



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

It has been another action-packed week - including an exciting circus-themed lunch provided by our adventurous kitchen team and a huge feast of cake at Tuesday's 'Cake at Break' - and it feels as though the end of term is approaching fast. 4E had their chance to try Mrs Nair's delicious dhal, Mr Cole's chess team successfully beat Bishop's Cleeve and yesterday, the Pre-Prep building was awash with partying Year 1 Superheroes. On Wednesday, the Kindergarten children proudly showed their parents round their classroom, which looked fantastic with all their lovely artwork up on the walls, and Mrs Sallis put her Year 1 and 2 Choir through their paces in front of an audience of appreciative parents; the aptly named 'Big Sing' involved several rounds and two-part songs from the shows. There was more wonderful music to be heard at the Prep Spring Recital after school yesterday - how confidently and skilfully the children performed!

All this bodes very well for the musical highlight of the year on Wednesday of next week - our two fantastic Spring Concerts in Pittville Pump Room. Do please ensure that you have booked tickets for this brilliant event; it is an opportunity to see all the children singing and playing together in a wide variety of ensembles and to appreciate just how high the standard of music is here at Berkhamstead.

Next week, Mrs Stephenson will be returning from her maternity leave and will be spending the week getting reacquainted with the Year 2 children. From the beginning of the Summer term, she will be mainly teaching in Year 2 and will lead 2C on Thursdays and Fridays, with Mrs Macpherson in the role of Teaching Assistant. Miss Palmer-Hadfield will be starting her PGCE in September but until then, she will be working in school one day a week, supporting children wherever needed.

As I write, the Year 2 children are eagerly working their way through their 'History Mystery' - reading, writing and exercising their powers of memory and problem solving with Arthur, Merlin, Tom Fool and the Knights of the Round Table in order to become knights themselves and find the legendary Grail. I must remember that my presence will be required shortly; a fanfare will announce the arrival of King Richard IV who will be part of the exciting finale to their day, witnessed by their parents.

One of the most important things we try to teach the children here at Berkhamstead is how to be good people and responsible, caring citizens, although our success at achieving this can be hard for us to judge. However, this week we were left in no doubt that one of our pupils matches this description. Following on from donating the proceeds of her 'Fiver Challenge' to charity, Lorien in Year 6 has been fundraising for Bettridge School by selling freshly picked herbs; this has led to her family setting up a 'Just Giving' page for the same charity and the total is rising fast. Well done, Lorien - we are proud of you.

Finally, on a related subject, I have the list of elected Eco-Warriors to announce: India, Daisy O, Eloise and Simran (6H), Millie and Sophie (6M), Jack and Daisy B (5W), Izzy and Alex D (5B), Harry A and Anna (4T), Aurielle and Beatrice N (4E), Jacob F and Primmy (3M), Eddie and Zoe B (3C), Polly E and Harry H (2O), Joseph and Esi (2C), Millie R (1LK) and Owen (1J), Izzy and Harry (RRW) and Polly B and Miles (RG). How heartening it is to discover how keen the children are to give up their time for this worthy cause.

*Richard*

Richard Cross  
Headmaster



FRIDAY 22ND MARCH  
SPRING TERM

## Diary dates...

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**Tue 26th March**

Year 2 visit to Warwick Castle

**Wed 27th March**

Rehearsals for Spring Concert

2.30pm - 3.45pm - Afternoon

Spring Concert, Pittville Pump Room

6.30pm - 8.00pm - Evening Spring Concert, Pittville Pump Room

**Thurs 28th March**

Early Years End of Term Party

11.30am - Prep House Cross

Country - parents invited to watch

4.00pm - Chess Cup Final v

Richard Pate (Away)

4.30pm - Reception Parents' Evening

**Fri 29th March**

2.30pm - Mother's Day Service

at All Saints' Church - parents welcome

**NO LATE OR**

**SUPERLATE CLUB**

**END OF TERM**

**Wed 24th April**

Summer term begins





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## News from around the school

