



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



FRIDAY 27TH MAY
SUMMER TERM

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

How lovely to have a little sunshine this week particularly with the various trips! We have hurtled through another event-packed half term and approached the break at a gallop - it's been another extraordinarily busy week.

Years 1 and 2 travelled to Bristol Aquarium where they learnt much about life underwater. They came back very excited and have been telling me they had seen so many wonderful aquatic creatures, including sharks, rays, seahorses and puffer fish. This term's topic, Oceans, certainly has captured their imaginations and it has engaged across so many of their academic lessons.

The weather looks good for our Year 6 on their activity residential at Viney Hill. It does make such a difference to their enjoyment, particularly of the water sports. I visited them yesterday and witnessed their 'can-do' attitude, teamwork and the sheer enjoyment of spending quality time together. There will be tired children and soggy clothing no doubt later today... but along with that, some wonderful memories of time spent with school friends.

We enjoyed a wonderful recital this week with pupils from Years 2-5 performing a wide selection of pieces including Melba F on the cornet, Barnaby K on the cello, Alastair M on the piano and Victor B on the saxophone.

Yesterday saw our Music Taster session where the pupils from Year 2 to 4 - with their parents - had the opportunity to blow, bash, bow or pluck to see what sounds they can make and decide what might suit them next year. Well over 90% of prep children take up at least one instrument - it's in the DNA of the school to do so - and they get a huge amount of enjoyment out of playing together in ensembles and bands.

As you can see, there's been such a lot to enjoy.

As I write, the preparations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic, blessed with some sunny weather, are underway. For the first time our annual summer picnic will include parents, alongside all the children. The year groups will be mixed with Reception through to Year 5 joining together for fun and games - it is always lovely to see the youngest and oldest enjoying time together - all with the Berky spirit of having a go. Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Sallis have been rehearsing some wonderful community songs too - with a special composition especially for the Jubilee.

A great end to half term - and hope you all have a good break next week and enjoy the long Bank Holiday Jubilee weekend too.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster



Diary dates

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 6th June

Y3 Trip to Bristol Zoo

Weds 8th June

10.00am U11/U10 Girls' Cricket Tournament (A)

2.30pm U11/U10 Mixed Cricket v Cricklade Manor, 3 teams (A)

2.30pm U11/U10 mixed Cricket v Cricklade Manor, 2 teams (H)

3.45pm - 6pm Whole School Art Exhibition

Thurs 9th June

Y4 Trip to the Science Festival

2.30pm Kindergarten to Reception Transition

2.30pm New to Kindergarten Session

Fri 10th June

8.30am Visiting Head's Assembly - Mr Morton, King's, Gloucester

2.30pm U9 Girls' Cricket v Richard Pate School (A)

2.30pm U9 A & B Boys' Cricket v Richard Pate School (H)

2.30pm U8 Girls' Cricket v King's, Gloucester (A)

Sat 11th June

PTA Ball



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from Early Years

KINDERGARTEN

What an exciting end to a very busy half term in Kindergarten! On Thursday, the children took part in the adventures of Andrew Bear. He was a little cheeky and led us on a merry dance around the school where he was hiding with a riddle for us to solve:

I am something that's frozen

Which you might choose to eat

I'm sometimes sold from a van

The van plays music when it moves

Our brilliant children solved this quickly and enjoyed some delicious ice creams.

Throughout the week we have been reading the story 'The Rainbow Fish' by Marcus Pfister, a story about a fish who learns that it is better to share, be kind and in turn you feel happier and gain friendships. Afterwards the children discussed their favourite parts of the story. This is how Elsa describes the story: 'She felt happy, because she was kind and shared her beautiful scales. Happy is smiling, I like happy'.

On Tuesday, the children studied a seabass by looking at its scales, talking about its smell and how it felt to touch. Most of our children were interested in touching or holding the fish; they described it as, 'sticky', 'slimy', 'glittery', 'soft', 'stinky', and 'disgusting'.

Today we joined the school to celebrate The Queen's Jubilee. The children looked the part in their red, white, and blue clothes and royal crowns made that morning. On the MUGA we played traditional games such as, Ring a Ring o' Roses, pass the ball over your head and between your legs, egg and spoon races and Pass the Parcel. After playing so hard, the children were ready for their delicious lunch at the Berky street party. MM




BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Kindergarten: Alya A, Alba H, Arabella I, Ruby H, Esme W, Sophie B, Ben C, Alfie Mc





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from Early Years

RECEPTION

The children continue to enjoy their topic 'Around Great Britain with Berky Bear.'

