



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Don't forget...
Summer Fayre
Sat 24th June
2.00pm - 4.00pm

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents

The Leavers' Recital is always a super event and this year was no exception. Year 6 performed wonderfully; ensembles, duets and soloists entertained the audience with a broad range of music. Ensembles included the keyboard orchestra a brass band playing blues, a drum machine controlled by Mr Weir, saxophonist group, strings group and Jazz Combo – playing 'Sunny'. There were many excellent soloists who showed great composure playing in front of an audience of family and staff. The evening began with Daisy singing 'Still Falling for You' with the keyboard orchestra followed by a variety of drum, piano, string and brass solos. It was also lovely to hear Rowan's own composition, 'Lost Memories' on the piano. I hope that music at Berky will not be lost memories!

The performance finished with all of Year 6 singing about 'The Island of Lumbago in the Sea of Sciatica!' from their drama production 'Pirates of the Curry Bean' (to be performed on 6th and 7th July). What impressed me most was how together the children were and how supportive of each other's performances. It was a dazzling display of talent, and a pleasure to see just how far every pupil has come musically during their time at Berky.

I was impressed with the calm approach that the children seemed to have as they undertook their exams this week. The results will help staff to give quality feedback in the children's reports and will give a snapshot of what each child was able to show they know. We are an academic school that gets excellent results in both scholarships and grammar tests, but we firmly believe that there is much more to a Berkhampstead education than performance in exams. Hence the rounded yet challenging curriculum rich in music and sport that you read about each week in newsletters and that so many of you are able to come along and support at recitals and fixtures.

I glanced out of the window yesterday and in whichever direction I looked were happy and active children having fun at break. Some were capering around on the grass in Pre-Prep, some hiding in the castle, others busy with the wildlife garden, on the trikes or playing on the gym bars. Others over in Prep were in the chess sheds honing strategies (perhaps for the annual staff v pupils match still to be played), on the trim trail, sitting chatting in the shade or – huge numbers of them – refining their cricket skills. It was a pleasure to see.

CHELTENHAM v GLOS SCHOOLS ANNUAL CHESS FIXTURE

We were proud to host the children from Cheltenham and Gloucester Schools for the annual match. Cheltenham schools ... Berkhampstead, Richard Pate, Holy Apostles, Dormer House, St Gregory's and St John's were represented as well as players from Longlevens, Upton St Leonards, Dinglewell and King's Gloucester in Gloucester.

The result was 7.5 – 2.5 to Gloucester – a reversal of two years ago. Mr Cole, match organiser, comments, "The Cheltenham against Gloucester match is always a hotly anticipated fixture bringing together the best players in the north of the county. All the games were close and exciting but the Gloucester children's extra experience meant that they just had the edge." George dBT from Berky was playing on board 1 for the shield and fought hard for a draw thus sharing the shield for this year with Theo from Upton St. Leonard's School.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



FRIDAY 16TH JUNE
SUMMER TERM

Diary dates...
THE WEEK AHEAD
Tue 20th Jun
Year 3 trip to Lower Moor Farm
Wed 21st Jun
9.45am – 4E trip to L'Artisan Restaurant
2.15pm – Pre-Prep Production (Year 1 parents invited to watch)
2.30pm – Cricket U11A, U11B, U11C v King's, Gloucester (A)
2.30pm – Rounders U9A, U9B v Beaudesert (H)
2.30pm – Rounders U11A, U11B, U10A, U10B v Beaudesert (A)
Thu 22nd Jun
2.15pm – Pre-Prep Production, (Year 2 parents invited to watch)
2.30pm – 3.15pm – New to Reception session
7.00pm – Cheltenham Schools' Chess 22nd Annual Prizegiving at Richard Pate
Fri 23rd Jun
5.00pm – Athletics Championships, Prince of Wales Stadium





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from around the school

RECEPTION

"A mouse took a stroll in the deep, dark wood..." Reception children have been enjoying Gruffalo themed activities. They spied a 'wanted' poster for the Gruffalo and identified the different describing words that had been used on the poster, how they made the description sound much more exciting and scary!

Later in the week, the children created their own Gruffalo-inspired creatures and wrote descriptions about them.

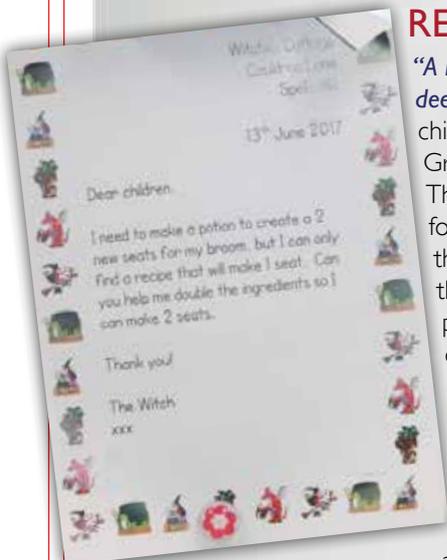
The Gruffalo theme continued into our carousel activities with the children making Gruffalo models out of clay. The children had fun exploring the texture of clay and moulding it into the different features of the Gruffalo using the clay tools. The children are very proud of their models and they make a wonderful display.

