

The BERKHAMPTSTEAD *School*
Cheltenham

Blazer

BERKHAMPTSTEAD SCHOOL MAGAZINE

AUTUMN 2014



We Will Remember



Inside:

ISI verdict - Excellent!
Year 6 say 'En Garde!'
India in Pre-Prep



Regular features: Musical Notes ▷ Staff on the Spot ▷ Sports Reports ▷ Trips and Visits

Headmaster's News



What a term it's been! Again, there has been so very much going on - masses of activities and stimulating, stretching experiences from Maths Challenges to conker competitions. We are extremely fortunate to have a talented and creative body of staff, who are willing to go the extra mile to ensure that the experience that

Berkhampstead

children receive is a thoroughly positive one and this allows us to do so much.

We have been very well inspected this term – my goodness! ISI, the Independent Schools

Inspectorate, visited in November, Ofsted came to inspect the ISI inspectors and the assessors for the Early Years Bristol Standard were also in school. The excellent news is that each team recognised the outstanding quality of what we do and we have a ringing endorsement of the broad and enriching education we offer.



I am delighted with our successes on the games field - several of our rugby and hockey teams were unbeaten all season! In fact in hockey, the teams have played 37 matches (winning 25 games) and scored a record 103 goals (with only 28 conceded). The excellent coaching the girls and boys have received, coupled with their considerable enthusiasm and camaraderie has made for a great term of sport.

We have a large number of talented

musicians and I have enjoyed hearing many of them sing and play in Recitals and services. Remarkably, 7 of our Years 5 and 6 have been selected to join the National Children's Choir, and 2 to join the National Children's Orchestra following their auditions – outstanding. I would be surprised to find another school of our size that provides so many children for such a prestigious choir and orchestra and embraces music in the inclusive way we do -

indeed in the way that we have done for 70 years!

The range of what we offer is clear in the pages ahead. I hope that you enjoy looking through as much as I have in putting it together.

Richard Cross,
Headmaster



STAFF ON THE SPOT

Michelle

Bareham is a talented and able teacher; she leads Art across the school, has a form and is Head of Pastoral Care.

Who is your favourite artist?

That is a difficult question as there are many that I like.

At the moment it is probably Michelangelo as I just went to see the Vatican Live exhibition, which reminded me how amazing his work is, especially the Sistine Chapel.

Do you play any instruments? How well?

I can play the piano, violin and recorder. I did grade 8 piano but I am quite rusty! I would love to be able to play the cello as it has such a lovely tone.

What is your favourite children's book?

I loved Anne of Green Gables and Malory Towers when I was little. Now I think that the David Walliams books are great. My favourite is probably Gangsta Granny. I met David Walliams at the Literature Festival and he was very amusing in real life too!

What's the best thing about your job?

Every day is different and I get to teach a subject I love, with great children and staff.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be either an interior designer or a hairdresser, but 2 weeks work experience made me realise that I would hate being a hairdresser!

Do you have any pets and what are their names? My children have guinea pigs called Fleur and Snowy.

What advice would you give to a budding artist?

Like anything else it is all about practice, just keep practising your drawing and go to see other artists' work at exhibitions.

What's the largest piece of Art you've ever produced? And the smallest?

The largest painting I made was a 6' x 4' landscape in oils of Cleeve Hill; it was purchased by the C&G building society for their Barnwood office. The smallest was an A5 Christmas card.

What is your favourite medium?

I love oil painting.

What is the best school lunch?

Chicken fajitas and a freshly baked iced bun.



Tour of GB

What a fabulous opportunity - the Tour of Great Britain passing within metres of the school! Cycling fever became infectious and all Prep pupils delighted in the chance of a break to the usual routine to get out and cheer on...well, anything that passed by! Crowds gathered excitedly at the top of Hewlett Road and we waited as police and the advance vehicles prepared the way. Everyone got a cheer from the Berky crowd, especially the police motorcyclists with their sirens blaring and the camera crew. Then, all too quickly, the bikes whizzed on through - who caught a glimpse of Cav or Bradley? The peloton made the turn to Harp Hill and disappeared from sight. The Team cars, stacked with bikes, swept past, then, inspired and exhilarated, we returned to school. What a day!
RC



