

The BERKHAMPTSTEAD *School*
Cheltenham

Blazer

BERKHAMPTSTEAD SCHOOL MAGAZINE

SPRING 2015

Outstanding Music



Inside:
Inspection Quotes
Dinosaur Stomp!
When we Grow up...

Regular features: Music Notes ▷ Staff on the Spot ▷ Sports Reports ▷ Trips and Visits

Headmaster's News



Excellent in ALL areas! What a ringing endorsement of all that we do to ensure that children at Berkhamstead get the very best! The ISI Inspection Report really does make impressive reading. It was super to hear that Berky's *'lively and enthusiastic teaching involves and engages*



pupils', and that our pupils *'express their views most articulately'*, are *'highly successful in their learning'*, and *'show high levels of logical and independent thought.'* To hear that they *'show excellent perseverance and work collaboratively,'* have *'well-developed creative skills in art and music...'* and have *'a strong level of skills'* in our all-inclusive sport, came as no surprise, but was lovely to hear. I am pleased that they saw our school community as the positive and happy place it is with *'highly supportive parents'* on the touchline, involved with the PTA and attending event after event. They are supportive and engaged and are, in my opinion, the best in Cheltenham! I could go on – do look online for the full report.

It has been a wonderful term. Year 6, our smallest year group at 25 children, gained 12 grammar school places and 10 scholarships between them and are now enjoying an enriching programme to stimulate and inspire. The pupils who joined this year have settled well and we are full in most year groups – we are in demand!



I do hope that you enjoy this spring edition of the Blazer and that you get a real taste of what the children have so clearly enjoyed doing. The Pi lunch (maths across the syllabus), the hatching of chicks in Kindergarten...at last, the fun on Red Nose Day, the trips and visits - to mention but a few. See Ollie

Armstrong (above) running out onto the pitch at Kingsholm with Gloucester - in Berky kit - what a privilege it was to be there with the group of parents and friends from the Berky community who came along to support him. Of course there was also the wonderful Spring Concert and, as I say every year, I challenge anyone to show me a Prep school of similar size with a standard of playing and inclusivity even close to ours – outstanding! The tremendous efforts of our staff make all of this possible and I'm delighted that we have such a great team in our remarkable school. **Richard Cross, Headmaster**



STAFF ON THE SPOT

Chloe Broome is our super new Year 2 teacher. She joined us in October and has made quite an impact!



You have done two terms at Berky – what were the highlights?

My lovely class '2B' who are all very hard-working yet fun to be with; we giggle together often, so it's a great

atmosphere. Also being a part of the ISI inspection where staff, governors and the children shone and showed what a superb school this is.

Berky lunches – your favourite?

So far it's chicken curry with rice and vegetables, but every meal I have eaten at Berkhamstead has had a clean plate. I have a happy tummy at Berky!

Which book did you love as a child and would recommend as a must-read?

A Roald Dahl, either The BFG or Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Both showed me how important imagination is for writing exciting stories escaping to another world!

What's the best thing about your job?

Every day I wake up and I look forward to the day ahead. The children, staff and parents all make Berkhamstead's environment so happy.

Which children's character would you be? Mary Poppins as she is a magical teacher - practically perfect in every way!

If you had a magic wand for an hour, what would you do with it? I would travel through time to see the fascinating King Henry VIII and witness his true character.

What have you done that you are most proud of? Signed up to 'Team Berky' to run the 'Race for Life' 2015. I find running a challenge but as many of us are faced with loved ones who have to fight cancer, this year a team of us are supporting this fantastic event. Please help 'Team Berky' to raise as much money as possible!

What should children do every day? Be happy!

What was your favourite school subject? Art & Design - you get the freedom to express yourself. Art is a subject that anybody can achieve something in and of course enjoy getting messy!

Artistic Merit



We were thrilled to be invited to take part in the Malvern St James Prep School Art Exhibition. We were allowed to submit up to 4 pieces of

work per age group. It was incredibly difficult to choose, as the pupils have done some fantastic work this year. The exhibition itself had a whole range of 3D and 2D work of a very high standard. Mr



Cross and I were so pleased to see so many Berky parents and children at the exhibition and to hear the judge comment on the high standard of our entries. We were all absolutely delighted for Lauren de Burgh-Thomas, whose landscape painting won not only best in her age group but best in show, with highly commended places for Holly



Our kitchen staff do a remarkable job, making approximately 400 meals daily for the

School and Day Nursery and serving it with a smile. Berky food is all cooked from scratch, on-site, using fresh, local ingredients - it's tasty and nutritious and designed to meet growing children's needs. We were delighted when our kitchen staff were awarded the Pride of TnS Award for excellence in catering - they thoroughly deserve it! **R.C.**

County Champs



Our chess players wrapped up a decent season with a 6-0 victory over Christ Church. That team, comprising two Y5 pupils and four youthful blades from Y3, indicated the strength of our younger players and provided a tantalising glimpse into the future. Ultimately, one match had decided Berky's destiny. A 4-2 loss against Charlton Kings put paid to Berky's league and cup aspirations in one swoop but I sense a few years of plenty are not too far away.

