



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a relaxing half-term break and were able to make the most of some good weather. There was brilliant weather for the Year 6 Viney Hill trip before half term. On their return the children looked a little weary, but this week I have heard exciting tales of canoeing, mountain biking, crate stacking and climbing.

It's been a week of two halves as far as the weather goes; after the rather damp and chilly start it was lovely to have a pleasant temperature for this week's fixtures and it was wonderful to be able to enjoy the Art Exhibition in the glorious sunshine. What a display!

The range of work was huge - every child had at least one piece of work on show and the clear talent of so many of our pupils was a delight to see. I was especially pleased to see so many children showing their parents round with pride and their taking pleasure in others' pieces too. It was a huge success. My huge thanks to Mrs Bareham for organising this super show.

The week has seen a number of enriching events. Year 4 had a super day at the Cheltenham Science Festival exercising logical and creative thinking as they applied themselves to a series of challenges. There was a healthy buzz of ideas being exchanged and a real determination to solve the problems set. Perhaps we have some future engineers and scientists amongst Year 4; certainly the reports I have had suggest that they were very keen.

Year 3 had a fabulous time at Bristol Zoo earlier this week, learning more about the natural world and about conservation. The children always impress, and this was no exception - they have such great knowledge of and a passion for endangered species and how we can help to protect our planet.

This week we launched our one-to-one iPad scheme for Year 5 and 6 children. These tablets are such a valuable resource for learning and the children are so adept at using them to enhance their skills and knowledge. The iPads available for all pupils are utilised in lessons very regularly and there is a need for our older pupils to have one for school and at home for homework and preparation for the next lessons. There is a meeting for Year 4 and 5 parents on Monday to discuss this in more detail, but if any parent is considering purchasing an iPad for their child then do please contact the school for advice.

As you know from the letter from yesterday, we are also changing our Games Kit supplier. The primary aim of this is to improve the service you get but it also ensures more consistency on the kit style and branding. I appreciate that this does mean that kit you have now becomes obsolete but there is a transition period of 12 months for this change.

I am really looking forward to the PTA Ball tomorrow - it has been over three years since our last one! Another great community event and I am extremely grateful to the PTA, particularly Joey Bowden in her last year, for all the hard work that has gone into this.

*Richard*

Richard Cross  
Headmaster



FRIDAY 10TH JUNE  
SUMMER TERM

## Diary dates

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Mon 13th June

3:15pm - 5:00pm ABRSM Music Exams at DCPS

4.00pm - Y4 and Y5 iPad info evening in Prep Hall

#### Wednesday 15th June

2:15pm U11 A, B and C Girls' Cricket v Beaudesert (A)

2:15pm U10 A & B Girls' Cricket v Beaudesert (A)

2:15pm U11/U10 Boys' Cricket v Beaudesert (A)

2.15pm U11/U10 Boys' Cricket v Beaudesert (H)

#### Thursday 16th June

9:30:am Dean Close Strings Day, Prep Strings players

2:30pm Kindergarten to Reception Transition

2:30pm New to Kindergarten Transition

#### Friday 17th June

Year 4 Trip to Mary Arden's Farm

8:30am Visiting Head's Assembly, Ms Jardine-Young, Cheltenham Ladies College



## Pre-Prep Clubs

From Monday, lunchtime clubs on offer for our Pre-Prep children will be:

Monday, Year 2 Chess Club with Mr Cole

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, drop in Games Club



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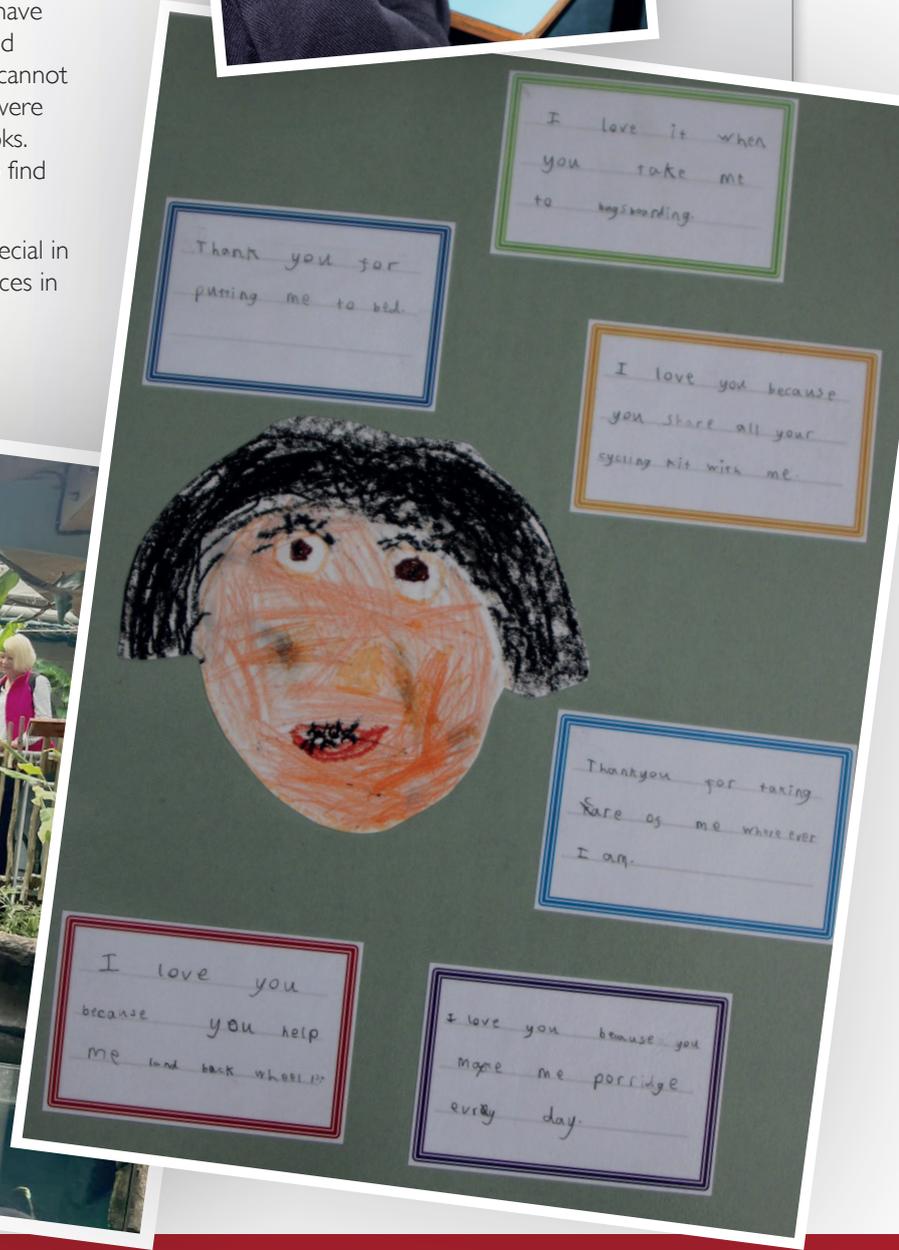
## News from Pre-Prep

It has been an exciting and very busy first week back for Years 1 and 2 after the half term break.

Year 1 children have been busy recounting their trip to Bristol Aquarium. They started the week sequencing key aspects of their trip and thinking of recount words that they could use for each event. Then they wrote all about their trip, ensuring that they incorporated the recount words that they had learnt about. Year 1 have had a lot of fun on the iPads, exploring GarageBand. They experimented with string instruments and recorded a short track of their very own.

Meanwhile, Year 2 have been rehearsing for their end of term production, 'Stella The Starfish.' The children have been working very hard to memorise their lines and have been practising with eager excitement. They cannot wait for their parents to see them perform! They were also very excited to use the Prep School's MacBooks. They made lists of sea creatures and used Safari to find photographs of their favourites.

Both year groups are celebrating someone very special in their lives, and have been creating some masterpieces in art to give to their fathers. JM





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**Plastic bottles**  
Could parents please send to school plastic bottles of any size for the scenery for the Year 2 Summer Production? (They will be recycled afterwards!)



