



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



**FRIDAY 5TH OCTOBER
AUTUMN TERM**

NEWS FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

Dear Parents,

Time seems to be flying past and already we are not far from half term! As ever, the school is a hive of industry, from Reception learning about their bodies and doing 'ladybird' maths, to Year 6 working on newspaper reports about the outbreak of World War 2.

The PTA excelled themselves over the weekend, starting with the brilliant Quiz Night and AGM last Friday evening; loads of taxing questions set by Mr Tittley (for example, "Which famous poem's opening lines are 'He did not wear his scarlet coat For blood and wine are red?'" See below for answer...) got our exhausted end-of-the-week brains creaking back to life, helped considerably by fish and chips and a nice glass of wine. I am pleased (and relieved) to report that, in spite of not knowing the answer to that question, the staff team managed a respectable fourth place! On Sunday, the Berky Parents' Running Team took part in the Cheltenham Marathon to raise money for Winston's Wish and the school, enthusiastically supported by several of our pupils who took part in the Fun Run event. Many congratulations to all who took part.

On Tuesday, eighteen eager children carrying a variety of musical instruments went off to the Dean Close Orchestral Day with Mrs Mitchell and had a wonderful time learning some quite demanding pieces in order to give a concert to parents at the end of the day. This was a wonderful opportunity to take part in an exciting musical event and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

I am pleased to announce that the children have elected the following to join the School Council Leaders Luke F and Francesca R as the School Council Representatives for their classes: Archie L-B in 5B, Oli S and Will B in 5K, Lottie A and Ollie M in 4T, Uma C in 4E, Nancy B and Azlaan H in 3M, Otto S in 3C, Alba N in 2O and Tom C-G in 2C. Congratulations to you all – I know you will do a good job!

We were delighted to welcome Mrs Fiona Quan into Prep Assembly this morning to present the school with the Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning Mental Health Champions Award. We are one of only 31 schools out of over 300 in Gloucestershire to achieve this award due to our care for children's mental well-being and the importance we place on it so this is a tremendous achievement. Mrs Bareham in particular should be congratulated for her excellent pastoral guidance of both pupils and staff and for the hours of hard work she put into presenting evidence to GHLL in order to achieve the award; she does a brilliant job!

As of next week (October 8th), please could all children come to school wearing winter uniform. The individual school photos are being taken on Monday so please also remember blazers and ties. Mr Cross will be spending most of the week out on an inspection of another independent school; I know he enjoys this because it always emphasises for him what a fantastic school Berkhampstead is. He is always more than glad to come back to Berky!

Next week, all the Prep children will be visiting the Literary Festival to see a variety of authors. We also have our Open Morning on Saturday so please let us know if your child will be attending that morning.

Gill Agg

Mrs Agg
Deputy Head



Diary dates...

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 8th October

Sibling and Individual Photographs
11.45am - Year 5 trip to the Cheltenham Literary Festival
1.30pm - Year 3 trip to the Cheltenham Literary Festival

Tues 9th October

3.45pm Chess v Holy Apostles (H) (Knock-out Cup) A&B teams (12 players)

Wed 10th October

1.00pm - U10A, U9A Hockey Tournament at Cheltenham College Prep School
2.30pm - Rugby U8, U9 v Hatherop and Wycliffe (A)
2.30pm - Rugby U11, U10A, U10B v King's School, Worcester (A)
2.45pm - Hockey U11A, U11B v Richard Pate (A)
8.00pm - PTA Meeting (tbc)

Thu 11th October

Year 1 Autumn walk to Pittville Park
9.00am - 1.00pm Year 6 Detective Agency Workshop
12.00 noon - Year 4 trip to the Cheltenham Literary Festival
4.25pm - Cross Country

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO PREP AFTER SCHOOL HOCKEY OR RUGBY CLUB ON THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

Fri 12th October

Year 5 trip to 'We the Curious'
10.00am - Year 6 trip to the Cheltenham Literary Festival
3.30pm - Hockey U8A, U8B v Dean Close (A)

Sat 13th October

9.30am - 11.30am Open Morning



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from around the school

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School Photographs will take place on **Monday 8th October**. If you wish to have a sibling photograph taken please arrive at the Andrews Gym from 7.30am until 8.45am. We will be running an early club from 7.30am so once you have had a photograph taken you will be able to bring your child to the Pre-Prep Library. Any Prep children will be taken across to the Prep by a member of staff at 8.10am.

Pupils in 4E and 4T can wear their PE kit to school as normal, but please remember to bring in School Uniform.

MUSIC NEWS

On Tuesday 18 instrumentalists went to an orchestral day at Dean Close Senior School. The day started with an exciting concert performed by the Senior School Orchestra and then they were amazed, and rather daunted, to hear that they were to learn the same music and perform to an audience at the end of the day!

