

Reminder...

Future Schools Briefing
next Monday for
Y4 and Y5 Parents



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



FRIDAY 10TH MARCH
SPRING TERM

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

I had a wonderful drive over to Malvern last Saturday morning to visit the MSJ Art Exhibition. The sun was shining and the Malvern Hills made a splendid backdrop. It was an absolute pleasure to see the Berky children (and families) as they perused the exhibition and collected their prizes. I taught for 12 years at Malvern College Prep School and have very fond memories of my days spent teaching in Malvern – in the classroom and on the games field. And ... the best part of my job now is still the time spent with the children.

Our Year 5 & 6 girls have been training hard and are all set for the Primary Schools Football tournament later today – very good luck to them. They have thoroughly enjoyed their sessions and are looking forward to using their skills in match play.

Our runners have done us proud at the various Cross Country events recently. It was great to see so many children involved and for them to run the whole way with such determination and to finish smiling! We have had some splendid results on the games field, all played with the typical Berky good spirit – well done!

I am looking forward to seeing many of you on Open Day tomorrow. It is usually a very busy occasion but please feel free to come along and have a look around and look at the displays and classrooms. Refreshments will be served in each of the Pre-Prep and Day Nursery buildings.

Cake-at-Break on Tuesday coincided with a Governors Day – when our Governors spend time in the classroom talking to children and staff – and Lent – when I have decided to stop eating cake and biscuits! As always this went down very well with the children and other staff and I hope much money was raised.

The May Ball is on the 13th May and, following last year's success, promises to be a super event, more details soon – but do reserve that date! A series of events has boosted the new minibus fund; we are nearly there and we are now looking at what's best to buy, - a big thank you to all for this.

The Cheltenham Races will be in full swing next week, making getting around a challenge – it may be busier at pick-up times so please do allow extra time. Of course, if you are late your child will be cared for as usual in Late or Super Late Club.

You may have noticed the signs that Pittville Circus Road will be closed for three days between 20th-23rd March. This is for resurfacing but it will be closed between 9.30am and 3.00pm so should make school accessible during normal drop-off and pick-up times. Please do park courteously – and not in front of our neighbours' driveways.

Next Thursday, the 14th, we plan to have a Mufti-Day to raise funds for RNLI, a School Council chosen charity. All are allowed to come in wearing something blue and should bring a donation of at least £1.50, please, for this super cause.

Diary dates...

THE WEEKS AHEAD

Sat 11th March
9.30am – 11.30am
Open Morning

Mon 13th March
3.30pm – 4.15pm Book Fair,
Andrews Gym
Year 6 Geography Field Trip
6.00pm – Year 4/Year 5 Future
Schools Information Evening,
Prep Hall
Tue 14 March
Fire Engine visit to Reception
Year 5 visit to CLC
3.45pm-4.15pm Years 3 and 4
Yoga Taster Session Prep Hall
4.00pm – Chess v Holy Apostles (H)

Wed 15th March
2.00pm – Netball U11A, U11B,
U10A, U10B v St Edward's (A)
2.00pm – Football U11, U10 v
Beaudesert (A)

Thur 16 March
Blue Mufti Day in aid of RNLI –
please bring a £1.50 donation
3pm-3.30pm Year 2 Yoga Taster
Session, Pre Prep Hall

Fri 17 March
9am – Pre Prep Recital

Sat 18th March
9.30pm – U10 Netball
Tournament at Richard Pate
AB Music Exams

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Reminder...
Pittville Circus Road
will be closed for carriageway
resurfacing between
20th - 23rd March
from 09:30-15:00

News from around the school

RECEPTION

Reception has been inundated with visitors this week. Various emergency services have been in to talk to the children about their jobs and how they help the community stay fit and healthy. The children listened extremely well to all talks and asked some very thoughtful and well-constructed questions.



