



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



**FRIDAY 13TH MARCH
SPRING TERM**

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

A huge thank you to everyone who joined the PTA's Mother's Day breakfast this morning. The hall looked wonderful with pretty bunting made by Reception and Year 2, and super handmade flowers and cards crafted by Year 1 - all the decorations created a wonderful celebratory atmosphere. We are grateful to the PTA for organising such a special event and to Rob and his team for preparing a delicious breakfast, including fruit pots, overnight oats with toppings, bacon and mushroom buns, fresh fruit smoothies, and tea and coffee. It was a super start to the day.

It was also wonderful to welcome our Pre-Prep families to our Book Look on Monday after school. The children were excited to share their work and show off all they have been learning - it was a delight to witness their enthusiasm. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Our Open Morning on Saturday was a great success, with many new families touring the school alongside some of our current Year 2 families. Our Year 6 pupils were superb ambassadors, taking great pride in showing visitors around and sharing their experiences of life at Berkhampstead. The school looked fantastic, with beautiful displays throughout showcasing the children's creativity and hard work. Thank you to all the pupils who gave up their Saturday morning to help, and to the staff who were here to welcome our visitors. I am very proud of our whole school community.

Year 6 had a thrilling time on Wednesday taking part in The Detective Project Workshop, where they put their investigative skills to the test! The workshop encouraged the children to work as a team, think critically, and follow clues carefully to solve a series of mysteries. It was fantastic to see their enthusiasm, problem-solving, and creativity in action as they embraced their inner detectives. A fun and engaging way to develop critical thinking and collaboration skills! Meanwhile, Year 1 also had an exciting week as they enjoyed an exciting visit to Bristol Zoo, where they loved seeing the animals up close and learning more about wildlife and conservation.

DIARY DATES

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 16th March

2pm U10 & 11 Football v Holy Apostles' school
4pm Pre-Prep Parents' Evening
- Online

Tuesday 17th March

Early Years and Pre-Prep Break
the Rules Day

Wednesday 18th March

2.30pm Afternoon Spring
Concert - Parents invited, tickets
required

6.30pm Evening Spring Concert
- Parents invited, tickets required

Thursday 19th March

Prep 'What makes me ME' day
8.30am Headspace Assembly
3pm Early Years Open
Classroom - Early Years Parents
invited

15:30 Book Fair in the Andrew's
Gym - all parents welcome

Friday 20th March

8.30am Visiting Head Assembly
- Mr Dyer, The Crypt, Prep
parents welcome
9am Year 1 Class Assembly -
Parents invited
5pm Reception and Pre-Prep
School Disco
6.15pm Prep School Disco





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

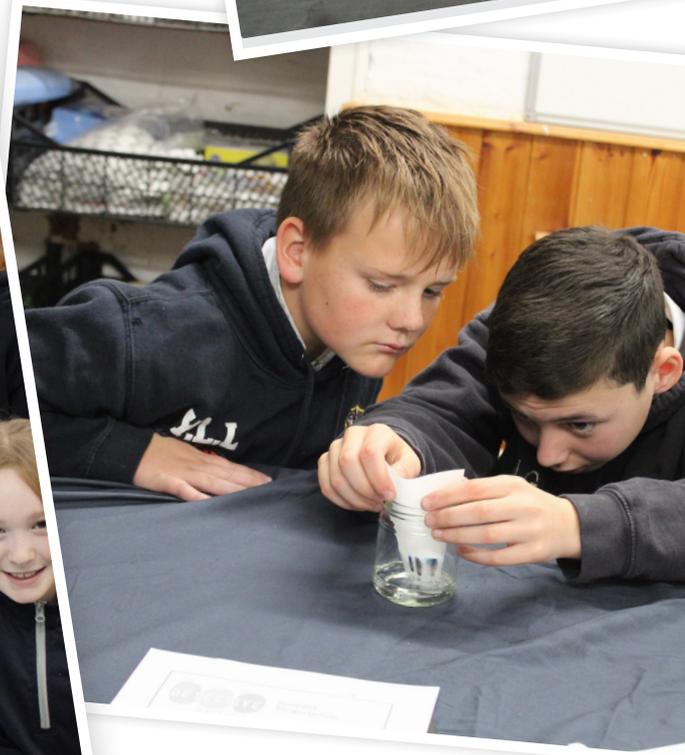
I am incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils following this month's senior school allocations. An outstanding 94% of those who achieved a qualifying score were offered places at local grammar schools, including Pate's Grammar School, Sir Thomas Rich's School and Denmark Road High School. In addition, an incredible 21 scholarships have been offered to pupils by leading independent schools - including Cheltenham Ladies' College, Dean Close School, King's School, Gloucester and St Edward's - in recognition of their talents across areas such as academic, music, art and sport. These are wonderful achievements and we congratulate all our pupils. At Berkhampstead, it is very important to us that each child is prepared for the school that is right for them, and we are equally proud of every pupil. Alongside these impressive results, we place great value on qualities such as kindness, courtesy, and strong character, which we believe are just as important as academic success.

