



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents

One of the loveliest occasions of my week took place on Wednesday when I joined the Kindergarten children and staff, Mr Cross and Mrs Meredith-Smyth to make and eat honey sandwiches for their teddy bears' picnic. I was so impressed with the children's squeezing, spreading and cutting skills, not to mention their shape recognition (the children were asked to decide on the shape of their sandwich). More from Mrs Main later in the newsletter.

I was delighted to be able to appoint all the Year 6 pupils as monitors, as well as the Year 6 House Captains, School Council and Eco-Warrior Leaders and Form Representatives in recent assemblies. Year 6 children who wanted to be considered for the posts of House Captains, School Council leaders or Eco-Warrior leaders submitted application letters which were read by all the staff who then voted for the people they considered best suited to the roles - always a tough decision. (The Year 6 children were also given a vote for those they considered would make the best House Captains.) Congratulations to Freddie L - House Captain for St Andrew's, George E - St David's, Sidney R - St George's and Eva H - St Patrick's. I am sure they will do a great job of leading their Houses and marshalling the troops for the many House events ahead as well as giving the much-needed support for younger children. A second House Captain for each house will be appointed at the end of term; there will be therefore another opportunity for Year 6 to apply for the role at this point.

The School Councils meet with Mrs Holland, (Prep), and Mrs Stephenson, (Pre-Prep) every two weeks. It is run democratically and discusses matters affecting the pupils such as school uniform, school lunches and charity fundraising; anyone can approach their class rep and put forward a suggestion for discussion at the meeting.

The School Council leaders for this year are George J, Luis M-R and Josiah R. Each class elects representatives for the School Council and these are as follows: Year 5: Yaz Y and Olivia M, Year 4: Magnus D and Jacob H, Year 3: Guy D and Ned D, Year 2: Kitty L and Maddie LG, Year 1: Ruby H and Oliver N, Reception: Florence D and India L.



House Captains



FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER
AUTUMN TERM

DIARY DATES

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 2nd October

2:00pm Year 1 visit to All Saints' Church

Tuesday 3rd October

Individual Photographs

4:00pm Prep 'Book Look' for parents

Wednesday 4th October

2:15pm U10 and U11 Hockey v Rendcomb (away)

2:30pm U11A & B Rugby Festival Dean Close (away)

Friday 6th October

Bags2School Collection - ALL bags to be delivered to front of Pre-Prep by 9am

Year 4 Trip to The Wilderness Centre

9:00am Reception and Kindergarten Friday children trip to Dinky Street

10:00am Year 5 Trip to Cheltenham Literature Festival

2:15pm U8 Hockey v Rendcomb (away)

2:30pm U8 Rugby v St Edward's (away)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL CONTINUED

Another important Berky committee is 'Berky Gets Greener.' This eco committee is led by Miss Walter in the Prep School, and Miss Kang-Martinez in the Pre-Prep, and over the last few years, the committee has influenced some significant improvements in school such as the switch to motion-sensor lights, improved green credentials in the kitchen and the recycling of crisp packets and medical blister packets. The conscientious group is often seen donning their high-vis jackets and litter pickers, collecting rubbish around school and the surrounding area. Their hard work has resulted in us gaining our Eco-Schools silver status. All Berky children are encouraged to lead a greener lifestyle, and everyone from Reception to Year 6 can take part in the Berky Eco Pledge, to earn themselves a smart Eco-Warrior badge to wear on their blazers. A copy of the Berky Eco Pledge is displayed in every classroom, (there is a simplified version for Pre-Prep children), and it can be found on our website too: www.berkhampsteadschool.co.uk/school-life/berky-gets-greener. Congratulations to Sophie H (2J), who was awarded her Eco-Warrior badge in assembly this morning; please encourage your children to take part! Well done to Jack F, Mollie R and Josiah R, who are this year's Eco-Warrior leaders. The class reps are as follows: Year 5: Amelia E and Archie M, Year 4: Hermione H and Chloe R, Year 3: Max T and Ollie S, Year 2: Harry P and Nina C, Year 1: Max S and Archer N and Reception: Max W and Jesse L-O.

Many congratulations to all these pupils!

Have a relaxing weekend.

