



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

Mr Cross is away on an inspection this week so it is again my turn to write the newsletter. This term seems to be flying past so quickly - I cannot believe that we have already reached half term.

This afternoon, we will be holding our first proper service back in beautiful All Saints' Church with parents welcome to attend: what a joy to be back to normal! Mrs Sallis has been hard at work with all the Pre-Prep and Early Years children preparing their Harvest production 'The Little Black Cloud' for the service while the older children have been busy practising their readings with Miss Evans. We are supporting the Afghanistan Appeal and hope that you will donate generously to this very worthy cause.

Some good news from the end of the last week: Mrs Bareham and Mr Cole took a team of 14 children to the Inter-Schools Cross Country Competition at Newlands. There were four races - Years 3 to 5 girls, Years 3 to 5 boys, Year 6 girls and Year 6 boys, each with around a hundred runners taking part. All the Berky children ran really well, especially Max H who came 3rd in the Year 6 group and Lydia M who came 24th despite being one of the younger ones in the Years 3 to 5 group. More exciting news about a more recent Cross Country event in the sports section!

On Monday, Ben J joined Mr Cross to present a National Stuttering Awareness Day assembly. Together, they explained all about stuttering and the helpful strategies people who have a stutter can employ. They also gave the children useful tips on what to do/not to do if someone is stuttering during a conversation. Well done, Ben!

As I passed through the Pre-Prep playground after lunch on Wednesday, there were all sorts of interesting things going on: Mrs Taylor was hard at work supervising the Year 2 Gardening Club children in the Wildlife Garden and Miss Watkins was organising a Berky Ninja Warrior Competition in the main playground. The sun was shining and the children were having a whale of a time! There always seems to be something exciting going on at Berky.

Congratulations to Eva H (Year 4) in Prep and Eddie H (Year 2) in Pre-Prep who were awarded the Kindness Cups this morning. These are such special awards, reflecting the great importance we place on the children being kind, helping others and treating everyone around them with consideration and respect.

All sorts of maintenance work is being done over the half term including the construction of a new boys' changing room which should be in place when we return in November. Once that is completed, work on the Prep Wellbeing/Eco Garden - facing onto Cleeve View Road - can begin. There are exciting plans for this secret garden, based on Nancy B's winning entry for our pre-Covid 'Design an Eco Garden' competition.

Finally, a big thank you to all the children who came to help us on what proved to be a very busy Open Morning last Saturday (even though one family failed to arrive having booked to look round Berkhamstead School in Hertfordshire!); whether or not they ended up going on a tour, it was so heartening to see so many Year 5 and 6 volunteers giving up their Saturday morning to support their school. Much appreciated!

Have a restful and enjoyable half term -

Gill Agg

Gill Agg, Deputy Head



FRIDAY 15TH OCTOBER
AUTUMN TERM

Diary dates

AFTER HALF TERM

Mon 1st November

School returns

Tue 2nd November

Year 5 trip to the

Living Rainforest

4E Parents' Evening

Wed 3rd November

2.30pm - U11/U10A&B Rugby

v Richard Pate (A)

3.00pm - Year 1

Family Afternoon

Y1 Parents' Evening

4T Parents' Evening

Thu 4th November

3.00pm - Year 2

Family Afternoon

4.00pm - U9 Hockey

v St Ed's (A)

Reception Parents' Evening

Year 2 Parents' Evening

Fri 5th November

2.15pm - U8 Hockey v King's

Glos (A)

2.30pm - U9 Hockey v RPS

2.45pm U9A/B Rugby v RPS(A)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Edna Bear was awarded to:
Alba H and
Esme W

News from Early Years

KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarten children have amazed us this term! They have worked so hard during focused activities and created some fantastic artwork which is displayed around the Kindergarten. It was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents last week at our Wednesday Wander and to share the children's work and experiences. These events help to develop confidence and self-esteem for our children whilst recognising all the hard work that they have been involved in throughout the term.