Finally, I am very much looking forward to our Spring Concerts on Wednesday at the Town Hall. They are always a highlight of the term and a lovely opportunity for our school community to come together and enjoy the results of the children's hard work and enthusiasm for music.

Have a good weekend, and Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers.

Michelle Bareham

Michelle Bareham
Head of School





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN

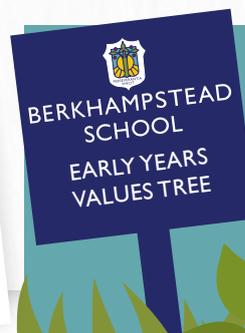
This week our focus has been on learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. The children have loved reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, which has helped us learn in detail about the different stages – how a butterfly lays an egg, which grows into a caterpillar and then transforms into a butterfly. The children have impressed us with their knowledge and use of language; the word *chrysalis* has been on everyone's lips!

The Very Hungry Caterpillar has also helped us practise the days of the week, as we discovered what the caterpillar ate on each day. We talked about why eating healthy foods is good for us and how the caterpillar might have felt when he had such a bad tummy ache.

During our visit to the nature garden, the children became nature detectives and searched for hidden caterpillars using magnifying glasses. They also enjoyed looking for signs of spring, noticing that daffodils had grown and that new buds were appearing on the trees.

Back inside the classroom, we looked at real daffodils and carefully created our own observational drawings. Some children also chose to use watercolour paints to add colour to their pictures. The children demonstrated excellent concentration and fine motor skills while creating their own caterpillars by threading green pasta onto string. They carefully followed a simple repeating pattern to design their caterpillars.

We are very much looking forward to more learning and fun during Andrew Bear's Spring Adventure next week, where the children will take part in a special activity each day. LS



THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Hudson M, Mylo O'H,
Jack L, Ottie D, Ivy B
Berky Bear: Teddy H,
Noa D, Harrison M





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM RECEPTION

This week we have greatly enjoyed reflecting on how special our mummies are as we prepare for Mother's Day this Sunday. During circle time on Thursday, the children spoke thoughtfully about all the wonderful things their mums do for them, the kind words they share and the ways in which they make them feel loved and cared for. It was a truly heart-warming conversation and a lovely reminder of the strong bonds between home and school. The children took great pride in creating beautiful watercolour flowers and planting bulbs as a small gift, and we very much hope you enjoy them.

In our Understanding the World learning this week, we explored the life cycle of a frog, linking this to our learning about spring and the fascinating frogspawn we discovered in the pond during our Forest School session on Monday. The children learnt that frogs are amphibians and were intrigued to find out how tadpoles breathe using gills in the water before developing lungs as they grow into frogs, enabling them to live both on land and in water. The children extended their learning by drawing and labelling their own frog life cycles. With buds appearing on the trees and daffodils beginning to bloom in the nature garden, the signs of spring are all around us and have inspired plenty of curiosity and discussion.

