



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

Everywhere has been transformed into a perfect winter wonderland; there is much excitement in school today! The Pre-Prep children have had a wonderful session outside in the snow, finishing with a warming drink of hot chocolate. Y4 too, have been taking advantage of the weather; Mr Banks gave an impromptu outdoor maths lesson, issuing the challenge to create a snowman out of any 3D shapes apart from a sphere, then measure the snowman's height and convert it into metres and millimetres.

There have been many other exciting things going on this week... starting with last weekend, when a large group of us were lucky enough to attend the Cheltenham v Macclesfield football match, courtesy of Cheltenham Town Football Club; no doubt our enthusiastic and supportive presence helped them towards their 3-2 victory!

Earlier in the week, the KG children wrapped up warmly and ventured into the wildlife garden to plant their pots of mustard and cress seeds. All of Prep spent Wednesday afternoon playing football or netball. Some matches were cancelled due to the weather but several matches went ahead; most importantly, the Berky children showed the right attitude whether winning or losing - being humble in victory and continuing to persevere when up against a stronger team.

Mr Cole has started preparations for the annual Quiz Competition with a fun quiz session first thing on a Tuesday morning. All the children in Years 3 and 4 were asked questions on a variety of subjects; well done to Isla R. for achieving the highest score this week. Next Tuesday morning, it will be the turn of Years 5 and 6 to test out their general knowledge.



FRIDAY 1ST FEBRUARY  
SPRING TERM

## Diary dates...

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Mon 4th Feb

10.00am – Fire Engine visit to Early Years

#### Wed 6th Feb

2.30pm - Netball U9A, U9B  
v Cheltenham College Prep (H)  
2.30pm - Netball U11B, U10A,  
U10B v Cheltenham College (A)  
6.00pm - 4E Parents' Evening

#### Thu 7th Feb

6.00pm - 4T Parents' Evening

#### Fri 8th Feb

Year 5 trip to The Commandery  
2.30pm - Football U8, U9  
v King's, Gos (H)  
2.30pm - Netball U9, U8  
v King's Gos (H)





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD CONTINUED

While I was at an IAPS Conference on Wednesday, Mrs Agg had the pleasure of meeting up with an ex-pupil, Rhian Williams, who went on from Berkhampstead to Elmshurst School for Dance and is now a professional dancer. Rhian was helping Miss Gill - her old ballet teacher - with the KG, Reception and Year 1 ballet classes. On a tour round school, Rhian was keen to look at the new Honours Boards in the Hall and her old classrooms; much had changed but much had also stayed the same! We are hoping that she will have time to visit an assembly over the next few weeks to talk about her career to date and give a dancing demonstration.

We welcomed Mr Salisbury, Headmaster of Dean Close, to Prep assembly today. He gave a very thought-provoking talk on bullying, focusing on the 1936 Olympics and the racist treatment accorded to the athletes Jesse Owens and Matthew Robinson.

As I write, it is still snowing and it is hard to predict what the weather has in store for us over the weekend; if there is still snow around, do make the most of it!

*Richard*

Richard Cross  
Headmaster





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## News from around the school

### ACORNS CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

If anyone is shopping in Waitrose in February, can you kindly put your green token into the Acorns Children's Hospice box? Acorns and Wateraid are this year's chosen charities, elected by our wonderful School Council.

### AN EXCITING WEEK FOR YEAR 1

Year 1 have had an very exciting week. On Monday, Gloucestershire Fire Service came to visit, accompanied by a lady from Gloucester's Skillzone. The children learnt all about fire safety, and the protective clothing worn by fire fighters. They were particularly delighted to see Mrs Langley-King transformed into their very own Berky fire fighter. The afternoon got even more exciting when they went outside to find a fire engine parked in front of the Pre-Prep building! Everyone had a go sitting in the front of the engine and trying on helmets. The most thrilling part of the visit was squirting water from the fire fighters' hose and hearing the rather loud siren!

Their trip to All Saints' Church later in the week was naturally a more sober affair, but the children had a really interesting time being shown various features of this lovely Christian Church by Mr Taylor.



**Missing...**  
School coat named MOLLOY  
Track suit bottoms named MOLLOY

**Twitter...**  
For even more insight into Berky life, check out our Twitter feed @BerkyCheltenham



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## Sports report...

### FOOTBALL

#### U8 Buffaloes v Richard Pate

#### Lost 0-5

We started the season with very tough opponents. Richard Pate had a couple of very competent players who were able to give the ball a big kick that caused us a lot of problems. Having said that I was very pleased with the way that our boys played. We never let our heads drop and always tried our hardest to get the ball and make an attack whenever possible.

Special mention must go to Benjamin and Felix who both volunteered to have half a game in goal. Both made some great saves (the score difference could have been even bigger without them).

Well played boys!

#### U11 v Beaudesert

#### Lost 3-2

The U11 boys played another entertaining game on Wednesday on a chilly Cotswold afternoon. We were under quite a lot of pressure in the first half, going 2-0 down.

A combination of some great saves from George, some stout defence from Ed, Oscar A and Noah and a couple of rebounds off the crossbar kept us in the game.