### CHESS REPORT

Berkhampstead edged towards a potential district league and cup double last Tuesday. A comprehensive 6-0 semi-final victory over Bishop's Cleeve means that our players will now face The Richard Pate School in the grand final next Thursday. With the league title already nestling in the Berky trophy cabinet, we have a splendid opportunity to finish the season in style. The team is playing some ruthless and incisive chess at the moment but Richard Pate will prove a mighty obstacle to overcome. The Berky 'B' team, captained proudly by Harry W, defeated Bishop's Cleeve 'B' by a 5.5-0.5 margin. Well played, everyone! MC



### LOTS OF WAYS TO FOLLOW US...

Take a look at our new Instagram feed for further insight into Berky life. Follow us at [berkhampstead\\_school](#)

Head of Pastoral Care, Mrs Bareham, has started a new Twitter feed - all about wellbeing, charity issues and school council matters, search for [@Berkypastoral](#) and Mr Cross has a Twitter feed that is well worth following too and can be found at [@BerkyHeadmaster](#)



**@Berkypastoral**  
Follows you  
Head of Pastoral Care at a leading independent co-educational day school for children aged 3 to 11. Small classes, excellent results.  
Cheltenham, England  
[berkhampsteadschool.co.uk](#)  
Joined January 2019  
22 Following 24 Followers  
Followed by Rebecca Southwell, Kate, and others.

**Richard Cross**  
Follows you  
Proud Headmaster of Berkhampstead School - the best job in the world!  
Cheltenham, England  
[berkhampsteadschool.co.uk](#)  
Born 26 September Joined August 2012  
53 Following 42 Followers  
Followed by Nick Southwell, Ali W, Beth-Marie Norbury, and 15 others.

**Please note...**  
Please could all children bring a water bottle containing fresh water to school each morning. We request that the water bottles have SPORTS CAPS so that we are not constantly awash with spilt water!

**Missing...**  
Swimming kit named HIRANI  
Hoodie named HIRANI



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## PTA NEWS...

### NEWS FROM THE PTA

Over the last couple of weeks we have had three great events that have raised a wonderful amount of money.

**Bags2School** - Thank you to everyone who contributed towards this; a large amount of clothing, shoes etc. were donated and over £150 was raised!

**Pancakes!** As always, the house pancake races were the highlight of term with some excellent running and flipping involved!

A fantastic team of volunteers then served amazing pancakes to hungry children afterwards. All the pancakes were gobbled up jolly quickly! £73.62 was donated for the pancakes and this has gone directly to the schools charities this year.

Thank you to all the volunteers for running this event, especially to Stef and Paul for your organisation. Everyone's efforts are greatly appreciated.

**Cake@Break** - Another splendid event from our wonderful volunteers! I could see lots of delicious home baked goodies arriving in the morning and these all seemed to disappear by the end of the day!

Over £200 was raised for the PTA from Cake@Break, which is incredible and a record I think!

As always, we could not do any of these great events without our volunteers and I thank you all for the time you give so generously.

Plans are in motion for the Summer Fayre next term and we will be sure to share these with you after the Easter Break.

I hope everyone has a lovely Easter Break.

Many Thanks,

*Joey*

Joey Bowden  
PTA Chair

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# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## Sports report...

### NETBALL

**U8 Greens v King's, Gloucester**

**Lost 0-2**

Another blustery day, but thankfully the rain held off. The U8 Green team started well with lots of possession of the ball. There was some great team work either end of the court from both the attackers and the defenders. Coping well with the change of ends after each quarter, the teams were fairly evenly matched. The Greens did a good job of getting the ball down to their goal and there were good attempts at shooting but they just couldn't capitalise on their opportunities. A tentative shot from King's just before the end of the second quarter gave them their first goal. In the third and fourth quarters, some great defending prevented any further goals right up until the last minute when, literally on the whistle, King's managed to score the second and final goal.