The annual district chess congress proved a huge success for the school. Lauren de Burgh-Thomas finished a superb second overall while Henry Whistler finished as the top Y4 and Eliot Atkinson and Anna Byndy tied as the highest scoring Y3s in the district. There were 20 players claiming prizes, 12 of whom are Berky pupils. Remarkably, of the top 20 players in the district, 6 are from our school's Y3 – a thrilling statistic.

Unsurprisingly, Berkhamstead will pick up the Wheeler Cup (for best performing school at the congress) at the prize-giving. Next term will see House Chess – always hotly contested - and the staff/pupils match will be as fascinating and enjoyable as ever. The annual Cheltenham v Gloucester Schools fixture will be proudly hosted by Berkhamstead and several of our players will represent Cheltenham. And, the Y2 Chess Club will start up with eager new players starting an exciting chess journey. **M.C.**

Welsh Assembly



Pre-Prep went on a virtual trip to Wales with 1WJ to celebrate St David's Day, and learnt interesting facts about Wales and St David. 1WJ amazed us all by speaking a few words in Welsh! An Eisteddfod followed – a festival of singing, dancing, reciting poetry and art. They sang a funny song about a crow called 'Jac-y-do,' performed a traditional

Welsh dance and recited and acted out a poem called 'The Dragon's Birthday'. All were fantastic, spoke with confidence and remembered their stage directions. Da lawn! **R.W-J.**

MARMALADE ANYONE?



The children enjoyed reading many of Michael Bond's books on Paddington this term; lots of them had seen the film too, so interest in the bear from darkest Peru was very high! Paddington, as we all know, enjoys shopping, so we created a shopping opportunity for some learning and fun linked to the books. Year 2 came to school dressed as Paddington (including in some cases the marmalade sandwiches hidden in a hat) ready to head for Berkhamstead's very own Portobello Road Market, designed and constructed by the children (with some very welcome parental support). The morning was a frenzy of activity as market stalls were created, signs written

and produce laid out. Year 1 took advantage of the newly created market to browse and then to purchase their lunch! The market had a great atmosphere with the buzz of stallholders encouraging people to "Come and Buy". The children enjoyed taking real money, giving change and counting their takings at the end of the morning. All money raised was sent to Paddington's charity, Action Medical Research for Children. **S.O.**



CREATIVE TEACHING

History Mystery Day



What makes a London character...? The range of outfits was amazing when Year 2 embraced the London theme and came in costume. Characters included Kings and Queens, a scullery maid, a Queen's guard – complete with an impressive bearskin, and Kate – the Duchess of Cambridge. Earlier in the term Year 2 had carefully crafted crowns fit for royalty and were ready to put the finishing touches to them by adding jewels – but "oh no" – the jewels were missing and the evidence of muddy footprints on the DT room floor pointed only one way – they had been stolen! Our Year 2 super sleuths then spent the day tracking down the culprit, analysing clues,

working out puzzles, sequencing kings and queens from the past and using their historical knowledge to find the thief. The end of the day found the clever detectives in the Headmaster's Office solving a mathematical challenge, which meant they could reclaim their jewels from the notorious rogue Colonel Thomas Blood who had been at large in school (for those of you unfamiliar with the Colonel, he attempted, in 1671, to steal the crown jewels). With the jewels back and safe, Year 2 were able to finish their crowns, sticking the jewels in place to bring the day to a satisfying close. **S.O.**



WHEN WE GROW UP

WE WANT TO BE....

News from Early Years



Eric the skeleton was very popular when he visited Kindergarten with Mrs Breach the physiotherapist as part of the When I Grow Up topic. "She fixes your bones!" said Eddie, when we wondered what Mrs Breach does at work. Eric helped all to see the bones that are inside our bodies and was good enough to let everyone feel his bones. The children did not need a

second invitation and all jumped up to explore the skeleton. We were lucky to have a number of really interesting presentations from visitors this term to help us with the topic: Mr Bence, the builder, Mrs Cass, the riding instructor, and Mr Breach, the anaesthetist. It brought a great deal to life for the children and really broadened their ideas of what they might become.



