



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

One of the things I enjoy most about this time of year is looking on our Social Media channels and seeing photos of our Year 6 children juxtaposed with photos from when they were in Early Years and Pre-Prep; the Prep children were delighted to see some of these lovely pairs of photos in my assembly this morning. The time seems to go by so very fast - another year almost over and another wonderful group of children about to leave us to go to their secondary schools. Yesterday, we said goodbye to two pupils who have been over in this country for two years - Connor and Isaac S; we wish them and their family all the best back in the U.S.A. and hope that they will keep in touch and visit us should they ever be in this area.

As you will have seen from my letter sent today, thanks to the rise in Covid cases, we are in a similar situation to that of last year and are unable to hold our end of year events in the normal way. However, they will not be cancelled altogether as we are thinking of ways to hold the events even if attendance is limited or the event has to be filmed and distributed. The most important thing has to be to keep our community safe and healthy.

It has been another busy week full of rehearsals, trips and events alongside lessons and sport. Yesterday, Reception went out on their trip to West Midland Safari Park to look at all the animals - apparently, a good time was had by all, even if a few children were rather tired on the return journey.

Also yesterday was the National Finals of the Schools' General Knowledge Championship; both our Year 3 and Year 4 teams qualified for this event which was very exciting even though it had to be experienced via a screen. Our Year 3 team - George J, Alastair M, Wilf M and Freddie L - came 14th and our Year 4 team - Joseph W, Bertie L, Tom C-G and Harry H - came a remarkable 3rd: so impressive for a national competition! Many congratulations to them. Another Year 4 pupil has excelled this week by qualifying for the National Chess Gigafinal - also via screen - many congratulations to Seb C.

Finally, I have to mention that this week has seen a second pupil receive his Eco Warrior badge in Assembly for fulfilling the requirements of the Berky Eco Pledge - congratulations to Jacob F. He is another shining example of someone who takes saving the world seriously. Mrs Agg and Miss Walter hope that other children will be inspired to submit their pledges very soon; so far, there have been many useful eco-tips and ideas submitted which we hope to disseminate to everyone soon.

Have a good weekend.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster

1	Birkdale Prep, Sheffield	1980
2	Alleyn's School, Dulwich	1840
3	Claire's Court Boys	1820
4	Berkhampstead Cheltenham	1820
5	St Cedd's School, Chelmsford	1800

FRIDAY 18TH JUNE
SUMMER TERM

Diary dates

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 21st June

2.30pm - Boys' Cricket U10/U11 v Rendcomb (H)

Tue 22nd June

Year 5 trip to the Black Country Museum

Recording of EY Concert

Wed 23rd June

Recording of EY Concert

2.15pm Girls' Cricket U10 v RPS (A)

2.30pm - Boys' Cricket U11A v Hatherop (A)

2.30pm - Boys' Cricket U10 v St Ed's (H)

7pm - Year 6 Leavers' Recital

Thur 24th June

Year 1 trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park

pm Year 2 - Year 6

Fundraising afternoon

2.15pm - New to KG transition

2.15pm - New to Reception transition

Fri 25th June

2.45pm - Boys' Cricket U8 v RPS (H)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



STARS OF THE WEEK

Reception
Rupert S, Florence P,
Annie W, Jack W and all
of Reception (for
our trip this week)



Kindergarten
Eliyas S, Gabriel C,
Esme W, Immie R

News from Early Years

We are delighted to welcome Miss O'Sullivan to our Early Years Department. She will be working in Kindergarten on a Monday and a Friday to ensure our high standard of care and education for the children is continued.

Early Years children and staff are practising for our Summer Concert, "The Porridge Monster". The children are very excited about their parts and Mrs Sallis has been busy teaching them the music and actions. Reception children are busy learning their lines; thank you for your support with helping your child learn their lines.

The Kindergarten children are full of enthusiasm for our new topic 'Traditional Tales', and we are reading many stories and discussing how the characters might choose to do things differently next time. For instance, the children recognised that Goldilocks should have listened to her mother, not gone into the woods or entered the three bears' house uninvited. Then, after reading 'Little Red Riding Hood', we made a list of food that Grandma would like to eat whilst she is poorly.

The children are very excited for Father's Day this Sunday. Here are some comments from some of the Kindergarten as to why they love their Daddy; Dads, see if you recognise yourself!

I love my Daddy because:

'Daddy gives me cuddles and kisses.'

'My Daddy tells my Mummy jokes, he always tells jokes!'

'My Daddy gives me a piggyback.'

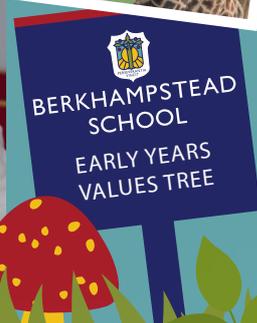
'Daddy takes me to the pub, and I see my favourite tree.'

