! I was handcuffed, to the children's great amusement, but luckily the police decided to let me go so that I could carry on teaching. What a great day!

Mrs Roddy Watts



Helping Others

Onesies at the ready, children (and some staff) came to school in their nightwear as they raised funds for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan selected by the School Council as another valuable cause this year.

Following a talk by the charity 'Send a Cow', our children were on a mission to raise enough money to send a cow to a poor African family. A very successful Bring and Buy sale, and several weeks of sponsored reading by Years 1 and 2 of books with an African theme helped. Our Harvest Festival service at All Saints' Church also focused on Africa with all of Pre-Prep reciting and acting out 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain'; rather than the traditional harvest gifts of fruit and vegetables, parents donated very generously to the Cow Fund. Finally, the Christmas stamps proceeds were added to what had become a substantial amount of money – enough for almost three dairy cows!

Mrs Agg



Chess Report

It's been busy for Berkhamstead's keen chess players and the term saw lots of stunning checkmates at our clubs and several fine, rather emphatic victories for our promising team. Victories over Bishop's Cleeve, Airthrie, St. Gregory's and Holy Apostles leave the school in a very strong league position as the pivotal Spring Term approaches. A cup final (probably against main rivals, Richard Pate) beckons too. Lots to play for!

Mr Cole

Fun With Friends

The Autumn term's calendar of exciting events had something for everyone: children, parents, teachers, friends and families alike. 'Berky's finest' competed in a challenging, fun and sociable evening at the Quiz Night in October, their efforts rewarded with a tasty fish and chip supper. The stunning Berky Family Fireworks Party, still only in its second year, proved itself a family favourite and a significant fundraising event. A sell-out crowd enjoyed a magnificent twenty-minute display, along with hot food, mulled wine, and some most eye-catching glow-sticks. Towards the end of term the vast majority of children from Reception to Year 6 packed out the hugely popular Christmas Discos, relishing the dancing, games and chocolate selection boxes! The grand finale, the Christmas Fayre, boasted an impressive array of seasonal stalls, games, crafts and food, a fantastic raffle for eight luxury hampers, and, of course, Father Christmas himself in a truly magical grotto. Very many thanks to everyone who supported these events.

Jane Crompton, PTA



Stamp that!

The Royal Mail ran a competition to design Christmas stamps and Berky children entered in numbers. We selected four of the best to use for the Berkhamstead Christmas card (right) sent to local Heads, Governors and friends of the school. Well done to all who produced lovely designs and in particular to Freya Clark Y6, Kitty Riley Y6, Joel Read Y5 and Lauren de Burgh-Thomas Y5 whose stamps were chosen.

Miss Clifford



Africa



The term's topic for Years 1 and 2 was Africa; as

well as learning about the geography of the continent, the children enjoyed much Africa-based art and craft work, culminating in an exciting African Mask-Making and Dance Workshop. Thanks to our African Art Day, there was also an impressive display of shakers, necklaces, cave art and batik-style work on display. The children prepared – and ate – African food and the Year 2 children led a lively assembly in which they told the story of Cross Crocodile and gave an impressive demonstration of African drumming directed by Mrs Sallis. Two parents gave Year 2 interesting talks; Mrs Parkin showed pictures of her 'once in a lifetime' trip to Africa, patiently answering the hundreds of questions fired at her, and Mrs Allen came into school in authentic African dress to talk about the lifestyle and food in Kenya.

Mrs Agg



Staff on the Spot



Miss Walter joined Berky in the

summer of 2008, she is Head of Girls' Games and Geography.

What sports do you play?

I ride my mad horse on Saturdays and I play tennis regularly. I also play golf which I love and would like to do more.

What sporting event would you love to have tickets for in 2014?

Men's semi-finals at Wimbledon.

What's the best school trip you've ever run?

I like in equal amounts the Living Rainforest trip with Year 5 and the Rivers trip with Year 6.

What instruments do you play?

How well?

If you can call it playing I used to play the piano very badly.

What's the best thing about your job?

I love working at Berky; the super enthusiastic children, fantastic colleagues and the variety of subjects I teach.

What's the most daring thing you have ever done?