A very feeble sprinkling of snow was met with enthusiasm in the playground but it needed super detective skills to see it clearly – the magnifying glasses came in useful here! Spring eventually came and lots of fun was had getting out in the grounds exploring to see what the gardening equipment could be useful for. The children put on gardening gloves and busied themselves moving wooden logs around in the wheelbarrows; they used the spades and trowels to dig up the weeds and watered the plants. It was lovely to see them in the fresh air cooperating so well as they used the tools.

As part of our Growing topic, the children were given

the opportunity to find out how a plant grows. We provided a variety of books and iPad games about growing and springtime and the children thought that a sunflower would be a lovely present for Mother's Day. They were invited to the creative table loaded with pots, a large tray of compost, a scoop, seeds, and a watering



can. They shared their gardening knowledge whilst they sowed their sunflower seeds. The children took their first tentative steps into the world of coding and really enjoyed using the Bee-Bot robot. They pressed buttons to create a series of instructions which manoeuvred the Bee-Bot around a large pirate grid map. They visited the pirate ship, the treasure chest and even went as far as the pyramids! We encouraged the children to use positional language as they stated what direction they wanted it to move in. Still on the Growing theme, Ellie's mum, Mrs Bence, her real live baby brother Hughie and Auntie Nicky came into Kindergarten to talk about how to take care of babies. The children asked many interesting questions, were delighted to watch Hughie roll



picked out 3 solid chocolate eggs to put on top of their

around on the rainbow mat and were fascinated when he had his nappy changed!

Everyone thought about how much they had grown since they were babies and the children were very excited to show and talk about their baby photos. The children looked carefully at the photos and used their sleuthing skills to deduce who was who by looking at the eye and hair colour. When guessed right, each child stood up and talked about their photo - what they were wearing, where it was taken and about their favourite 'cuddly' when they were a baby. After what seemed like ages and ages of waiting, but was in fact only 21 days, we at last had real live babies (chicks) of our own in Kindergarten and the excitement was tangible. All were gentle and in awe of the little balls of fluff – it literally brought the topic to life and sparked much discussion.

Following on from our themes of 'Growing' and 'Hatching Chicks', we made chocolate Easter nests using shredded wheat, milk chocolate and chocolate eggs in cake cases. The children put aprons on, some tried to help each other to tie them up. We broke the chocolate, melted it in the microwave and mixed in the shredded wheat – we couldn't wait to spoon it into cake cases! The children then

cakes, many counting as they placed them on. The children enjoyed mixing and talking about the cakes and making links with their own experiences, observing that microwaves 'melt stuff', that wheat is 'bits from the combine harvester' and that 'chocolate is yummy in your tummy!'

Our Easter Egg Hunt was greeted with enthusiasm by parents and children alike as they rushed around the grounds in search of numbered cards which, once a set was collected, earned them a chocolate bunny – yum!

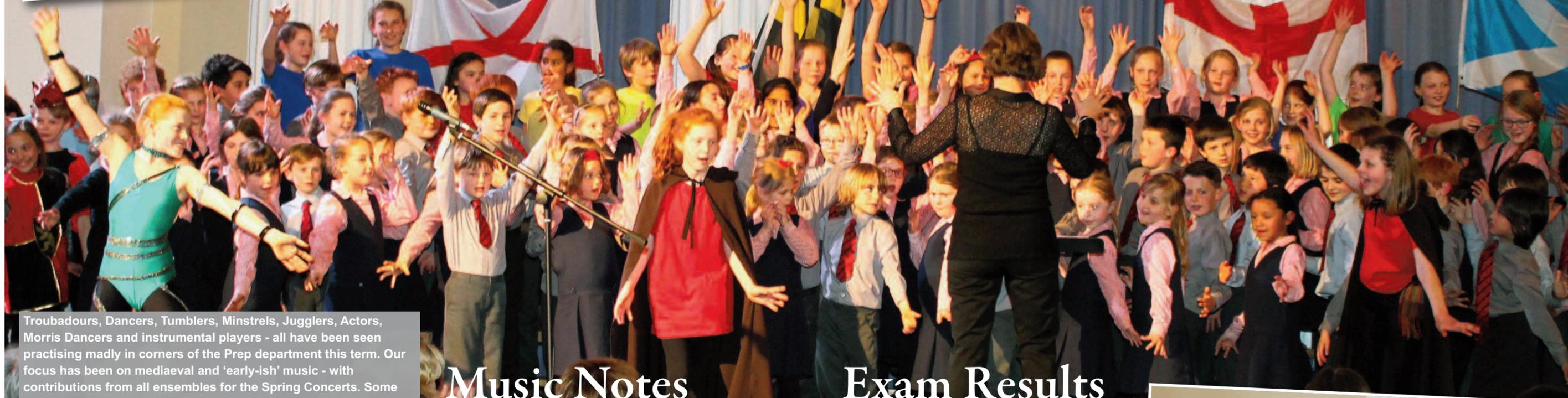
The Dinosaur Stomp was enjoyed enormously by Reception and Year 1 children and Kindergarten loved joining the party; they watched the moves closely. What a sight - dinosaurs were rocking and rolling and executing a range of dance moves in the gym and having such fun! Early Years children dressed up, got their claws out and performed sequences of raptor-inspired moves to music. The day proved a great success. The Kindergarten audience enjoyed it thoroughly; many couldn't wait to join in themselves and were welcomed with open arms. Drinks and dinosaur biscuits refuelled the dancers when they took a welcome break. It's been a busy term of measuring plants' growth, making biscuits, soaking up dinosaur facts and thoroughly enjoying learning through a stimulating range of activities. Lots of evidence of happy children learning, as the pictures testify.