The Berky players set to in sectional rehearsals with other Prep Schools, led by various tutors including the Carducci Quartet and sight reading skills were stretched to the utmost! Gradually the music started to make sense as they learnt how it sounded and, amazingly, began to imagine that a performance might be possible. After lunch and break they were back into rehearsals with the Senior pupils and a final run-through. The audience arrived and each section performed a piece on their own followed by terrific performances of 'Night on the Bare Mountain' and 'The Dambusters' March with an orchestra of 165 players.

Well done to all those hard-working musicians: Georgie J, Edith H, Vamika B, George R, Emily G, Emma S, Andrew P, Frankie R, Grace W, Jack E, Griff L, Cressie F, Ethan A, Hazel C, Eleanor T, Henry R, Beatrice N, William S.

PTA FAMILY FIREWORKS NIGHT - FRIDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

Shortly we will be sending out details of our Fireworks Night taking place after half term, but please pop the dates in your diary for what is promised to be another spectacular event!

TEAM BERKY - SUCCESS!

Our fabulous runners took to the streets of Cheltenham for the Half Marathon last Sunday and all got round in a superb time! Well done and a massive thank you to all those who took part and raised lots of money for the PTA and Winston's Wish!

There is still time to donate to these wonderful causes and to say a congratulations to all our runners - www.justgiving.com/campaign/teamberky

Missing...

Blazer
named D CAIN

Blazer
named CHITTENDEN





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports report...

RUGBY

U8 Buffaloes v St Edward's Won 9-7

On Friday 28th September, the U8 Buffaloes travelled to St Edward's to play a tag rugby match. They started extremely well scoring a try straight from the off! Richie and Ben linked up well to score an impressive 7 tries between them. Sam was consistent throughout and added a try of his own with some good support play from both Jacobs. Azlaan added to his try earlier this season whilst Barnaby helped marshal the defence, putting in some great 'tackles.' The half time score was 5-4 Berky with the full time result a pleasing 9-7 win. Well done to all of the boys!

U8 Bisons v St Edward's Won 6-4

The U8 boys produced another fantastic performance against St Edward's. In attack we passed well and really began to use the space. We had the lion's share of possession and always attacked with positive intent.

Tries were scored by Max H, George, Otto (2), Arsalan and Eddie. Felix and Max Y also had some excellent runs. Our defence was superb throughout the game, even if occasionally we strayed towards full contact, although this does bode well for next year.

Well done for another fine match, boys, and many thanks to our spectators who I know enjoyed the game.



Tournament at Beadesert U10A v Cheltenham College Draw

U10A v Beadesert Won 5-0

On Wednesday, the U10A team travelled to Beadesert. They played two matches, one against Cheltenham College and the other against Beadesert. The result of the first match against Cheltenham College was a draw and a tightly contested game. Both teams had good chances to score tries and defended well. The result of the second match against Beadesert was 5-0 to Berkhamstead. The boys were physically stronger in this match and used this to their advantage. There were some excellent tackles made and the boys used the width of the pitch well. The try scorers were Jonny, Jack, Max and Griff.

Well done boys, two good matches. Thank you to parents and friends that came to support the boys.

U10B v Cheltenham College Won 8-0

On Wednesday 3rd October, the U10Bs travelled to Beadesert to play two matches; one against Cheltenham College and one against our hosts. The team started extremely well with Otto scoring straight away before adding four further tries throughout the game. Alex also scored and Jonathan managed to go one better with two magnificent tries following a couple of excellent darting runs. Archie was brave in the tackles and the final score was 8-0 to Berky, with the half time score 3-0.

U10B v Beadesert Won 5-2

The second match against Beadesert proved a tougher test against stronger opposition. Ethan was delighted to score his first try as Otto also added to his tally from the first match. Great tackling from Rupert and Olly kept the score down and Alex showed his nimble footwork to add to the score. Harry also bagged a brace ensuring we won the game 5-2 after being 2-1 up at half-time.

U11 v Wycliffe

Won 30-5

U11 v Beadesert

Lost 10-5

The U11 travelled high up in the Cotswolds to play a triangular tournament on Wednesday. In glorious sunshine we took on Wycliffe and played superb running rugby. Our offloading out of the tackle and use of space had our opposition on the back foot for the majority of the match. Luke and Jensen made some excellent runs and we scored some stunning tries from Noah (2), Oscar A, George, and Finian, to take the match by 30 points to 5.

The second game was a tough and physical encounter against a much larger Beadesert team. Our defence was superb, with each member of the team strong in the tackle. Ed and Andrew showed tremendous bravery in this area. We had our fair share of chances, with one excellent try from Oscar H. However in the dying minutes the Beadesert boys scored to take the match by two tries to one.

The boys have developed really well since the start of the term and I was very proud of the way they performed. Well done boys and thanks to our supporters for making the journey to Minchinhampton.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Sports report...