In maths this week, we have continued our exploration of doubles, as well as odd and even numbers. The children have been developing their mathematical reasoning by responding to "How do you know?" questions, explaining their thinking and using practical resources to support their understanding.

Our literacy learning has been inspired by the delightful story *Little Bear's Spring*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the rich and evocative language in the book, which follows a curious bear cub discovering the wonders of springtime. They particularly relished exploring new vocabulary such as vast, lolloped and sun-dappled, and have been keen to incorporate these wonderful words into their own conversations.

We hope you have a very special Mother's Day on Sunday and enjoy celebrating together! Z M-S




BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Ayaan A, Eddie D,
Rannoch G, Dario N

Berky Bear: Rosalind B
and Eliza J





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

YEAR 6 PUPIL'S 'MARATHON TO MILAN'

We are so proud of one of our Year 6 pupils, who is representing Berkhampstead in the Cheltenham Primary Schools football team. After a record-breaking season, the team will tour Italy in April 2026 to play against teams from Parma and Milan.

To help fund the trip, he will run 42.2km over four weeks in his 'Marathon to Milan' challenge. You can support him

[HERE](#)

All money raised goes towards his tour and the Cheltenham Primary Schools Football Association.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to one of our superb Year 6 cross country runners, who finished 6th at the County Championships at the weekend! This fantastic achievement means she has now qualified to represent Gloucestershire at the National Schools Cross Country Final in two weeks' time in Kenilworth. We wish her the very best of luck!



ACT OF KINDNESS

One of our Year 1 pupils recently completed an impressive daily skipping challenge, skipping every day for a while month to raise money for the James Hopkins Trust. She chose this charity because she 'wanted to help poorly children and their families.' Thanks to the generosity of her sponsors, she raised a fantastic £150 for the charity. We are incredibly proud of her determination and, above all, her thoughtful awareness of helping others in need.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

Families are warmly invited to attend the final home game of the season for Cheltenham Town Women.

The Robinesses compete in the FA Women's National League Southern Premier, just below the professional Women's Super League 2. Expect fast, competitive, high-quality football in a friendly and welcoming matchday environment that's perfect for families.



Cheltenham Town Women vs Hashtag United Women

Sunday 12 April 2026, kick-off 2pm (Gates open 12.30pm)
Kayte Lane Stadium, GL52 3PD
Adults £6, Under 18s £1

Come along, be part of our biggest crowd of the season, and help us create a fantastic atmosphere while cheering on The Robinesses!

Please note: the fixture may be subject to change due to potential international call-ups within the Cheltenham squad. Any tickets purchased will remain valid if the fixture date, kick-off time or venue changes. The Club's Cancellation and Refund Policy can be found on www.ctwomenfc.com.

NO AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

A reminder that there will be no after-school or tea-time provision on Friday 27th March, which is the last day of term. Please make alternative arrangements for your children on this day.

BERKHAMSTEAD SCHOOL

Non-uniform Day

THURSDAY
19TH MARCH
AT THE
PREP

SUGGESTED DONATION: £1

IN SUPPORT OF
SCHOOL CHARITY
HEADSPACE

THEME:
WHAT MAKES ME...ME!
COME IN CLOTHES TO
SHOW OFF WHO YOU
ARE, THAT MAKE YOU
FEEL YOURSELF, THAT
HELP YOUR MENTAL
HEALTH!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

PRE-PREP & EARLY YEARS BREAK THE SCHOOL RULES DAY

SCHOOL COUNCIL

You can:

- Wear hair chalk
 - Bring in a teddy
 - Paint your nails
 - Wear home clothes
- OR
- fancy dress
- £1 for each rule

Tuesday 17th March 2026

in support of Headspace
Mental Health Charity





THE BERKY holiday club



FUN AT BERKY!

