



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



**FRIDAY 21ST JUNE
SUMMER TERM**

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents

The school is teeming with rainforest life today, and the children look fantastic dressed up as exotic rainforest animals and in vibrant colours; the aim is to raise funds and awareness for our school charity, Rainforest Concern. Helen Brown, from the charity, is running a series of workshops for the Prep children, which are covering how plants and animals have adapted to survive in the rainforest whilst also thinking about sustainability and how we can influence rainforest conservation by choosing how and what we buy. This important charity protects rainforest through their acre sponsorship programme: for every £50 raised we can contribute to the purchase of one acre of rainforest, helping to protect in perpetuity these incredible ecosystems and the life they support. For further details, please head to their website: <http://rainforestconcern.org>

What a delight it was to attend Kindergarten's end of year show this week. Our youngest children gave super performances on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings showcasing their French, music making, singing and dancing talents as they retold the story of the 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar.' The children's enthusiasm and enjoyment were palpable in rehearsals, and the final performances were heartwarming displays of their efforts. I was also thrilled to attend Kindergarten's super end of year ballet show on Wednesday; well done to all our young performers, and to Miss Gill and Miss Anstis for choreographing such a delightful show. Thanks too to all the Early Years parents who attended our introductory evening on Monday; it was lovely to chat to so many of you.



DIARY DATES

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 24th June

2:00pm Stay and Play for children due to be in Kindergarten or Reception in September 2024

Tuesday 25th June

9:00 Year 4 History trip to Mary Arden's Farm

6:30pm PTA Meeting
Pre-Prep Hall

Wednesday 26th June

9:00am Reception Class

Assembly - Parents invited

2:15pm U11/10 Boys' Cricket (4 teams) v Richard Pate School (home)

2:30pm U10 Girls' Cricket v Richard Pate School (away)

2:30pm U11 Girls' Cricket v Beaudesert (home)

Thursday 27th June

1:00pm U11 8-a-side Boys' Cricket Cheltenham Knockout Trophy (home)

Berky's Got Talent - PM

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Friday 28th June

Year 5 & 6 RSE Workshop - (morning only)

9:00am Reception & Year 1 Sports Day - Parents invited, Andrews Lawn

11:00am Year 2 Sports Day - Parents invited, Andrews Lawn

11:00am Year 2 Sports Day - Parents invited, Andrews Lawn

Saturday 29th June

PTA Summer Festival



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL CONTINUED

One of the highlights of the year is most certainly the Summer Art Exhibition, and this took place on Wednesday. Once again, the range of work was huge - every child, from Kindergarten to Year 6, had at least one piece of work on show, and there was both two and three-dimensional work; the talent of our pupils was a joy to behold. I was especially pleased to see so many of the children showing their parents round with pride and taking pleasure in others' pieces too. It was a huge success. My thanks to Head of Art, Mrs Hartley for curating her first Berky Summer Art Exhibition, I know, first hand, how much work goes into preparing and displaying work for an exhibition.

Our Year 6 leavers presented a wonderful evening at the Parabola Art Centre at Cheltenham Ladies' College on Thursday. They have many gifts and skills and were all keen to contribute and participate in various ways. The parents were served drinks and canopies by a brilliant Year 6 front of house team whilst others were responsible for stage management and announcing items. Every child had the opportunity to take part in ensembles and we also enjoyed a wide range of solo and duet performances. It was a treat to be provided with another opportunity to hear the whole year group singing "What a Knight!" from their Leavers' Production that they performed last week. This is always a special event and an opportunity to see and hear how well our Year 6 have progressed musically over their time at Berky. An enormous thank you to our music staff, and particularly to Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Sallis, for all their hard work with these children over the years.

I was pleased to hear about the healthy turnout of Year 2 pupils, who headed across the road on Tuesday, for a taste of chess in Prep. Mr Cole's older and more experienced players turned out in force to help their younger counterparts learn the ropes. When Year 2 start their Prep lives in September, they will be able to attend Chess Club weekly; we look forward to seeing how the youngsters' chess play progresses once they are in Prep.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

Michelle Bareham

Michelle Bareham
Head of School



LOST...
Archie Y3 has lost his named zipped sports top. Please can all parents check at home



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS FROM PRE-PREP

Another busy week in the Pre-Prep. Year 1 have been looking at the seasons, days of the week and months of the year. Perhaps their interest has had some impact on the weather and reminded the sun to shine as it is June after all!

The wonderful creativity lurking below the depths has inspired some super research into a range of sea creatures. Year 1 have used iPads and books to create their own fact files ensuring they have showcased their features of non-fiction writing. Having become experts at the creatures below the surface they transferred this knowledge to creating a range of wonderful clay fish.