The PTA Term

Judging by the exceptional turn-out for the PTA events this term, many are firm favourites in the school calendar. Eleven teams took part in the annual Quiz Night, with the 'Berky Breakaways' emerging triumphant. The Family Fireworks Party was a sell-out once again, and the crowds (fortified by hot dogs and mulled wine) were treated to a superb display. This term, the traditional PTA cake sale became 'Cake at Break', a popular innovation that is sure to be repeated. As the end of term drew near, the Christmas Fayre found Berky full of festive spirit - something to do with the turkey rolls and mulled wine perhaps? The children came away laden with Christmas crafts and treats, magic reindeer food, and a very special present from Santa. Finally, it was party time, as nearly the whole school, from Reception to Year 6, revelled at the two Christmas Discos. Thank you to all parents and friends for supporting these events and our other fundraising activities so enthusiastically. The outdoor classroom, which is this year's fund raising project, is now well within our sights. **JC (PTA)**

Fab Friends

We are now proud owners of a super new minibus thanks to the Friends of Berkhampstead and their monumental efforts and here it is - see below! Of course, the Friends, our PTA, are about far more than just fundraising and we have enjoyed a huge number of events this term, detailed left. My enormous thanks to them for enriching the children's experience and providing so very many enjoyable events. **RC**



ह इन्डिया



The Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms were full of all things Indian for the Autumn term as the children took an in-depth look at this fascinating country.

Year 2 began the term by considering our own area - looking down on Cheltenham and Gloucester from Crickley Hill and thinking about why early people chose to settle where they did. Both year groups looked at maps to see where England and India are located before immersing themselves fully in the culture, traditions and religious festivals of this colourful and exciting land.

Literacy for much of the term was based on 'The Tiger Child' and 'Elmer the Elephant' and all work on Humanities and Art was

based on our India topic. Highlights included Year 2's DT Day, which involved designing and constructing Indian rickshaws, wonderful talks by Daisy Oakley's granny and Varnika Boddana's mum on life in India, the fabulous Dance Workshop Day run by the Cheltenham Hindu Centre (including authentic mehndi designs being painted on our hands for the dance performance), Year 2's lively Diwali assembly, the magnificent display of bejewelled elephants in both the Halls and the delicious array of Indian food made for us by TnS, our catering team. **GA**



CREATIVE TEACHING

History Inspires Tiger Tea!

Drama brought history to life as Year 4 acted out much of the Battle of Hastings. They'd used ICT to look at the Bayeux Tapestry and taken that as their inspiration, also making



parchment and designing Medieval menus. This was reinforced with a trip to Goodrich Castle to get a taste of living conditions then and to see an impressive archery demonstration. It provided useful material for a time travel letter about what it would be like to work as a Medieval villein. Using the iPads, Year 5 enjoyed writing newspaper articles about The Gunpowder Plot. They examined evidence from both sides and looked at bias

and reliability. They used Youtube to look at clips about both the Gunpowder Plot and the Civil War. This then inspired some imaginative drama about the trial and execution of Charles I. Year 6 spent some time as evacuees - see the report on page 9 - and still on the wartime theme, took on a tough homework challenge - cooking with the rationed ingredients that would have been available during WW2. We all soon discovered that even the less than delicious recipes took up huge amounts of the sugar ration - the carrot jelly was not a big hit, although carrot biscuits were more popular! Photographs, letters and even medals provided the stimulus for investigating WW2. The children brought in an array of items about members of their family involved in the war. This was supplemented by the research done by Mrs Agg, which revealed that the Pre-Prep building was home to three young men killed in WW1 and remembered on local war memorials. On a more earthy note, great fun was had dissecting fake poo to discover which period of History the waste was from, by analysing the types of food contained within!



Why did ancient Egyptians have poor teeth? Why is a flooded river good? Year 3 detectives applied their analytical skills to answer these questions. They looked at the importance of the River Nile and considered food - the gritty bread of the ancient Egyptians, which damaged their teeth - luckily we didn't have to eat any! **PMc**

Year 1 had a wonderful surprise when a tiger really did come to tea!

