



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

I always look forward to assembly time. It's lovely gather everyone together, to celebrate each other's successes and to talk about topical issues. In Prep assembly this week we considered the phrase Happy New Year and wondered what we can do to ensure we have a contented 2019. I showed them the Action for Happiness January Calendar and asked the children which things in life they feel grateful for (see 7th January). They came up with some amazing answers that included (in no particular order):

### Education, Friends, Food and water, Harry Potter and Family

On my list I included all of these (except Harry Potter!) and my 10th item was the children. We, as staff, are very lucky to work with your children and to have an impact on their lives. We enjoy their company, learn from them and have so much pleasure in seeing them grow in confidence, self-belief and ability.

I hope they also went to bed an hour earlier on Tuesday!

I am thrilled to announce that Mollie Dodds has been appointed Manager to Berkhampstead Day Nursery. Mollie has been a brilliant asset to the Day Nursery since she started 5 years ago and in recent years has worked very closely with Emily Collett (current Day Nursery manager) to develop the Day Nursery into being one of the leading settings in Cheltenham. Emily is stepping down from the role to give more time to her young family but will remain at the Day Nursery as a Nursery Practitioner – and no doubt to support Mollie in her new role. Mollie will start as Day Nursery Manager on Monday 28th January 2019.

It has been another busy week and the children have thrown themselves wholeheartedly in to the new term. We have some exciting weekend activities coming up with the Berky Chess Congress next Saturday 19th January and then a trip to see Cheltenham Town play Macclesfield Town the following Saturday 26th January. Later this month sees the start of the next series of Parents' Meetings and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thank you.

*Richard*

Richard Cross  
Headmaster



FRIDAY 11TH JANUARY  
SPRING TERM

## Diary dates...

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Mon 14th January

2.30pm - Football U11 (3 teams)  
v Bowbrook House (H)

#### Wed 16th January

2.30pm - Netball U11, U10  
v Cricklade Manor Prep (A)  
2.30pm - Football U9  
v Cheltenham College Prep (A)  
3.00pm - Football U10A U10B  
v Richard Pate (A)

#### Thu 17th January

Year 1 Winter Walk

#### Fri 18th January

Acorns Hospice taking Prep  
and Pre Prep Assembly  
Cheltenham College NYJO  
Workshops (by invitation)

#### Sat 19th January

10.00am - 3.00pm Berky  
Chess Congress



## HAPPY NEW YEAR CALENDAR - JANUARY

### MONDAY



7 Write down ten things you feel grateful for in life and why

14 Switch off all your tech

### TUESDAY

1 Find three good things to look forward to this year

8 Go to bed an hour earlier than normal

15 Make something happen for a

### WEDNESDAY

2 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths

9 Take ten minutes to sit still and just breathe

16 Take a different route today and see what you notice

### THURSDAY

3 Do three extra acts of kindness for other people

10 Use one of your personal strengths in a new way

17 Put a worry into perspective and try to let it go

### FRIDAY

4 Make time today to do something kind for yourself

11 Learn something new and share it with others

18 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful

### SATURDAY

5 Say so post every me

12 As pool thing enjoy

19 E to rell

*Polite reminder...*

Could Kindergarten parents kindly refrain from using their mobile phones whilst in the building.  
Thank you



## BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



### News from Early Years...

Happy New Year to you all; we are very much looking forward to the term ahead. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and we would like to say a big thank you for all the lovely gifts. The children have settled down very well after their holiday and are ready for all the exciting activities planned for this term. A special welcome to the new Kindergarten and Reception children who joined us this term.

Our Kindergarten children have returned well rested and we are all enjoying a calm, but exciting start to the new term; they have enjoyed telling us all about the wonderful presents they received over Christmas and how they spent precious time with family.

Our Spring topic of Percy the Park Keeper is well underway and the children are loving playing in the new role play area of 'Percy's Park'. We have heard lots of conversations whilst the children dress up as their favourite characters and re-enact some scenes from these lovely stories. We have provided stick puppets with all the children's faces on them and some Percy characters too. There was great excitement when some of the children started to tell the story of 'The Rescue Party', it involved all the Kindergarten children needing rescuing and not the rabbit!

Our outdoor role play area is now a bird observatory and the children have been using binoculars to search for birds and then ticking them off a bird tick list when they have been identified and using a laptop to write up their findings.

The children have been discussing their discoveries and we are pleased to say we have many flamingoes and owls in Berkhampstead School!



Reception had a lively launch to this term's 'To the Moon and Back' topic this week with their visit to We are Curious in Bristol. The children and staff could not fail to be impressed by the sheer size of the Science Centre; the Science Centre is one of the UK's most exciting interactive attractions, offering an amazing world of hands-on discovery for the children to explore. The children visited the Planetarium where the presenters trained the children to be fully qualified Space Explorers - blasting off into space to visit planets within our solar system before whizzing beyond our own Milky Way galaxy and playing fun games such as 'pass the planet' along the way! The children returned to earth and school with a good understanding of our Solar System.

