



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see the support for Ukraine on Tuesday. The children were determined to show their support with wearing yellow and blue, and parents too were hugely generous with donations. I think we all feel we want to do something to help and feel a little frustrated we can't do more. The total raised was £2,205.46 and the UNHCR will make sure this goes directly to those refugees in need. Thank you so much.

One of the highlights of life in school is the assemblies - and these are so varied and interesting. Just in the last few weeks we have enjoyed a lovely Year 1 assembly on African - brilliantly presented by the Year 1 children. They clearly and confidently spoke about what they have learnt. They recalled interesting facts about African animals, including that buffaloes live with up to 500 others to help protect themselves, and that elephants, like rhino cover themselves in mud to shield themselves from the sun. The children also performed Kumbaya, an African dance and recited poetry accompanied by drums and xylophones - expertly led by Mrs Sallis.

This week has been a real cultural mix. Mrs Bareham's assembly has been about the Purim festival, a joyous Jewish festival commemorating the survival of the Jews who, in the 5th century, were marked for death by their Persian rulers. The story is related in the Biblical Book of Esther. Purim is celebrated, on March 17.

My assembly was about the Festival of Holi, which is celebrated by Hindus around the world. Holi marks the beginning of spring and participants often throw brightly coloured powder and scented water at each other. Holi is celebrated today, March 18.

And I am grateful to Mr Titley who delivers our weekly 'Open the Book' assemblies - this week he has been talking to the children about the Last Supper in the build-up to the Easter Story. We can look forward to our Easter Service at All Saints' Church on the last day of term.

We had a busy and heartening Open Morning last Saturday with lots of visitors. Thank you to all the children who guided parents around the school so brilliantly and to those parents who visited - it seems such a long time since parents have been in school. The sun shone and the school looked fabulous with children's work displayed across the school. We continue to be a very popular school, and have 10 more pupils starting next term, and we all know why!



FRIDAY 18TH MARCH
SPRING TERM

Diary dates

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 21 March

4.00pm Y1 Parents' Evening
4.00pm Y2 Parents' Evening

Tues 22 March

Y2 Trip to Warwick Castle
3.45pm Glos Wildlife Quiz Heat
Berky v Greatfield Park
6.00pm Y6 Parents' Evening

Wed 23 March

Kindergarten trip to Crickley Hill
2.30pm U11/U10 Boys' Hockey
v Hatherop (A)
2.30pm U9/U8 Netball
v Wycliffe (A)
2.45pm U11 Netball v RPS (A)
2.45pm U10 Netball v RPS (H)

Thurs 24 March

4.00pm Reception Parents'
Evening
4.15pm Prep Music Recital

Fri 25 March

8.40am Y2 Parents invited
to Prep Assembly and tour
2.30pm U8 Football v King's
Glos (H)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD CONTINUED

We have a very, very busy last two weeks of term with events on each day. They key events for your diaries are:

Monday 21st	Year 1 and 2 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 22nd	Year 2 Trip to Warwick Castle Year 6 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 23rd	Kindergarten Trip to Crickley Hill
Thursday 24th	Prep Music Recital Reception Parents' Evening
Friday 25th	Year 2 Parents invited to Prep Assembly followed by Tour of Prep
Monday 28th	Year 4 and 5 Parents invited to 'Future Schools' Evening
Tuesday 29th	Kindergarten Parents' Evening
Wednesday 30th	Spring Concerts (Years 2 to 6) at Pittville Pump Rooms
Thursday 31st	Early Years Party
Friday 1st	Easter Service (no After-school Clubs on this day)

The comprehensive details of all these events, and the usual fixtures etc will be sent to you in due course.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



Easter Entertainment

Klub Kidz promises to be a really fun Easter rave for children and their parents! It takes place at the Pittville Pump Room on Sunday 17th April at 12pm.

For further information, pick up a leaflet in the Pre-Prep foyer!



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

News from Pre-Prep

It has been yet another busy week for Years 1 and 2 with a wide variety of exciting activities taking place.