'Daddy loves going in the paddling pool with me and splashes me lots!'

Meanwhile, the Reception children experienced a great start to our new topic "Animals Galore" by setting off on an animal adventure trip to West Midland Safari Park, home to some of the world's most beautiful and endangered exotic animal species. On arrival to the park, we buckled up and held on tight and went on a safari! The children couldn't wait to see the animals close up, wandering around in front of us. As we drove around the park, we saw zebras, Congo buffalo, greater one horned rhino, cheetahs, the African lions as well as the tigers and elephants. Our favourite part of the safari was when we were in the lion enclosure and we saw the pride of lions roaming around to the side of our coach. It was so wonderful to watch them and see how big they are in real life. It was incredible to see the animals just metres away from us.

The children became explorers led by a Ranger and had to listen out for clues as they explored the Discovery Trail. Our Ranger was full of "animal-tastic" facts to pass on: Why are penguins black and white? How do bats find their way in the dark? The children discovered the answers to these questions and many more.

It was a great day out and the children returned very enthusiastic to find out more about these wonderful animals through our topic "Wild About Animals".



Kindergarten
Nina C, Heath G, Arabella G,
Archie M, Huxley R, Zac H,
Ruby H, Lana G
Reception
Rocco B, Oscar D, Lilian L and
Olivia B, Gaia G, Felicity W,
Leo D (apologies this should have
appeared in the newsletter May 28th)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Artwork...
Please could all Prep School children bring in a bag to carry home their artwork at the end of term.

News from around the school

FUNDRAISING AFTERNOON!

On Thursday 24th June we are planning a Fundraising Afternoon - during school hours - outside in the Prep Playground for Year 2 to Year 6 to raise money for this year's school charities: Cheltenham Foodbank and UNHCR Refugee Support.

Each of the forms will run at least one stall including 'Throw the Wet Sponge at a Teacher,' or 'Guess the Name of the Donkey!' Mocktails will be on sale too!

In order to make sure that we are Covid safe and that money is not being exchanged, we have devised a card system whereby the children use 'credits' as a method of payment. A card giving them 6 turns will cost £3 and a card giving them 10 turns will cost £5. The children will be able to purchase one card from their form teacher on the morning of the event. The card will also give the children free entrance to the 'Berky's Got Talent' show that will be taking place too. If you are happy for your child to purchase a payment card, please send your child in with the correct money on the day to give to their form teacher.

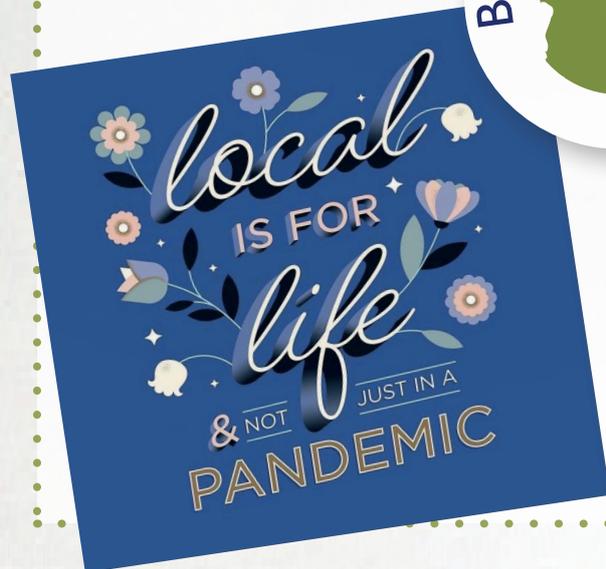
We hope that this will be a really fun afternoon for the children and a great way of raising money for such worthy charities.



ECO TIP

Buying out-of-season produce, like strawberries in December, lowers your eco-credentials. As does eating turkey and carrots that have been flown halfway round the world or wrapped in layers of plastic. When you shop at local butchers, bakers, farm shops and green grocers, it is likely that a decent percentage of the produce has had a short field-to-fork journey. Along with supporting local farmers, it means the food is likely to contain more nutrients and have less packaging.

Please support your local shops!





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Cricket reports...

BOYS

U9A v RPS

Won by 25 runs

Our second match of the season was at RPS in warm but overcast conditions. Tom won the toss and decided that Berky should bat first. With just two overs a pair, we had to hit the ground running and we wasted little time in setting out our stall with an excellent opening partnership of 17 from Tom and Harry. Bertie and Joe kept the momentum of runs flowing with 16. Further contributions of 12 from Ben and Tom, 21 from Seb and Will and 17 from Harry and Joe resulted in a finishing score of 83 for 2. A quick drinks break and team talk and Berky were out in the field, putting the home team under pressure with tight, accurate bowling. Two wickets in successive balls from Ben and some excellent fielding on the outside kept the pressure on RPS and they were always playing catchup. After our allotted overs were bowled, RPS fell short of our 83 by 25 runs. It was a super display of bowling from Berky who gave little away in wides and no balls and fully deserved a fine victory, despite only fielding 7 players. Well done, boys.