Without doubt it's riding in point to points - totally exhilarating as you try to control the power of a thoroughbred and soar through the air over the fences.

If you didn't teach at Berky, what would you like to do instead?

Nursing.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

A PE teacher always because sport was what I was good at.

If stranded on a desert island, what would you HAVE to have?

My SLR digital camera – I LOVE to take lots of photos wherever I go, even if it's a desert island!

NEWS FROM THE NURSERY...



Let's go Outside



Gruffalo Inspires



Active Fun



Diwali

We were busy people in Nursery again - all term! We love being outside and freely playing. We love the PE lessons in the gym and have enjoyed lots of art and craft and fun based on stories from home and abroad. The Gruffalo featured heavily

early in the term and we went on the Gruffalo Trail, tracking footprints and looking at its habitat. Back at school we made muddy pictures, squelched through mud and role-played. The children had interactive fun with the Diwali display they made, trying on traditional Indian costumes, smelling spices and incense sticks and exploring Indian objects. Traditional Indian stories were popular as was the Bollywood dancing we watched on the iPads - it led to a fantastic music and movement session. Stories inspired model making based on 'Elmer' the elephant. We glued bright tissue paper to make Elmer's multicoloured patchwork body; we encouraged the children to identify the different coloured squares they chose. Milk bottle handles became long trunks and we added googly eyes. We watched the New Year fireworks display in London on the iPads and the children were fascinated by all the different types of fireworks and how they exploded in time to the music. We discussed Guy Fawkes' plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament and King James; the children decided that this was not a very kind thing to do and were relieved to hear of his arrest and



Masterchefs



imprisonment. They enjoyed learning the rhyme 'Remember, Remember the 5th of November'.

The children created their own spectacular fireworks

pictures using their choice of chalks, metallic pens and glitter. They thought carefully about the colours they would use and the patterns they were making. Their recall was impressive as they talked about what they'd learnt.

As always, cookery was popular and Halloween and Christmas projects were great fun. Many of you will have sampled the delicious truffles; here's the recipe should you want to have more!

Chocolate Truffles

Ingredients
100g chocolate (Plain)
100g unsalted butter (softened)
300g icing sugar
Vermicelli

Method: Melt the chocolate, and then gradually mix in the butter and the icing sugar. Carefully roll into little balls and then roll over the vermicelli chocolate pieces so they stick to the outside of the truffles. Pop the truffles into mini cupcake cases, and put in the fridge to harden. **Miss Bull**

Musical Notes



What a truly amazing term of music we have just experienced! From 52 beginners taking up instruments to 50 experienced players joining the Jazz Band, Berky Bows, Chamber Group, Percussion Ensemble, Recorder Consort and Keyboard Orchestra for the first time this term, it has been very exciting. We are looking forward to hearing these ensembles at the Spring

of **Prince Charles** - but we were not allowed to tell anyone. Rehearsals started in earnest when we returned to school and the singers rose to the challenge magnificently. They rehearsed several times each week to learn parts and words, despite not knowing the special reason for all their very hard work! We felt extraordinarily proud of the group of 17 who sang beautifully, with confidence and great presence, as the crowds gathered and HRH approached. He stopped to talk to us, and Kitty was able to present him with a cuddly Berky Bear for Prince George. It was a very special event to remember. Later that week we heard a superb range of musical performances from instrumentalists across the year groups at the **Recital**. Some had only recently begun learning whilst others were more

experienced but they all delighted us with their desire to overcome nerves and perform to a large audience; there were some very accomplished solos played confidently and expressively. The end of term saw a flurry of carols - a delightful group from Year 3 and Year 4 sang to the elderly folk at Bay Tree Court and the Senior Choir performed for a very appreciative audience at the **Town Hall** for the annual lunchtime concert in aid of Winston's Wish, this year organised by Mr Agg. A Brass Quartet (Henry Wayt, Oliver Tingle, Annie Finan and Sam Gibson) and drummer (Oliver Shaw) accompanied 'The March of the Kings' and we heard superb solos from Kitty Riley (Double Bass), Emily Wan (Violin), Alexia Dunley (Cello) and Sam Gibson (Piano). Mr Trim led the Chamber Group in a thrilling performance of the 'Waltz' from 'Sleeping Beauty' by Tchaikovsky.