In Reception we follow an active curriculum and are keen to encourage the children to explore their immediate surroundings. With this in mind, we went on a walk to explore the area around school. We were keen to glean a better understanding of where we live, and to explore the changes from Spring to Summer. The children identified many features on their walk, for example, different types of houses, road features, signs and shops.

Whilst the children were exploring their local area, Berky Bear was traveling to the Island of Struay in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland to stay with Katie Morag. The children listened to Katie Morag's stories and decided to write a postcard to Berky Bear to tell him all about the island so he would be able to use the information

to explore his surroundings. The postcards were very informative, and Berky Bear is now looking forward to visiting all the attractions on the island!

After reading about the Island of Struay, the children experimented with using a range of several different sized and shaped brushes, to create a seaside landscape in watercolour.

They created some fantastic seaside landscapes, and all were most individual!

We hope you have a lovely holiday and see you soon ready for the last term in Reception!
HRW



THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Reception: Sophie H, Arabella G, Flynn J, Rupert R, Kitty L, Finley S





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Parking

Please can parents be careful not to obstruct pavement crossing points outside school, as this makes it unsafe for parents crossing the road with pushchairs and young children.

Thank you!

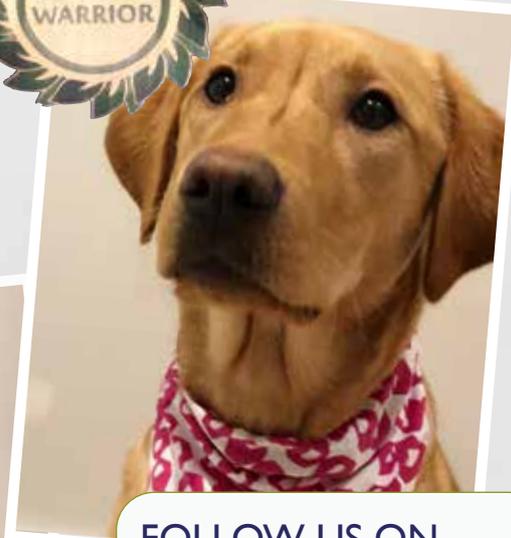
Eco news



BERKY ECO PLEDGE

Congratulations to this green-living Year 5 pupil who was awarded her Berky Gets Greener Eco-Warrior badge in assembly this week.

Her eco habits are plentiful, and include recycling, reusing, and making a conscious effort to be less materialistic. For instance, she has been making her own gifts - such as elderflower cordial - and is also making doggy bandanas from recycled material, to be sold in aid of the Cheltenham Animal Shelter. Spreading the eco word on her Mum-managed Instagram account is also important to her. (@ajgibutterfly) Well done from everyone at Berky!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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](#)
- Facebook:** [Berkhampstead](#)
- Twitter:** [BerkyCheltenham](#)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from around The school

JUBILEE GARDEN

Mrs Bareham asked the Prep children to suggest names for our new Prep-side wellbeing/eco garden, and then to vote for their favourite one from the shortlist of lovely, imaginative names. We also asked for everyone's opinion on Instagram. The results are as follows:

1st place Jubilee Garden

- 2nd place Berky Meadow
- 3rd place Insect Manor
- 4th place Friendship Garden

PARKING

We have had complaints about the following cars:
WN71 LKE and **BK08 EYB**
Please can all parents park considerately.

KINDNESS CUP

Congratulations to Carly H (5B) and Milo R (2S) who are the latest recipients of the Kindness Cups. Here they are being presented with them by the previous recipients. Well done to all these exemplary children!



MUSIC TASTER AFTERNOON

Yesterday we held this annual event for Y2, Y3 and Y4 with parents attending and children allowed to try out every instrument for the first time in 3 years! Each of our wonderful peripatetic music teachers performed, along with some Y3 players, Melba F, Jacob D, Evie W, Charlotte H and Jasper W, who demonstrated their skills beautifully. Then it was time for the children to try out any instruments to see which they might like to learn or just try out for fun. During the next 40 minutes there were 150 try-outs with many children excitedly exploring different instruments. Application letters for lessons starting in September will be sent out after half term.