The second half started well for Beaudesert with a fantastic strike that gave Andrew little chance in goal. The Berky boys then started to find their rhythm, keeping possession of the ball for longer periods and creating some space behind the Beaudesert defence. Finian displayed some excellent skill in the middle of the field and he started to release players going forward. Oscar H, who had a very good game, was the recipient of some fine passing. He calmly slotted in two goals to bring the game back to 3-2. Unfortunately time ran out when we were at our strongest.

I was delighted with the resilience shown by the boys to come back into the game when 3-0 down. It showed great character. Well done boys!

Many thanks to the parents for their enthusiastic support.



### Reminder...

Next week's U9A tournament at Hatherop has now been changed to 6th March.





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## Sports report...

### NETBALL

#### U8 v Hatherop

##### Lost 0-8

On a very chilly but bright and sunny January afternoon, the U8s excitedly made their way over to the Muga to play their first ever netball match.

Hatherop won the toss and wisely chose first centre pass.

It was a promising start with good passes from both teams, meaning some early action in the D at both ends. Hatherop were a strong team though and got the ball consistently into their D. With a lucky bounce off the rim of the goal they were soon 2-0 up in the first quarter.

Some good defending from the Berky U8s in the second quarter meant Hatherop only got one more goal to make it a half time score of 3-0.

Oranges at half time gave some much needed energy. A couple of really good breaks early in the second half meant our girls got the ball down to their goal but unfortunately they were unable to capitalise on the opportunities. Hatherop, however, were on a roll with their shooting and whenever they got the ball to their end they managed to score, once in the third quarter and four times in the last quarter.

A disappointing score but some excellent effort all round on our first outing, so well done U8s.

#### U9A v Beaudesert

##### Draw 6-6

This was the first match of the season for the U9As with excellent netball playing from both sides. It ended up being a fairly even game, but two goals had been scored within the first 4 minutes by Beaudesert which put our girls immediately into panic and defence-mode! Nevertheless, the Berky girls rallied themselves and began to play a more attacking game leading to a score by Rosemary and then by Uma. Aurielle and Lottie were excellent in getting the ball up to the D and with accurate shooting, two further goals were scored leading to a 4:2 score by half time. Holly also scored in the quarter where she played for us and with another one from Uma the final 'goals for' was 6. Jennella, Lucy and Beatrice also deserve mention as they were superb in defence, preventing

many further goals from the (very tall) Beaudesert side. The Berky girls definitely found their feet as the match progressed and their confidence grew. I am very much looking forward to this season!

#### U9B v Beaudesert

##### Lost 8-3

Beaudesert proved tough opponents. They continually moved around the court and were difficult to mark. They were hungry for the ball and intercepted it frequently. Berky were rather polite and waited for the ball to come to them. They will need to be a bit more feisty in their next game. Beaudesert also had a wonderful Goal Attack who seemed to be able to shoot from anywhere in the box, despite Lilah's efforts to disrupt her. Matilda shot well and scored two good goals but rarely got to see the ball. Uma also scored in the quarter that she played in. As the game progressed so the play improved and in the final quarter we kept them to just one goal.

#### U10A v Hatherop

##### Won 16-0

What a difference a week can make! Our first home match and despite the freezing cold conditions the girls were fired up! With no subs to call upon, the girls were going to have to work hard. Within the first few minutes it became clear we were the stronger side and the girls dominated play. They were passing the ball confidently, using space wisely and even their footwork was good! By half time the shooting duo of Izzy and Grace had scored 8. During the third quarter (when we had reached 12) we decided to change positions; our attacking players became defenders and our defenders were given the chance to shoot. Still our girls dominated and both Darcey and Becky added to our total. The girls had clearly been listening in training and had the time to apply some of those skills. Isla, Joy and Jasmine were on fire in the centre of the court, working incredibly well as a group to drive the ball up the court. Well done girls, it was an absolute pleasure to be with you today!

#### U11A v Rendcomb

##### Won 10-4

It was a lovely sunny afternoon, with freezing cold air temperature! The girls started off slowly, finishing the first quarter 2-2; they started the second quarter with pace! Varnika made some great interceptions throughout the game, allowing our team to gain the advantage on many occasions. Beatrice worked hard in centre court supporting play and making some good drives into space for the ball. All three shooters had a great game with goals flowing in from Daisy, India and Simran throughout the game. Millie made some brilliant interceptions during the game as WD and worked hard to push the ball to our attacking third. Working hard in defence, Hattie and Sophie made some brilliant interceptions, stopping the opposition from getting the ball in their attacking third, thus preventing them from scoring. It was a good game and the girls worked hard. Well done.

#### U11B v Rendcomb

##### Won 9-3

What a great match! Rendcomb were one short, so for each quarter one of the Year 6's played for Rendcomb - well done to Edith, Frankie, Lorien and Eloise for playing so beautifully for them. Everyone made a great contribution to the final score of 9-3 to Berky. The first quarter was dominated by Emma's fantastic shooting so Berky took a strong 5-1 lead. The centre court players - Frankie, Georgie, Anna and Lizzie - were throwing accurately and getting into loads of space which really helped Berky move the ball down to our shooting D. Our defence - Lorien, Edith, Eloise - were super. Excellent interceptions and then safely getting the ball away were very apparent and they should be very pleased with how they played. Emma scored another goal so did Anna, and Emily was very pleased with her two goals and so she should be! This was an excellent result; the match was played in a very good spirit and resulted in a well-deserved victory. Well done everyone!