During Forest School this week the children became bird experts! They learnt some amazing facts about birds from what birds eat, how they stay safe, how many different types of birds there are to where birds live. The children decided to help the birds by making bird feeders next week during Forest School. In the coming weeks the children will be keeping a close eye on the different types of birds they can spot in our school environment.

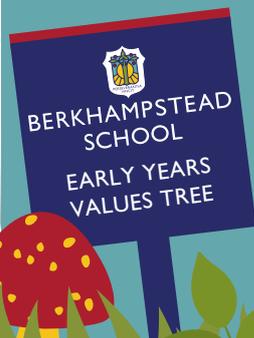
After such a successful school trip the children returned to school very excited about our solar system. During one of our carousel activities the children created a lunar landscape. They discussed the craters, valleys and rocks on the moon's surface and, armed with lots of newspaper and copious pots of glue, they sculpted their interpretation of the moon's surface. The children cannot wait to use the construction kits to build moon buggies and rockets to go on their lunar landscape!



#### THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Kindergarten  
Milo R (KG), Jacob H (KG), George P (KG)  
Alan F (KG)

Reception  
Rose B (RW), Lara C (RW), Annabelle A (RG)  
Polly B (RG)





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## News from around the school

### MUSIC NEWS

Many congratulations to Griff L who has gained a place in the National Children's Orchestra U10 this year and will be joining the trombone section for courses. This is terrific achievement since the auditions are challenging and competitive. Well done, Griff.

Congratulations to all those who took music exams last term - what a great set of results!

**Prep Test Piano:** Matilda H, Lizzie H

**Grade 1:** Daisy O (Piano\*), Simran D (Piano\*), Millie W (Piano\*), Will S (Cello\*), Cressie F (Violin\*\*)

**Grade 2:** Rosemary B (Piano\*), Otto B (Drum Kit\*), Will J (Guitar\*)

**Grade 3:** Phoebe M (Percussion\*\*), Emma S (Violin\*), Edith H (Flute\*), Varnika B (Flute)

**Grade 4:** Jack E (Saxophone), Phoebe M (Piano\*)

**Grade 5:** Grace W (Theory), Griff L (Theory\*\*)

*\*Denotes - Pass with Merit \*\*Denotes - Pass with Distinction*

### THE BIG STRING 2019

Sign up for places on this very popular music course held over 18-19th February - email [admin@gamusic.co.uk](mailto:admin@gamusic.co.uk) for details.

### BERKY CHESS CONGRESS

The annual Berky Chess Congress takes place on Saturday 19th January. Application forms (available from Mr Cole) should be in by next Wednesday.



Missing...  
Blazer  
named SENIOR



BERKHAMPSTEAD  
SCHOOL

COME  
AND GRAB  
YOURSELF  
A BARGAIN

SECOND HAND  
UNIFORM SHOP  
JANUARY SALE  
MONDAY 14TH JANUARY  
3-4.15PM

DUFFLE COATS  
FROM £10

GIRLS' TUNICS  
FROM £8

NEW GIRLS' SHIRTS  
£10 EACH

BOYS' TROUSERS  
ONLY £1 EACH

RED POLO NECKS  
£1 EACH

NEW BLAZERS  
FROM £80

BOYS' GREY SHIRTS  
ONLY £1 EACH

PREP COATS  
FROM £15





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## Sports report...

### FOOTBALL

#### U10B v Kitebrook

#### Won 5-0

On a chilly Wednesday afternoon, our under 10 'B' team hosted Kitebrook in a friendly game of football. Due to numbers, Archie, Alex, Rupert and Harry all played part of the match for the opposition - and played extremely well. A good professional spirit, boys!

We started strongly but it was Kitebrook who had the first opportunity - ensuring Ethan was called into action early to prevent us slipping behind. However, it was not long until we found our rhythm and Rupert put us one up with a neat finish in the box. Harry forced Kitebrook into putting the ball into their own net following a determined surging run before Griff hammered home a third shortly before the break. Jonathan and Archie also managed to get on the score sheet in the second half whilst Oli played in goal, keeping a clean sheet in the process. Alex contributed well to the team and was not afraid to get stuck in before laying the ball off to create chances. The score line would have been more if it was not for Harry (playing for Kitebrook) making a string of fine saves in the second half. A great start to the season. Well done!

#### U11 v Kitebrook

#### Won 3-1

The U11 team opened the season with an excellent victory at the Victoria Ground on Wednesday. The boys had a great start to the game with a well taken goal by Oscar H in the first few minutes. The game then settled down to be an evenly contested first half, with both teams having chances to increase the score.

At half time we were able to re-organise the team a little and aimed to get the ball wide to our wingers and then pass behind the opposition defence. We had immediate success with some great passing and a tough ball played to Luke, who finished with aplomb.

The second half saw us have a little more dominance in possession, which increased our attacking play. This led to another fine goal from Andrew.

Kitebrook kept pressing throughout the game and scored a deserved goal towards the end of the match to leave the final score at 3-1 to Berky.

I was delighted with the energy and enthusiasm shown by the boys. Ed, Oscar H, Andrew and Oscar A were solid in defence, Noah, Finian, Jensen and George worked tirelessly in midfield and Luke proved to be a menace to the opposition in the penalty area. Well done boys for a super start to the season.