BERKY HOLIDAY CLUB

(AGED 3-8) 8.15am-5.15pm

Our Easter holiday dates are live and available to book via Magic Booking.

Our Holiday Club – for 3-8 years olds - will be offering a variety of fun activities such as Easter baking (Tues 31st March & Weds 1st April), Easter crafts, Easter egg hunt (Thursday 2nd April) and Easter card making.

Easter baking will take place over two days; on Tuesday 31st March we will make yummy Easter chocolate nests and on Wednesday 1st April we will bake and decorate Easter biscuits. We also have an egg-citing Easter egg hunt planned on Thursday 2nd April! Spaces are filling fast so please book in advance to get the days you desire.

The cost is £53.60, and includes a healthy mid-morning snack, a nutritious hot lunch and a light tea.



THE BERKY experience club



BERKY EXPERIENCE CLUB

(YEAR 3-6)

Our Easter Berky Experience Clubs for our prep children (Year 3-6) have now been added to Magic Booking:

Easter baking with Miss Wootton (Weds 8th April)

Easter wreath making with Mrs Campling (Thurs 9th April)

Multi-sports with Mr Lovell (Y3-Y4) (Mon 13th April)

Multi-sports with Mr Lovell (Y5-Y6) (Weds 15th April)

Computing club with Mr Jones (Thurs 16th April)

Chess and board games with Mr Jones (Fri 17th April)

Wraparound care is also available to add.

As always, any questions please email me at holidayclub@berkhampsteadschool.co.uk

Please visit: berkhampstead.magicbooking.co.uk
to book any of these clubs.



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



SPORTS REPORTS

NETBALL

U9 v Dean Close

A happy band of Y4s arrived at Dean Close for our Bee Netball matches in absolutely glorious spring sunshine. We were divided into four teams, but as there were only two courts, we had to play the four matches consecutively. It soon transpired that our first two teams were stronger than Dean Close and so we needed to rotate some of the girls to make it a more enjoyable match. Even so, the first two matches ended with Berky wins (18:13 and 16:7) as a result of fantastic teamwork, speedy passes, confident attack and defence and an amazing ability to get the ball in the net from all players!

In the second round of matches, the Berky girls again played amazingly well, dominating the play and wins were also achieved in these matches (7 - 2 and 3 - 1).

A fantastic afternoon of netball where it was very noticeable how the skills and teamwork of this group of girls have developed so well over the season! C McC

U9 v Rendcomb College

Last Friday we arrived at Rendcomb for our final Bee Netball matches of the season. We played two Bee Netball matches with four quarters and four teams so each team rotated on for two quarters. The Rendcomb girls moved excellently around the court, marked well and demonstrated quick passing. Nevertheless, each quarter was dominated by the Berky girls with even better movement, marking and passing. Each game was hotly contested and fiercely enjoyed. Over the course of the afternoon many, many goals were scored (32 by Berky and 14 by Rendcomb) and a

super afternoon was had by all! C McC

U10A & B v Dean Close

Our netball team faced a strong and well-organised opposition this week, who controlled much of the game with sharp passing and accurate shooting. From the first quarter they set a fast pace, making it difficult for us to regain possession and build consistent attacks.

Despite this, our team showed great determination and never stopped competing.

Throughout the match we continued to work hard in defence, putting pressure on their shooters and attempting to slow their momentum. In the centre court, players kept moving to create space and looked for opportunities to bring the ball forward. Even when attacks broke down, we quickly reset and tried different combinations to find a way through.

In the final quarter especially, our teamwork improved and we created several promising chances near the post. Although the opposition proved the stronger side overall, our effort, resilience, and willingness to keep searching for scoring opportunities was a real positive. A team lost 23 to 5, B team lost 15 to 4

IP

U11 v Dean Close

The Berky Year 6 girls played their final netball match for the school this week, and it was a fantastic way to finish their time on the team. The game was played in great spirit, with



everyone

eager to take part and support each other.

