

Stem Day...

Mon 9th July is STEM day in Prep! Please keep all your old unwanted electrical goods for us to take apart!



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



FRIDAY 15TH JUNE
SUMMER TERM

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

We are now approaching one of my favourite times of the year - when the school exams have finished and I have the pleasure of attending concerts, seeing plays, chess prize giving and watching our talented and keen players acquit themselves so well on the athletics track and games fields. Dare I say it yet again - we have had an extraordinarily busy week? There have been enthusiastic clusters of children gathered together practising acts for 'Berky's Got Talent' and Prep rehearsals for the Leavers' Production 'Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies' have also been underway. The Early Years children have been singing and acting in preparation for their show in the Andrews Gym, and songs from 'Bees' - a play about the value of bees, have been echoing around the Pre-Prep building.

I was a very proud Headmaster last night when I attended the annual Cheltenham and District Chess prize giving event at the Richard Pate School. Members of the Berky Chess team, captained by Jack, were thrilled to receive League Trophy - for the third year running - and all our Chess players were also Best School at the Annual Congress - both trophies collected by the team, dressed immaculately in school uniform. Individual trophies were also awarded with George receiving the winner's trophy from the Annual Congress. After this the players took on 'Chess Masters' in the form of simultaneous Chess against Mr Hosken (President), Mr Cole (Competition Secretary) and Mr Burrows (Secretary) playing many different boards at the same time. Well done to Captain Jack, James, George, Olly, Rhys, Edith, Oli and Rupert.

At the end of term, we will, sadly, be saying goodbye to two of our fabulous staff. Holly Curl (Kindergarten) and Esther Winchcombe (Year 1 TA) are leaving us to start their Teacher Training. They are both talented staff and we hugely appreciate all they have done over recent years to support the children, parents and staff at Berkhampstead. We are also proud that they now wish to study further to become teachers - we know they will be fabulous.

Another part of my job that I really enjoy is showing prospective parents around school - and I have had 15 visits in the last few weeks. The school is in a very strong position - we are popular indeed, oversubscribed in some year groups - interest is high. As such, we have a number of new children joining in September and I look forward to welcoming them next term. I am always impressed by the welcome that new children and their parents get - often children are invited to parties, play dates etc. in advance of joining. New parents often comment on how welcome they are made to feel, and I am sure this will continue.

I am really looking forward to the PTA Midsummer Ball at the Queen's Hotel, Montpellier. It promises to be a great evening!

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



Diary dates...

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sat 16th June

6.00pm - PTA Midsummer Ball, The Queen's Hotel, Cheltenham

Mon 18th June

2.30pm - 3.15pm
New to Reception session

Tue 19th June

Year 3 trip to Corinium Museum
11.00am - Year 2 to visit
Prep Playground

Wed 20th June

2.00pm - Rounders U11A, U11B and U10A, U10B v Cheltenham College Prep School (A)

3.00pm - Cricket U11 and U10 v Richard Pate (H)

4.30pm - Glos Schools v Cheltenham Schools Chess at Upton St Leonard's Primary School

Thu 21st June

Year 3 trip to Lower Moor Farm, Cricklade

Year 4 History trip to Sulgrave Manor

2.15pm - Pre-Prep Production (Year 1 parents invited to watch)

6.30pm - Year 6 Leavers Recital, Parabola Art Centre, Cheltenham Ladies College

Fri 22nd June

2.15pm - Pre-Prep Production (Year 2 parents invited to watch)

3.30pm - Cricket U9A, U9B v Dean Close (A)

Sat 23rd June

2.00pm - 4.00pm
PTA Summer Fete





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Don't forget...
Lots of £10 notes!
- for the PTA Summer
Ball raffle on Saturday
at The Queens Hotel

News from around the school...

CHESSE REPORT

The annual District Chess Association Awards Ceremony took place yesterday evening. The Berkhampstead chess team (Jack P, James S, George de B-T, Edith H, Olly W, Rhys L) picked up two trophies - the Harris Shield for winning the District League and the Wheeler Cup for being the best performing school at the annual District Congress. George de B-T collected the trophy for winning the congress while Edith H and Rupert G were awarded age group prizes. Other congress prize winners were Oli S, Jack P and James S.



Y3 TENNIS FESTIVAL

Last Friday 8 children from Y3 and Y4 took part in a tennis festival at East Glos Club. There were about 8 schools who entered the festival and we were split into two teams of four and put into two different groups. The children who went played extremely well and by the end of the festival everyone had won at least one match. Some of our Y3 children played Y4 children from other schools but they held their own and had some excellent rallies. Both teams came first in their groups and went on to play in the semi-finals. These were tough and unfortunately, they were beaten by Prestbury St Marys but it was a great achievement to get to the semi-finals.

Well done to those 8 Year 3s and 4s that came to the festival and thank you to our loyal supporters for coming along to cheer them on.



CAKE AT BREAK

Thank you to everyone who made and bought cakes at the latest 'Cake at Break' sale.