The party, complete with tea pots, was a culmination of lots of preparation by the children. After reading the book, 'The Tiger



Who Came to Tea', shopping lists were written, including suitable items in case a tiger came knocking at the door. Invites to the tea party were sent and bunting made. In the kitchen, instructions were carefully followed (and spoons licked) to make delicious cakes and yummy sandwiches.

Excited Year 1s sat down for afternoon tea and to their complete amazement, a bouncy and hungry tiger really did come! We let him join us and showed him how to behave at the table. The tiger left with a full tummy and excellent manners! **RWJ**



EARLY YEARS

News from Kindergarten

Bristol Standard -splendid!



We were delighted to be awarded the prestigious Bristol Standard this term. The culmination of months of hard work, it endorses what a quality education our children receive. This, along with the 'Excellent in All Areas' verdict from ISI and Ofsted, is a real testament to the efforts of our super staff and the creative teaching that is the norm at Berky. **HRW**

What we do...

'Whizzes and bangs', 'smoke in the sky', 'yummy food' and 'pretty colours' - are the key words that the Kindergarten children picked to describe fireworks. Inspired by clips on the iPads they planned how to make their own firework art. What a great time they had, using black paper backdrops and then applying a mixture of glue and paint with the magical marble mixers! They tipped the paint trays and moved the marbles to create a lovely firework effect. Glitter added the final touches to their

super displays. We'd planned to do 'All About Me' this term, but there was so much excitement in the Kindergarten about baby animals (and in fact babies in general, thanks to Mrs Langley King) that we changed the theme. Ena told us enthusiastically about her puppy and we had tales of Ava's kitten. All shared information about their pets and so a new topic was born and embraced in writing and art and role play. The children enjoyed a real taste of French this term as Madame Langley King created *Le petit déjeuner à la française* for the children with brioche, croissants and baguettes. They enjoyed sampling *chocolat chaud* and *jus d'orange* and explaining what they had eaten when visiting France - a meal of chips and mussels was a favourite with Garth. All managed to display excellent French



manners and used 'merci' and 'au revoir'. It was a lesson to remember! Diwali came with colour and music and dance and the children embraced learning all about the celebration. Isla brought bindis for everyone to wear - real ones from her trip to India - and some colourful costumes and toys. Again, food featured heavily - the naans were very popular. All enjoyed decorating their pictures of henna hands, applying beads, sparkles and glue to make their own patterns. The children were fascinated when the Juice Bike visited and enjoyed selecting fruits to be whizzed via pedal-power into smoothies! There was lots of discussion about what made a delicious and healthy drink. We also used foods to create snack faces with rice cakes and raisins, tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. It was fun guessing whether the face was sad or happy, a healthy food or a treat food and even more fun eating them afterwards! **SR**



LIGHTS... CAMERA... ACTION!



'Awesome!' was how Year 5 rated their day at GLIC (Global Language Immersion Centre) in Gloucester! They made use of their IT and language skills to produce video recordings and animations using scripts and props of their own – with a professional 'green screen' and recording equipment. Their reports as foreign correspondents were a real success. All had a wonderful time, developed their language skills and knowledge of creative animation in a really 'hands-on' way. **AM**

TROPICAL FUN



Found it! Finally - a glimpse of the very elusive sloth who decided that the top of the Carpet Python's enclosure was the place to hide – but he couldn't evade the sharp eyes of our Year 5 pupils,

who can confirm that he really does exist! There was great excitement as the children toured the two glass houses on their Geography field trip to the Living Rainforest. They looked at Assassin Bugs, Arboreal Chameleons, Red Billed Toucans, Salmon-Pink Bird Eating Spiders and Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches. A super day!

LW

On Safari

Year 1 had a fantastic day at the West Midlands Safari Park. We had a talk about Indian animals and got to stroke an Indian leopard gecko! We were amazed by the animals we saw on the safari which included Indian rhinos, Asian water buffalo and a range of tigers. The children were dazzled by the gorgeous baby elephant which we saw close up. Throughout the day the children commented on how 'awesome' it was and it was lovely to see how involved and keen to learn they were.