Concerts next term. A number of singers from Y5 and Y6 were keen to develop their vocal skills further and auditioned for the **National Children's Choir**. Alexia, Harriet, Darcy, Sam, Maddie, Poppy, Sasha and Caitlin were successful and will be joining Kitty, Emily, Freya and Olivia on their music course at Easter. Just before half term came the very exciting invitation to sing carols at the Regent Arcade for the visit



Finally, the Prep pupils led the beautiful Carol Service in All Saints Church. From the first magical moments of the candlelight procession to the joyous final verse of 'O Come, all ye Faithful' with its soaring descant, the service of readings and carols was presented with confidence and finesse. **Mrs Mitchell**

TRIPS AND VISITS

Fruit Explorers

Inspired by the book *Handa's Surprise* and its basket of fruit, some practical tasting and exercising of the senses was called for! What a super day for Year 1, as they found out about all things fruity in Waitrose. All learned about fruit's importance in the diet and sampled a wide selection of different fruits; everyone, Bake Off-style, made a delicious fruit crumble to take home. Finding out where different fruits came from in the fruit hunt round the store was fun, as was drawing them. Art, geography and science, as well as literacy combined in this lovely trip - lots of learning was done! **Mrs Williams Jones**



Rainforest



Year 5 enjoyed a talk and tour on 'Amazing Plant and Animal Adaptations'. We saw salmon, bird-eating spiders, piranhas and the giant Swiss Cheese Plant. It was hot, steamy and fascinating. Creatures included the West African dwarf crocodile which doesn't have to grow big as it has no large prey to deal with - it has two eyelids, one of which is transparent and remains closed over the eye so it can spend a long time under water - and the Azaras Agouti which is the

only living creature with teeth sharp enough to gnaw through the outer protective casing of the Brazil nut; amazingly, humans would need a saw! **Miss Walter**

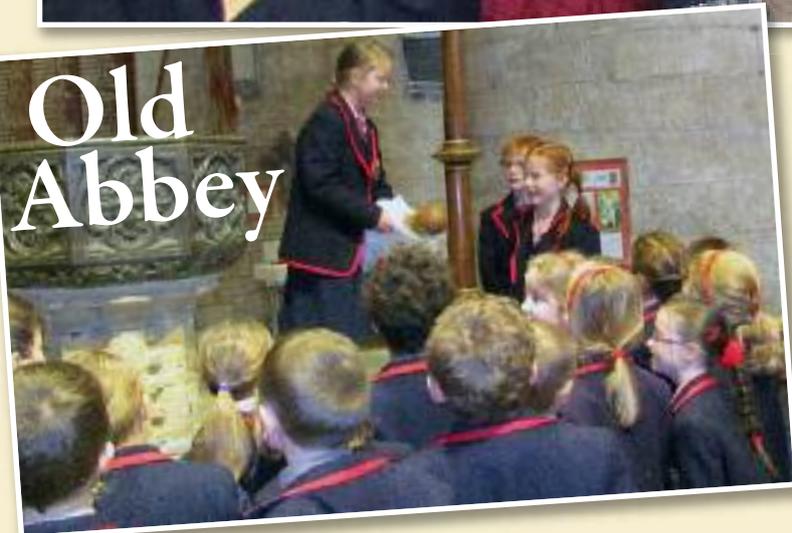
On the Farm



Year 1 had a fabulous time at the Primrose Fruit Farm. They saw runner beans, blackberries, raspberries, strawberries and huge pumpkins. All senses were stimulated as they picked

fruit, played on the park and tractor and had a yummy picnic in the sun. Later, jelly making was a highlight and they weighed and measured, stirred and then waited for them to set. All tucked in and enjoyed the fruity flavours. **Mrs Williams Jones**