S.R. & H.R.-W.



Spring Concert

from Mrs Mitchell



Troubadours, Dancers, Tumblers, Minstrels, Jugglers, Actors, Morris Dancers and instrumental players - all have been seen practising madly in corners of the Prep department this term. Our focus has been on mediaeval and 'early-ish' music - with contributions from all ensembles for the Spring Concerts. Some cunning selections from the Percussion Ensemble (Blackadder), Jazz Band (Meet the Flintstones), Keyboard Orchestra (Palladio), Y2 (Dragon's Dance) and Chamber Ensemble ('Capriol' movements by Peter Warlock) were performed alongside genuinely older songs and pieces from the choirs, Berky Bows and Recorder Consort. Mrs Sallis bought some mediaeval drums to add to our resources, which have been used in many sessions. Pupils enjoyed an entertaining Renaissance Music workshop and learnt about the instruments of the time. They then learnt how to compose a dance piece in the mediaeval style. After half term, preparations for 'A Medley of Saints' composed especially for us by Mrs Gill Agg began, and every pupil in Y6 had a particular part to learn. The performance was a riot of colour and movement from the very first monk figures entering to plainchant, through flag bearers and a mediaeval troupe to the engaging songs themselves telling the ancient stories and legends.

Music Notes

Other activities this term included an exciting trip to the magnificent Symphony Hall in Birmingham for Y5/6 to hear music played by the CBSO, demonstrating the various families of orchestral instruments. Favourites included Harry Potter themes, Angry Birds music and Pharrell Williams' 'Happy' on percussion, as well as the thrilling 5th Symphony by Beethoven. We took the opportunity to visit the new exhibition of the Staffordshire Hoard (Anglo Saxon gold artefacts) at the museum whilst we were in the area. At the end of term there was a very well attended Recital with 30 performers and a full day of music exams.

Exam Results

Prep Test - Noah Brush, James Ellis, Helena Mackay
Grade 1 - Ruby Atack (flute*), Jasper Ayland (Cornet*), Shriya Boddana (Violin*), Alex Crane (Viola**), Bea Davidson (Violin*), Isobel Hill (Violin).
Grade 2 - Cottie Bird (Cello**), Harry Brooks (Clarinet), Georgia Day (Saxophone**), Ben Gibson (Clarinet**), Leo Harcourt (Saxophone*), Leslie More (Oboe**), Sam Perris (Violin**), Melinda Stojanov (Violin*),
Grade 5 - Leslie More (Violin**).
Grade 6 - Corli More (Piano*)
Grade 7 - Corli More (Violin**)
*Merit. **Distinction



Prehistoric Fun!



Reception and Year 1 children became very involved in the topic "Walking with Dinosaurs", the highlight of which was the visit to the Oxford Museum to see the DINOSAURS! Excitement began outside the museum, where there was a chance to examine casts of massive dinosaur footprints set into the lawn. All were impressed by the enormous skeleton that fills the museum entrance! The children listened with bated breath to Chris, the museum guide, who knew masses about dinosaurs and fossils and was keen to share it. It was a super trip that showed the sheer size of the dinosaurs very well. **H.R-W.**



WILD THINGS!