AS



ON THE FARM

What a fabulous time Kindergarten had at the Cotswold Farm Park! We talked about our favourite foods and became detectives, solving problems about where food comes from - does it grow in the ground or come from an animal? We puzzled together about breakfast - eggs, sausages and cereal and matched these to chickens, pigs and wheat. Heidi the goat showed us her 'smelly' milk, and we talked about making ice cream. There was lots of time for stroking the rabbits and guinea pigs and holding ducklings and chicks - everyone was very gentle. The large adventure play areas were very popular and all raced around on the mini pedal tractors after lunch, as the goats looked on. The goats had looked interested but seemed



thrilled when we stopped and fed them - they made a great deal of noise as we tipped their lunch down the feeding tubes. It didn't look as appetising as the Berky sandwiches we had brought, but they seemed to like it!

SR

EVACUATED!



Dressed as evacuees, a very excited Year 6 headed off to Swindon's Steam Museum. It was fantastic to see the effort that they had made with their costumes – it really was a case of back in time!

On arrival, we were greeted by an Air Raid Warden, who explained the nature of her job to the children. It was fascinating to handle artefacts from World War Two. On hearing the air raid siren, we were taken to a communal air raid shelter. It was here that we gained an insight into what a night during the Blitz would have been like.

Soon after, the children boarded a railway carriage to be evacuated. On board they learned about the process of travelling to an unknown destination during the height of the war.

They were taken off the train by a billeting officer and allocated to families on the platform. It was hard for some to be rejected by potential host families and brought to life some of the feelings that the children must have felt.

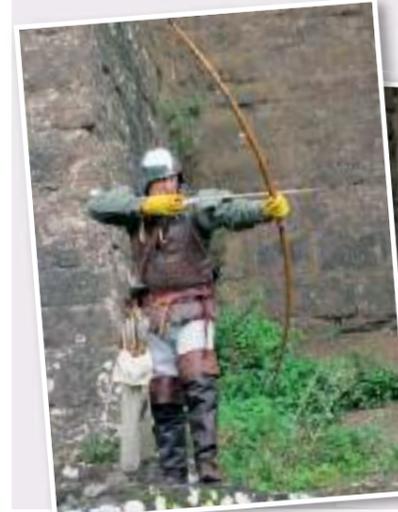
We were very fortunate to have Mr Cross' parents accompany us on the trip. Mr Cross senior had been evacuated during the war and he was able to give us a first-hand account of his



experiences and to answer questions. This really brought the war to life for the children. **PMc**

Capturing the Castle

This year we returned to Goodrich Castle, having been to Chepstow for the previous two years. We were guided by the very entertaining Kevin Hicks, who told us wonderful stories about the history of the Castle. He also treated us to an amazing archery demonstration, where he hit a target twelve times in a minute from fifty metres. We then explored the castle, looking at attacking and defensive methods, as well as climbing the narrow, dark, circular stairway of the Norman keep. On reaching the top we were rewarded with an amazing view of Herefordshire and the borderland of Wales. This was a super trip, from which the children gained a huge amount. **PMc**



Science



First we came in and listened to a lady talk about when she was a police officer. She once left her fingerprints behind at a crime scene by accident. Her punishment was to buy cream cakes for everybody back in the station. Then she talked about fingerprints and that the only other animals to have fingerprints are apes, monkeys, chimpanzees and KOALAS!! **Reuben Fuller**

We started off by taking our fingerprints by using a special ink; we rolled our finger in the ink and printed it on to a piece of paper to see what fingerprints we had: an arc, loop or whorl. Then we had a jam jar and we had to find the fingerprints on the jar. We had a special brush called a fibre brush and a powder which is aluminium ground up very finely to stick to the oil on the jar revealing the fingerprints. Then we had a piece of sticky paper and put it over the jar where we saw the fingerprints. Then we peeled off the sticky paper and the sticky bit had the mark of the fingerprint and put it on to a black piece of paper to save them. **Anya James**