**U8 Red & Yellow v Cheltenham College**  
**Lost 10-3**

The College only had 11 girls so Berk's two teams played 2 quarters each. The red team got off to a cracking start with Isla scoring 2 goals in the first quarter and the game was very level even though the College took a 4-2 lead. In the second quarter Berk lost their way a bit and with the College shooters on fire they increased their lead to 9-2. The yellow team stayed on for the third quarter and stemmed the flow of goals with much better marking and passing. Well done! In the final quarter with the reds back on court and with a super goal from Maisie, Berk won this quarter 1-0. There is still much to work on, but I was pleased with the effort the girls put into this match. Well done!

**U9 v King's Gloucester**  
**Win 12-1**

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 4-0 with Matilda E scoring some fantastic goals! A few tactical changes were made, and by the end of the next quarter the King's girls had been able to score one goal, bringing the score to 6-1. Over the remaining match, Berk continued to play excellently, attacking at every opportunity and showing great determination, even in positions which were not necessarily their strongest, and Holly and Serena scored a further 6 goals (Holly scored 7 times over the course of this match). The girls in defence (Elodie, Beatrice, Lilah) were fierce and prevented any further goals from King's bringing the final score to 12-1. The girls' attitude and team-play were fantastic and they demonstrated an incredibly 'sporting' nature. Well done girls!

### U11A v St Edward's

**Lost 4-10**

It was going to be a tough game as St Edward's were fast and strong from the start. We fought hard with some brilliant interceptions in the first quarter, Vamika and Hattie read the game well and forced St Edward's to produce errors. We kept fighting in the second quarter and managed a few more goals. The defence had to work hard to keep the St Edward's score down. Millie and Sophie didn't give them an inch! At half time we were 7-4 down. After a few more changes on court we were ready to go again. Bea worked tirelessly as GA for the quarter - giving the GD a run for her money, but we couldn't get the ball in the net. Georgie made some brilliant Centre passes that were strong and accurate for our attacking players to receive. Daisy and Simran kept fighting to get free but were unable to have many shots due to the strong St Edward's defence. It was a tough game and St Edward's fitness and drive were too strong for us.

**U11A v The Richard Pate School**  
**Lost 11-9**

What a game! The girls started so strongly going 2-0 up within the first few minutes, Daisy and Simran had a great partnership passing the ball around with some lovely overheads - good job we had some height! Simran drove out to receive the ball leaving the space for Daisy to drive into and receive the next pass. Bea was great at Centre releasing the centre passes with power and accuracy, Vamika jumping high and wide to receive the balls. By half time we were 2 behind but the girls were still full of energy and fight for the win. Georgie came on as C and WA and made some good drives into space for the ball, creating opportunities for us. Hattie, yet again, made some strong powerful interceptions leaping out of nowhere to get them! Sophie was marking well in the D and using her height to her advantage, with both Hattie and Sophie working with Millie, who played a bit of WD and GD. Our defence was strong. Millie shadowed her player well and read the game brilliantly to allow her to make some great interceptions. It was a brilliant game to watch and some fantastic netball. Thank you for a great netball season and good luck next year. Well done, girls.

**U11B v The Richard Pate School**  
**Lost 18-0**

Despite the score the girls kept playing. Unfortunately we were outplayed. We had three chances in the final quarter but could not manage to find the goal. Well done to the girls for their determination and effort.





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## Sports report...