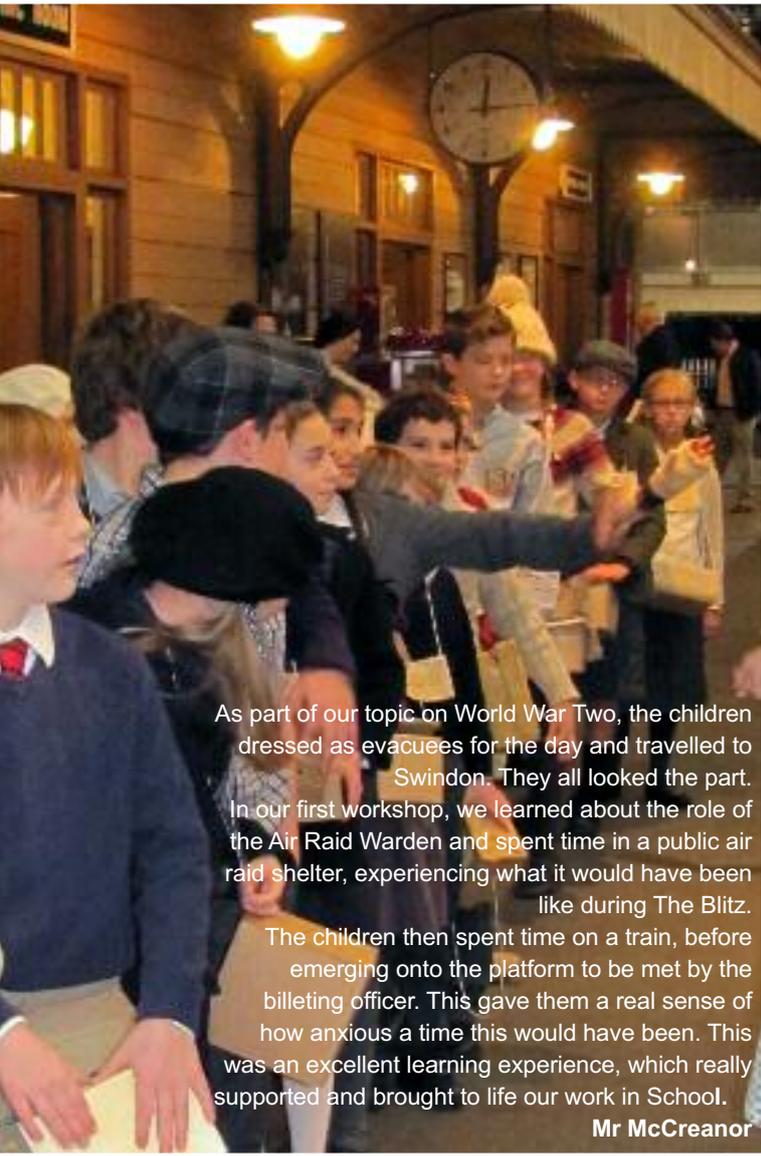
Y6 Evacuated



Old Abbey

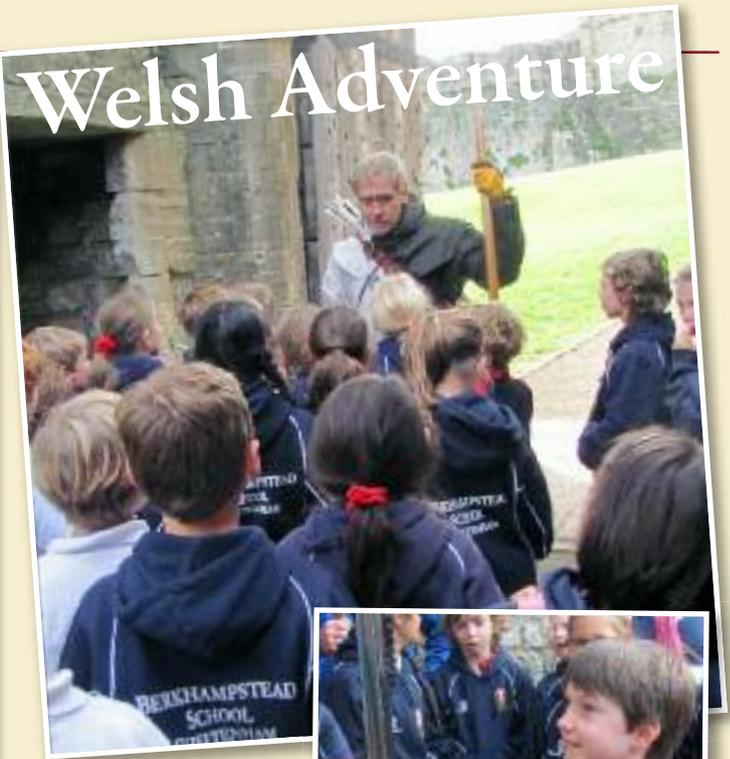
Year 3 enjoyed a very enjoyable and informative morning when they travelled to Tewkesbury Abbey. After an exciting climb up a narrow, winding staircase, they listened to a story and discussed their own experiences of Baptism. Then it was time to go back into the main part of the Abbey, where they gathered around the font. The children learnt all about Baptism, asked plenty of interesting questions and even took part in a mock ceremony. It was lovely for the children to see what they had been learning about in the classroom actually brought to life. **Mrs Wantling**

