



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



**FRIDAY 14TH JUNE
SUMMER TERM**

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

One of this week's highlights has been the Year 6 Leavers' Production, 'What a Knight!' The cast had performed their show to excited audiences of Years 2 and 5 on Monday, and Years 3 and 4 on Wednesday, and I saw it last evening. I have to say, the production was absolutely superb! The children delivered gag after gag with perfect timing and had us all in stitches. The singing and choreography were fantastic - the last few weeks of rehearsals had clearly paid off. Congratulations to the hugely talented (and heavily pregnant) Miss Evans (Director), Mrs Mitchell (Musical Director), Mrs Taylor (Scenery and Props) and Mr Titley (Lighting). The talented young cast were thrilled to receive a good luck message from Craig Hawes the composer and writer of What a Knight! : 'Sending my very best wishes to the Y6 Camelot Courtiers of @BerkyCheltenham for your production of What a Knight! Have fun performing, polish up your armour, pack your woolly vest, give it your all you've got and enjoy every scone-scoffing moment! Break a leg and have a great knight!' The final performance takes place this evening - parents who haven't seen it already are in for a treat, and I am lucky enough to be attending again. Well done, too, to Miss Gill, Miss Anstis and their Reception dancers, who entertained their families with a super end of year ballet show on Wednesday.

Earlier in the week, 28 of our Prep School strings players visited Dean Close to enjoy a specialist Strings Day led by the world-class Carducci Quartet. There were over 100 instrumentalists involved and we had the largest contingent of a visiting school. Divided into two ensembles, our players spent the day rehearsing new music from sight reading at the start, to performing for parents in the Bacon Theatre at the end. Well done to everyone involved in this, and thank you to Dean Close for hosting such a fun and beneficial day.

DIARY DATES

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 17th June:

9:15am Kindergarten Showcase
Dress Rehearsal
2:00pm U11 Boys' Cricket
v Rendcomb (away)
2:15pm U10/11 Girls' Cricket
v Rendcomb (away)
6:00pm Kindergarten
Introductory Evening
7:15pm Reception Introductory
Evening

Tuesday 18th June

9:15am Kindergarten
Showcase to Parents
2:20pm 5K Visit to Cheltenham
Ladies' College Science
Afternoon

Wednesday 19th June

9:15am Kindergarten
Showcase to Parents
2:15pm U10 Mixed Cricket
v Dean Close (away)
2:30pm U10/11 Mixed Cricket
v Dean Close (away)
3:30pm Art Exhibition -
Parents invited

Thursday 20th June:

9:00am Year 5 Healthy
Eating Talk
6:00pm Year 6 Leavers' Recital
at The Parabola,
Drinks Reception followed by
Recital at 6.30pm

Friday 21st June

Rainforest Day - Whole School
'Dress up Day' as rainforest
animal or colour
5:00pm Prep District Athletics





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Year 4 had a lovely day out on Monday - our young scientists spent the day at Slimbridge. A trip planned to support the children's topics of 'Habitats', activities included pond dipping, a bird talk, bird watching and an exploration of Toad Hall. On Tuesday, Mr Morphey treated our Year 3s to a similarly excellent day out. Part of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Lower Moor Farm proved another brilliant location for hands-on learning, reinforcing the children's study of 'Helping Plants Grow', and also providing the opportunity to investigate mini beasts. The day involved bug hunts, pond dipping, tree tapping and outdoor games based on plants. Then, on Wednesday, Year 2 visited Cotswold Wildlife Park, also to support their science learning about habitats and adaptations, and today our Kindergarten children are enjoying a day at Cotswold Farm Park - what a fun and educational week!

This week, pupils from Reception to Year 6 have taken part in a special Food Waste Week. The idea came from our social action group, 'Changemakers', and my assemblies were duly devoted to this all-important issue. Having explained the problems associated with wasting food, I asked the children for ideas as to how we can all cut down on wastage; there were some thoughtful ideas. My assemblies concluded with a quote by Tristram Stuart, author of 'The Global Food Waste Scandal': "We are trashing our land to grow food that no one eats." The children then took part in a week-long, lunchtime house competition to determine which house could produce the least food waste. (Pre-Prep and Early Years children were allocated a temporary house). Each house was given a bin - with the four lids in house colours - and after lunch each day, the kitchen staff weighed the contents. The winning house will be announced in assembly on Monday, and will be awarded the Food Waste Cup. Let's hope lessons have been learnt, that we can keep up the good work to produce less food waste.