Meanwhile, apart from their weekly dip into the swimming pool, Year 2 have remained focused on life on dry land. They have been looking at settings ready to write their own warning stories. They have imagined themselves in a forest and thought carefully about the sights and sounds they might come across. The wonderful language they have developed indicates some wonderful warning stories will follow shortly. Year 2 have been enjoying their weekly visit to Prep to experience break in the prep playground as part of their transition to Year 3. They have also started to practise silent reading which they have really enjoyed as part of their readiness for the daily reading slot that happens at 12.30pm in the Prep School. However, the biggest thrill has been keeping a daily check on their class caterpillars and recording any changes as they wait patiently for them to turn into butterflies. GS





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL



BERKY GETS GREENER

This term, the Eco Committee has continued with their focus on air quality, working alongside Hannah Leatherland from Cheltenham Borough Council's 'Care for Our Air' campaign.

World Health Organisation figures show that 91% of the world's children breathe toxic air every day and that 29% of all lung cancer deaths are attributed to air pollution.

The children recognise that to improve the quality of the air around the school grounds, it would be useful to know what the current levels are. Hannah has helped us with this by loaning us 'Monty', the air quality monitor that has been installed on the lamppost outside the main school gates. He is constantly recording the levels of nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter in the air. Monty will stay in place into the school summer holidays so that we will be able to compare data in and out of term time. JH



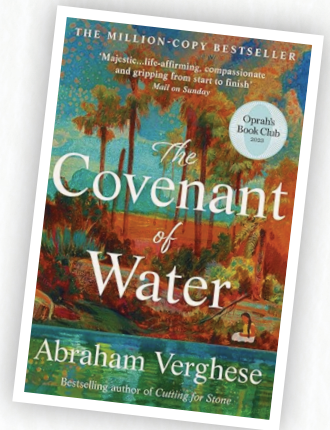
BERKY BOOKS PTA BOOK CLUB

Hi all! Just letting you know the details of the next Book Club meeting:

'The Covenant of Water'
by Abraham Verghese

Sat 20th July at 7:45pm

Please message me, Amy Holley-Cribbin, on WhatsApp if you would like to join the Berky Book Group or find out more: 07806 306802



DANGEROUS PARKING

Unfortunately we have received another email from the same disgruntled neighbour that we mentioned in last week's newsletter: 'The Mercedes is particularly bad - parked on the cross hatches - a high sided vehicle completely obstructing visibility down Hewlett Road, forcing people to have to pull out nearly into the middle of the road to see if they can get out, just really inconsiderate.' Traffic wardens have been spotted this week ticketing badly parked cars; please park safely and with consideration for our neighbours.



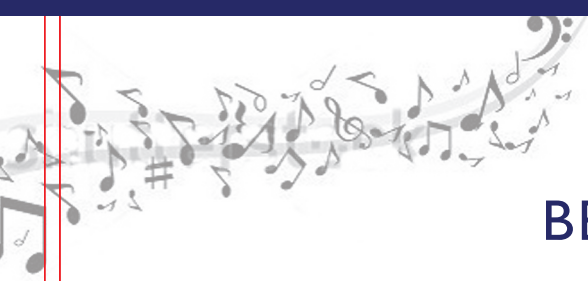
BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Rainforest Concern
Protecting biodiversity
for 30 years

RAINFOREST DAY





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

LEAVERS' RECITAL





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

pta

Summer Festival

BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

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



Summer Festival

SATURDAY 29th JUNE 1PM-4PM

the AMAZING Berky Hamper Raffle!

Buy tickets now!

Nine fantastic hampers to win:

- Summer Sports
- Summer Gardening
- Let's Get Creative
- Day At The Beach
- Family Movie Night
- Garden Games
- Summer Chef
- Picnic In The Park
- Feel Good
- 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!

WE WOULD LOVE DONATIONS OF SOFT TOYS TO FIND NEW HOMES AT THE PTA SUMMER FESTIVAL ON SAT 29TH JUNE. THEY WILL BE LOVINGLY NAMED. READY TO REHOME PLEASE CAN YOU BRING DONATIONS INTO SCHOOL BY MON 24TH JUNE.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

