



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

I was thrilled to return to Berky this week to see smiling children and receive warm greetings from parents... I think the staff were happy to see me too! My few days away last week were spent at the annual Head's Conference. It was very interesting and informative, and I learnt much about educational developments post-COVID. It is always great to share experiences with other heads and my overriding thoughts on my return are how lucky I am as Headmaster of such delightful children, supportive parents and amazing staff.

We had a very heartening PTA meeting last night discussing lots of plans for future events. Thank you to Joey and Steve for leading the PTA and to all the Class Reps for their support for the planning of events. The plans for Christmas are coming on. Please do sign up for the Quiz Night on 12th November - the members of the Head's team are already being selected!

Next week is our Open Morning for this term. Over 20 sets of prospective parents have signed up to look round and I am delighted that our Year 5 and 6 pupils will be their tour guides. If you have any friends or relatives who would be interested in a Berky education, then do please encourage them to call the office and book a slot. I am keeping my fingers crossed for the weather but in school, the displays of children's work from the start of term are looking superb.

Next week is busy and includes school photographs, flu vaccinations and Year 5 Parents' Meetings as well as the usual fixtures, clubs and trips.

I am afraid that this morning, in the rain, some parents were parking inconsiderately. I appreciate that the weather can sometimes influence the urge to park closer to school BUT this is no excuse for poor parking. Please do not park on the double yellow lines and across local residents' driveways - which this morning included blocking the driveways of our direct neighbours in Hewlett Road. This is disrespectful of others and poor role-modelling for the children.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER
AUTUMN TERM

Diary dates



THE WEEK AHEAD

Tuesday 5th October

7.30am-8.30am
Sibling Photographs,
Andrews Gym
Individual School Photographs
5B Parents' Evening

Wednesday 6th October

2.00pm - U10/U11 Girls' Hockey
v Rendcomb (A)
2.00pm - U10 Cheltenham
College Prep Hockey
Tournament
2.30pm - U11, U10A & B Boys'
Rugby v St Edward's (A)
3.45pm U8 Girls' Hockey v
Dean Close (A)

5K Parents' Evening

Thursday 7th October

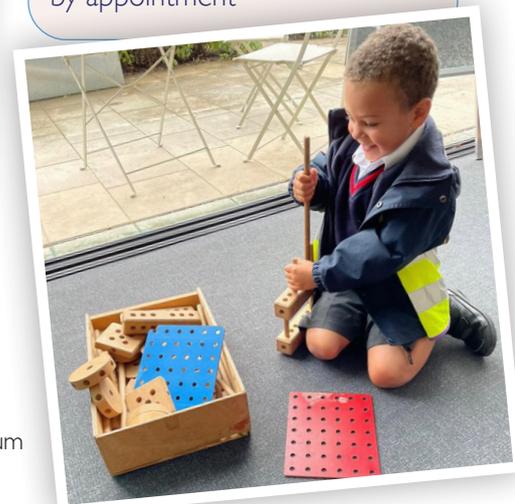
Reception to Year 6 -
Flu Immunisation
4.15pm - District Cross Country

Friday 8th October

Year 5 Science visit to
We the Curious, Bristol
1pm - U11 Girls' Football
Tournament
2.30pm - U8 Boys' Rugby
v Rendcomb College (A)

Saturday 9th Oct

Open Morning 9.30-11.30
by appointment



Year 1 trip to
Stroud's 'Museum
in the Park'



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Edna Bear
was awarded to:
Adelaide RM
and Berry SR

News from Early Years

KINDERGARTEN

From the start of the term, the Kindergarten children have impressed us so much with how they have made new friendships and re-established old ones. During Circle Time, we have been talking about what makes a good friend and how to share toys with others. The children have been learning the Kindergarten rules of 'kind hands', 'kind feet' and 'kind words' to help them remember how to be a good friend to others.

In the words of the children, a good friend is:

'Me because I shared a conker with Toby!'
(Lucy)

'People play with me because I like playing.'
(Ruby)

'Ask someone to play with you.' (Jack)

'Be kind.' (Penny S)

'Give your friend a cuddle.' (Immie)

In maths this week, we have been in a Numicon frenzy. Numicon supports early maths skills; it is a multi-sensory way of learning numbers to 10 through feeling and touching.

