



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

The winter frost has arrived this week and it reinforced the feeling of Christmas that is pervading the school. It was lovely to see the Prep and Pre-Prep children arrive at school on Wednesday (1st December) to find their classrooms and halls transformed into a winter wonderland. Last night the After-School Club children, assisted by Miss Latham, decorated the tree in the Library and did a super job - lots of baubles, tinsel and lights!

The children have been rehearsing carols for the end of term nativities and carols and next week a group of Year 5 pupils will visit Bay Tree Court to sing for the residents (outside their windows). I have seen many letters for Father Christmas and it seems the children are all excited about their Christmas plays! They are also excited about the Christmas Postal Service with the chosen stamps now on sale and the post boxes in position. The postmen and women take their jobs very seriously and look forward to their turn to deliver the Christmas cards to others.

I hope that you follow the school on Twitter and Instagram as this is the best way to get an insight into what your children are getting up to. Just this week I have seen Christmas cake making in Kindergarten, tree decorations made from ice in Reception and Year 1's animal wooden spoons. It is a lovely time of the term and I look forward to seeing some of you at the nativity plays planned for next week. I hope you will be able to come but otherwise a film will be made, to be watched on repeat over Christmas!

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



FRIDAY 3RD DECEMBER
AUTUMN TERM

Diary dates

Will follow in a separate email



Thank you...

Thank you to the parents who replied to the email about RSHE - more information will follow shortly.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from Pre-Prep

IT IS BEGINNING TO LOOK AND SOUND A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS IN YEARS 1 AND 2!

Both year groups have been busy rehearsing for our Christmas Production "Jesus' Christmas Party". Thank you to everyone who has brought in their costume so far; please could we have any remaining costumes by Tuesday 7th December at the very latest as we would like to do a Dress Rehearsal on Wednesday 8th December.

Year 1 wrote letters to Father Christmas this week in English. The children thought of the presents they wished to ask for, as well as questions they would like to ask. The questions included:

- "How do your reindeer fly?"*
- "How do the elves make the presents?"*
- "What powers your workshop?"*
- "How do you get around the world without getting lost?"*

The children have also been very creative when undertaking various Christmas art activities; the children have been making cards, calendars and tree decorations this week ready to take home during the last week of term. We are also looking forward to our Eco-Craft day on Monday 13th December with Year 2 - please could you save any jar lids (cleaned), corks and cellophane sweet wrappers from the recycling and send them into school for us to use on this day. Thank you if you have already sent some in! JG

This week, Year 2 have been enjoying getting into the festive spirit. With play rehearsals, classroom decorating and Christmas card making, our artistic streak knows no bounds! We have been working at our watercolour creations to make a few festive surprises for our families. We are fully embracing the Christmas theme: writing acrostic poems, retelling the nativity and learning about Advent. GS





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Eco news



TOP TIP... FROM ONE OF OUR ECO-CONSCIOUS FAMILIES

Consider walking, cycling or scootering to school to reduce your carbon footprint.



CHRISTMAS STAMP COMPETITION

We were thrilled with this year's beautiful and imaginative stamp designs. Submitted by pupils from Kindergarten to Year 6, we chose the following designs for the Berky Postal Service:

Lydia M, Primmy P, Amelia J, Eleanor C, Floyd R, Flo P-T, Kitty L, Henrietta C, Eleanor K, Lucy W, Sydney W, Jacob H, Heath G, Georgia A, Ben S and Yaz. Congratulations to these pupils!

Sheets of stamps cost £1 and must be used for our internal postal service. Proceeds will go to the two charities we are supporting this year: WWF and Maggie's, Cheltenham.



ECO WRITING COMPETITION

Prep children are invited to enter an exciting eco-themed writing competition! Their acrostic eco poems must spell the word CHRISTMAS, and the deadline is Friday 10th December. The prizewinners will be announced nearer to the end of term.



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports reports

HOCKEY

U8 v Dean Close

Each team Won 2 Drew 1

I will start this report by saying how very proud I was of all the girls on Wednesday. It was cold, wet and miserable; the children's hands were so cold it was difficult to hold the sticks. Despite this, the girls played magnificently, chasing the play, battling hard and trying their best. The games were all hotly contested. The girls split into three teams and played three matches against three different Dean Close teams. Each team won 2 games and drew 1. Well done to all the girls who played - they can be justly proud of themselves.