Kindergarten had great fun visiting 'All Things Wild' nature centre for the 'When I Grow Up' topic. We made delicious-looking fruit and vegetable kebabs to feed to the animals - yum! The petting barn was a real highlight - we met a real Zookeeper who told us all about working with and caring for animals. We met Bertie the guinea pig, Harry and Snowy the donkeys and Wiffy the skunk, we learnt lots about young animals. We even saw a real armadillo called Dylan, who we thought looked like a dinosaur egg when he was curled up in a ball! Next we explored the 'Dino Barn' with its models of dinosaurs and a woolly mammoth. Our favourite was a giant megalosaurus model! We also investigated an amazing dinosaur robot and had fun using the controls to make its body move! **S.R.**



HOLY PLACES



Year 6 visited St Mary's and St Matthew's. Built in the 13th century, St Mary's is the oldest building in Cheltenham. We sat on the uncomfortable seats in its old school room, where about 40 children shared a room no bigger than the Prep school library for lessons and were locked in whilst they cooked their own lunch, unsupervised! Rev Wheaton talked about how Christians view death and the funeral service. We then explored the more modern St Matthew's and discovered that drums and guitars were used in worship. Which church was most popular? It was a 50-50 split, some liked the traditional look of St Mary's while others preferred modern light and space.



Year 3 were given a tour of Tewkesbury Abbey by its vicar, Wendy. She took the children up a small spiral staircase into rooms not usually open to the public. They saw the sacristy and discovered a door made from the horse armour taken during the battle of Tewkesbury. It even had a hole produced by a bodkin arrow! The children learned about baptism, acted out the main roles and enjoyed pretending to baptise a baby. **M.T.**

As part of Year 1's RE curriculum, the children took part in a wedding ceremony to understand the process of a Christian Wedding. The children were very excited and took their roles seriously. The ushers took our guests to their seats with care. The parents walked in to see a handsome groom and best man. The beautiful bridesmaids graced

the aisle before Arabella came in to "Here comes the Bride". Reverend Wheaton took the service and pronounced the happy couple 'man and wife'. **R.W-J.**

MEDIAEVAL MUSIC



We enjoyed an extremely interesting series of workshops involving crumhorns, hurdy-gurdy, lute, harpsichord, viol, recorders, shawm, cittern, harp and some loud bagpipes. Years 2-4 watched 'The King's Musicians', a musical



story of a competition between a sophisticated Italian and a sensitive English minstrel at Henry VIII's court. Acted in costume with musical instruments of the period, the show was lively, fun and informative and included some dancing by the courtiers of Y2, 3 and 4. Y5 and Y6 experienced the instruments close up and some of them were able to try out the crumhorns. This proved surprisingly difficult, even for our woodwind players. They all learnt a round and an English country dance, and discovered a whole range of unusual instruments. **P.M.**

EGYPTIAN PUZZLE



How DO you solve a 3000 Year-Old Mystery? The power of the storyteller brought to life a whole range of interesting questions around the mystery of Tutankhamun. Just how did the boy king die? Howard Carter (looking more alive and younger than one might expect) visited Berky and told of his discovery of the tomb - we all speculated on the secrets it held. The children were fascinated posing question after question to the great explorer. A super day! **P.Mc.**

PIKES AT THE READY!



Year 5 were very lucky that their trip to the Commandery in Worcester coincided with members of the Sealed Knot doing Civil War workshops. We had a busy day learning about field operations during battle, participating in musket and pike drills, as well as trying on various types of armour and handling 17th century weapons. We then experienced the more

gentle activities of making candles from beeswax and writing just like Stuarts, using quill pens and ink. The trip was a great success and really brought History to life for the children. **P.Mc.**

Olde London Tales



The History Man visited Year 2 in the disguise of Thomas Farriner. The children listened spellbound to his story of how the Fire of London began and the artefacts he managed to save as the fire raged around him. The story came alive as the children joined him in acting out scenes from that day in 1666. **S.O.**



Visited: Tewkesbury Abbey, Warwick Castle, Oxford Museum, SkillZone, The Commandery, St Mary's & St Matthew's Churches, Staffordshire Hoard, CBSO, All Things Wild.

House Events



The House Cross Country was a tremendous event even for those for whom running is not on top of their favourites list! Every child gave it their best shot and the house results were as follows: 4th St George's, 3rd St David's, 2nd St Andrew's, 1st St Patrick's. Individual winners were Harvey Sullivan and Anya James for Years 5 and 6

and Ollie Rendell and Lovisa James for Years 3 and 4. Well done to all. The House Netball matches were played with a huge amount of energy and commitment and after the final tally for the different age groups only 4 points separated the top three houses with St Andrew's finishing victorious. The House Football was closely contested with excellent play. Although competitive, matches were also played in an excellent spirit. In the U9 event, St Andrew's and St David's shared the spoils, finishing joint top. In the U11s, St Patrick's had a clean sweep, winning all matches. The combined scores made the victors St Andrew's.