The children made information posters about the animals featured in 'The Gruffalo'. We used non-fiction books to find out different facts about foxes, mice, owls and snakes. The children worked in groups to draw pictures and write about the facts they had discovered to create their posters. Do come and see this very factual display.

The children have been helping the witch from 'Room on the Broom' with doubling.

The witch wrote a letter asking for help to make 2 extra seats for her broom; however she could only find a spell that would make 1. The children had to work out how many ingredients needed to go into the cauldron if the amounts were doubled. We were amazed at how quick the children have become when doubling. The witch was very grateful for their accurate maths!

The Reception children are being encouraged to be more independent in their learning within the classroom to increase their independence ready for Year 1. After the half term holiday, children can be dropped off in the Pre Prep playground in the mornings. They can leave their book, bags and drinks in boxes which will be left outside the Reception door. There will also be a folder if you need to write who is picking your child up etc.



Missing items...

Prep cap - named WILKS
School jumper - named WALLACE
School dress - named FARR



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from around the school

YEAR 2 - DOWN ON THE FARM

On Tuesday 13th June, Year 2 went to Over Farm to find out about where our food comes from and to learn about food miles. We were taken around the farm and shown a variety of crops including wheat and Christmas trees. We looked for 'brains' and 'eggs' in the rhubarb patch and each picked a spear of asparagus. We saw the tiny pumpkin seedlings in the field which will, come October, be ready for carving! We spent some time in the shop looking at

the labels on the produce to find out which items were local and which had come from further away. We found tomatoes from Spain and surprisingly some onions from Australia.

On our return to school we cooked up our delicious asparagus and some broad beans which we all thoroughly enjoyed, with an enormous strawberry on the side!



YEAR 4 - VISIT TO THE CHELTENHAM SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Even though we arrived to a minor downpour, the pupils still enjoyed their first task of finding different boards around the festival. From each board they had to find out answers based on the information that was given. The facts varied from a volcano erupting being the loudest sound on earth to a piece of broccoli having more Vitamin C than an orange.

We then went to the main tent where we had a presentation all about energy. The pupils learned that there are different types of energy, that it can be changed from one type to another and that energy is measured in Joules (1 Joule is approximately the potential energy that an egg has when it is lifted 1 m into the air). Several demonstrations were shown including burning a balloon containing Hydrogen, setting fire to a Jelly baby and dropping the egg to see what 1 Joule of energy could do!

After the demonstration we went to the Discover Zone where there was a multitude of investigations to have a go at. Mr. Cross' favourite was a toss-up between the memory game and seeing R2 D2! Pupils' favourites included tasting jelly beans whilst holding their noses (the sweets became a lot tastier after they let go of their noses), the puzzles set out by GCHQ, making a paper airplane to fly as far as possible and making their own Bacteria.

Pupils also got the chance to see a model of the Bloodhound that by the end of the year will break the land speed record and next year go faster than 1000mph, with the Berky School name on it!

The Cheltenham Festival is a great event in the Cheltenham calendar and I encourage everyone to attend next year if you have never been before. It was a pleasure to see several Berky parents with their children there on the Sunday. Science really is everywhere and to be enjoyed by all...





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Sports report...

ROUNDERS

U8 and U9 v St Edward's Draw 15 - 15

On Wednesday 13th June a mixed team of U8 and U9 girls set out for a match against St Edward's. Considering the girls have not played together before they worked nicely as a team. They finished the second innings one rounder down at 7½ to 6½. In the second inning Daisy had a superb game stubbing a couple of players out at second post, and with Georgia and Emma making some brave runs bringing home whole rounders, Georgia captained the team to a 15 rounders apiece game.

U9 v King's Gloucester Draw 8 - 8

The sun was shining and it felt much more like the kind of weather for rounders than most of our previous matches! After a delayed start, King's won the toss and batted first, notching up 8 half-rounders (and being prevented from whole rounders by some excellent fielding choices from our girls) to end the 1st innings with a score of 4. In our first innings fantastic rounders were scored by India and Lorien, alongside a clutch of half rounders bringing our score to 5½. After the second innings of only 9 balls, Kings had brought their score up to 8. 2 further phenomenal rounders from Georgie and Hattie also brought our score to 8, ending in a draw. Hattie was voted Player of the Match for her very accurate bowling, fielding and her dare-devil rounder which ended the match.