GIRLS

U8 Group 1 v RPS

Lost RPS 243 - Berky 232

We boarded the bus for the fixture full of giggles and laughter! The girls made me proud; they got off the bus and got themselves sorted for the match. We started well with some great overarm bowling - no wickets unfortunately but I was so proud of them. We were a little slow in the field, often not moving until the ball had stopped! However, after a little while we got into the swing of it, with the girls moving towards the ball. We had a few balls off the tee which allowed us a few good runs; we all worked well in the batting and tried hard. The girls just couldn't get enough runs to beat RPS. We will next time, though! Well done, girls.

U9A v King's, Gloucester

King's 273 for 1

Berky 291 for 1

It was a glorious afternoon - perfect for cricket - when we met King's School, Gloucester at the Victoria Ground last Friday. For some of the girls, it was their first match and nerves were high! Lettie was captain and at the loss of the toss we were put in to field first. It is fair to say that, in general, our bowling was not up to the standard we achieve in lessons, but fielding was wonderful, preventing many runs from the King's girls. At the end of their innings, we were left chasing a score of 273 for 1 wicket. After the first two overs, we were already on 224 runs with Carly and Frankie batting well. Then, after superb innings from Esi and Erin, Alba and Esha, Chloe H and Yvie, we had already secured the match. With the final pair of Alina and Tatty in bat, a further 13 runs were scored giving us a total of 291 runs, also with just 1 wicket lost. All the girls would agree that it was a tremendous afternoon and that cricket is now our new favourite game!!

U9B v King's, Gloucester

Berky 242 - KSG 204

Despite it clouding over and the sun not shining, there was a warm atmosphere of excitement as the B team of 9 girls headed to the end of the Victoria Ground for their cricket match - for most of them, their first.

We lost the toss but nervous butterflies paved the way for some enthusiastic playing. Our first bowler bowled with accuracy and speed and KSG soon realised we were a force to be reckoned with. Some excellent fielding all round from Berky, especially remembering to walk in as the ball was bowled, ensured KSG's runs were kept to a minimum. The icing on the cake was the amount of wickets we scored with some amazingly precise throws at the stumps, as well as getting the ball back promptly to the bowler and wicket keeper.

Going in to bat, Berky were quietly confident. With some difficult balls bowled by KSG, Berky responded with some brilliant batting. Good communication between the batting pairs meant they capitalised on some small hits which were aimed away from fielders, as well as making good decisions not to run. Some amazing tactical sweeping batting from the last pair of batters meant we had a comfortable win.

U11 Group 1 v RPS

Won Berky 309 - RPS 269

What a game! We won the toss and decided to field first. The first bat from RPS was a strong one, but in came a dive from one of the Berky girls and they were down -5. We had a few more catching opportunities but didn't quite keep hold of the ball! RPS did some great batting, gaining five 4s or 6s. The girls went into bat chasing 269. First into bat were Lottie and Beatrice. 4 on the first bat... I started to get excited! Between them, they managed 25 runs. Next up, Isla and Uma, through their two overs, the pair managed 41 runs. In stepped Serena and Lucy, armed with their bats and ready to hit some balls! Between them they managed 22 runs. Our 4th batting pair stepped up - Lucinda and Primmy; they were stealing runs all over the place, making me panic! They got some good runs but unfortunately, chancing so many lost them 10 points, finishing their batting time with 7 runs. Last pair into bat were Matilda E and Beatrice again. We knew at this point we had already won but RPS were keen to get some catches; they managed one catch in the last over. With some great batting and some brilliant short runs, our last pair gained 14 runs.

Well done to all the girls. It was a FANTASTIC last match to end your Berky journey on. I was proud of you all.

U11B v RPS

Won 255 - 254

With Lilah as captain and Matilda H as vice, our girls won the toss and took to the field. Generally, the bowling was pretty good, with Holly taking 2 wickets in the first over and Thea and Hannah 2 further wickets. Our fielding was also safe and sensible with a great catch taken by Bea Bea. Our batting was terrific with boundaries being hit by Lilah, Holly, Anna, Thea and Alice (twice) but this was slightly nullified by losing 5 wickets! The game ended on a massive 6 hit by Holly which gave us a 1 run victory. This was a very exciting match. Holly was voted by the RPS girls as the Batting Player of the Match and Bea Bea as the Fielder of the Match. Well done to the four Year 5 girls who stepped up to play with the U11s but everyone played their part in the closest of matches. Brilliant, girls!