TRIPS AND VISITS



As part of our topic on World War Two, the children dressed as evacuees for the day and travelled to Swindon. They all looked the part. In our first workshop, we learned about the role of the Air Raid Warden and spent time in a public air raid shelter, experiencing what it would have been like during The Blitz. The children then spent time on a train, before emerging onto the platform to be met by the billeting officer. This gave them a real sense of how anxious a time this would have been. This was an excellent learning experience, which really supported and brought to life our work in School.

Mr McCreanor



As part of our Year 5 topic on Medieval times, we made the journey over the border to Wales to visit Chepstow Castle. Here the children were able to see how effective the castle defences were as we explored the various parts of the wonderful building.



We also had the opportunity to handle the huge sword (above), a variety of artefacts and we learned about the horrors of medicine in the Middle Ages. Some of the implements were quite shocking. In the afternoon we had a fantastic workshop about archery. Mr Hicks was both entertaining, informative and great fun. This was once again a super trip. **Mr McCreanor**

New Museum

To end our interesting topic of 'Old Toys,'

Year 1 visited the new Wilson Art Gallery and Museum. Toys of every description surrounded us as Sophie showed us how 'the doll' has changed over time from being made of wood or wax to plastic today. Fingers were itching as we got to play with every toy in the room. We investigated how some moved by turning handles, being pushed along, popping up, or being thrown. Dolls and teddies were cuddled too. We even played with toys from other countries. What an exciting morning we had! **Mrs Williams Jones**



Visiting Heroes

Reception children were lucky enough to be visited this term by a huge range of people who help us. The firefighters and their noisy sirens were popular and everyone enjoyed exploring squirting the hose! Our friendly dentist, optician and vet were really informative and there was lots of 'hands-on' fun. The children bombarded each visitor with carefully considered questions and learnt a great deal.

Mrs Roddy-Watts



Double



HANDS ON @



Year 5 went on a fantastic science trip to @Bristol where they let us explore. Everything was so interesting. First we looked at this fun and interactive energy exercise that you could see how fast your heart was beating; to do this we had to do lots of running on the spot. Then we walked over to this big black hamster wheel and ran on it and it was really heavy to move. The more adventurous had the opportunity to dissect a cow's eyeball; many children were eager to take part in this but if you preferred you could just watch or continue exploring. Dissecting a cow's eyeball is very horrible but also very

interesting. In the very centre of the eye was a little bit of gel and when the girl opened up the eyeball, there was lots of black watery slime that poured out; if you chose to touch this slime you had to wash hands really well afterwards. After lunch we could sit in these big giant bubbles that you could put around you and make unusual shapes, it was so much fun. There was also a big hole that you could look down and it felt like it just kept going and going. Towards the end of the day we went into a little film studio



where we could film each other, then we watched a show about Space in the Planetarium. In the show there was a lady and she was asking us lots of questions and facts like how long does it take to get to the moon? And who was the first man in space? It was very, very interesting. She asked people to come and help her do experiments with rockets. Then the show finished and we headed back downstairs and finished with a little look in the gift shop. Time to go back to school after a fun and enjoyable day.