Throughout the match, players had the opportunity to try different positions across the court. Some pupils discovered new strengths in defence, making important interceptions, while others enjoyed having a go at shooting and working in the attacking circle. It was great to see everyone encouraging their teammates and working together.

The team moved the ball well at times and created several good chances to score. More importantly, the players showed excellent teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship from start to finish.

Most of all, the match was full of smiles and laughter, with everyone enjoying their final netball game for Berkhampstead School. It was a lovely way to celebrate the team's progress and the friendships they have built. A team drew 7 - 7, B team lost 8 - 2 IP



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



SPORTS REPORTS

FOOTBALL

UIIA v Richard Pate

The UIIA team treated spectators to a thrilling encounter against local rivals, RPS. From the very first whistle, the game was played at a relentless pace, with both teams evenly matched and battling fiercely from end to end.

The boys showed real determination, working tirelessly for one another and displaying great team spirit throughout. The deadlock was finally broken when Max produced a superb strike, firing us into a well-deserved lead.

The second half continued in the same exciting fashion, with chances at both ends. RPS managed to find an equaliser, setting up a tense finish as the clock ticked down and the match looked destined to end in a draw.

But with only a couple of minutes remaining, Rowan stepped up and delivered a fantastic strike to snatch victory in dramatic fashion.

It was a hugely entertaining match. A fantastic effort from all the boys - well done! P McC

UIIB v Richard Pate

The UIIB team delivered a highly entertaining match, marked by two very different halves. The boys made a positive start, but breaking through the well-organised RPS defence proved challenging. At the opposite end, RPS moved the ball with confidence and precision, creating repeated opportunities that eventually resulted in two goals. Just before half-time, their attack produced a third, leaving us with a significant challenge

going into the break.

The team responded impressively. After the restart, a composed back pass to Eddie S set up a well-timed through ball for George who, following a neat one-two with Magnus, scored our opening goal. From that moment, the momentum shifted. The defensive unit of loan, Quinn, Milo and Toby—who maintained exceptional pace throughout—worked tirelessly, while the midfield and attacking players, including Mark, Eddie H, George and Eddie S, demonstrated much improved passing and movement.

A key tactical decision saw Teddy, who had been excellent in goal with numerous vital saves, move into an attacking role. This change paid off immediately as he converted a superb cross from the right wing to bring us within one goal. In the closing minutes, Eddie S showed great determination and control, weaving past several defenders before calmly rounding the goalkeeper to complete the comeback.

The match concluded 3-3 after chances at both ends, and the boys can be extremely proud of their resilience, teamwork and skill. It was a thoroughly enjoyable game and a testament to their character.

U9A v Rendcomb

Friday 6th brought about the Under 9A's final match of the season; an away fixture against Rendcomb, atop a hill in nippy weather. Despite the brisk conditions, the boys turned out one of their best displays of the season, showing increased competitiveness and vigour in their efforts; something that has been a real focus during recent training sessions. Despite a balanced start, the first half went our host's way, ending 3-1; however, a renewed Berky team came out of the gates fighting in the second half, quickly pulling the score back to 3-3; our super striker Tobias netting a superb hat trick. Gabriel, Finley, Max and Tom R all defended resolutely, with Thomas H, Heath and Harvey battling and creating brilliantly in midfield. Up front, alongside Tobias, Eli showed strength and perseverance up front - a great addition to the squad. Zac H kept goal well during the first half and added pressure during the second half with his attacking cameo. As the game drew to a frenetic close, Rendcomb scored a couple more to make the final score 5-3 (despite a mind-blowing quintuple save from Tom R during his stint in goal, which drew gasps and cheers from the assembled crowd!) - an exciting,

competitive match where the whole team tried their absolute best - well done lads. Thanks as always to all supporters upon the chilly mound, and across the whole season. KJ



Year 5 Football Squad