We raised an impressive £167.50 which will go towards our well-being pod.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

PTA NEWS...

SUMMER FAYRE - 23RD JUNE

BERKY PTA SUMMER FAYRE!

Saturday 23rd June 2-4pm



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Face Painting * Games * Ice creams * Tombola * Pimms *
Strawberries & cream * Tug of War * Coconut Shy * Guess
the teacher * Beer Bar * World Cup Football on the Big Screen
* Tea, Coffee & Cakes *
And so much more...

Famous Berky Raffle of Fabulous Summer Hampers

Come on down for an afternoon of fun and laughter and raise some final pennies for the amazing Wellbeing Pod!

Toy table...

Please could parents bring in any unwanted toys for the toy table at the Summer Fete. Please can they be clean and in saleable order - and puzzles with all the pieces!

Please bring to school office on Thursday 21st or Friday 22nd June.
Thank You.



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Sports report...

CRICKET

U11B v Dean Close Won by 53 runs

Our U11B had a superb game against Dean Close on Wednesday. We batted first and with small boundaries our boys attacked from the off. Rumhann and Benji Mc made a great start, scoring 55 off the first four overs. All of the boys made runs giving us a stunning total of 356. Within our innings were sixes by James E, Oscar, Charlie and Olly and two amazing reverse sweeps for 4 from Benji J. It was entertaining stuff.

We then took to the field and looked organised and focussed. Our bowling was accurate and combined with some stunning fielding, Dean Close struggled to score at the required run rate. It was all action in the field, with wickets from James E, George L, Olly, Ed and Benji J. Andrew also bowled very well with little reward.

Our fielding was excellent. Charlie was always lively and we achieved several run outs and one amazing catch from Ed at square leg. In the end Dean Close finished on 303, losing 9 wickets, resulting in a fine victory for Berky. Well done boys and many thanks to our loyal supporters.

U9A v The Richard Pate School Lost by 91 runs

Our third match of the season was at the Victoria Ground against RPS. RPS won the toss and decided to bat first. They wasted little time in setting about our bowling attack, sending balls to all four corners of the oval. They made it very difficult for our bowlers to pin any of their batsmen down despite an early wicket from Jack. It wasn't until the 9th over that Lincoln finally stemmed the flow of runs with a double wicket maiden but by then RPS had already put 55 on the board. Two more wickets from Alex and one from Jonny did little to dent RPS's batting attack and in just 15 overs they scored a huge total of 113!

RPS's bowling attack was as ruthless and as calculating as their batting and from the outset we struggled to get going with only the pairings of Jonny and Lincoln 16, Alex and Will 12 and Jonny and Otto 19 making any impact on their score. We lost 11 wickets in total and ended up losing by 91 runs to a very strong RPS side.

This was only the second time this side has lost a game all year and the mark of a good side will be to see how they react to this loss in their next game.

U9A v Hatherop Won by 39 runs

The second game inside a week against Hatherop meant we had to bounce back from heavy defeat against RPS. Alex won the toss which was a good omen and we batted first in a slightly shortened version of Kwick Cricket playing 4 ball overs. The boys wasted no time in putting together an excellent total of 77 runs with good contributions from Griff and Jack (13), Harry and Seb (21), Lincoln and Jonny (20) and Alex and Will (19). Our bowling showed some improvements from our previous match and we pinned Hatherop's opening batsman down to a low score which meant their other three pairs were always having to play catch up. Two good catches from Lincoln and Jonny and wickets from Harry, Seb, Jack and Lincoln resulted in a comfortable victory by 39 runs. Well done boys!

U9B v Hatherop Won Berky 257 Hatherop 216

Hatherop batted first. Oli and then Alex S opened the bowling and both took a wicket apiece. Jonathan then bowled a maiden over. Archie continued with great bowling and also took a wicket. Not to be outdone, Rupert took two wickets and Otto, a further wicket. Max and Alessio completed the bowling both taking a wicket. Hatherop ended on just 216.

Berky then went into bat. Oli and Alex S both scored boundaries. Jonathan scored a respectable 7 with careful batting and Archie also scored. Rupert and Otto also added to the score with Otto scoring a boundary. Max and Alessio wrapped up the innings with Max scoring a boundary and Alessio scoring 2. The final score was 257 to Berky and Hatherop on 216. A fine victory.

U9B v Richard Pate Lost by 25 runs

Last Friday the U9B team had their toughest encounter of the season against RPS. We batted first and made a very creditable 257. Ollie and Alex scored 3 boundaries between them to open the innings. They were well supported by Will C who scored 10

and Max who scored 11. Unfortunately we lost 9 wickets along the way and this was always going to make defending our total rather challenging.

Our bowling is much improved from the start of the season. Patrick and Max took wickets and the fielding was always energetic but unfortunately it wasn't enough to prevent RPS from scoring 282 to win the match.

This was a very enjoyable game played in an excellent spirit. Well done boys. I am sure we will have learned much from this to take into our next match. Many thanks to the parents for their support.