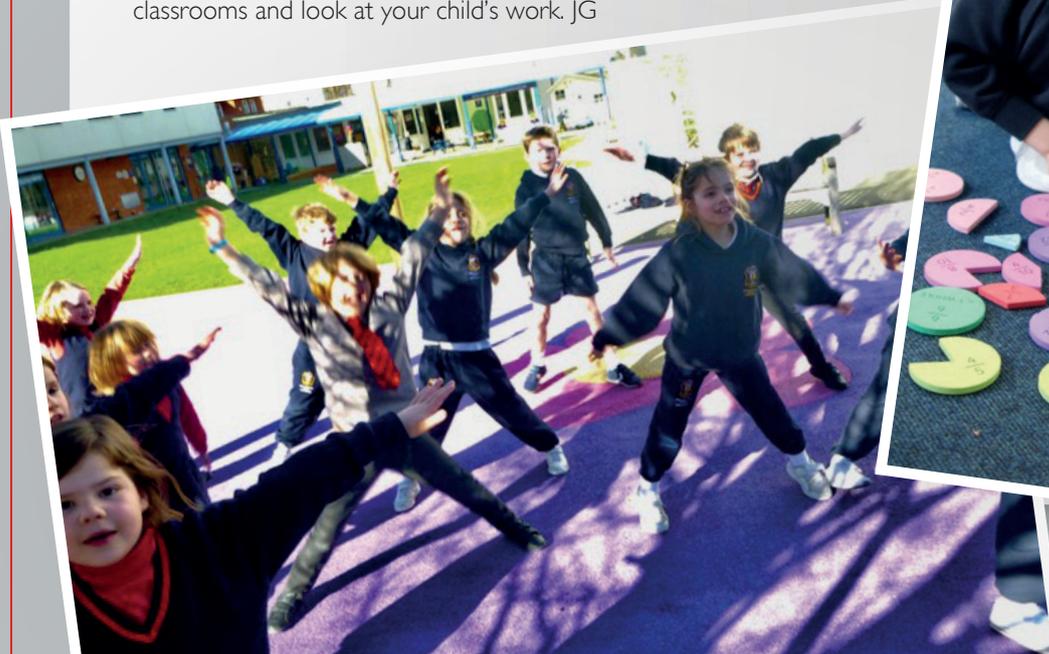
Year 1 have been busy exploring weight this week through lots of practical activities to compare and measure the weight and mass of a variety of different objects. We have discovered how important it is to be accurate when weighing and what balanced means (to the extent of having to find $\frac{1}{2}$ sized cubes!). Year 2's maths this week has started with exploring fractions and how to find a fraction of a whole.

Year 2 have been finding out all about the importance of exercise for their mental and physical health and have been exploring types of exercise that do and don't raise their heart rates.

In English both year groups have been getting creative and writing some poetry. Year 1 have written some wonderful animal poems; they used their knowledge of adjectives, verbs and similes to plan and then write a poem about an African animal of their choice. Year 2 have been exploring rhyme and have also written super poems about animals using rhyming couplets.

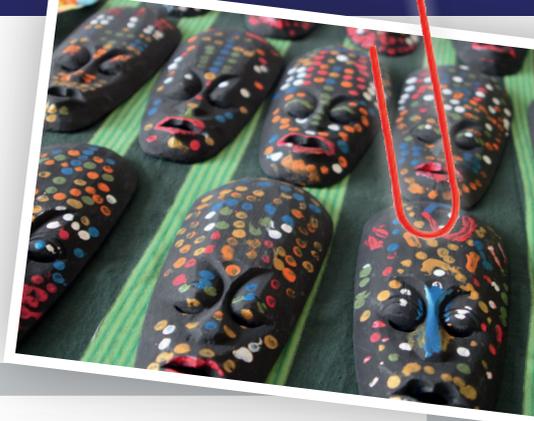
Finally in art, all the children have been busy making some special cards for a certain member of their family and next week in English Year 1 will be thinking about all the wonderful things these recipients of these cards do for us.

Monday 21st March sees the return of face to face parents evenings for Year 1 and 2. We are looking forward to seeing you in person to discuss your child's progress and for you to have the opportunity to see the classrooms and look at your child's work. JG





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



A selection of poems from Pre-Prep

The Rhino

Two grey ears
Two tough horns
One wrinkly tail
Crashing, banging, charging
Slow and strong
Like a triceratops
Like an old man
By Felicity W, Y1

The Lion

Four strong legs
One fat neck
One gold face
Running, jumping, pouncing
Fierce and loud
Like a cat
Big cat of Africa
By Leo D, Y1

I sat on a chair
That was covered in hair.

We saw a bird that had a big black brain
But sadly he went away on a train.

Have any of you seen a snail
In the mail eating a long tiger tail?