SPORTS REPORTS

CRICKET

U11B v Rendcomb

On a bright afternoon, the Year 6 B team travelled to Rendcomb for a competitive game of cricket. Rendcomb won the toss and chose to bowl. Immediately, the Berky boys were on the attack looking to score quick runs at every opportunity. Throughout the innings, there was a plethora of boundaries and plenty of quick singles were taken resulting in a target of 296 for Rendcomb to win. After performing so strongly with the bat, the bowling stepped up to another level. Freddie opened the bowling, and the team took 4 wickets in his first over. This strong start continued as each bowler produced a range of good balls. This excellent performance in the field restricted the opposition to 261 meaning Berky won comfortably. Throughout the game, all the boys played with excellent sportsmanship whilst consistently giving their best - well done boys! IP

U10/11 v Rendcomb

With 2 overs a pair there was no room to make mistakes in this match. Berky batted first and began to build up a very strong innings. The Rendcomb girls were not confident bowling and Berky benefitted from some wides and no balls. Every pair communicated well with each other and made the most of all the opportunities. Berky secured 131 runs. When fielding, Berky did lack a sense of urgency; however, their bowling was very accurate, and a few people only gave away 1 run during their over. We were able to limit Rendcomb to 90 runs, securing another victory. Well done, ladies! JH

U10A v Dean Close

In glorious sunshine, the U10A team had an enthralling match against Dean Close on Wednesday. The opposition won the toss and elected to bat.

The Berky team produced a superb bowling and fielding performance, taking 9 wickets in total. I was really impressed with the accuracy of the bowling and the tightness of the fielding. Seven different players took wickets with Polly and Flo getting two each and there was a fantastic run out from Toby. We restricted Dean Close to 263.

We batted steadily at the beginning of the innings but were a little behind the run rate until Lucas and Melba came in, making some fine shots and running well between the wickets. This put us in a good position coming into the last 4 overs. Some great batting by Jack edged us closer to the total but then some fine bowling by Dean Close pegged us back. It came down to the last ball with 4 needed to tie the scores. There was much tension on and off the field. Unfortunately an excellent delivery saw us just miss out - but what a game!

I was delighted with our performance. We worked well together, showed good skills and played some great cricket. Well done to all of the team and many thanks to our supporters. P McC

U10 v Dean Close

A perfect afternoon for cricket and in beautiful surroundings! We fielded mixed teams with boys and girls, which was great to see. Angus (our captain) won the toss and elected to field first so that we would know our target to chase down. Playing four overs a pair ensured all children were able to bowl on several occasions and rotate round the fielding positions. Our bowling, overall, was good and very few wides or no balls were given. The fielding began strongly with two run outs, within the first over. Dean Close ended with 105 runs. Our first batting pair were strong with clear communication and some sneaky runs. Some of our quieter pairs realised that they need to develop their communication skills and grab more of those sneaky runs rather than just watching the ball showing indecision. With the last pair coming onto the field, it looked like Dean Close were going to secure a close victory. However, the pair threw caution to the wind and took advantage of any ball. The final ball of the match - it was anyone's game... The pair played with their heads and batted defensively to ensure there were no mistakes. Berky finished with 107 runs. Berky secured a narrow victory in a thoroughly enjoyable match. Well done to one and all and once again thank you for the strong parental support. JH

U9A v Ashley Manor

In our fourth match of the season and still unbeaten, Berky faced its toughest test yet against Ashley Manor. Having lost to them at both rugby and football the boys were certainly not going to allow a clean sweep of victories without putting up a fight. We lost the toss for the third time in a row and were put into bat. Ashley's bowling was as expected, accurate and at times hostile! Despite a good opening stand of 26 by George H and Arthur, Max, Teddy, Jacob and Ellis faced the quickest bowling and we lost a number of wickets in the middle order before George L, Seth, Dion and George H steered us towards a respectable score of 74 for 9, a decent enough target for our bowlers to aim at. Our bowling was sublime, a mixture of fast and medium pace, bowled accurately giving away very few wides and no balls and starving Ashley Manor of runs. Our fielding was almost as faultless and after the first nine overs we'd taken 6 wickets and reduced Ashley Manor to just 14 runs. Six further wickets were taken in the next six overs and the last ball of the match just about summed up our afternoon's performance with another brilliant catch by

Max on the boundary. Well done to all the boys for a superb team effort!
Won by 49 runs. SM

U9B v Ashley Manor

Last Friday the U9B played an entertaining match against Ashley Manor.

Our opponents batted first, making a total of 247 for the loss of 4 wickets. Our bowling was steady for the most part. We took 4 wickets and fielded well. Olly took 2, with Eddie S, Quinn and Rowan taking the others.

It was in the second half of the match that the Berky team really came to life. Every player scored runs which was fantastic. Our top scorers were Rowan with 26 and Eddie S with 23. We finished on a total of 324, having lost only 3 wickets.

An excellent win. Well done to all of the team!
P McC