We have used Numicon in various interesting ways this week, such as hiding the pieces in sand and asking the children to feel around until they find a particular piece; they have then counted how many holes on the Numicon. We have been cutting out Numicon shapes and matching them correctly. The children have also taken part in a Numicon scavenger hunt

where the children find Numicon pieces and then put them in the correct numerical order. MM




BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Kindergarten: Ben C,
Henrietta C, Ruby H,
Arabella I, Toby K, Flora R,
Penny S, Max W





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from Early Years

RECEPTION

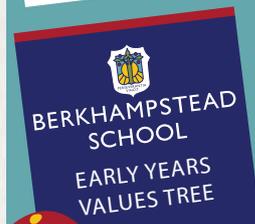
Meanwhile, Reception children have continued to enjoy the topic "Families" and have settled into Reception life so well!

The children and staff are enjoying 'Maths Mastery'. Mastery in mathematics is about the children gaining a deep and solid understanding of the mathematics they learn. This means slowing down the speed we progress through the curriculum to ensure that all children really embed the concepts that we teach. Although we are looking at numbers to five this term, numbers to 10 in the Spring term and numbers to 20 in the Summer, it is important that children use and experiment with larger numbers as well. Large numbers excite small children as they have an air of mystery about them. They see larger numbers all around them in everyday life and this can be brought into the classroom through the numbers used in displays and role-play situations that mirror real life. Although the Reception schemes focus on deepening understanding and building the number sense of smaller numbers, children have the opportunity to discuss and experiment with larger numbers, so they understand them in context without yet having to understand their composition.

This week, the children enjoyed matching and sorting objects giving reasons why they have matched and sorted in that particular way; they used buttons and socks and were able to justify their sorting.

The children have been exploring their five senses. They used the dark boxes to identify objects using only their sense of touch. Their sense of smell was tested by smelling a variety of foods and identifying them. They all agreed the best sense was the tasting!

During one of our carousel activities, the children are experiencing 'Forest School,' which is led by Miss Watkins. Forest School is an opportunity for children to experience nature and the outdoor environment in a safe, secure and hands-on way. It gives them an awareness of the natural world and an understanding of self-care, respect and managing their own safety and hygiene in the outdoors. The children have loved exploring different textures in the Wildlife Garden, using their crayons and paper to look at and create different textures. After such an exciting activity, they sat in the outdoor classroom to discuss the textures the children had observed. Some super rubbings were created!
H R-W



THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Reception: Francesca I, Finley S, Eleanor W, Eliyas SR, Ivy B, Harvey M, Tobias, Meriem T





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Missing...

School coat and jogging bottoms named MILES H



News from around the school

TOP TIP

FROM ONE OF OUR YEAR 6 BERKY GETS GREENER LEADERS:

“Try to reduce the amount of meat you eat a week and introduce at least one or two vegetarian meals.”
If we want to reduce the human impact on the environment, a simple and cheap thing to do is to eat less meat. Behind most of the meat on our plates is a wasteful, land- and energy-hungry system of farming that devastates forests, pollutes oceans, rivers, seas and air, depends on oil and coal, and is significantly responsible for climate change. Altering your diet will help considerably.



IT'S GOOD TO GROW

Do you shop at Morrisons? If not, please consider doing so!

The supermarket is encouraging children to grow food by providing 'Grow Tokens' for every £10 spent and recorded on the MyMorrisons app. Our Berky Gets Greener team can then exchange these tokens for free gardening equipment - such as mini greenhouses, wheelbarrows, watering cans and seeds!

Thankfully, there are many shop-led recycling schemes. Here are just a few useful links. If you know of any others, please let us know!

www.boots.com/boots-recycling-scheme

www.tescopl.com/news/2021/tesco-to-launch-uk-s-biggest-network-of-recycling-points-for-soft-plastic/

Soft Plastic Recycling - Co-op

The Writing Instruments Recycling Programme
TerraCycle UK

www.facebook.com/groups/KCRecyclingGlos/?ref=share





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports reports

HOCKEY

U9 v Wycliffe

Won 0-4

On Wednesday, the Under 9 girls all clambered excitedly aboard the minibus for our journey down the M5 to Wycliffe. It was our first match of the season, and indeed, due to no matches being possible for these girls when they were in Y3, it was actually their first hockey match as a Berky team EVER. Despite the fact that we were playing a small side, we managed to take all of our girls in order to rotate and give everyone some match play, to experience a hockey fixture and to have 'tea' away (the highlight for some!!).