## Eco news

### ECO TIP FROM A RECENT Y5 ECO-WARRIOR BADGE RECIPIENT

Save your seeds! I have saved and planted pepper seeds from dinner preparation, beans from last year's beanstalks and even a conker that I picked up from outside school when I was in Kindergarten!



### 'PLANT STALL' FOR SUMMER FETE

Please remember to get as many plants as possible ready - include labels and any relevant instructions! Donations of houseplants, good quality pots, garden ornaments, insect houses, bird and bat boxes, hedgehog houses and anything plant- and garden-related also welcomed.

Thank you! Mrs Agg



### 'ADOPT A TEDDY' STALL FOR SUMMER FETE

If you have good quality teddies you no longer need, please do drop them off at the school reception marked for the attention of Charlotte Kidner.





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## Cricket reports...

### U11 v Cricklade Manor

The U11 boys returned to playing hard ball cricket on Wednesday against a very good Cricklade side. We took to the field and immediately bowled with a tight line and fielded with great energy. Ben and Manas experimented with field placings and the approach of the bowlers and had much success with this. We were rewarded when the first wicket fell early from the bowling of Reuben and a fine catch from Manas. Other wickets fell steadily with a second for Reuben, as well as two from Sam and one for Joe. However, Cricklade's opener proved to be a fine player who contributed most of their runs. Cricklade finished on 77 for 5 from 16 overs.

Against a very good bowling attack our batters played some very nice shots and ran well between the wickets. There were a couple of good knocks from Max and Otto and some solid shots from Felix but ultimately we fell short by 15 runs.

Even though this was a loss, I was delighted with the way our boys played. It was the strongest team we have played against and it was a match that could have gone either way. The boys really enjoyed the quality of the cricket and they will have learned much from it. Well done to all of the boys.

### Mixed U10/11 v Cricklade Manor

This proved a high scoring match. Berky won the toss and opted to field. A combination of hard hitting and small boundaries saw Cricklade race to an impressive score of 340. Oscar C-S proved a most Scrooge-like bowler with only 5 runs coming from his two overs while Esha D and Harry H both picked up important wickets. In reply, Harry H and Esha took the game to Cricklade; Harry hit a brace of majestic sixes while Esha proved a willing runner-between-the-wickets and pilfered a crafty series of singles. Will H and Sophia B kept the scoreboard ticking along handily while Katie C hit a lovely 4. Oscar proved a vocal and encouraging skipper but, despite his steady praise and kindness, Berky were just 26 runs short at close of play. Good effort, all!

Cricklade Manor 340 - Berkhampstead 314 (Berkhampstead lost by 26 runs)

### Mixed U10/11 v Cricklade Manor

The boys and girls played very well. The team lost the toss and were forced to bat first. All players batted sensibly and made good runs when possible. We lost a couple of wickets but defended the wicket well and scored off loose balls. We scored 252. Cricklade knew our total and came into bat. The first overs saw Berky concede several runs as Cricklade scored some boundaries. However, a fantastic catch by Victor and a beautiful in swinger from Bertie caused wickets to tumble. Berky's bowling was very tight and Cricklade scored very few extras. Zoe captained the side well and made sure our fielding was tight. Cricklade scored 242. Berky won a tight game by 10 runs.

### Mixed U10/11 v Cricklade Manor

On Wednesday the U11/10 cricket team played Cricklade at the Victoria Ground. The weather was wet on the way down, but it dried up quickly and we were able to get a match in. Cricklade batted first and they hit some great shots, scoring lots of fours. We bowled well; Sydney fielded superbly and stopped several balls from reaching the boundary. When it was our turn to be, we had a sizeable total to chase but we felt it was something we could achieve. Each pair batted well. Jacob and Barnaby scored some fours and took risks to get as many runs as they could while Sydney and Hettie communicated well with each other. Going into the last pair we needed 60 runs; Tom and Seb were under pressure and they coped with this well. Unfortunately, it was not to be on the day and Cricklade won the match by just 16 runs. They finished 341/3 and we finished with 325/3.

Well done to all the U11s and U10s that took part. It was the first match where we fielded a mixed team and I thought they played well together. Thanks to the parents and friends who came to support the team.