Next we were told about a crime. A man walked into a bank and held a note up to the window. It read: *I have a gun. Put all the money into this bag. Do not raise the alarm.* The person who worked at the bank did all of these



except the last one and started to put the money into the bag. The man heard the sirens and fled with the money, and dropped the note. When the police arrived, they arrested everyone who had similar clothing to the description given of the person. The people arrested all had pens. We did an investigation with 3 different types of pens. We put a little dot on some filter paper and put it in some water. The ink separated into different colours. We then took some ink from the note and did the same. We found one of the pens matched the ink in the note. We were then told that one of the men matched the fingerprints on the note. The suspect said that he had stashed the money in an old house around the corner. **Finlay Rayner**

The final thing that we did was a little crime scene (skeleton involved) where we had to find out who the naughty victims and suspects were, how the victim had been killed and the motive behind it. We were using magnifying glasses to get a closer view of evidence. Teamwork is vitally important in this. Conclusion: at the end of the day, it was brilliant fun and I think we learnt lots and lots and you never know, we may be detectives when we grow up. It was the best Science lesson ever. **Leah Barton**

@ Bristol

@ Bristol was amazing! It was filled with lots of exhibits, each one explaining a bit about science and technology, but some were just plain fun. When we visited, we went up to the first floor. The exhibits there were mainly about technology and a bit of awesome science. There was a tilted room up there, as well as a news report stage: it had a news desk and a small green screen, complete with a sound effects station, two cameras and lots of other things. A few small exhibits were dedicated to quizzes and mind-cracking puzzles. The upper floor also had a small room for shows about space and rockets. **Anttarpreet Kaur**



At 11.45am we went into a room with a lady called Alice who talked to us about rockets and gravity. She made a hydrogen rocket and it produced a loud BANG, and she also let four children make their own rockets using fizzy vitamin tablets and water. **Sophie Paulus**

We had a metal hoop with handles on and we dipped it in washing up liquid it was really fun! You could make loads of different shapes of giant bubbles! There was also a big bubble wall where you pulled a chain and then a big stick came up covered in washing liquid and it formed a sheet of bubbles and the higher the stick went, the longer the bubble was. **Ruby Atack**

For the bubbles there were large metal hoops (of all shapes and sizes) with handles on and you dip it in the bubble mixture and swing it around and it makes a long tube-shaped bubble. There was also a frame that when you pull up a bar on a piece of string a bubble wall is formed. If you cover your hands in bubble mixture and put it in the wall your hand will go through it.

Madeleine Taylor
I was able to build things like bridges using iron filings. They were magnetic and attracted to very strong magnets allowing shapes to be formed. The iron filings were really hard to pull off the magnet, as the force was so strong. **James Main**

There was a really interesting investigation that caught my attention. It was when you got this straw and threaded it through the machine and when you bit onto it and put your fingers in your ears it played a song. **Bea Davidson**



@ Berky

How do you measure air resistance? Finding the answer can be fun and inclusive.

Just take a class of eager scientists, give each a timer and position in a vantage point with clear sight of the fire escape. Year 4 had super fun as they explored the idea of friction and air resistance by dropping items they'd made from the fire escape and recording the time taken to reach the ground. The focused expressions speak volumes - a great lesson! How big does chard grow? How long is the playground? Pre-Prep have been finding out. There's lots of learning by doing as our active scientists here at Berky demonstrate! **TM**



Musical Notes



From the very first instrumental lesson to winning a place in the National Children's Orchestra, from playing in a percussion ensemble to performing alongside the Carducci Quartet, Berky musicians have been very busy this term. They've been creative in many ways: devising a Street Dance routine, composing a piece of film music, improvising in a jazz combo, performing in the Autumn Recital, strumming guitars, playing carols with 28 strings, singing in a candlelit procession, rocking around the clock. They've improvised percussion music for 'Frosty Morning' and 'Foggy

Evening', and played in a keyboard orchestra, carolled for the elderly, played samba drums, created song and dance routines in Junior Choir, led the worship in the All Saints' Carol Service, composed for a Tom and Jerry cartoon. They've enjoyed the recorder consort, auditioned in Birmingham for the National Children's Choir, set 'Forest Spells' to music, sang Gaudete, acted in 'The 12 Days of Christmas', played hand chimes, learned to play as a chamber ensemble or taken a music exam - phew!