HOCKEY

U9A v St Edward's

Lost 3-0

This was most certainly a game of two halves and there was no doubt that the St Edward's team were very strong. In the first half the Berky girls were not at their best and the St Edward's team slotted home 3 lovely goals in quick succession, mostly down to poor marking. Berky had one or two forays up into the St Ed's half but were being outplayed. The second half, however, was a different story. Less ball watching, and better marking led to a much more even game and Berky did manage to get the ball into a scoring position on several occasions. All our match play improved in the second half and although the St Edward's team were worthy winners, Berky should be proud of the way they battled away in the clouds of dust until the end of the match. Well done to the whole team and to Bea Bea who volunteered to play goalkeeper. A good effort, girls, and much progress as the match continued.

U9B v St. Edward's

Lost 1-0

On another unseasonably warm afternoon we arrived at St Edward's to play our first match with a goalie! Lilah was both nervous and excited! Anna was the captain. To say that the first half was like 'bees around a honeypot' was an understatement and all the work we have done over the last few weeks about maintaining position went out of the window with the excitement of the match. But, the same could be said of our opposition. It was a 0-0 draw at the end of the first half with neither team able to keep the ball long enough to score. The second half was improved with more structure and we saw Anna, Matilda and Serena working together to move the ball forward in attacking play. Jennella was on super form in defence and prevented many attacks from St Edward's. Nevertheless, they did manage to score and the game ended as a 1-0 loss.

U9B v Rendcomb College

Draw 1-1

It was a beautiful afternoon as we arrived in the gorgeous setting of Rendcomb College and as the sun shone warmly on us, the U9Bs embarked on their first match of the season. Three of the girls had only joined us this year and so it was their first

ever match and they were very nervous. Our opposition were in a similar situation (4 new girls) and so we decided to treat this more as a training game, to ease the nerves.

It was perfect that it ended as a draw too and the girls all felt much more confident at the end of the afternoon and ready to embrace the rest of the hockey season. Well done girls.

U9 Hockey Festival at Beaudesert

A squad of 17 very excited U9 girls attended the 6-aside hockey festival at Beaudesert College on Wednesday. There were 3 schools there: us, Beaudesert and Tockington, each with a few mixed teams.

Berky Storm began with a match against Beaudesert Thunders, which saw 2 goals from Lottie and a third from Aurielle and ended with a 3-0 win. They continued with a match against Beaudesert Hurricanes, which was another 3-0 win with Lottie scoring all the goals in this game. In their next match against Tockington Storm, Aurielle scored 2 goals while Matilda E, Lottie and Bea-Bea scored 1 apiece.

Berky Thunder began with a match against Beaudesert Storm. We did not succeed in scoring in this game, but Uma, Anna and Rosemary played with excellent determination and fire! Their next game saw Lucy get on the score-sheet and in their final game it was a 3-3 draw with scoring from Rosemary and Isabella.

Both teams improved dramatically over the course of the afternoon, beginning to see how a game 'unfolds' and playing more to the rules. A super afternoon of hockey with friends!

Our final match was against The Dragon School and was a 1-0 loss for us. After all the matches had been played we were 4th in the group, but all the girls agreed that it had been fantastic playing against some different schools and had all really enjoyed the tournament! We now need to work on our own attacking play and goal scoring!!

U10A v St Edward's

Draw 0-0

Another warm day and with only 14 girls available for the two matches, Becky and Bella stepped in to play positions in the Bs. The first half was an even match; the girls were struggling to get used to the dusty conditions and the extremely wide pitch. It was end to end action; the

girls were chasing down the fast balls but just couldn't get that goal. Tactics were discussed at half time and the girls came out with renewed vigour. They were spreading the ball across the width – sending the ball up the wings and crossing into the D but that goal was still elusive. St Edward's had a couple of chances but most of the play was with Berky in the ascendancy. We just couldn't get that goal! Every single girl played their heart out and I couldn't have asked for any more commitment from anyone. Thank you girls – we will work on those goal scoring opportunities!

U10B v St Edward's

Won 5-0

In the first half, St Edward's started really strongly with several good attacks. However, thanks to great defending by Eleanor and Eleri and some fantastic saves from Kimora, the score remained 0-0.

However, a great break was made by Cressie. She passed to Becky who unselfishly slotted a ball through to Bella. Bella volleyed the ball sweetly into the back of the goal. St Edward's had the better of the rest of the first half but they remained goalless.

In the second half Becky moved to centre half and Bella took up the front position. Eleanor moved onto the wing and Cressie moved back to defend.

Within 20 seconds of the second half Berky had scored a second. Bella passed the ball back to Becky who hammered it into the St Edward's half. Bella ran onto the ball and passed it to a waiting Hazel in the D. Hazel shot and scored. This was to be the theme for the second half. Hazel held her position on the right wing while Eleanor, Bella and latterly Eleri all pressed forward on the left wing. This created space and Hazel was able to score a hat trick. Fantastic passing was creating lots of opportunities. Becky scored the final goal and very well deserved it was too. Berky were still called upon to defend and Becky and Eleri scampered back to hold the line. The defence and goal keeper remained solid and no goals were conceded. A great game and the red faces at the end of the match showed the determination with which the girls had played the game.