In town I saw a bloke
He was wearing a very long cloak.

By Max LG, Y2

The hamster was so cool he went to school.
When he went to school he was so cool.

The tortoise was so good at riding a goat
He got loads of votes

The fish was so good at riding a shark
The fish loved buying his shoes at Clark's.

On my tail
There was a very big snail

In school there was a snail
That would never fail.

By Jacob H, Y2





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Eco news



TOP TIP... FROM A YEAR 6 ECO-WARRIOR

Consider making or buying a bee hotel or a bird feeder for your garden. I have a 'My Little Habitat' kit to encourage wildlife to mine, which includes a bee hotel and bird feeder, as well as a 'Flower Bomb' full of bee friendly seeds.

Visit <https://www.mylittlehabitat.co.uk> for further information



ECO-FRIENDLY TIGHTS

Consider buying eco-friendly tights such as these ones, which are made from recycled plastic bottles and are available from Boots!



SUMMER HOLIDAY MUSIC COURSES

Please visit <https://cotswoldmusic tutors.co.uk/> for some great music courses. There are many varied groups for Wind and Brass players as well as Strings, and they are great fun, especially if attending with a few friends! Places are limited so do sign up early to avoid disappointment.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sports report

FOOTBALL

U9A v Rendcomb & King's, Gloucester

Our last match of the season was away at Gloucester in a double header against Rendcomb and King's, Gloucester in wet and windy conditions and on astro-turf. This wasn't the most ideal way to end our season but once again the boys were up for it. We played Rendcomb first and it was fairly obvious from the outset that both teams would find the conditions difficult, with the ball being extremely difficult to control on the very hard surface. However, both teams played some reasonably good football, Berky had much the better of the play and had several near misses. However, as has been the case on so many occasions this term, when we go searching for that elusive first goal, we inevitably get caught on the counterattack. Rendcomb were able to capitalise on our mistakes running out eventual winners by two goals to nil.

Our second and last match against King's saw the conditions worsen and get the better of both teams, passes were difficult to make and on the hard surface the ball was extremely difficult to control. Despite this the boys never gave up and were unlucky not to score with the eventual result being a well-earned draw. Well done, boys!

U10A v King's, Gloucester

The boys seem to thrive under awful playing conditions. Very wet and inclement weather could not hold the players back against King's and Berkhampstead emerged comfortable 5-0 victors. The match started at a phrenetic pace but, once our lads found their feet, they were able to slow down and enjoy plenty of profitable time on the ball. Will H controlled proceedings with intelligence and skill in the midfield while Seb C and Tom C-G again proved an irresistible partnership in 'the final third' of the paddock. Well played, lads. This was a fabulous game of football and a pleasing end to an enjoyable and encouraging season.

U11 v Wycliffe

The U11 team had a very evenly matched contest against Wycliffe last week. The quality of football was excellent and it was pleasing to see how the boys have improved in terms of keeping possession and working off the ball.

Both sides had their opportunities and had several close attempts but a combination of solid goalkeeping and near misses resulted in a 0-0 draw. Despite the lack of goals it was a very exciting and enjoyable game.

U11 v King's, Gloucester

The U11 boys played their final match of the season in challenging weather conditions against a strong King's side and what a fantastic game it was. The opposition started well, passing the ball with speed and creating problems for us when going forward. However, our back three stuck to their task and the boys in midfield tracked back to shore up the defence. Max was particularly strong in this area. We then created some fine opportunities of our own and went close on a couple of occasions, without crossing the goal line. At half time it was 0-0.

The plan in the second half was to make sure our striker stayed high and we would try to find him with some through balls. This was worked well and after a well structured build up, Ben J got the important goal.

King's then went on the offensive, attacking from all areas. Amazing commitment from the boys and some athletic and brave goalkeeping from Sam kept us in the game, resulting in a 1-0 victory. It was a very exciting game and the boys, muddy, wet and tired were delighted with the result.

Many thanks to our supporters for braving the elements. It was a great end to the season.





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Sports report

NETBALL

U8 v The Richard Pate School

The U8 girls travelled to RPS on a rather wet Friday afternoon. Nevertheless, they performed really well. The girls played in teams of four against four RPS teams in a round robin series of matches. The Berky girls are making good strides in their play. Their marking was tighter and they passed the ball intelligently. The overall results showed that we had the edge over our rivals. Well done to all the girls that played.