This term, more than 1221 music lessons have been taught, 70 children have regularly taken part in instrumental ensembles and 113 have sung in our choirs each week. Music is integral to so much of what we do at Berkhamstead, it's embraced and



enjoyed from the youngest age and the vast majority of the children play. Some of our most enthusiastic, dedicated and skilled musicians have taken exams and auditioned for National orchestras and choirs and we are delighted with what they have accomplished. **P M**

What do we Play?

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Recorder, Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute, Drum Kit, Piano, Ukulele, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Percussion, Guitar - there's plenty on offer!

Music Achievements

National Children's Choir - Wren Snaith, Heidi Mundinano, Megan Silsby, Caitlin Green, Poppy and Sasha Sathasivam, Caitlin Robbins.

National Children's Orchestra Corli and Leslie More (violins)

AB Music Exams

Prep Test - Izzy Hill (Violin)

Grade 1 - Finlay Rayner (Trumpet*), Sam Perris (Piano**), Oliver Armstrong (Piano), Joseph Coley (Piano*), Maisie Cross (Piano**), Georgia Day (Piano**), Leslie More (oboe**)

Grade 2 - Caitlin Green (Piano*)

Grade 3 - Ben Gibson (Piano**), Georgia Day (Recorder*)

Grade 4 - Corli More (oboe**)

(* Merit ** Distinction)

En-Garde



Foils at the ready, our Year 6 Fencers have enjoyed honing their skills and pitting their wits against one another on the fencing piste. Over the term they have developed footwork, blade control and as such, become increasingly proficient in bouts. Fencing builds agility, balance and hand-eye coordination but as far as the children are concerned, the main attraction is the fun of the fight! Hugely popular with the older children, they embrace the etiquette and build on the sportsmanship learnt across the range of sports on offer at Berky.



Running Club

Running Club takes place every Friday at 8:00am, usually regardless of the weather - the muddier and wetter the better! We have some excellent runners who love the freedom of running around the football pitch at Whaddon recreation ground. Regular running, hare and hounds or sprinting from the back of the line are all variations on a theme and the session usually ends with a game of British Bulldog - always a favourite. Cross Country this term has seen energetic Berky children head off to compete at Old Pats and St Edward's events. There were more runners competing than ever this year - about 180 boys and 140 girls. Our runners, as always, gave of their best and the outstanding performances have come in the girls' races; Corli and Bea have finished in the top 50, Anya came 10th at St Edward's and Alex came an amazing 5th at Old Pats! Well done to all of our runners. **LW**

Games Galore!

Another school year, another hectic chess season. Both Prep chess clubs (Y3 and Y4, 5, 6) have been very busy. On a weekly basis, there are some tremendous battles with the quality of play at a very high level.

There remains plenty of strength in depth at the school and there are no easy contests. The current Year 3 group is probably the most talented

and certainly the most promising collection of young chess players the school has seen - great things are expected of that cohort.

The school team ended the term unbeaten and well-placed for league and cup honours, after two draws against Airthrie and Holy Apostles and comfortable wins over Bishop's Cleeve and the Richard Pate School. I sense that Berkhamstead's two matches against Charlton Kings next term (one in the league and one in the cup semi-final) will prove crucial. The 'B' team has triumphed - often against more experienced opposition - on a couple of occasions. After Christmas, there are several other league matches to look forward to as well as the Berky congress, the Cheltenham and District congress and the conclusion of our in-house tournaments.

Chess isn't the only game that children enjoy playing at Berky. There are plenty of board games at school and, within classes, most children have played Connect 4, Battleships or Nine Men's Morris. The large chess set and Connect 4 game are always out at break-

times and it is refreshing to see those who don't always want to play more active pastimes turning to contests of the mind. The Year 3 children have been introduced to draughts and backgammon within form time last term. Backgammon was new to most and proved a great success, subtly combining strategy,

spatial awareness and quick fire mental maths. With plenty of emphasis placed upon non-verbal reasoning within children's critical thinking skills, playing board games remains a fun and competitive way to tackle such problems.

MC



HOCKEY

SPORT REPORTS

Under 9 Teams

The U9 A and B teams have had a fantastic season! Brilliant progress has made them almost unrecognisable from the beginning of the year. The girls have worked hard in training, improving their technical skill and positioning on the field. One of the biggest challenges has been adapting their play to astro-turf, but as with



everything else they have done this with determination and grit. The girls have had some fantastic wins over strong opposition and have started to fight much more for the win. Supportive and encouraging of each other in matches and in training, all have done well. An excellent term!