The House Pancake Races are invariably a highlight and one of the most eagerly contested events in the Berky calendar. This year was no exception and saw huge competitiveness and encouragement as all from Years 3-6 raced around the playground. St George's and St Patrick's emerged as joint winners and all had a super time.



Although it was almost certain that St Patrick's would win the house trophy at the Swimming Gala - they have nearly all the strongest swimmers in the school - everyone swam with a huge amount of effort. A special well done to the children who find swimming difficult; with or without woggle they all made it to the other end of the pool with great determination, encouraged by everyone in their house. Five records were broken this year and many congratulations go to George Iles and Finlay Rayner in the Year 5 and 6 front crawl, to Emily Wiles who broke both the Year 5 backstroke and breaststroke records and to Anya James who broke the Year 6 butterfly record - well done to all of our swimmers. L.W. & P.Mc.



Well done to all who finished the gruelling course. The girls' football team has made tremendous progress. An enthusiastic bunch, they have listened carefully and been very competitive. The Cheltenham Primary Schools' tournament was a great success for us with two superb victories: the first a fine 2-0 win against Gotherington, followed by a convincing 2-0 victory against Osbourne Valley. With a place in the semi final at stake, we needed a victory against Bishops Cleeve. Unfortunately this was not to be. However I was very proud of the girls' attitude and performance. They were an absolute credit to the school. Team: S Sathasivam, P Sathasivam, A Crane, B Davidson, G Woodward, M Silsby, S Paulus, P Mills, A Paterson, E Wiles. L.W. & P. Mc.

Running & Kicking

The Cheltenham Cross Country League features races which take place regardless of the weather and so the 15 children involved experienced proper cross country conditions. Hundreds took part in each race, so the first obstacle to overcome is the start which is like a cavalry charge! Ellis Clark ran consistently for the boys but it was the girls who really excelled this season. Bea Davidson, Corli More and Lauren de Burgh-Thomas usually finished in the top 50 and Alex Crane and Anya James usually finished in the top 10. This meant that both



girls qualified for the Cheltenham Schools' team to run in the Gloucestershire finals at St Edward's School. The Cheltenham team won silver medals, so very well done to them! In the Rendcomb College cross country race, which is not only an extremely tough course but also an extremely high standard, our Year 4 boys, Harry Barber and Ollie Rendell led the way with an 8th and 9th finish. Ellis Clark, Anya James, Ben Hordern and George de Burgh-Thomas managed top 20 finishes in their respective age groups. Well done to all who finished the gruelling course.



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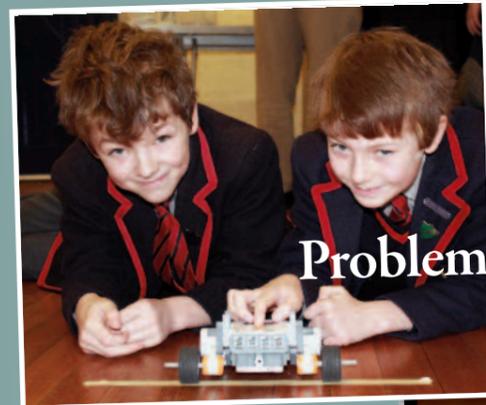
Indian Cuisine

Year 4's last Geography lesson of the term took place in the Food Tech Room, where all made their own chapatis and tried some dahl. Excited children soon made their flour and water dough, rolled it thinly into a variety of shapes and eagerly joined the queue to have them cooked. All of the children tried the dahl and, amazingly, most of them liked it! In typical Indian fashion they used the chapatis to mop up the dahl - no cutlery needed here! L.W.



Computing - Building Skills

Our new Computing curriculum, with greater emphasis on **computational thinking and creativity** has been welcomed by pupils; it has been lovely to see how quickly they have adjusted to the changes, throwing themselves into the subject in typical Berky fashion. We are fortunate to have a class set of Mac Book Air computers and a class set of iPads for both the



Prep and the Pre-Prep, with the ability to "stream" work to TV screens in any classroom

Problem Solvers

and share ideas. The new curriculum has enabled the children in the Pre-Prep to use the Bee Bots and 'Junior Scratch' on the iPads to great effect and in the Prep 'Scratch' has been used to create mazes, music bands, maths quizzes and space invader type games. The increased emphasis on coding, or programming, provides the children with a wide range of skills essential for them to be active participants in a digital world - logical thinking, planning and 'debugging' to name a few. Creativity is also an important part of the computing curriculum, and the children will be producing newsletters, posters, logo designs and graphic art in addition to



Strategists

creating musical compositions and video animations using iMovie, Green Screen and Animate IT. In recent weeks we have converted our 500 word stories to eBooks, created Keynote and 'Prezi' presentations and 'simple mind' mind-maps. Berkhamstead provides excellent opportunities for children to enrich their learning using computers and the Internet and uses a wealth of applications such as 'Skoolville' to provide safe but constructive online experiences that inspire. A.M.