We played 4x quarters of 8 minutes and saw some super hockey from all the girls and some fantastic goals in the first and third quarters from Ella H and Lydia M created by powerful moves from Coco P, Millie R and Eva. Mollie R, Hattie E and Ara K were strong defenders, preventing any goals against us.

In the second and final quarters, a similar pattern emerged with superb defending from the girls (Kitty H, Georgiana S, Estella L) keeping the goals-against score clean, and lovely teamwork up front from Claudia C, Charlotte J, Ellie P and Olivia W, although no goals were scored despite some strong pressure.

The final score was 4-0 to Berky: most definitely a successful first outing... and we got to do some Royal-spotting!

U10 v Wycliffe

Lost 1-0

The girls put up a strong performance this afternoon, but just couldn't finish the many attempts they had on goal. We held our shape well and the girls rotated on and off, swapping positions. We played 20 minutes each way and I think the girls were happy to have a quick breather! Nina, in goal, made some fantastic saves and looked incredibly confident to kick the ball clear. Our defensive pairing of Lettie and Emily worked well together. Chloe, our captain, put in an excellent performance in the midfield, pushing the ball up and racing back to defend when needed. Sophia, Frankie, Carly and Yvie rotated round the attacking positions, making effective runs up the wings. Now we need to focus on that killer instinct to score goals! A really good team effort, girls! JH

U11 v Wycliffe

Won 5-2

Some brilliant play during this match: we worked well as a team, supporting one another and switching positions when needed. I was very proud of how all the girls played. During the first half, we had ample opportunities for a goal, with brilliant speed down the wing from Primmy and crosses by Isla. Primmy managed to finish a shot off that hit the back of the net - goal one was scored! Georgia was positioned by the goal ready to get a touch in as Isla and Primmy forced their way through the Wycliffe defence. Georgia got the touch and sent it into the goal: goal two was scored! Our defence were working tirelessly to prevent Wycliffe coming through with Nancy and Zoe S producing some brilliant blocks and teamwork; unfortunately, a few of their players crept through and then came up against Alice. Alice worked well coming forward to meet the players, but they got one past and in it went. Thea and Ellie B worked really well whilst on the wings, driving into the centre to support the team. Both girls did some great tackles on the wings and powerful drives to our attacking end, enabling us to have some shots on target. Isla managed a further three goals during the rest of the match. For one, she took on three of their players and displayed some fantastic close ball work as she moved around the opposition, dodging their tackles. Wycliffe were a great match and had some brilliant players with strong hits; their second goal went straight through our defence into our goal; Alice moved well but it was coming with great pace. The game ended 5-2 to Berky. Well done, girls. CK





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Please note...

There is a Cross Country event at Newlands on Thursday 7th October so after-school rugby will take place at the Victoria Ground instead.

Sports reports

U8 Tag Rugby v St Edward's Won 3-2

Well done to all of our Year 3 boys who played their first rugby match for Berkhampstead on Friday against St Edward's. The Bisons (3C) played downhill in the first half and achieved a 1-0 lead with a try scored by Miles. The Buffaloes (3M) then had an uphill challenge (literally) in the second half and maintained our lead with us winning 3-2, with tries scored by Hughie and Jack H.

Tag Rugby is a great team game and it was lovely to see everyone try their hardest. Special mention should go to Lucas and Oliver for their excellent 'tagging' of the opposition, Toby for making great runs and Charlie F for fantastic teamwork.

All of the boys played well and I look forward to seeing how they improve throughout the season. TM

U11 v Hatherop Castle Won 40-10

The U11s enjoyed a comfortable victory at Hatherop in their second match of the season. The first half saw the boys dominate possession and territory. We were first to the breakdown and won the majority of collisions, which enabled us to create gaps in the Hatherop defence.

Tries came at regular intervals as we sliced through our opponents. Ben, Otto (3), Jacob D-T, Felix, Max and Reuben were our try scorers. However, all of the boys contributed well in attack and defence, resulting in a very encouraging performance. Well done to all the team! P McC

