



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



**FRIDAY 22ND MARCH  
SPRING TERM**

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents

One of the highlights of the Berky year has to be the Spring Concerts, this year - due to renovations at the Pittville Pump Rooms - held at Cheltenham Town Hall. Years 2 to 6 came together on Wednesday, and we were treated to an afternoon and evening of remarkable performances across the musical spectrum. The quality of the singing and playing, behaviour and demeanour the children was a pleasure to behold - congratulations to all of you! My enormous thanks to our dedicated and extraordinarily talented peripatetic music team who inspire the children to great heights with their composing, conducting and expert tuition. Thank you to the rest of my superb team; coordinating and organising the children, instruments, transport and equipment is no mean feat. And an especially big thanks to our dynamic and brilliant Heads of Music, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Sallis.

Happily, Berky music continued this week, with our Spring Term Recital after school on Thursday. Postponed due to the sickness bug, finally we were able to enjoy performances from 24 of our Prep School musicians, this time in a more intimate setting in the Prep hall. Plucky pupils performed to an audience of appreciative parents and staff, and some of the children have only this year started learning their instruments, yet were confident to show what they had learnt so far. There were many beautiful performances from percussionists, brass, wind and string players. Year 1 also trod the boards this week with their super assembly about space. Their presentation was packed full with facts, figures and creativity, showcasing plenty of what they have learnt this term. Well done to all our performers.

## DIARY DATES

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Monday 25th March

4:00pm - 6:30pm Year 1 and Year 2 Online Parents' Evenings

#### Tuesday 26th March

2:30pm Easter Service at All Saints' Church, Reception to Year 6, Parents invited  
3:30pm Term ends, Reception to Year 6, pick up from All Saints' Church. Kindergarten pick up from school

### SUMMER TERM

#### Monday 15th April

Summer Term begins  
The Code Show - Years 1-6

#### Wednesday 17th April

Midlands Air Ambulance assemblies  
Year 3 trip to St Michael's Church

#### Thursday 18th April

Kindergarten Trip to Crickley Hill

#### Friday 19th April

2:00pm Early Years Parents' Afternoon Tea







# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL CONTINUED

It was super to see so many Pre-Prep parents and grandparents at Tuesday's 'Book Look.' Our Year 1 and 2 children proudly showed off their work - it really was a lovely occasion; thank you to everyone who attended the event.

I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge our Year 6 cohort, which over the last few months, has been taking the grammar school test and entrance exams to senior independent school. It is important to us that every child goes to the senior school that is best for them, whether it is a state academy, grammar school or independent school, and we prepare them accordingly. Out of a year group of 31 children, so far our Year 6 leavers have been awarded 15 scholarships - including academic, drama, music and sports - and 79% of the year who took the test have been offered grammar school places. We pride ourselves on our excellent results, but recognise that these are only a part of the depth and breadth of what pupils achieve here, and I am proud of each and every one of our Year 6 pupils. Our aim is to enthuse children with a love of learning and the desire to make the very most of their abilities, interests and opportunities. Well done to you all.

Thank you to our two student teachers, Miss Jolliiffe - who has been in Reception - and Miss Marsh who has spent the term in Year 1. Both have been brilliant, and I wish them the very best of luck for the future.

Our Easter Service at All Saints' Church takes place on Tuesday. It is so important for us to gather as a community, and I shall enjoy seeing the younger children lead the service.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a very happy and restful Easter break. After a term packed with so many events, there are many tired - but happy - individuals around the place - staff and children alike. May I remind you that the Summer Term begins on Monday 15th April and that summer uniform may be worn from this date should the weather be kind enough.

*Michelle Bareham*

Michelle Bareham  
Head of School







# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

### QUIZ NEWS

Congratulations to our quiz team, who have qualified for the National Quiz final, which takes place in the Summer Term. Well done, too, to a Year 6 quiz team who came third in a Cheltenham Primary Schools' Quiz hosted by the Rotary Club on Wednesday.



### ECO NEWS

Well done to these Year 6 girls, who litter picked on their way to school earlier this week.



## PTA NEWS

### CAKE AT BREAK

Thank you to the parents of Years 2 and 4 children, who have baked a truly fabulous array of Easter treats for this half term's Cake at Break event!