U11B v Dean Close Dean Close 272-12 Berkhamstead 353-6

On Wednesday afternoon, the U11B team played Dean Close. We started the match by batting first and our batting was good. When we went for runs we knew we were going to get them and I was pleased with how well the boys managed the risk of being caught out. We finished with a score of 353 runs for 6 wickets. We felt good going into the second innings and our bowling and fielding was brilliant. Everyone in the team remained alert in the field and the bowling was accurate. This made it tough for Dean Close to score runs. Dean Close finished with 276 runs for 12 wickets.

An excellent afternoon of cricket and a deserved win. Many thanks to the parents who came along to support their boys.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports report...

ROUNDERS

U9A v St Edward's

Won 11-10½

To use a common 'text-speak' phrase... OMG! What a match! The words thrilling, nail-biting and incredibly exciting all spring to mind! The parents who came to watch were certainly treated to an enjoyable/ tense hour or so!

Berky were put in to bat first and were greeted with a half rounder immediately due to no-balls. The score continued to edge up thanks to fantastic rounders scored by Isla (x3), Becky and Joy (x1 each) and a sprinkling of half rounders leading to a score of 6½ after the first innings, but with 5 girls either caught or stumped out. Fantastic fielding then led to St Edward's being all out with 5½ rounders scored. In our second innings a combination of daredevil play on our part and super fielding from St.Edward's in the first few balls meant that we lost 3 girls! However, a further 4½ rounders were scored (Grace, Becky and Joy) leaving St Edward's needing 6 to win. They played very energetically and we fielded excellently (notably Phoebe, Jasmine, Grace and Isla) with fantastic decisions being made all round, getting player after player out. However, they were making the odd score here and there with their tally increasing and the crowd of parents on both sides were going wild!

Their final score was 10½ rounders and so it was a close Berky win with our score being 11. Well done to all the U9A girls – it was a fantastic game, but I don't think my health could cope with another tense one like that in our next match on Friday!

U9B v Rendcomb College Draw 9½ rounders each

This was a super match played in glorious sunshine at the Victoria ground. Put into bat by the Rendcomb girls Berky made a steady but consistent start and scored many half rounders; Viera, however, scored our only full rounder. Total 4½. The Rendcomb team had one very good player who managed to score 2 whole rounders but our fielding was good and their score at the end of their first innings was 5 rounders – so all to play for. Fortunately, Cressie found her hitting form and gave Berky two super rounders in our

second innings, our final total was 9½. It was going to be very close and indeed it was. With 4 balls to go Rendcomb had matched our score but with further careful fielding that was the final score 9½ rounders each, very unusual for a rounders match. Well played!

U9B v St Edward's

Won 7½-5½

A great display of fielding and bowling left St Edward's with little chance to score from their innings. Bella, Eleanor and Isabel K bossed the game and St Edward's were living off scraps. In the deep Cressida dominated 2nd deep and successfully threw in or ran in the ball to second preventing the half rounders.

By contrast our batting was good with all players connecting with the ball. Eleanor and Matilda scored whole rounders with Darcey, Charlotte, and Isabel scoring halves.

The second St Edward's innings proved better as they connected with the ball more but the fielding remained tight. Matilda, Darcey and Milly preventing St Edward's from scoring whole rounders. We got six of the opposition out including a lovely catch by Isabel K.

Our second innings was a success again. We were occasionally a little optimistic with our running and this led to some run outs. However, Bella scored a half and Eleanor scored another rounder and two half rounders to end up our top scorer.

A very good game with great team play and fielding.

U10B v King's, Gloucester B Lost 11½-13

King's won the toss and chose to field first (Anna was our captain for the match). After 27 good balls we had accumulated 4 rounders, notching up half rounders here and there and a full rounder from Lorien. King's came into bat and managed to get a few full rounders as a result of some slow fielding. However, the girls soon came alive and got three girls out – one was a super catch from Simran. At half time the score was 4-5½. After a good team talk, the girls were fired up and I was so proud of each one of them. They stepped up to the challenge and played the best rounders I have seen them

play. Nearly all the girls scored points and were supporting each other beautifully. Emily was trying so hard and it was paying off. We finished the innings on a very respectful 11½. King's had other ideas and came out fighting. Our fielding was much better in the second innings but a few fumbled balls and some hesitation enabled King's to score a few full rounders and they began to chip away at our lead with cheeky ½ rounders. It was a nail biting finish with King's sneaking the win. Despite the loss, I was extremely proud of the girls as they had shown real fighting spirit and supported each other completely.

U11A v King's, Gloucester Won 19-6

This team is superb and put in another faultless performance against King's. Whilst batting nearly everyone in the team scored one whole rounder, several scored two and Eleanor and Zoe scored 3 whole rounders each. Alertness in the field, great running between the posts, superb catches by Isi, Mollie, Florrie, Alexa, Jemima and Alice and brilliant decision-making gave Berky a very comfortable victory. This all led to the King's girls being all out in both their innings before they had their 27 balls. I have nothing else to say!