SUMMER RECITAL

Thirty instrumentalists from Y2 - Y5 gave beautiful performances at the Summer Recital this week. We heard a wide variety of different instruments: violin, cello, piano, cornet, french horn, trombone, clarinet, saxophone, flute and drum kit with many players having only started learning this year. All of them played confidently and with composure and the audience gave a warm response. It is always delightful to have more experienced players showing their skills, especially as it gives the beginners something to aspire to. Several Y5 pupils performed very expressively, with one group of boys dashing in from their win in the Rendcomb away cricket matches just in time to perform the final items.

Congratulations to every single performer for their preparation and presentation.

What a lovely concert!

MUSIC EXAMS

We are still waiting for confirmation of appointments at Dean Close Prep School and I will let you know these as soon as possible.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

PTA NEWS...



NEWS FROM THE PTA

We hope everyone has enjoyed the Jubilee afternoon at school today and the children enjoy their token Jubilee Gifts Bags. It really is lovely to have everyone together at a school event again and a great way to start half term!

We have two great events coming up after half term, the Summer Ball, thank you to all those that have booked tickets, it's shaping up to be a wonderful evening and of course the return of the Summer Fayre!

After a long break due to Covid, we are super excited to be able to once again host the Summer Fayre this year on **Saturday 25th June 11am – 2pm**. The Summer Fayre is always a great opportunity for the whole school community to come together towards the end of term and have time to socialise, children have fun and celebrate being a wonderful school, whilst raising some funds for the benefit of all our children.

We have set out the stalls and hampers for each year group and sent the information to the class reps, who will be in touch shortly with their year groups. One stand that is likely to need donations is the Adopt a Teddy stand (Year 3). If you have good quality teddies you no longer need, please do drop them off at the school reception marked for the attention of Charlotte Kidner.

There will be an array of stands from each year group, year 6 children, Mrs Agg's plant stand will be in attendance again, as well as a few external stands. Refreshments will be available for purchase and we will have Tug of War on the MUGA plus other activities and entertainment, including a raffle for the wonderful Hampers provided by each year group.

We do hope you are able to join us on the day and finish the year with a lovely Berky Community Event.

Warm wishes,

Joey

Joey
pta@berkhampsteadschool.co.uk





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Year 6 at Viney Hill





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Cricket reports...

BOYS' CRICKET

U8 Bisons v King's, Gloucester

The Bisons played their first cricket match of the season on Friday. King's, Gloucester went into bat first and scored 268 runs (the scoring at this age starts at 200). Although the King's boys did manage to make a few runs of their own, most of their runs came from the Bisons' bowling no balls or wides (2 runs given each time).

When the Bisons went into bat a similar thing happened. We managed to get a few runs but most of our score did come from King's bowling mistakes.

It was an even match, and the boys played well. Special mention should go to Lucas as he managed to hit a couple of fours and take a wicket. Practice must now be given mostly to bowling. Any practice in the garden or in the local playing fields would be much appreciated. The match ended in a tie: 268-268.

U9A v King's, Gloucester

What a difference a week makes! We struggled as a year group to win a football game last term and in just the space of seven days, both the As and the Bs have won three games on the trot. Our third encounter of the season was against King's at home. We lost the toss and were put into bat with Ted and George making a confident start. Ted hit the first three balls for 6 and the partnership made an excellent opening stand of 36. Another 31 were scored by Sid and Ben S; this was added to by 27 from Dylan and Zac. A superb finishing flourish came from Wilf and Alistair who both hit 4s and 6s to every corner of the ground contributing to a huge score of 46 in the final 3 overs of their innings; Berky finished on 140 for 1. Our bowling attack was strong; despite a nasty headwind we took 5 wickets and restricted King's score to just 46. Good catches were taken by Zac and Ted and it was an impressive team performance.

Well done, boys!

U9A v Beaudesert

Beaudesert won the toss and asked Berky to bat first. Boundaries from Ted L and Ben R kept the scoreboard ticking along nicely but six lusty blows and a resultant six boundaries from Wilf M at the death really propelled the home team's score to a very respectable 265. Careful and skilful bowling from Berkhamstead during the Beaudesert innings kept their opponents pegged back. Tom R bowled an immaculate maiden over - one for the purists - while Ted and Wilf took useful wickets (the latter a well-taken catch by Ted). All the lads contributed in some way or other to a fine and comfortable victory.

Berkhamstead 265-Beaudesert 242-
Berkhamstead win by 23 runs.