Critical Thinkers



Maths Challengers

The Year 6 Technology Day was great fun and saw the children playing with and programming some serious Lego - Lego Mindstorms, advanced bricks and a range of kit that allows the creations to be computer controlled from a laptop. The challenge was to create increasingly complex programs with turns, progressing to figures of eight and using sound. The fun (and frustration) on the faces was clear to see as things worked (or failed to!) It was certainly a day where Perseverantia Vincit, the

Berkhamstead motto, was particularly apt! Critical Thinking is so important and the children have had many opportunities to hone their skills this term. Clearly it is useful for the Grammar and Independent Schools' entrance tests in which we do so well but it is, of course, vital for problem solving throughout life. We do a lot to promote it in the children - Puzzle Day, Maths Challenges, and in the approach that we take to education that encourages all to experiment, to use logic and resilience when approaching tasks. It leads to the characteristic Berky 'can-do' approach that is so successful.



Puzzlers

NETBALL

SPORT REPORT

Under 9 Teams

Both U9 teams have had a fantastic netball season. As with the hockey term, the girls have developed not only their skill and understanding of the game, but also their ability to work as a team. The girls have learnt about the importance of footwork, quick passing and using the space on the court. Both teams have



played against strong opponents and have won, playing some truly brilliant games of netball. The girls have never faltered in their commitment or determination and thoroughly deserve every win they have achieved this term. They have supported and encouraged each other throughout. Well done, girls, another great season.

A Team: E Collins, I Fletcher, N Flexman, L James, M Jenkins, A Keogh, K Lillywhite, R Mackay, L Stewart, E Terry.

B Team: H Brown, C Crompton, K Dowds, E Griffiths, D Harcourt, F Harvey, H Mackay, F Parkin, E Wheaton. **B.E.**

Under 8 Teams

The U8 girls have taken to netball very well and have had a fantastic season. They are a wonderful group who are very supportive and have great communication skills. They have adapted well to both 7- and 5-sided netball, in all positions and have come on in leaps and bounds with their accuracy, game play and timing. The girls have been fabulous to teach and are definitely a team to watch for in the future. Well done, girls!

U8 Squad: A Byndyu, K Crichard, H de Wit, S Doughty, A Ellison, E Emberson, I Freeman, F Hampton, A Holder, R Madden, L More, C O'Connor, J Rayner, S Slessor, E Vintcent, M Ward, C Whistler, D White, E Wragg. **A.J.**

Under 11 Teams

The **B team** had a super season and they always played their matches with an excellent spirit. They worked exceptionally hard, the team work was especially good throughout and they had several close matches as well as two draws. The only match where the opposition was much stronger was at the Croft School but they scored good victories against both Rendcomb College and Beaudesert and had ties with the Richard Pate School and King's Gloucester. They all improved their game as the term progressed and they should be proud of their achievements. **B team:** C Bird, G Day, C More, M Pope, C Robbins, P Sathasivam, S Sathasivam, W Snaith, M Stojanov. As the end of season statistics show, the **A team** had an exceptional term, with the highlight being their 11-8 victory against the Cheltenham College team. This is the first time we have ever beaten CCPS at U11 level! Wins were recorded against King's Gloucester, Richard Pate, Rendcomb College and Beaudesert, with a 6-6 draw in a very tough match against the Croft. There were very strong performances in every area of the court - well done to all the Year 6 players!

A team: L Barton, A Brown, M Cross, G Day, L de Burgh-Thomas, I Hill, E Holder, A James, H Mundinano (all awarded colours). **Outstanding Player Awards:** Anya James for her exceptional shooting and Leah Barton for superb centre court play. **L.W.**

Under 10 Teams

The **B team** had a super season, with all the girls playing their part in both attack and defence. They made a flying start with victories against St Edward's and Richard



Cheltenham College 3-6. They ended their successful season with a fantastic 10-1 win against Beaudesert. Well done! **B team:** S Boddana, I Dewar, C Gillett, C Green, A Kaur, I Mansell-King, A Page, S Paulus, H Wan, G Woodward. The **A team** also got off to a great start, with a close win against St Edward's and then a much improved performance against Prior Park for a 6-0 victory. The very good Richard Pate team proved too much, despite a terrific performance by our defence and they just lost against the College by 3-4. **A team:** R Atack, A Crane, B Davidson, P Mills, A Paterson, M Silsby, M Taylor, E Wiles. The U10 girls are a very promising group and both teams did really well in the Richard Pate tournament - bronze medals for the **A team** and a very creditable 4th place for the **B team**. Well done to all! **L.W.**