Science

CSI Berky

A lady from the Detective Project came to Berky. She was an ex-policewoman and was very experienced. In the first half of the workshop we made fingerprints to see which type of ridge-lines we had. She told us that the loops were the most common and the arches were the least common, and the whorls were in between! We also put our fingerprints on a glass jar and dusted it with aluminium dust. Then we were given this special tape to remove the fingerprints from the jar, so we stuck it onto the jar and then peeled it back off carefully and stuck it onto a piece of black card to make a bookmark.

Next she told us a story of a robbery at a bank and that the criminal had written a note. All the suspects had a pen in their pocket, so we did chromatography to see who had robbed the bank! It turned out it was letter 'C' on the

filter paper who we named Eddie. In the second half of the session, we were solving a murder crime! We had to find all the evidence that we could about this person's death. We also had to answer two questions using the evidence that we found: *what was his name?* and *how had he died?* After



we had found all the clues, we had to come up with a team theory about how he had died. When we had come up with a theory, we went back into the Science Lab and the lady played us a message that this person left before he died. She said this message may change our minds about how he died, so we went back into the Pre-Prep Art Room and thought about it carefully. After we had come up with a different theory we went back into the lab and heard each group's theory. When every group had told us theirs the lady told us what his name was and how he had died! **Emily Wan**
Year 6



SPORT REPORT

Under 11 Teams

With very few players having 'A' team experience, this year was always going to be a challenge. I am delighted to say that the boys' attitude and willingness to improve was superb.

We opened the season with good victories against Rendcomb and Hatherop. It was obvious that our strength lay in the forwards and our front row of Zac, Jules and Henry P proved to be a formidable unit, particularly in the scrum.

Our toughest game before half term came against Richard Pate. Although we lost the game, we showed tremendous

U11A STATS

Played 7
Won 4
Lost 2
Drawn 1

commitment and determination. Our final game before half term was a

resounding 33-0 victory against King's Worcester. This was followed by a loss against St Edward's and a super win against Wycliffe.

Our final game of the season was a very close affair against King's Gloucester. Although we had lost to them earlier in the season, we competed very well in this game, turning a 14-7 deficit into a very fine draw.

Many players developed over the course of the season. Ciaran and Jamie were excellent in the pack and the two Ollies at half back made great strides. Well done to all of the boys.

A Team all awarded colours:

E Allen, W Foster, B Hordern, J Irwin, L King, H Perks, J Read, J Richards-Good, C Shaw, O Shaw, M Sinden, J Terry, O Tingle, Z Vintcent, T Wheeler, B Wyman.

Outstanding player awards:

J Richards-Good, H Perks, Z Vintcent.

U11B STATS

Played 8
Won 5
Lost 3

The **B team** have had a wonderful season. There have been some fantastic victories against Hatherop, King's Worcester, Wycliffe, King's Gloucester and Richard Pate.

Several boys who started in the 'B' team went on to play for the A team, which was very pleasing. Boys who lacked confidence last year have developed into fine rugby players. Henry W, Sebastian, Sam and Oliver D have played consistently well and have made many excellent contributions. **B squad:** H Brooks, O Doherty, W Foster, R Fuller, S Gibson, L Harcourt, S Hartley-Kuun, G Hurcombe, Q Johnson, C Loveridge, A Pearce, F Rayner, H Wayt.

Mr McCreanor

Cross Country

All of our children performed well and tried their hardest in the two Cross Country races this term at Old Pats and St Edward's. The outstanding performance in these races was by Alex Crane who finished well up the field which was a stunning effort for a Year 4. Well done to all our runners and good luck to them in the two races next term. **Miss Walter**



Under 9 Teams

It has been a great season for the U9A and B teams who have worked hard in training and had plenty of matches in which to apply their skills and drills to a game situation. Their enthusiasm for rugby and for playing for each other has been huge and this led to some great matches. The highlights were many; they included ferocious tackling and strong running against Richard Pate, superb passing and distribution (and a hatful of tries) against St Edward's and great team spirit against King's Gloucester. The season ended disappointingly at Wycliffe where



the opposition mix-up meant we played an U8 team at tag – with a predictable win but without the enjoyment of tackling! The challenge for me each week was picking an A and a B team, as so

U9A STATS

Played 9
Won 5
Lost 4

U9B STATS

Played 8
Won 6
Lost 2

many boys were playing so well and the B team won many more matches than

they lost. Overall the boys showed great skill and spirit and this bodes well for the U11 team next

year.