U9A v St Edward's Lost 11½ - 11

Put into bat by the St Edward's team Berky made a great start and scored 5½ rounders. Hattie, Varnika and Millie scored 1 rounder each. Then careful bowling by Millie and super safe fielding by the whole team restricted the St Edwards girls to 3½ rounders. We then matched our first batting innings with a further 5½ rounders, with 3 whole rounders being scored in a row by India, Millie and Varnika. The running between the posts was also superb; it was both accurate and fast. Our total was 11 rounders – terrific! The St Edward's girls matched our 3 whole rounders and gradually with ½ rounders here and there clawed their way back into the match. It was getting very close and the match was won on the very last ball when one of their girls scored half a rounder. Berky just lost by 11½ rounders to 11. Well tried, girls!

U10B v King's Gloucester B Won 8 - 4½

First match of the season at home and a gorgeous summer's afternoon. Unfortunately Kings were delayed due to a broken down coach, so we were limited to two innings of 18 balls. Kings won the toss and opted to field first. Leslie (the captain) quickly organised the batting. In the first innings, Darcy and Zoe managed full rounders and we gained some sneaky ½ rounders to finish on 4½. Kings had 11 players in to bat and most could hit the ball. Kyla once again bowled accurately, limiting the half rounders for no balls.

Our fielding was good, but lacked a sense of urgency and there were a few fumbles, but the girls used their heads and prevented Kings from scoring too many – they ended on 3½. The match was balanced on a knife edge but the girls were confident they could maintain their lead. The second innings saw full rounders from Catherine and Sarah, both taking chances which paid off. All the girls upped their game and they were running with real purpose between the posts rather than looking like they were out for a stroll in the park!

Although more of our girls were out on their final ball, I was pleased that they had tried to get that half rounder – great encouragement from their fellow team mates! Berky finished on 8 rounders and Kings knew they only needed 5 to win, but this is quite tough from 18 balls. We need not have worried – the Berky girls tightened up their fielding and began communicating with each other. Berky managed to get 8 players out as the Kings' girls began to take more risks. Kings managed to score a couple of half rounders. The match was played with great spirit and mutual respect.

Well done girls, you did yourselves proud – the undefeated season continues...

U11 v King's Gloucester Won 7½ - 7

A super day greeted us at the Victoria Ground and I had all my B team players with Milly, Elli and Lola adding a bit more fire power from the A team. We fielded first and made a good start with some tight fielding all round. King's managed to score 4 rounders. In our first batting innings Elli and Naomi scored whole rounders and there was another rounder in total so we were 4-3 down at the half way point. This was just what we wanted, a good tight game. Again, excellent fielding and catching got their strongest players out and good bowling restricted the King's girls to only a few half rounders and they ended up on a score of 7. As we were only playing 18 balls instead of the usual 27 this was going to be a tight call. Starting off slowly Fran and Claire contributed ½ a rounder each and then there were 7 balls where Berky scored nothing – the balls were running out! Have no fear Fran and Milly then scored a whole rounder each with ½ rounder contributions from Claire, Flora and Eve. This gave Berky a victory by the narrowest of margins by 7½ to 7 rounders.

Well done, girls!





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Sports report...

CRICKET

U9 v St. Edward's
Won by 44 runs
Berkhamstead 287 for 2
St. Edward's 243 for 9

U9 v RGS Worcester
Won by 105 runs
Berkhamstead 320 for 3
RGS Worcester 215 for 12

The U9 team have had two superb games in the last week. Against St. Edward's this week they dominated in all areas. Whilst the boys have bowled better they all consistently restricted the run scoring of St. Edward's boys and George took two wickets in one over. Good catching and fielding meant that there were a number of run outs and stumpings too. Finn top scored with 25 off two overs and Euan quite calmly dispatched two consecutive balls for 6 whilst batting with George.

In the game against RGS Worcester the boys performed at their best so far this term. Ed, Oscar H and Harry were the pick of the bowlers. The highlight was the wicket keeping of Noah who was lightning fast to stump and run out a number of the RGS boys. In this game Captain Luke and Noah top scored with 27 runs in 3 overs but all the pairs contributed with Euan and George scoring 22 runs, Finn and Oscar A 20 runs, Jensen and Oscar H 12 runs, and Harry, Ed and Andrew 14 runs.

Two great wins and the U9 cricket team remain undefeated.

Well done boys!



TENNIS

Y3 Tennis Festival

Last Friday 8 children from Y3 took part in a tennis festival at East Glos Club. There were about 12 schools who entered the festival and we were split into two teams of four and put into two different groups. The children who went played extremely well and by the end of the festival everyone had won at least one match. Some of our Y3 children played Y4 children from other schools but they held their own and had some excellent rallies. William and Jonny did extremely well and managed to win all four of their matches and Isabel won three out of the four matches that she played in. Both teams came second in their groups which was a great achievement considering that some of them hadn't played competitive tennis before.

Well done to those 8 Year 3s that came to the festival and thank you to our loyal supporters for coming along to cheer them on.