Kind regards

Michelle Bareham

Michelle Bareham
Head of School

Eco reps



Bug Hotel, made by last year's Year 3 Gardening Club



School Council





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten have experienced bear frenzy this week. On Monday, we acted out the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen; the children thought of different actions they could use for the swishy, swashy grass and a swirling whirling snowstorm. There were many elements from the story to play with in the room too such as a bear hiding in a cave and a sensory tray that contained snow, twigs, grass, and mud.

On Tuesday, some children went to Forest School. We went on an adventure to find bears that were hiding amongst the logs and hedges. Once we found them, all the children continued with their exploring and investigating. Miss Wootton organised for the other children to participate in a sensory experience, giving thought to what they could, see, hear, and feel, and the children walked through sticks and leaves, snow, mud, grass, and water.

On Wednesday, the children brought in their bears, and we enjoyed a teddy bears' picnic with Mrs Bareham, Mr Cross, and Mrs Meredith-Smyth. I loved learning all the bear names - some were quite unusual. Everyone was brilliant at squeezing and spreading sticky honey on to a slice of bread and then choosing what shape they would like their sandwich to be; this linked to our maths focus for the week of learning the names of 2D shapes.

On Thursday, we played percussion instruments and learned a song about a brown bear sleeping and snoring throughout winter. The children decided the bear's snoring would be loud and chose to play, claves and drums, whilst others decided the snow and ice melting would be quiet and chose to play tambourines, bells, and maracas.

Next week we would like children to bring in some autumn treasures, such as different coloured leaves, conkers, acorns, and sticks, for the next part of our topic.



THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Theo W, Rosalind B, Zoe P, Aurelia P, Lola M, Wilf M
Edna Bear: Philippa C, Ella W





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM RECEPTION

The Reception children have had a wonderful week exploring all things autumn! We have loved collecting magical autumn treasure at Forest School, and we have been using these natural objects in our maths sessions to sort, make sets, order and compare.

On Thursday, we took a walk around our local area to look for signs of the changing seasons and spotted that the trees were shedding their leaves, leaving a beautiful golden carpet behind. We even spotted a few squirrels hunting for nuts.

In Literacy, we have loved exploring the story of 'Goldilocks and Three Bears' and we had a super debate about whether Goldilocks is in fact a good or a bad character. The children had some thoughtful ideas demonstrating compassion, and when we took a class vote, we concluded that she was in fact just a hungry and tired little girl... although she should have known a little better!

Our daily routines, as well as phonics and maths, include motor skills sessions such as Playdough Disco and Squiggle.

This week we have been waving our flipper-flappers to Let it Go from Frozen - such a lot of fun! Z M-S



BERKHAMPSTEAD
SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS
VALUES TREE

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Leaves: Alice A, Matthew G,
Charlie R, Eliza T
Edna Bear: Hattie C, Flora R





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

PLEASE NOTE...

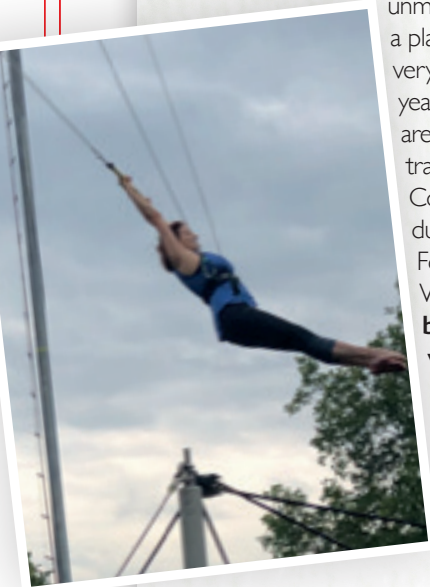
Due to health and safety reasons, unfortunately we can't allow Pre-Prep children to play on the Prep Trim Trail while waiting for their siblings.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION

Plenty of our children have learnt ballet and tap dance with Miss Gill, but did you know that she is a keen Butterfly Conservation supporter? The Butterfly Conservation has a new initiative called 'Pledge to Create Wild Spaces.' Anyone can register their wild space and get tips on what are the most butterfly friendly plants. This can be a square metre of unmown grass, a window box or even a plant pot. We have registered our very own Wildlife Garden. Later in the year, Miss Gill and her older students are taking part in a sponsored trapeze to raise money for Butterfly Conservation. Shown is Miss Gill during a recent practice!