The sound of sirens made sure the Reception children were wide awake when paramedic Shane visited with his ambulance on Monday morning. He talked about the times when you may need to call 999 for an ambulance and the children shared their experiences of needing to go to hospital in an ambulance. The children then went outside to have a look inside the ambulance and explore Shane's paramedics kit; the children wanted to know lots of information about the different equipment and what it is used for.

On Tuesday, Lindsey came to visit from Dragon Vets and the Equine Centre based at the racecourse. She talked to the children about she mainly looks after horses and how they treat the different ailments they are presented with. The children all agreed that vets had a tricky job as the animals can't tell her where the pain is so they have to do lots of investigations. Lindsay also brought in some horse's bones and some interesting photographs for the children to look at.

On Wednesday Eleanor B's Mummy came to visit to talk about being a doctor and what we would do in an emergency. Not only did she give the children lots of information about what a doctor does, she also brought her medical bag with lots of interesting items that the children had to guess what they might be for. They, then became doctors and used stethoscopes on each other to listen to their heartbeats.



On Thursday Emily B's Daddy came to visit to talk about being an anaesthetist. He talked about preparing for an operation and the children became patients wearing gowns and masks. They were then challenged to administer CPR on "Annie" the resuscitation doll under the expert supervision of Dr Breach. All children passed with flying colours. The staff and children would like to thank all our visitors this week!





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

News from around the school

KINDERGARTEN

This week the children have skipped into Kindergarten eager to learn more about 'Time'. We spent time looking at a large interactive analogue clock and the children soon learnt the purpose of the big and the little hand on the clock face. They used their number knowledge to determine the o'clock hour. What better way to put into practice this new found knowledge than by playing a few games of 'What's the time Mr Wolf?'

The children took turns to be Mr Wolf. They set the time and waited for the children to chant, "What's the time Mr Wolf?" The children shouted out the time and advanced the same number of steps. Mr Wolf continued to give a time until the players came very close and asked again, "What's the time Mr Wolf?" Mr Wolf responded to the chant and growled, "It's dinner time." The growl may have scared a few but was quickly followed up with shrieks and giggles.

(Please note, no children were eaten during the process of this activity!).





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports equipment...

Cricket equipment now in stock at Academy Sports

EARLY SEASON
LATE NIGHT SHOPPING
Wednesday 15th March
8.30am till 9pm

Sports report...

FOOTBALL

U9 Hatherop Tournament

The U9 boys went to Hatherop on Wednesday for a football tournament. They played four matches over the course of the afternoon so there was a lot of football which was great.

The first match was against Rendcomb who had brought a mixed age team and we were able to attack these easily and win the match 2-0; it was a good start. The second match was against Prior Park who had some huge boys and we had some good chances in this match but they managed to sneak a goal in and win the game 1-0. The next match was against Hatherop who we had met earlier in the season and they played just as well as they had in our previous encounter, winning the match 1-0. The final match was against St Hughes and this was the best match of the afternoon. Both teams were even and it felt more like a cup final; the boys played well. This finished even at 0-0. We didn't progress to the semi-finals but the boys finished the afternoon with a fantastic performance.

Many thanks to our loyal supporters for coming along to watch the boys and cheer them on.

U11A/B v Bredon - Draw 0-0

On Wednesday we travelled to the outskirts of Tewkesbury to play against Bredon school. Both sides played some excellent football in a very competitive match. Our passing and movement off the ball was very impressive. We retained possession for long periods of the game and created several chances but unfortunately could not convert the opportunities.

The boys played in a variety of positions and all proved to be adaptable and flexible. Rex was a secure presence in goal and he was aided by strong defending from Toby, James E and Ethan. Sam and Charlton showed great skill on the flanks and Ollie R, Rhys, Adam and James S provided energy in midfield and attack. Well done boys for another enjoyable match.



CROSS COUNTRY

Unusually dry and sunny conditions met us at the College for the third league race of the season. The girls set off first, with 172 on the start line and there was a similar number in the boys event, if not a few more. Lovisa and Florrie led the way home for the girls and came in at 29th and 30th respectively. First home for the boys was Ollie R in 36th position and George L in 54th position.