U9 Squad: C Campbell, E Clark, J Coley, W Cooke, O Dalton, B Gibson, H Hurcombe, G Iles, J Main, T Minter, J Parkin, T Perks, A Rendell, E Shaw, H Sullivan, J Wright.

Mr Cross



Under 8 Team

The U8 boys have been a tremendous group to work with this season. They have been hugely enthusiastic and have worked hard to acquire the skills needed in rugby. All the boys have made good contributions. In particular, the trio of Oliver Armstrong, Harry Barber and Sam Perris have enjoyed a super season. They have won many matches, but most importantly have worked as a team,



U8 STATS

Played 19
Won 9
Lost 3
Drawn 7

encouraged each other and had fun.

U8 Squad: O Armstrong, J Ayland, H Barber, H Bawtree, B Bird, N Brush, C Dunning, R Lewis, T Martin, N Milne, E O'Yando, S Perris, O Rendell, P Sinden, E Stojanov, W Tingle, H Whistler. **Mr McCreanor**

HOCKEY

SPORT REPORT

Under 11 Teams

Both teams have had a super season and the B team finished unbeaten. The As started vs Richard Pate and this very close encounter was the only game they lost. They then drew against St Edward's 0-0 in an extremely tight game. After that, with the wind in their sails they won their remaining matches against: Hatherop, Rendcomb, The Croft and King's Gloucester. In the best match vs Hatherop Castle they were simply on fire; great passing and spacing, fantastic shooting - with Olivia scoring a hat trick and super team play all round. **Outstanding badges** were awarded to Alexia Dunley for impressive play in goal, Maddie Leftley, Darcy Lewis, Harriet Minter and Emily Wan. The **B team** won all of their matches starting off with wins against local rivals Richard Pate and St Edward's. Then Rendcomb and a super victory at CCJS in which Manon scored our second hat trick of the season. They rounded the



season off with a spectacular win of 10-0 against King's Gloucester where both Manon and Kitty scored hat tricks. Well done to all the U11s for a fantastic season. **U11A:** A Dunley, N Kaveh, M Leftley, D Lewis, H Minter, O Pearce, K Riley, E Wan who were all awarded colours **U11B:** A Brown, I Charles-Haskey, F Clark, M Cross, H Davie, M Dingley, A Huysinga, N Kaveh, A Lillywhite, O Pearce, K Riley, J Silsby. **Miss Walter**



Under 10 Teams

Both teams played superbly this season to remain unbeaten. The A team were impressive with skill and determination in both attack and defence. They conceded only two goals all season and scored an amazing 27! The closest encounter was vs St Edward's where despite winning 5-1, they had to battle hard and were tested.

The B team too played really well together and fully deserved the term's success. Super passing, making the most of every chance on goal and strong defensive work all contributed to a draw against Richard Pate and victories against Beaudesert, Rendcomb and a massive 7-0 victory against St Edward's. This age group has huge potential and great strength and depth. Well done to both teams.

U10A: L Barton, A Brown, L de Burgh-Thomas, G Day, A Finan, I Hill, A James, H Mundinano, P Sathasivam, S Sathasivam. **U10B:** C Bird, M Cross, G Day, I Hill, E Holder, H Mundinano, C Robbins, W Snaith, M Stojanov.

STATS

Miss Walter

Under 11A	Played 6	Won 4	Lost 1	Drawn 1
Under 11B	Played 5	Won 5	Lost 0	Drawn 0
Under 10A	Played 6	Won 6	Lost 0	Drawn 0
Under 10B	Played 4	Won 3	Lost 0	Drawn 1
Under 9A	Played 7	Won 5	Lost 1	Drawn 1
Under 9B	Played 5	Won 2	Lost 1	Drawn 2
Under 8	Played 4	Won 1	Lost 2	Drawn 1



U9A and B Teams

Both U9 teams have had fantastic success this term, making huge progress. The girls have learnt the importance of sticking to their positions and how effective this can be. Both teams have worked hard on this, using the wings to set up and score goals. It has been wonderful to see the girls' grit and determination develop - gone are the polite girls from the first few matches. When they enter the attacking circle now it is to score, however nice the opposition may be! The girls have developed real team work, supporting and encouraging each other in every match. An excellent term - some brilliant wins against strong teams. Well done to all, you should be proud of your achievements this term.