U9A Team: E Collins, I Fletcher, N Flexman, L James, A Keogh, A Jenkins, K Lillywhite, H Mackay, R Mackay, L Stewart, E Terry. **U9B Team:** H Brown, C Crompton, K Dowds, N Flexman, E Griffiths, D Harcourt, F Harvey, A Keogh, R Mackay, F Parkin, E Wheaton. **BE**

Under 8 Teams

The U8 girls have had a positive first season, going from strength to strength as individuals and as a team. They have grasped new concepts quickly and put them into practice during matches and training sessions with great enthusiasm. All of the girls found playing matches on astro-turf a challenging experience - however, they adapted. The girls have worked hard on their skills and game tactics and have become wonderful hockey players with great team spirit. Well done girls!

Team: A Ellison, A Holder, A Byndyu, C Whistler, C O'Connor, D White, E Vintcent, E Wragg, F Hampton, H de Wit, I Freeman, J Rayner, K Crichard, L More, M Ward, R Madden, S Doughty, S Slessor. **AJ**

Under 11 Teams

This was a fantastic season for both the A and B teams. Starting off against the strongest possible opposition, in the form of Cheltenham Prep, was a daunting prospect, but the A team narrowly lost 1-2 (their only loss of the season) and the B team won 3-0. For both teams it was onwards and upwards from then on. Both A and B teams won against Rendcomb College and Richard Pate, the B team also recorded victories against St Edward's and the Croft. The results were played 5, won 5 for the B team - you can't get better than that! In addition, the A team had two very tight matches against The Croft and St Edward's which were drawn 1-1. For both teams there has been some sparkling individual play in defence and attack, several hat tricks, but also super team performances which have resulted in such a successful season. Well done, Year 6 girls!

A team: L Barton, A Brown, L de Burgh-Thomas, G Day, A James, C More, P Sathasivam, S Sathasivam, all awarded colours.

B team: C Bird, M Cross, I Hill, E Holder, H Mundingano, M Pope, C Robbins, W Snaith, M Stojanov.

Outstanding Player Awards:

L Barton, A James, C More and S Sathasivam. **LW**

Under 10 Teams



tournament) and the B team won 5-2. The Bs went on to record another 4 victories against The Croft, St Edward's, Richard Pate and King's Worcester, making it 5 out of 5 victories! The A team drew 2-2 against Richard Pate, but won another 5 matches against the above schools plus Rendcomb College and Prior

Park. Both teams scored a fabulous number of goals and conceded few; lots of girls managed to get on the score sheet and there were also many hat tricks. This was another great team performance by A and B, with exciting prospects for next year.

A Team: A Crane, B Davidson, C Green, P Mills, A Paterson, S Paulus, M Silsby, M Taylor, H Wan, E Wiles. **B Team:** R Attack, S Boddana, B Davidson, I Dewar, C Gillett, A Kaur, I Mansell-King, A Page, M Silsby, H Wan, E Wiles, G Woodward. **LW**



The Under 10s had an excellent season as well. They also started off against Cheltenham Prep with a similar result to the Under 11's - the A team lost a very close match 1-0 (their only loss of the season, not counting the

STATS	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
U11A	6	3	1	2
U11B	5	5	-	-
U10A	7	5	1	1
U10B	5	5	-	-
U9A	6	3	2	1
U9B	5	3	1	1
U8	3	1	2	-
Overall	37	25	7	5

RUGBY



Under 11 Teams

The small number of boys in Year 6 made this a challenging season. Tough games early in the season saw losses vs Richard Pate, Rendcomb and St Edward's which tested the boys' character and built resilience. Rucking - new to many of the boys - became a strength, as did defensive organisation which led to excellent wins vs Hatherop, Wycliffe and King's Worcester. The latter was a superb game, showing our ability to offload out of the tackle and exploit space. The result was 22-0 against strong opposition. Most impressive was how the boys gelled as a team, encouraging each other when things were not going to plan and celebrating each other's

successes. Year 6 set a good example, with Ben and Louie having superb seasons and Joel, Reuben and Harry making excellent contributions. Year 5 stepped up well from U9 to U11 and made great progress. Ben G and Ellis worked tirelessly and Angus and Willoughby proved to be very influential team players.