Well done to all our runners for completing the course.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports report...

NETBALL

U8 Blue v RPS - Lost 7-0

Even though this was the Richard Pate girls' first match they had such a height advantage over all of our team I knew we would be up against it and the goal shooter was enormous! Our girls battled away but stood very little chance; the opposition seemed to pluck the ball out of the air over the heads of our girls. We did finally manage to get the ball down to our shooting end near the end of the match but unfortunately did not score. The final result of the match was 7-0 to Richard Pate. Well tried girls!

U9 v King's Gloucester - Won 9-5

Within a few minutes of this game starting, it became apparent that we were very much the stronger team and by the end of the first quarter the score was 5-0 with Daisy scoring some fantastic goals! A few tactical changes were made, and by the end of the match the Kings' girls had been able to score 5 goals, bringing the closing score to a 9-5 win. It was very nearly a 10-5 win with a fantastic shot at goal by India, but unfortunately, it was just after the final whistle. The girls' attitude and team-play was fantastic and they demonstrated an incredibly 'sporting' nature. Well done girls!

U9A v RPS - Won 5-1

Looking good from the first whistle the under 9's played well throughout this match and were always on top. Sensible play in our shooting circle and strong defending led to a 4-1 lead at the half way point. The second half saw a few wayward passes but Berky still managed to add to their tally. The final score was 5-1 to Berky. Things to work on over the next couple of weeks are more direct throwing and getting in front of their opponents to receive the ball. Well done!

U9B v RPS - Lost 7-2

This was a very wet game! And the score does not reflect the determination and fantastic play demonstrated by the girls in the dreadful conditions! We did manage two wonderful goals from India and Anna with a very slippery ball, but the Richard Pate's girls were excellent at getting the ball to their shooters and they capitalised on this to score 7. Nevertheless, our girls played exceptionally well and their team spirit was not dampened!

U10A v Kings - Won 20-2

Another home match on the MUGA and the girls certainly put on a performance! The girls (captained by Alice) were in the zone – accurate and fast passing, superb footwork and the dream team were popping in the goals! It soon became very apparent that we were far too strong for our opponents and by half time we were 10 - 0 up. After a few tactical changes in the second half, Eleanor was able to showcase her scoring ability and our lead became even stronger. Further changes were made and Kings scored two goals. Well done girls, a strong win with excellent teamwork.

U11A v Beaudesert - Won 10-8

What a terrific match this was - fast, skilful and very exciting, bordering on the nerve-wracking! The first quarter started off disastrously with Lovisa falling heavily and having to leave the court within 30 seconds of the start. She was replaced by Rowan for this quarter who took over the position of centre and more than held her own. Beaudesert took an early 3-1 lead but by half time Berky had come back strongly to take a 4-3 lead. Lovisa had now returned to the court and the whole team were playing magnificently; great interceptions, fast passing routines and the shooters had really got their eye in. The Beaudesert umpire was extremely sharp on the footwork rule and I am very proud of the way our girls kept their heads and fought hard when free pass after free pass went against us. The second half of the match was nip and tuck, with some excellent defensive play by Izzy, Katie and Eve but also some wayward passing so it was becoming very tense approaching the last few seconds of the match. It was 9-8 to Berky and Helena launched one of her trade mark specials in from the edge of the circle to make it 10-8 to Berky. What a game! Well done to all the Year 6 girls from both teams for a super match.

U11B v Beaudesert - Won 6-3

This was an exciting, fast-paced match with lots of end to end play. The girls worked very well as a team. By the end of the first half it was 2 all. Berky kept up the pressure and scored 2 goals in the 3rd quarter. Beaudesert scored 1 in the last quarter but we scored 2 making a final win to us 6-3. A great result. Brilliant defending particularly from Daisy and Lola and super shooting from Claire and Evie T. Well played girls, a well-deserved win!