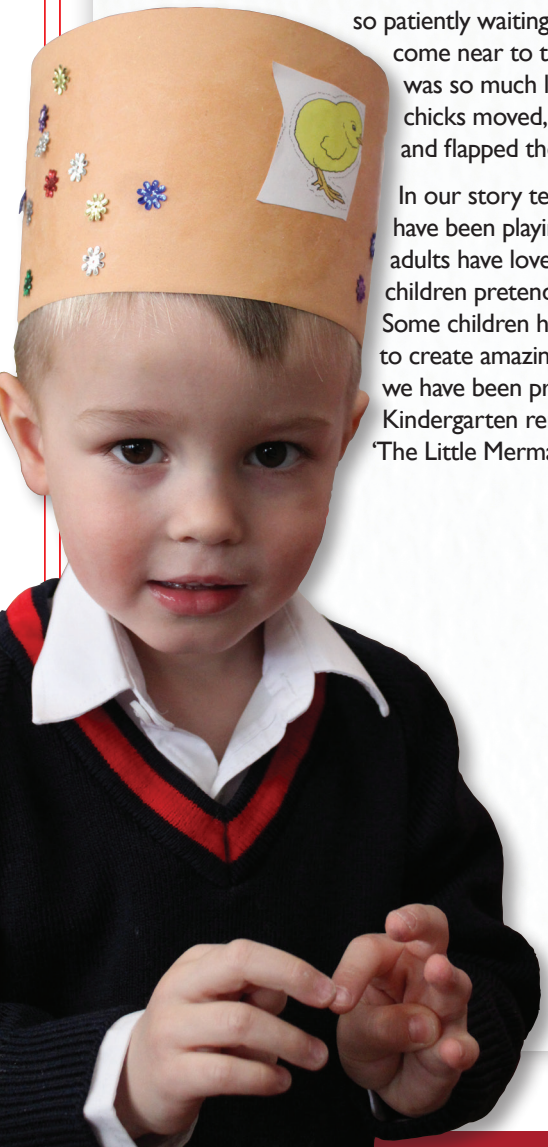
# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten has been a frenzy of all things Easter this week; we have made Easter crafts, making repeating patterns using Easter eggs, hiding pom poms in plastic eggs to develop our fine motor skills, and learning about floating and sinking using toy eggs in the water tray. We have been counting eggs using Numicon to help. Numicon is a multi-sensory way of learning about and understanding numbers, holes in the Numicon represent numbers to 10, when arranged in order children can easily make connections between numbers.

The chicks have grown so much, we have loved watching them change and develop. They are now ready to move on to their new homes, and we have secured homes with Berkhampstead families. There was great excitement throughout the week as during our Circle Time the chicks have been allowed to roam free. The children sat so patiently waiting for the chicks to come near to them and then there was so much laughter when the chicks moved, pecked the floor, and flapped their wings.

In our story telling area the children have been playing 'teachers'; all the adults have loved listening to the children pretending to be one of us. Some children have loved dressing up to create amazing imaginative stories; we have been privileged to watch a Kindergarten rendition of 'The Little Mermaid' and 'Frozen.' MM



  
BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL  
EARLY YEARS  
VALUES TREE

### THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Philippa C, Hugo H  
Edna Bear: Posey L







# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## NEWS FROM RECEPTION

As we head towards the end of term, the Reception children are noticing more evidence that spring is well and truly here. Our bulbs, planted in February, have shot up, buds are appearing on the trees, our tadpoles have become froglets and our fluffy little chicks now have feathers!

We have been working incredibly hard with our phonics, reading and writing and the children are confidently attempting to write sentences about our gorgeous chicks, including a 'That's Not My Chick' class book! In maths, we have loved exploring 3D shapes, talking about their properties and we have been on a shape hunt around school – what a lot of cylinders on the playground!

We have been reading the Easter story and the children have talked sensitively about how this story makes them feel and about how the symbols of Easter link to Easter eggs and new life.

We have had a wonderful term with our brilliant student teacher Miss Tia Jolliiffe, who finishes her placement with us today. We wish her all the best as she goes on to complete her PGCE and we just know she is going to be a wonderful class teacher in the future. Z M-S



### THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Freya C, Matthew G, Kit M, Charlie R  
Edna Bear: Lucy H and Kit T







# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## SPRING CONCERT







# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## SPORTS REPORTS

### HOCKEY

U11/10 v Rendcomb  
Won 4-2

In their first and only hockey match of the season, the boys played an away fixture against a similarly inexperienced U11/10s from Rendcomb. Sixteen of the boys who attend a hockey activity session on a Tuesday lunchtime were put into two squads. With many of the boys new to hockey, there was considerable excitement about how they would fare against the opposition. The A's started out well and camped out for large periods of the first half in the Rendcomb end but were often thwarted by a seven-man defence which held fast for the first 15 minutes until we finally scored. In the second half it was much of the same, an early goal put us 2-0 up but Rendcomb always looked dangerous in attack and pulled a goal back. The As kept up the pressure and scored two further goals, with the end result never in doubt. It was good to see some accurate passing moves to both the left and right hand side and some encouraging possession play when in defence. Well done boys! SM

### FOOTBALL

U9A v King's, Gloucester

In their last home game of the season, Berky played KGS in dry, blustery conditions. Despite going 1-0 up within the first 5 minutes with a well taken goal, we couldn't quite string our passes together. We looked a different side to the one that played so well in the early part of the season. However, we created a number of chances throughout the game but never quite looked sharp enough to make good use of our attacking opportunities. Two further goals were scored and despite a last-minute goal effort from the opposition the result never seemed in doubt. Well done boys for a good result and an excellent season. Won 3-0. SM

