



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

**FRIDAY 26TH APRIL  
SUMMER TERM**

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents

My assemblies this week considered Earth Day. Earth Day is an important annual event that takes place on April 22nd, and its aim is to highlight the urgency for environmental protection. Having shown the children a film about this special day, which explained why it is vital to care for the planet, I praised our own eco-committee for the green improvements they have initiated in school. Recycling has increased, for instance, the conscientious team have encouraged active modes of commuting to and from school and they regularly litter pick. I stressed that we are all responsible for caring for the planet, praised the children who have achieved their Berky Eco Pledge badge and those who attend Year 3 Gardening Club. We also celebrated the pupils who have been made eco-warriors for this term; congratulations to Arlo R (3C), George R (3M), Eddie H (4T), Eddie S (4P) Charlie F (5B) and Leo C (5K). The Year 6 leaders - Mollie R and Jack F - remain in charge of the team for the whole year. Please continue to send in your empty medicine blister packets, crisp packets and used batteries to school, and encourage your children to take part in the Berky Eco Pledge. There is one for the Prep and a simplified version for the Pre-Prep children; head to the website for further information: [www.berkhampsteadschool.co.uk/school-life/berky-gets-greener.php](http://www.berkhampsteadschool.co.uk/school-life/berky-gets-greener.php)

Year 6's Detective Project Workshop on Wednesday proved to be another fantastic and enriching learning experience for our pupils. Our oldest children enjoyed a morning of playing detective and participating in exciting hands-on forensics investigation. The children explored the science of finger printing and chromatography, all the time developing science skills already picked up in their lessons, and learning how science is used in real life situations. To end the morning, the pupils were presented with a crime scene and had to explain what happened by investigating a variety of clues on a body such as a mobile phone, invitation to a party and jelly baby in the mouth. Judging by Mr Morphew's reports of the day, I am quite sure the visit has inspired a bunch of future detectives!



## DIARY DATES

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Saturday 27th April

10:00am Berky Chess Congress  
- (arrive at 9:45am)

#### Monday 29th April

Bags 2 School Collection -  
(All bags to be delivered to  
front of Pre-Prep by 9am)

#### Wednesday 1st May

8:30am Visiting Head Assembly-  
Mr Burke, Balcarras School,  
(Parents invited)

2:15pm U10 Girls' Cricket  
v Ashley Manor (away)

2:15pm U11/10 Boys' Cricket

v Ashley Manor (4 teams home)

2.15pm U11 Girls' Cricket v The  
Richard Pate School (away)

#### Monday 6th May

Bank Holiday, School Closed



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL CONTINUED

I was pleased to welcome Mr Salisbury from Dean Close Senior School to school this morning. He delivered a thought-provoking assembly inspired by BBC's 'The Assembly,' in which actor Michael Sheen faced an interview by a group of autistic, neurodivergent and learning disabled people. Mr Salisbury - who was most interested in the children's opinions about the clip he showed - stayed for a coffee and chat with parents afterwards. Next Wednesday, I look forward to Mr Burke's visit. Mr Burke is the head of Balcarras School; parents are very welcome to attend.

An exciting date in the chess calendar, the annual Berky Chess Congress is taking place tomorrow. Part of the Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge, 44 children from Years 3 - 6 have signed up to pit their wits and outsmart their opponents. There will be prizes galore, including trophies awarded to the winners of the Lower School (Years 2 - 4) and Upper School (Years 5 and 6) tournaments. I am very much looking forward to it; my thanks to Mr Cole for organising the event and his continued dedication to chess at Berky. Good luck to all those taking part.

Wishing everyone a very happy weekend; I hope to see plenty of you at this evening's discos.

*Michelle Bareham*

Michelle Bareham  
Head of School





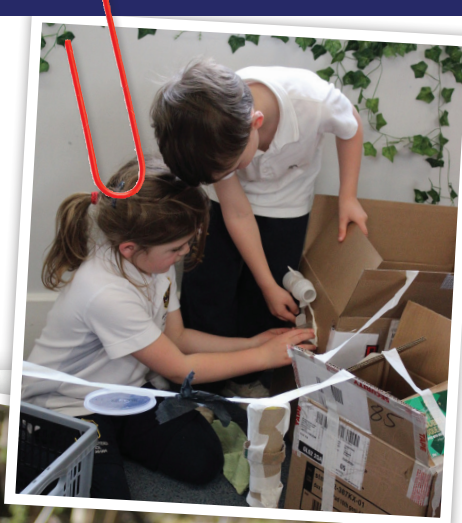
# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN

Our trip to Crickley Hill was amazing! It started with the children's excitement of travelling on the school's minibuses. On arrival, we sat on logs at base camp, and our group leader for the day, Claire read a story about minibeasts having a party. The children then went off to explore the enclosed woodland. The activities included an investigation of materials and a minibeast hunt; the children looked under logs and tree stumps to find a variety of creatures and collected moss, sticks, bark, and leaves which were all transported to a large tray for the minibeasts to have their party. The children could also create their own music for the party through rustling leaves or tapping sticks.

In Kindergarten this week we have been listening to different versions of the story 'The Three Little Pigs'.