The U11B team also improved, following early season defeats with great victories against King's Worcester and King's Gloucester. With ball in hand we were potent attackers. Offloading and support play were positive. Our undoing was often our tackling, however this did improve. Certain players made a great impact. Harvey and Archie's pace of attack caused panic in the opposition. The work rate of Ollie D and Jack in the forwards was impressive. Well done all on improving your skills - a very enjoyable term!

A team (Awarded Colours): H Brooks, C Campbell, E Clark, J Coley, W Cooke, R Fuller, B Gibson, B Hordern, G Iles, L King (Capt), J Main, A Rendell, J Read, E Shaw, A Wragg.

B Team: H Brooks, O Dalton, L Harcourt, Q Johnson, J Main, T Minter, J Parkin, T Perks, F Rayner, A Rendell, H Sullivan, J Wright.

Outstanding Player awards: L King, B Hordern, A Wragg, W Cooke. **PMc**

U11A

Played 10
Won 3
Lost 6
Drawn 1



U11B

Played 6
Won 2
Lost 4
Drawn 0

Under 9 Teams

The U9 boys have worked hard all season in training and have grown steadily in confidence and skill. The teams have been superbly captained by Oliver A and Jasper and there has been real team effort. The running was both powerful and elusive. Ollie A, Ollie R, Sam, Harry, Bertie, Ethan and Toby were particularly hard to stop with ball in hand. Defensively, everyone made big hits, with Hugo, Rex, Noah and Edwin leading the way. Peter was often the last line of defence and he made some superb tackles. Nic, Charlie and Max all made telling contributions in this area too and all three scored tries in matches this term. The overwhelming strength of U9s though was their handling and passing skills ... the best I've seen at this age! They played unselfishly, always looking to get the pass away that would allow a teammate to score. This was epitomised by Sam and Henry who were often the link players encouraging open running rugby. It was a delight to watch, with the highlight being the Richard Pate games where both A and B teams performed at their best and were convincing winners. A fabulous term - well done boys!

U9 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, M Sissons, E Stojanov, H Whistler. **RC**



U9 A

Played 10
Won 8
Lost 1
Drawn 1

U9 B

Played 10
Won 6
Lost 3
Drawn 1

Under 8 Teams

The boys in Year 3 had a brilliant first season of rugby. During training, they picked up the basic skills of passing and catching, taking tags from the opposition, positional play and scoring tries. Each of the boys played their part in every match and they worked well as a team. There was plenty of full-on action, end-to-end matches and the boys must be pleased with their results. A great rugby season, well done. **U8 Squad:** E Atkinson, R Campbell, J Carder-Geddes, G de Burgh-Thomas, J Ellis, B Jenkins, G Lockwood, A Mills, W Parkin, J Paterson, A Ryder, J Shaw, C van Staden, O Wiles. **TM**



U8

Played 13
Won 6
Lost 2
Drawn 5



Always a magical time, Christmas would not be complete without the Pre-Prep Nativity, the Early Years Concert and the candle-lit Prep Carol Service in All Saints' Church. This year, Pre-Prep treated us to a rousing performance of 'Hey Ewe!' which told the Christmas story from the point of view of a curious and excitable little sheep. All the children absolutely loved singing the jazzy songs – complete with actions – and the Year 2 children spoke out clearly and confidently to tell the story and bring the term to a festive close.

GA



Early Years children so enjoyed their performance of Whoops-a-Daisy Angel that they did it three times! The delightful story told of a disorganised but lovable angel (we had two!) chosen to show the way to Bethlehem. Catchy songs, which the children loved singing, told of her 'rushing around, making mistakes' but all came right in the end.

HRW

BERKHAMPSTEAD
School
Cheltenham

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

Berkhamstead School
 Pittville Circus Road
 Cheltenham
 Glos
 GL52 2QA

Tel: 01242 523263

www.berkhampsteadschool.co.uk