

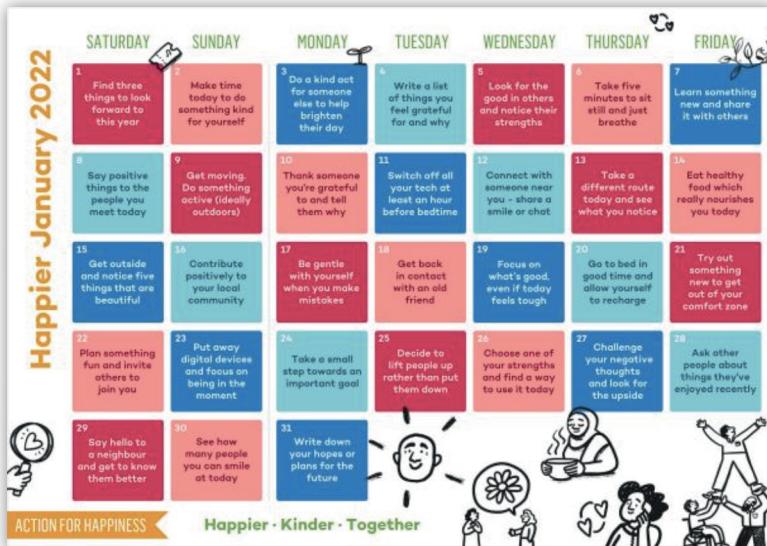


# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

I always look forward to school assembly and it is such a shame that, for the time being, these are pre-recorded before being shared online. My first one of this term considered what we should be grateful for and certainly, compared with last year, we are all grateful for being back in school as normal. I take my inspiration for assemblies in January from the Action for Happiness January Calendar and I would like to share this with you too.



As you can see Monday this week suggested 'thanking someone you're grateful to' and this weekend coming up it suggests 'getting outside and noticing five things that are beautiful'. I hope you and the children find time to do this.

It has been a busy week and the children have thrown themselves wholeheartedly in to the new term. The first football fixtures of the term were on Wednesday, and I know the U11 team were thrilled with a good win. The pupils love the game and I know the girls performed brilliantly in the tournament they entered last term. The Prep pupils have been very kindly invited to watch the game at Cheltenham Town FC (more details to follow) when they play Crewe Alexandra on Saturday 26th February. I hope you can come!

Now we are fully back into term I should like to remind parents of the importance of being safe on the roads. I witnessed a nasty accident at the end of Hewlett Road and this highlighted that careful driving and parking around school are essential. Can I ask please that you park legally and with consideration for our neighbours, particularly in those roads that are narrow (i.e. Cleeve View Road and Ariel Lodge Road)? Thank you.

Despite the cold weather, it has been wonderful to be back at Berk and seeing our lovely community in action. All the smiles on faces, buzz within classrooms and happiness on the playgrounds make this such a special place to spend our days. Here's to an exciting, productive and successful Spring Term.

*Richard*

Richard Cross  
Headmaster



FRIDAY 14TH JANUARY  
SPRING TERM

## Diary dates

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Mon 17th Jan

Year 1 and 2 After-school Andy Tucker Football starts

#### Tue 18th Jan

AM - 5B visit to Skillzone  
KG and Reception after-school Supastrikers Football starts  
Prep after-school Mandarin club starts

#### Wed 19th Jan

Prep Assembly led by Father Roberts  
2.15pm - U10/U11 Netball v Rendcomb (A)  
2.30pm - U10/U11 Football v Rendcomb (A)

#### Fri 21st Jan

AM - 6M visit to Skillzone  
PM - 5K visit to Skillzone  
2.30pm - U9A/B Football v St Ed's (H)  
2.30pm - U9 Netball v St Ed's (A)





## BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



### News from Pre-Prep

The Pre-Prep have returned to school full of energy and enthusiasm for the term ahead.

Year 1 have been excited to start their new topic on Africa and have relished the challenge of planning their safari. Their wonderful imaginations enabled them to create the climate and the amazing animals they would see as their safari adventures took part in the Year 1 classrooms!

Despite thoughts of sunnier climes, the cold spell has not deterred Year 1 from working out different ways their bodies move. Their Science lesson involved lots of jumping, running, skipping and climbing as they determined how many different ways they could move! The colder weather also helped the Year 1 on their walk to church to identify the wonderful signs of winter.

Both year groups have been experimenting with their drum skills. Year 1 have discovered their African beat as they drummed along to the Ning Nang Nong! Whereas, Year 2 have been perfecting their Medieval drumming skills.

The Year 2 have fully engaged with this term's topic of Castles. Friday has been dress up day with knights, princesses and other castle characters fully embracing shield making and medieval dancing. Imagine how excited they will be when Mrs Agg returns later this term to run our Year 2 History Mystery Day and they can wear their costumes once more.

Year 2 were delighted when they realised that Science this week meant lots of hands-on practical experiments. They had a range of cars, play dough and classroom equipment to help them think about forces and whether they needed to push or pull something to make it move. GS



## Reminder

Please can we check our kit at home.  
A pair of orange boots has been  
missing since last term.

Please ensure all kit  
is clearly labelled.



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## Sports report

### U10 v Hatherop

On Wednesday the U10 boys played their first football match against Hatherop. This was a training game and a chance to see what skills the boys have and identify areas that need to be worked on. The boys were mixed up in two 20-minute games with some Hatherop boys playing for both sides. I was impressed with the defending; Hatherop pressed early on, but the boys defended well. Various boys tried out as goalkeepers including Victor, Harry and Cameron and all made valuable contributions. Goals were harder to get but in one game Tom showed great skill and a natural goal scoring instinct to score three goals. Ben A, Freddie, Victor and Floyd worked hard to get forward and Cameron, Ben S, Bertie and Joseph were solid in defence. Joseph made some excellent clearances, almost scoring a goal from one! When it came to attacking, the boys counter attacked well but their passing needs some work, particularly long passes.



### U11 v Hatherop

On a bright and beautifully crisp afternoon the U11 team entertained Hatherop in the opening fixture of the season. The boys began strongly, immediately putting pressure on the opposition and giving them little time to settle. Once in possession we tried to get the ball wide and then cross it into the box. We created lots of goal scoring opportunities which resulted in four first half goals.

The second half was more closely contested, with Hatherop scoring two goals. However, we continued to press forward and converted twice, to complete the game with a 6-2 victory. Our goal scorers were Max (3), Ben (2) and Felix.

This was a great start to the season, with lots of positive contributions and plenty to work on. Well done to all of the boys!