We have all enjoyed learning our Harvest songs, a particular favourite being 'Big Red Combine Harvester' - I'm sure you have heard this song many times at home! This afternoon, the children celebrated Harvest at All Saints' Church. They made us so proud as they sang and behaved beautifully throughout. MM




BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Sophie B, Henry D, Daniel D,
Penny L, Oliver N, Charles R,
Huxley R, George W





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

News from Early Years

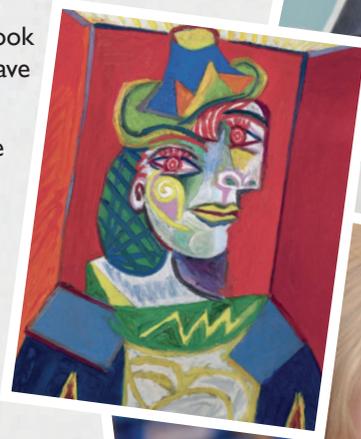
RECEPTION

The past few weeks have been very busy but great fun in Reception! We loved seeing parents at the Family Afternoon. The children were very keen to show their parents their classrooms as well as what they have been learning. It was a wonderful opportunity to look round and share the many activities the children have experienced this term.

During one of the carousel activities this week, the children became art critics. Using a PowerPoint and examples of Picasso's artwork, the children discussed this famous artist and his paintings. They were shown a selection of his paintings and asked to select their favourite, giving their reasons why. There are some art critics in the making!

The children were very excited to find out what they were going to do with the 'selfie' photographs they had taken last week. Using a picture frame template and a photograph of themselves, they created their own Picasso-inspired portraits. The children coloured in their template, cut out their facial features from their selfies and stuck them on to create their own portrait. Picasso would have been proud of these abstract pictures.

The children attended a Harvest Service at All Saints' Church. They loved performing 'The Little Black Cloud' alongside Kindergarten and the Pre-Prep children. Everyone was very proud of them. H R-W




BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Reception: Thomas H, Kitty L,
Isabel B, Eleanor W, Nina C,
Flynn J, Maddy LG, Layla F





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

News from around the school

TOP TIP

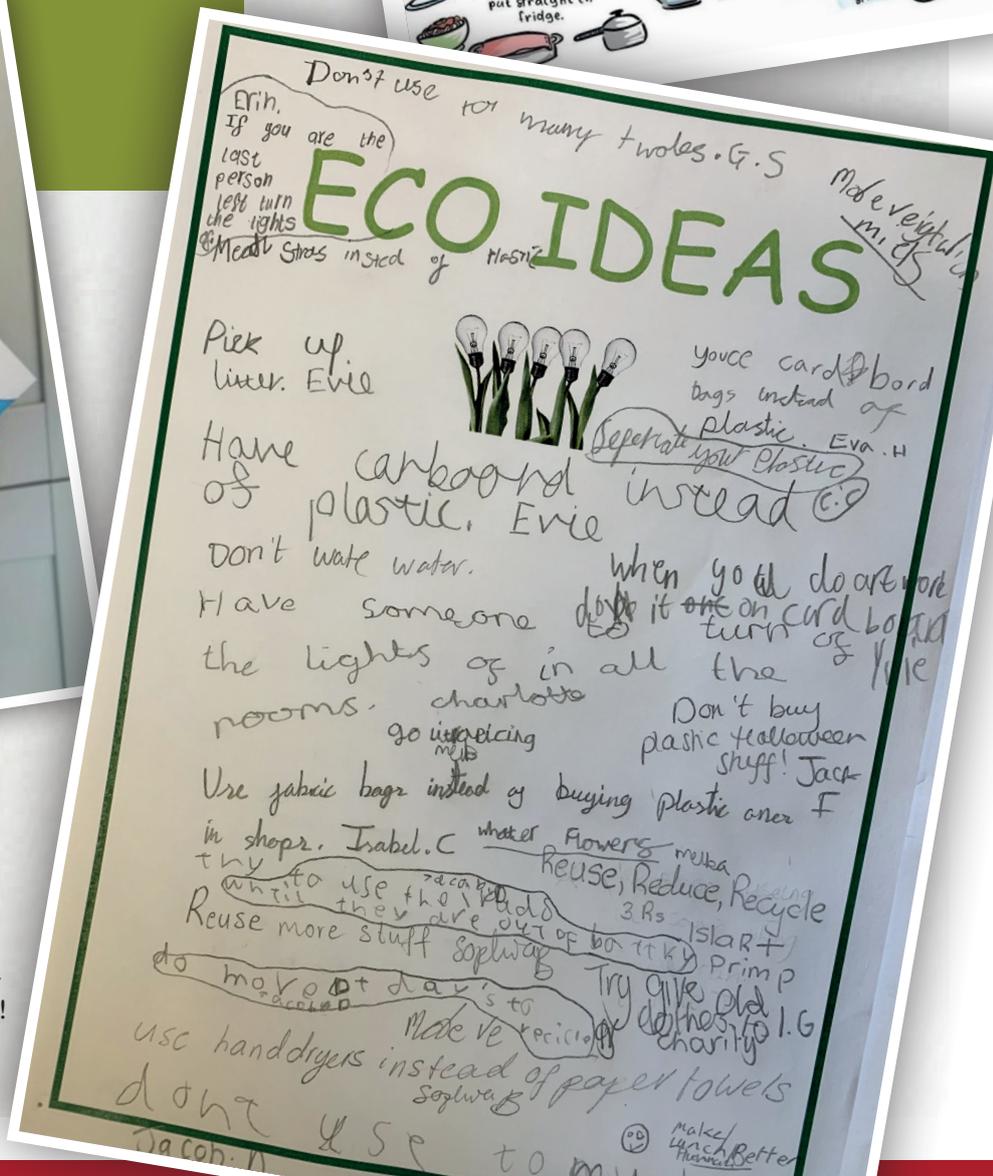
FROM ONE OF OUR YEAR 6 BERKY GETS GREENER LEADERS:

Consider making the switch to laundry detergent eco-sheets to help reduce waste and your environmental impact. They also saves loads of space in your kitchen cupboard!



ECO IDEAS

This sheet for eco tips has been up on one of the Prep School noticeboards for only a few days, and has proved very popular! We are delighted that the children are so eager to share their green-living tips. Keep the ideas coming!





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

PTA NEWS...

NEWS FROM THE PTA

We hope everyone is well and looking forward to half term.

When we return, the PTA will be hosting the famous Parent Quiz Night! It is slightly later than in previous years, but guaranteed to be even better than before! The fabulous Mr Titley will be the great Quiz Master for the evening and there will be a cheese platter and a welcome drink for each table to enjoy included in the ticket price. There will be a bar running throughout the evening!

There will be limited teams of six to a table, so be sure to complete the online form (sent out this week) to reserve your table!

During the quiz, we will hold the PTA AGM. If you would like join the PTA committee or get involved in any way, please do get in touch with us at pta@berkhampsteadschool.co.uk, we always welcome new volunteers!

We will also be sending out the details of the Summer Ball after half term, which is shaping up to be a fabulous event to celebrate another wonderful year of Berky. Do look out for the details in November.

In December, we plan to host some festive events for the children, so be sure to sign up to these once the details come out.

We hope you all have a restful half term and look forward to seeing you at the Quiz!

Joey

Joey Bowden
PTA Chair
PTA@berkhampsteadschool.co.uk

FRIENDS OF BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL PTA

THE DIAMOND BALL

CELEBRATING MANY WONDERFUL YEARS of BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

SAVE *the* DATE

SATURDAY 11 JUNE 2022
PITTVILLE PUMP ROOMS
6PM to 12AM

RECEPTION DRINKS *on the* TERRACE FOLLOWED *by* DINNER & DANCING

DETAILS ON HOW TO RESERVE A TABLE OF 8 FOR THE FABULOUS EVENT, WILL BE SHARED PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS

BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



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Sports reports

HOCKEY

U11 v Rendcomb

Lost 2-1

The sun was out and the hills of Rendcomb were calling us! Viv and Katie C made a steady start during the first half, efficiently passing the ball into space. Hettie and Chloe in defence were strong, making some solid tackles during the game and good drives back into defence. We managed a few good runs forward, driving the ball into our attacking D. Sophia managed to get a final touch onto the ball as it was heading towards the goal to secure a goal. Lucinda did some lovely movement around the D as the goalie and stopped a few strong balls coming towards her: well done to her for stepping in as goalie and having a go. Ena and Katie P held their positions well when out on the wing; unfortunately for them we struggled to get the ball wide on a regular basis. Rendcomb made some lovely runs into our defending end, and we just weren't quick enough to get back, allowing them shots on goal. They managed to sneak two into the goal, ending the game 2 -1: a loss to us. Well done, girls - good effort. CK

U11 v King's Gloucester

Won 4-1

Won 3-1

Won 1-0

All the girls headed to Plock Court to win some hockey! We were in three teams and rotated on and off which allowed the girls to watch one another. King's were an even match for us and this allowed lots of movement up and down the pitch. We had different goalies - Vivienne and Katie C - who had a go in goal this week and made some lovely saves: well done, girls, for stepping in and having a go. We had a couple of goals in each game with all three teams winning. Well done to all the girls - they had to work hard and played well.

U10 v Rendcomb

Lost 2-0

Off we went to Rendcomb, sun shining and the girls all excited, ready to be free on the pitch! We started well with some good passes up and down the wings, but slowly ended up with the play in the middle. Amelia J and Erin R tried to pull the ball back out wide but struggled as Rendcomb were hot on their heels. Chloe and Georgia made some good tackles and fought to try and gain possession of the ball; well worked! Emelia and Alba were strong with their tackles and calm in their play, allowing us to take advantage of a few balls; unfortunately, we just couldn't find the back of the net. Alexia made some strong tackles in the centre and

was able to move away with the ball, getting around some of their defence. Emma stepped in as goalie and had a storming game; she came running out to tackle a Rendcomb player and clear the ball out wide right off the pitch - she was brave and controlled. Well done! CK

U10 v Kitebrook

Group 1 Won 4-0

Group 2 Lost 1-5

Our first home match! Kitebrook brought 13 girls - we had 21 girls to rotate on and off. Some of our girls, in typical Berky spirit, rotated around and played a quarter for Kitebrook. We played quarters and I was very impressed with all the girls' team spirit. Even when not on the pitch, the girls were cheering on their teammates, encouraging them to spread the ball wide and drive it up the pitch. Playing on grass is tricky as the ball doesn't travel that far. However, the girls played as a team and supported each other beautifully.

U8 v St Edward's

Group 1 Won 5-0

We had a steady start to the game with the ball traveling up and down a fair bit, giving all the girls time to get into the swing of the game. All the girls worked hard and made some lovely tackles to enable us to gain possession. It wasn't until the second half of the match that we came alive! There were some brilliant drives to our attacking end by all girls, many resulting in a brilliant cross into the D. In the second half, we came out harder and stronger than ever before! The girls were quick and focussed on the goal; in the last six minutes of the game, we got goal number one, then a second, then in went a third, then a fourth found its way into the goal, and then bang! We finished with a fifth goal! A brilliant game and very well worked, girls.

U8 v St Edward's Group 2 Drew 1-1

The girls were playing on the senior school pitches, which were rather large for a six-a-side match. It was a very even match with both teams crowding around the ball in the first half. We managed to push one over the goal line in the first half, only to have St Edward's equalise in the second half. By the second half, the girls were spreading out more and marking players when defending. A draw was a fair result and they all certainly showed some promise. They really deserved their doughnuts at the end after all that running!

GIRLS' FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Last Friday, fifteen Year 6 girls took part in the Cheltenham Schools Football Tournament. All of the girls acquitted themselves superbly. We played with good shape, passed the ball well and created lots of goal scoring opportunities.

After a 3-0 and an 8-0 victory, one of our teams made it to the final stages where we won one game 1-0 against St John's and lost a very tight game to eventual finalists Holy Apostles, 1-0. Our goal scorers were Nancy (6), Isla (3), Ellie B (2) and Primmy 1.