Have a good weekend.

Michelle Bareham

Michelle Bareham
Head of School



DANGEROUS PARKING

A disgruntled neighbour has reported a white Vauxhall Astra and red Vauxhall Corsa being parked irresponsibly near school. This not only causes inconvenience, but also poses safety risks to our pupils. Please park safely.



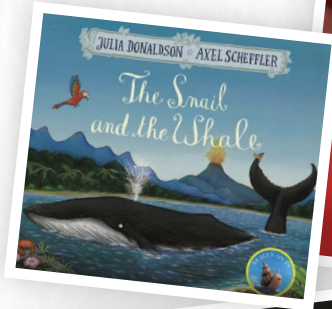
BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN

This week we have been reading the story 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. The children have loved learning about the snail's adventures, the places he visited, the friends he made along the way; we also gave lots of thought to how kind the snail was to save his friend the whale at the end. During Circle Time, the children gave us their ideas of when they are kind, brave and helpful too.

The book led our learning to hunt for snails - and other mini beasts - during our Forest School sessions, we found 10 snails altogether; collected them in a tuff tray, observed a 'silvery trail' and 'itchy foot' before returning them to their natural habitats.

Inside this week the children made some cupcakes, and we linked this activity to our maths learning of 1 more and 1 less up to a total of 5. We counted 5 buns to understand adding 1 more, then sang 'One Currant Bun in a Baker's Shop' to understand the concept of taking 1 away each time. At the art workshop the children the children independently chose from a variety of materials to create some amazing collage cupcakes and practised their mark making and writing skills to make up their own recipes. MM




 BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL
 EARLY YEARS VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS
 Leaves: Otilie H, Freya C





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM RECEPTION

This week in Reception we have been celebrating our wonderful dads in preparation for Father's Day on Sunday. After reading Anthony Browne's story 'My Dad', the children shared their favourite memories of their daddies, before drawing and writing about what makes them special:

"My daddy cooks the best food!" George

"My daddy is scrumptious!" Thea

"My daddy gives me cakes!" Hattie

"My daddy is kind" Kit

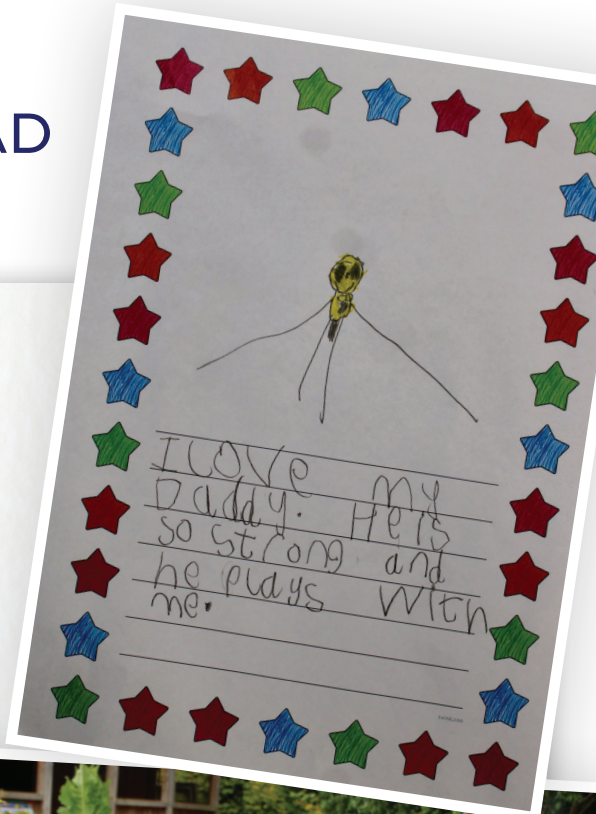
"My dad brings me back presents when he is away with work!" Alice

"My daddy is strong!" Toby

"My daddy tickles me!" Matty

We have been doubling superstars in maths this week, playing games and using resources in the classroom to secure our understanding. We have also been talking about sharing equally and how we can define odd and even numbers using our knowledge of sharing.

It has been excitement galore in phonics as we have learned 8 brand new sounds so far this half term. The children are relishing learning new graphemes – alternative vowel digraphs – and have been putting them into practice in their independent writing. It is super to see how keen the children are to write on their own now, from friendship letters to each other, to menus and book reviews.