### FOOTBALL

#### U9A v Beaudesert

##### Lost 4-1

In our last game of the season we faced probably our strongest test yet, playing an unbeaten Beaudesert. We started superbly playing some of the best football we've played all season. The boys passed the ball in some tight triangular moves and Patrick was unlucky not score within the opening minutes. Harry and Albie linked well with Will C and Patrick in the centre who fought off some strong challenges from Beaudesert's two big centre-halves. Further chances came from well taken corners by Will C as we continued to press the opposition's defence. A late goal from the home team towards the end of the first half was very much against the run of play and the momentum from that goal seemed to carry through into the second half with Beaudesert applying real pressure; some excellent tackling from Henry, Michael and Rufus was required. A couple of speculative shots at goal proved fruitful for Beaudesert which was unfortunate for Freddie who looked comfortable in goal. A long-range shot on goal from Will C in the dying minutes of the game was some consolation for the boys who really had pulled out all the stops to win this game but sadly on this occasion it wasn't to be. Well done boys for a great effort.

#### U9B v Beaudesert

##### Won 0-5

In the penultimate match of the season, the U9B team faced a very strong Beaudesert side who were dangerous in attack and secure at the back. They put us under immense pressure from the kick off and it was only thanks to Will J and Robert in defence, did we not concede more goals. Some great tackling boys, well done. Mateo carried on from where Will S left off as promising keepers with Mateo looking confident with his handling and Will organising his defence well. Luke, Charles and Hugo all tried hard up front but were starved of service whilst Henry never stopped running in the middle of the park. Harry M grew into the match and began to realise when cover was required at the back as Albie B-C offered support out wide. It was not to be our day but a more determined effort in the second half kept the score respectable. Good luck to the boys for the final match of the season against St Edward's.

#### U10A v Beaudesert

##### Won 3-2

On Wednesday the U10A team had their final match of the season at Beaudesert. Going into this match, the boys had won the last 2 of their matches and I was hoping for another win here. The boys started the game well with great passes and Jack scored a goal early on. Beaudesert retaliated with lots of pressure on our goal, forcing our boys back, but they defended brilliantly. They then hit Beaudesert on the counter attack with another great through ball to Jack, who hit the back of the net again. Beaudesert clawed back two goals in the second half but the boys didn't give up. Towards the end of the second half, Will crossed a fantastic ball into the box and Otto fired it home giving them a one goal lead which was the final result. Well done boys. This was a tough match, but you worked together, kept calm and played some excellent football. Thank you to the parents that came to support the boys.

#### U10B v Beaudesert

##### Won 4-0

There was a little sadness amongst the U10 B team that they had reached the last game of the season, but this was quickly followed by determination to make it the best yet. And this they did with a resolute display from all the players. Griff was missing for this game so Harry took over as centre back and alongside Alex and Oli tackled their hearts out. Beaudesert had their chances and Ethan in goal had his best game yet with some superb saves including one from point-blank range - very brave. Captain Jonathan led from the front and opened the scoring just before half-time with a superb powerful shot into the top right hand corner of the goal (Harry Kane would have been proud of this goal). After half time Rupert and Archie had chances but the Beaudesert defence and goalkeeper played very well. With the game still close we witnessed a pitch invasion from Harry's dog Alfie! I am sure he was giving the boys encouragement. This he did (or maybe he distracted the opposition) as Harry scored a fabulous goal almost immediately. With a further goal from Harry and one from Jonathan the game ended 4 goals to nil. A superb result to end a superb season of football. On the bus home we tried to work out the tally of games and believe that it has been 6 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. Well done boys!

#### U11 v The Richard Pate School

##### Draw 1-1

The U11 boys finished their season with a fine performance on a glorious afternoon. The game had much excitement with both teams wanting to attack. RPS went 1-0 up in the first half with a lovely strike.

In the second half our boys bounced back and created lots of opportunities with good play by Oscar H on the left. A cross in saw Luke well positioned to knock in the equaliser. We rode our luck a little and some fine saves by Finian and some help from the woodwork saw the game end in a 1-1 draw.

As always the effort from the Berkys was superb. Ed, Oscar A, Jensen and George defended well. Noah, Oscar H, Fin and Andrew were excellent in midfield and Luke made some good runs up front to threaten the opposition goal. Well done for a great season boys!

Many thanks to our supporters who I know have thoroughly enjoyed the matches