We have set up a variety of activities for the children; they have been problem solving and team building through building houses with straw, sticks and bricks and showing great imagination when acting out the story with props, books, and pictures, plus creating some super collages of the wolf and the pigs. Our maths focus this week has been capacity, the children have using words such as full and empty when pouring tea for the Three Little Pigs. MM



BERKHAMPSTEAD  
SCHOOL  
EARLY YEARS  
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Gethan C, Lola M





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## NEWS FROM RECEPTION



The Reception children are fully embracing their new topic of 'Alive or Extinct?' wowing us with their knowledge of dinosaurs (and challenging the teachers with the spelling and pronunciation of many of them!). As part of our art, we have been creating junk model sculptures of dinosaurs, including a collaborative class piece using mixed media. James Mayhew's lovely story 'Katie and the Dinosaurs' has been our focus text this week with the children imagining what it would be like to step from a museum into a prehistoric land!

Our Understanding of the World sessions have focused on the inspirational life of Mary Anning and the children have loved sharing their own experiences of fossil hunting. Next week we will be creating fact files about Mary and continuing to find out the ground-breaking discoveries she made on Lyme Regis Beach as a young adult.

In mathematics, we have explored number patterns, playing lots of games and looking at numbers to 20 and beyond. The children impressed us with their reasoning and ability to spot patterns. In phonics we have continued to look at past tense suffixes to root words while consolidating our previously learnt sounds and harder to read and spell words. Z M-S & JG



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL  
EARLY YEARS  
VALUES TREE

### THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Joshua S, Amber W,  
Sam E, Fraser M  
Berky Bear: Rory P, India L





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## PTA NEWS

### BAGS 2 SCHOOL MONDAY 29TH APRIL

Please bag up your unwanted clothes, bags, shoes (tied together), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to [bag2school.com](http://bag2school.com) for full details).

Bags to be delivered to the front of Pre-Prep by 9:00am.

All funds raised go to the PTA.

### UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES

Thursday 3.15 - 4pm

Friday 8.15 - 9am

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

### MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

Tuesday 28th - Friday 31st May

3-8 year olds are welcome to join Miss Wootton and her team for plenty of Space-themed fun! The exciting activities on offer will include making rockets, planets, lava lamps and space slime, and the children will also have the opportunity to play with moon sand and paint galaxies! The cost of the day is £47.50, to book, please visit **Magic Booking**: [berkhampstead.magicbooking.co.uk](http://berkhampstead.magicbooking.co.uk)



### BERKY ACTION GROUP

Gloucestershire Bundles is a charity that provides emergency packs of toiletries, clothing and equipment to pregnant women and families with children up to the age of 16, who find themselves in crisis situations.

The charity is holding a clothing donation event this Sunday, from 10-12pm, and will be opening up their unit: Unit 2, Whitworth Court, Baird Road, Waterwells, Gloucester, GL2 2DG) For further details of what they are particularly looking for, please head to their Instagram feed: [www.instagram.com/p/C6B8bXtop4P/?igsh=MW9tcnNjNm9hNWRmMQ==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C6B8bXtop4P/?igsh=MW9tcnNjNm9hNWRmMQ==)

### PLEASE NOTE

Parents, please supervise your younger children whilst waiting to collect Prep children. Children should not be playing on the Prep trim trail, as it is unsupervised at this time of day.

### CONNECT WITH US

For further insight into your child's day at Berky, please follow us on Social Media. We would be really grateful if you could share stories too. Here are our Social Media handles:

Instagram: [berkhampstead\\_school](https://www.instagram.com/berkhampstead_school)  
berky\_head  
X(formally Twitter): [BerkyCheltenham](https://twitter.com/BerkyCheltenham)





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## SPORTS REPORTS

### CRICKET BOY'S & GIRL'S

Two teams travelled to Beadesert - predominantly Y5, with four Y6 girls.

#### U10/11 v Beadesert

The team of eight girls 'bowled me over', pardon the pun, with their attitude and ability. Beadesert is always an excellent fixture as the girls' cricketing abilities are strong. However, our girls were certainly a match for them and proved to be a formidable opposition. Berky won the toss, Polly, our captain, wisely chose to field. Our bowling was accurate and full of pace - we gained six wickets and another two from some excellent catches. Very little was given away with wides or no balls. Our fielding was tight, Beadesert were not able to score any 4's. Beadesert finished on 207. The Berky pairs were committed to their batting, communicating clearly and not taking risky runs. We even managed a few 4s and even a 6 from Eva! Berky finished on 254. It was a super start to the season - the girls played well but also were humble in their win, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship. Well done ladies, I am so proud of you all! JH

#### U10/11 v Beadesert

The team of nine played well. It was a strong start to the season, with some great bowling. The girls deserved their draw and worked hard together as a team. They now need to take more calculated risks with the runs; but this will come with more experience. Well done girls - a great start to the season! JH

#### U9B v Dean Close

Berkhampstead won by 74 runs

A heady brew of keen fielding, aggressive batting and accurate bowling saw Berky home in a very watchable cricket match. Dean Close batted first. Ollie S bowled an opponent with the very first ball of the innings which set the scene for an impressive display from the whole team. Eddie S, Hermione H, Isabella B and Milo R all picked up wickets but Dion W's beautiful line and length (claiming a brace of wickets along the way) really caught the eye. The Berky players restricted their opponents to a below par 198. In reply Berkhampstead scored 272. Some hard hitting from Dion, Eddie, Ollie and Iris saw the boundary peppered with fours and sixes. Anna H, Isabella, Hermione and Milo supported their partners well. A good win. Well played. MC



U11 Cricket practice