As we continue to explore fairy tales, we have enjoyed making magical wands in our art lessons with Mrs Hartley. We used wire and pretty ribbon to adorn twigs and we have been imagining what spells we could cast upon one another; from turning our classroom into a giant bouncy castle to turning our morning snack into chocolate cheesecake! We have also completed our wonderful water colour castles and started thinking about our class sculpture of a fantasy fairy tale land – please keep the junk modelling coming! Z M-S

BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Eliza T, Kit T, Sam E, Max W

Berky Bear is: Flora R, Thea G



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAINFOREST DAY

We are fundraising for our school charity, Rainforest Concern, and aiming to sponsor as many acres of the rainforest as possible. This will help the charity protect some of the most threatened and species-rich rainforest in the world, in partnership with local communities. Well done to Milo R and Isabella B (both Year 4) for designing these super posters to publicise the special day.

CALLING ALL PLANT LOVERS!

I am running a Plant Stall at the Summer Festival and therefore need a good variety of plants to sell.

Please start potting up seedlings and taking cuttings in readiness for June 29th; I will be delighted to receive them from Wednesday 26th

June. Please make sure they are labelled (so that I know what they are); if they are unusual, any planting/siting/care instructions would also be useful. Mrs Agg.



NEW MUSIC LESSONS

Applications for new music lessons starting in September should be in by today and I will be drawing up the teachers' lists, based on requests and allocating where there is space. All instrumental lessons in school will be arranged on a rota basis across the curriculum, and we do not offer fixed lessons at any other time on a regular basis. As soon as the lists are confirmed I will send out information re signing up with each individual teacher and hiring instruments, alongside the information about the way we organise lessons and the expectations for positive progress.

If certain lists are over-subscribed we will hold waiting lists and we can also recommend certain instrumental teachers outside school if that is a preferable option. PM



Rainforest Day

- Dress up as a rainforest creature or colour.
- bring in £1 pound or more contribution
- we are raising for the Rainforest Concern.
- It is on the Friday 21st June.





THE
BERKY
experience club

This summer - as well as our existing Holiday Club for younger children - we are offering a series of exciting activity days for our Prep School pupils. At a glance:

16th & 17th July Jazz & Rock Factory
(Y3-Y6)

17th & 18th July Computing Club
(Y3 and Y4)

24th & 25th July Art Club
(Y4 and Y5)

29th July Baking Club
(Y3-Y6)

13th August Baking Club
(Y3-Y6)

21st & 22nd Aug Musical Theatre Club
(Y3-Y6)

28th & 29th Aug Ready, Steady, Folk!
(Y3-Y6)



**SPACES
ARE LIMITED
SO PLEASE
BOOK EARLY!**

For further details, or to book any of these clubs, (including Holiday Club for younger children), please visit berkhampstead.magicbooking.co.uk or email Miss Wootton with any enquiries: holidayclub@berkhampsteadschool.co.uk



BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
pta

PTA SUMMER UPDATE & PLANS

It was great to see so many of you at The Frogmill for our Summer Celebration on Saturday. It was such a lovely evening, especially with the sunshine. Richard, the magician (@glosmagician) commented on how nice everyone was - which is always lovely to hear! We raised £3,400 which the PTA will put to good use over the next school year.

We have our Summer Festival on Saturday 29th June 1-4pm, for the whole school community to enjoy. There's lots of PTA planning going on to make it all happen. We will share more details soon, including requests for volunteers via your reps.

We would love donations of the following:

Soft toys & teddies - To the school office by Friday 21st (to give time to name & tag them)

Children's fancy dress - To the school office from Wednesday 26th June

Plants for Mrs Agg's Plant Stall - To the school office from Wednesday 26th June

Homemade cakes for the Bake Off - more details will be shared soon

SUMMER HAMPER RAFFLE

Tickets are on sale - see email for details. Your year reps will put together hampers to donate to the raffle.

NEXT PTA MEETING DATE

Tuesday 25th June, 6.30pm, Pre-Prep Hall. We will run through the final details of the festival and look ahead to the Autumn Term as I start to hand over to Charlotte & Lottie. All parents are welcome.

Katie Chapman
PTA Chair





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Summer Festival

SATURDAY 29th JUNE 1PM-4PM



Welly Wanging

Book Stall

Adopt a Teddy

Berky Bake Off

Year 6 Leavers Stalls

Face Painting

Bouncy Castle

Children's Entertainers

Berky Samba Band

Hamper Raffle

Food, Drinks, Snacks

Pre-Loved Dressing Up

Guitar Band

Pimms Tent & Bar

Mrs Agg's Plant Stall

BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Summer Festival

SATURDAY 29th JUNE 1PM-4PM

the AMAZING Berky

Hamper Raffle!