STATS	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
U11A	7	5	1	1
U11B	7	2	2	3
U10A	6	2	1	3
U10B	5	3	1	1
U9A	9	6	1	2
U9B	6	5	-	1
U8	7	6	-	1

SPORT REPORT

FOOTBALL

U11 teams The boys have played an amazing 19 matches and enjoyed a very successful season. The **A team** played an attacking game and provided great entertainment for our loyal band of supporters, who have always outnumbered opposition spectators, home or away. We began with successive victories against Richard Pate 5-4, King's Worcester 4-2, Wycliffe 5-3 and Hatherop 4-1. Our final match of the first half of term was a hard earned 2-2 draw against Airthrie. We then encountered two strong teams in St Edward's and Rendcomb and this resulted in our only defeats of the season. However the boys bounced back, playing excellent football to defeat Cheltenham Prep by 1-0. The boys looked to attack at every opportunity. Creative play by Toby, Caelen and Harvey led to lots of goal scoring opportunities for our front players, Archie and Ben Hordern.



Both scored some stunning goals, with Ben being prolific throughout the season. Two strong goalkeepers in Ben Gibson and Willoughby, alongside Joel and Ellis in defence provided a solid platform at the back. The boys have been a delight to coach and have played an exciting brand of football throughout the season.

The **B and C teams** have rotated players, with all of the boys representing both. The Bs had excellent victories against King's Worcester and Hatherop and the Cs have only lost one game - they had tremendous victories against Rendcomb, Cheltenham Prep and Wycliffe.

Several players have stood out: Quinn, George, Louie, Reuben, Tom and James have been consistent performers and Leo has been excellent in goal. Well done to all the boys for such a superb season!

A Team: B Gibson, W Cooke, E Clark, J Read, J Main, H Sullivan, T Minter, C Campbell, A Rendell, B Hordern (all awarded colours). **Outstanding Player Award** - Ben Hordern
B & C Teams: H Brooks, J Coley, O Dalton, R Fuller, L Harcourt, H Hurcombe, G Illes, Q Johnson, L King, J Parkin, T Perks, F Rayner, E Shaw, A Wragg, J Wright **P.Mc.**

STATS	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
U11A	8	5	2	1
U11B	7	3	3	1
U11C	4	3	1	0
U9A	11	7	2	2
U9B	7	2	3	2
U8	10	5	2	3

U9 Teams

A great season! Our U9 boys are a very talented and keen group who train well and enjoy playing together. The teams were led by Ollie R and Edwin S, who gave lots of encouragement and praise all season. Ollie A, Sam, Bertie and Ethan created many chances in the A team's midfield, determined to win the ball and feed passes to striker, Harry. In the B team Max, Nic, Henry and Hugo showed similar determination and scored often through Ethan, Bertie, Noah and Jasper. Toby (A team) and Peter and Charlie (B team) were very solid in defence and saved the day on numerous occasions. Rex made superb progress in goal, making brave and crucial saves. The highlight of the season was a superb 4-4 draw against Richard Pate. The boys showed grit and used the positive words from captain Ollie R to persevere. The midfield played very well and Ollie A's free kicks and corners applied a lot of pressure. Sam and Toby were great in defence and Rex made a couple of point-blank saves. It was a game enjoyed by very many of the travelling fans (parents!) and a great way to end a great season.

U9 Squad: Captains: O Rendell (A team), E Stojanov (B Team). O Armstrong, J Ayland, H Barber, H Bawtree, B Bird, N Brush, C Dunning, R Lewis, T Martin, N Milne, E O'Yando, S Perris, P Sinden, M Sissons, H Whistler. **R.C.**



U8 Teams

Having played really well as a team during the Rugby season, it came as no surprise that the boys played really well throughout the Football season too. To start with, they could be compared to bees around a honeypot, as they followed the ball around. As the term progressed and the boys became more aware of why it is important to keep to their positions, they spread out more and had much greater success. Their skills at controlling the ball, keeping it away from the opposition and passing improved throughout the season. They were supportive of each other and tried to get each other involved. Matches were always played with the right spirit and enjoyed by all. Well played, boys.

U8 Squad: E Atkinson, R Campbell, J Carder-Geddes, G de Burgh-Thomas, B Jenkins, G Lockwood, A Mills, W Parkin, J Paterson, A Ryder, J Shaw, C van Staden, O Wiles. **T.M.**





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