Overall we were joint 3rd, which was an amazing performance. Both myself and all our loyal supporters were thoroughly impressed by the teamwork and excellent play all of the girls. Well done, girls - it was a great afternoon.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Sports reports

U11 v Rendcomb Won 12-2

On Wednesday, the U11 boys produced a superb performance against Rendcomb, winning by 12 tries to 2. Our running and support play was wonderful and our teamwork was absolutely outstanding. Our try scorers were: Ben (3), Otto (3), Jacob F, Manas, Sam, Max, Reuben and Felix.

I was so impressed by all of the team. Well done, boys!

U10 v Rendcomb Lost 8-5

On Wednesday, the U10 team travelled to Rendcomb. It was a bit of a slow start from the boys, and they conceded a try first. For most of the first half, the match was even and both teams were scoring tries. The second half was a much better game and the boys tackled and defended well but couldn't prevent Rendcomb from scoring more tries. Unfortunately, the match finished 8-5 to Rendcomb. We will work on ball handling after half term and hopefully the boys will grow in confidence and get tackling early in the match.

Well done, boys - a good game and your first win is coming. Many thanks to parents and friends that came along to support the boys.

U9A v Dean Close Tag Rugby Festival

Won 3 Lost 2

The U9As played five matches in their second festival of the season at Dean Close on Wednesday. Our first match saw us drawn against Cheltenham Prep, a school always renowned for producing excellent sides and unfortunately for us they didn't disappoint, scoring several tries in the first four minutes of the game. We emptied the bench and that seemed to stop Cheltenham Prep's flow; despite losing, we did manage to score on several occasions and restore a sense of order to our game. Beaudesert were next and once again we struggled to get out of our own half; when in possession, we seemed to have little or no trouble in scoring but in defence, we spent far too much time ball watching which allowed the opposition far too much space on both wings to score.

With little or no time to gather our thoughts, we played Clifton and at last we were given some space to make passes and score as well as begin to show a slightly more organised defence, eventually running out comfortable winners. Despite the intimidating size of our next opponents, Dean Close, we were gaining in confidence and passing well. Despite the opposition's speed and size, both sides scored

freely with the final result being too close to call. Our last match against St John's was probably our best, with some tight defence and excellent support play in attack; we scored several tries after well worked moves and finished the afternoon on a very positive win. Just about all the boys seemed to score at some stage during the afternoon and, more importantly, we learnt from our mistakes after the initial defeats. Well done to all the boys for an excellent afternoon's work.

U9B v Dean Close Tag Rugby Festival

Won 3, Drew 1, Lost 1

We had a busy Wednesday afternoon filled with plenty of tag rugby. We played five teams: Cheltenham College Prep 1, Beaudesert, Cheltenham College Prep 2, St John's and Dean Close.

All the boys played well throughout the Festival and kept running in all of the matches. Many tries were scored throughout the afternoon. Our top scorers were Jack, Owen and Isaac. Everyone played their part, so well done to you all. Special mention should go to Luis who volunteered to play for St John's as they had fewer players.

A great afternoon of rugby!

U8 v Rendcomb Team A Won 1-0 Team B Lost 2-0

Last Friday, the Year 3 boys played against Rendcomb at the Victoria Ground. The boys played well: one team won their game by a try and the other team lost by a couple of tries. The boys were excellent at tagging the opposition and made it clear when they had taken a tag. Lots of tries were scored and the teams from both schools were of a similar ability and this was reflected in the match results. One area for us to work on in training is the defensive line and reorganising once a tag has been taken.

Well done, boys - two good matches and many thanks to our supporters for coming along to cheer the boys on.

CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday afternoon, we took some Y4, Y5 and Y6 children to the Cross Country event at St Edward's School. This is one of the trickier events because the children have to tackle half of the hill; the whole hill is tackled at the final event. Everyone ran well and persevered with all children finishing their race. A big well done to Max H who finished 2nd, Otto S who finished 5th and Lydia M who finished 15th in the Year 5 race and she is only in Year 4 so next year looks very promising for her.