Buy tickets
now!

Nine fantastic hampers to win:

Summer Sports

Garden Games

Summer Gardening

Summer Chef

Let's Get Creative

Picnic In The Park

Day At The Beach

Feel Good

Family Movie Night

Pamper Hamper

Ask at the office how to buy...

Winners will be drawn and announced at the Summer Festival on Saturday 29th June 2024.
Tickets are limited. This is our main fundraiser this Summer so hope you will join in!



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



SPORTS REPORTS

CRICKET

U9A Mixed v Hopelands

Our second mixed cricket outing of the season was at home to Hopelands. The visitors won the toss and chose to put Berky into bat. With a strong side wind both teams had to make significant adjustments to their bowling and as is always the case, wides and no balls played a large part in the end result. Despite facing some tricky bowling all four of our pairs made excellent contributions. Teddy and Ellis got us off to an excellent start, making 43 runs, 22 came from Iris and Isabella, 19 from Tamar and Hermoine and 41 from George H and Dion which resulted in an excellent innings of 125 for 1 with a total of 15 fours and one huge 6! We gave away fewer wides and no balls than our opposition and bowled, despite the conditions, with a dogged determination. We made very few mistakes in the field which resulted in reducing Hopelands to a score of 61 for 3 and a win for Berky by 64 runs. Well done to both sides for great team efforts! Won by 64 runs. SM

U10/11 v King's, Gloucester

A great game. Some of the King's girls were bowling well, and it took our girls a few deliveries to get to grips with the pace of some of them. We worked hard whilst batting, collecting plenty of runs. It was good for our girls to face some good bowling. In the field we were a little slow at times, missing a few balls and allowing them a few fours. We started to move and wake up. Good game, ladies; we have the fielding to work on. Good win! CK

U10/11 v Hatherop Mixed girls' team

We fielded first - a good choice ladies! It took the girls their first delivery or two to get into a rhythm and then once they became comfortable, we bowled well. Plenty of dot balls and some great wickets were taken by the Berky team.

Unfortunately for us we faced quite a few wides or no balls so didn't quite get as many opportunities to gain too many runs but a few 4s were still hit! Well done ladies, a great win. CK

U10/11 Girls v Cheltenham College

On a cooler but sunny afternoon, three girls' teams took on Cheltenham College. All three teams demonstrated some superb bowling with good, straight arms and excellent accuracy. The fielding was strong (with an excellent catch by Amelia) which meant that all three teams restricted the opposition to low scores. As for the batting, the girls consistently challenged the opposition's bowling skills, and they regularly cleared the boundary rope. The performances, as well as the attitude, were superb throughout and the girls showcased the excellent progress they have made so far this term. During the A game we had plenty of fours with Florence PT getting her first 6 of the season. Many wickets were taken. Well, done to all the girls, it was a great afternoon. CK

U10/11 v Beaudesert

On Wednesday the U10/11 team played a hardball pairs match against Beaudesert. This was a great opportunity to play hardball in a competitive fixture. The boys lost the toss so had to bat first. The bowling from the boys at Beaudesert was excellent; it was quick and accurate. They took 8 wickets in total, and the boys tried to run as much as they could. They finished on 238-8. When the boys fielded, their bowling was good, but their fielding skills were not as good as they could have been. This allowed Beaudesert to score a lot of 4s. The boys took 6 wickets which was good, and Beaudesert finished on 297-6.

U11A v Beaudesert

The U11A team produced their best performance of the season so far against Beaudesert on Wednesday. We lost the toss and were put into bat. We have worked a lot on batting in recent weeks and the improvement was there to see, in terms of shot selection and foot movement. This was a good team performance with every player contributing to the total. Jack was top scorer with 30, which included 3 sixes. Other fine knock came from Ben S (16), Ella (15) and Wilf (11). We finished on a total of 313, having lost 8 wickets.

We were not long into the Beaudesert innings before we were amongst the wickets. Fine bowling and excellent fielding had the opposition constantly on the back foot. Ben R took 3 for 13, Ben S 3 for 8. Jack and Ella also had a couple of wickets apiece. We took 14 wickets in all, leaving Beaudesert on a total of 239.

Well done to all of the team for an excellent win! P McC