U9A: A Crane, B Davidson, C Green, P Mills, A Paterson, S Paulus, M Taylor, E Wiles. **U9B:** R Atack, S Boddana, I Dewar, C Gillett, A Kaur, M Silsby, H Wan, G Woodward. **Miss Evans**

Under 8

Year 3 girls had chance to play in two matches each this term. They were understandably hesitant at first but the improvement witnessed by the end of the second match was incredible. They lost against Dean Close and Rendcomb but what a difference at Worcester v King's! The team played really well and Berky scored two quick goals near the start of the second half, which sealed the victory. At Westonbirt for the final match we were again strong in the first half scoring the only goal. Westonbirt started the second half strongly and managed to equalise to draw the match. All

the girls really improved over the term - it bodes well for the future. Well done!

Team: H Brown, E Collins-Shepherd, C Crompton, E Griffiths, D Harcourt, F Harvey, I Fletcher, N Flexman, L James, M Jenkins, A Keogh, K Lillywhite, A Loveridge, H Mackay, R Mackay, F Parkin, L Stewart, E Terry, E Wheaton.

Miss Walter



CHRISTMAS



Born in Bethlehem

'The road goes up; the road goes down...all the way to Bethlehem town!' Singing, smiles and a little shyness were all in evidence in a lovely performance by our youngest pupils. Proud parents looked on as Mary and Joseph embarked on their special journey and the shepherds followed the star in our traditional



Nativity. All clearly enjoyed it, the camels, stars and sheep were super - each played their part well.
Mrs Roddy-Watts

Oh Yes We Did!

On the morning of the penultimate day of term, Pre-Prep was completely deserted – everyone had set out to the Everyman Theatre to watch the Pantomimes 'Aladdin' and 'The Emperor's New Clothes'. The children laughed at the conceited Emperor, had fun with Fred and Brian, the two removal men and loved the very honest parrot. Even before the performances began, excitement was at fever pitch due to the antics of Tweedy the Clown around the auditorium! We all watched and participated in this lively and colourful show as well as enjoying a welcome ice cream during the interval. Party games in the gym and a special lunch completed a very festive day.
Mrs Agg



Nativity

Our Nativity this year was slightly unusual - the story concerned a harassed midwife setting out to help deliver a special baby, with her trusty sidekick, Steve the donkey; these parts were brilliantly played by

Phoebe Fryer-Hornsby and James Carder-Geddes who both showed tremendous promise. However, the traditional nativity elements were also in evidence – the three kings with their camels, the shepherds and their sheep, the angels, the star, the innkeepers, Roman soldiers, townspeople, Mary and Joseph. Words were spoken clearly and confidently and songs were catchy, enthusiastic and vibrant, with an impressive bit of drumming from Olly Wiles – all in all a fantastic success!



Fa La La La La!

Year 2 visited the Lilian Faithfull Home, sang Christmas songs and delivered very generous donations of chocolate. The old people responded by singing 'We wish you a Merry Christmas.' The children spoke to the residents, curious to discover which



was Mrs Agg's mother! They also met one of Mrs Agg's old teachers who luckily didn't tell them any tales of Mrs Agg's school days. Several of the children, enjoyed

themselves so much that they tried to persuade the residents to show them their rooms and one or two said, while enjoying the squash and cookie provided by the home, 'I wish we could come and visit every week!'
Mrs Agg

BERKHAMPSTEAD
School
Cheltenham

Berkhampstead School
Pitville Circus Road
Cheltenham
Glos
GL52 2QA

Tel: 01242 523263

If you would like to learn more about life at Berkhampstead School then please call us or take a look at our web site.

www.berkhampsteadschool.co.uk