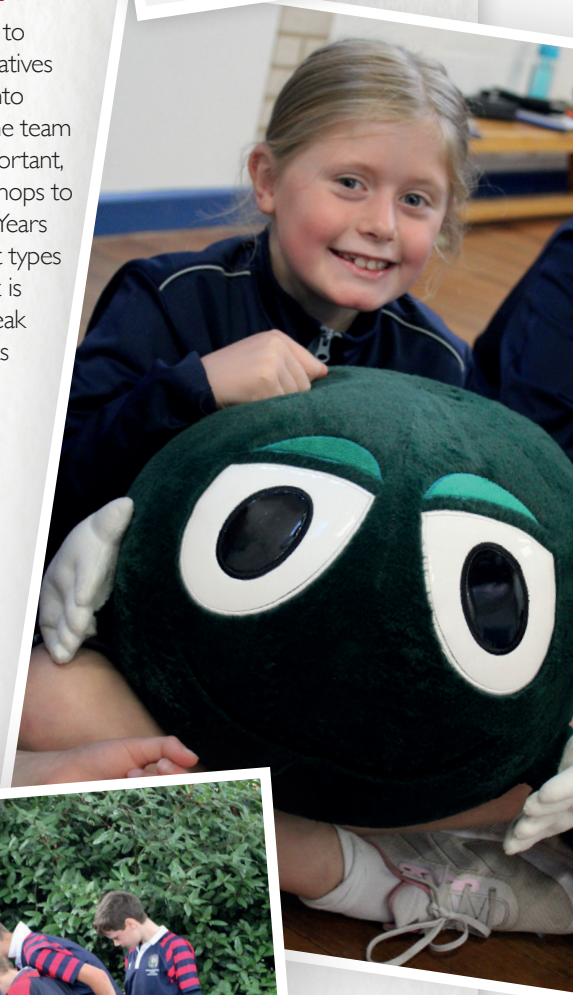
For further information about Wild Spaces, please visit: butterfly-conservation.org/wild-spaces/pledge



SPEAK OUT, STAY SAFE

We were delighted to welcome representatives from the NSPCC into school this week. The team delivered really important, child friendly workshops to our eldest pupils in Years 5 and 6 on different types of abuse, and why it is so important to speak out to trusted adults including Childline. Thank you to the NSPCC.

NSPCC



SCHOOL COMMITTEES

Two of our pupil-led committees met this week: our Prep School Berky Gets Greener team and The Pre-Prep School Council. Both committees were full of enthusiasm, lively discussion and plenty of ideas on how to make Berky an even better place. Well done to all our young movers and shakers; we can't wait to see what improvements are made this term.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

SPORTS REPORTS

HOCKEY

U9A & U9B v Beadesert School

On a very breezy Wednesday afternoon, we went to Beadesert School for our second match of this season and we witnessed tremendous improvements in the skills of the girls from the previous match last week. After getting over the initial shock of such a large pitch, our spacing and passing improved and all the girls worked hard in their teams, with lots of energy and smiles! With one win (6-1) and one loss (5-2), a successful afternoon was had. It's onwards and upwards from here.

Well done, girls. C McC





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



SPORTS REPORTS

RUGBY

U10A v Beaudesert

On Wednesday, the U10A team travelled to Beaudesert. The boys started well, and by half time the score was 4-0 to Berkhampstead. After half time they conceded a few tries but also scored more and the match finished 7-3 to us. The attacking play was superb, and in the second half, the boys were looking for spaces to run into which was great to see. There were a few high tackles, but this is something we can work on in training. Well done boys. An excellent result. DB

U10B v Beaudesert

The U10B team had another very competitive match this week against Beaudesert School. The boys were confident following their win last week, and they started well. A few nerves around making or receiving a tackle were soon dispelled and Berky went into a good lead, with tries from Hughie and Jack. Increasingly the influence of the playmaker Henry came to the fore, and this allowed Charlie, Atlas and Leo to come into the game more. Defence was crucial too with the Beaudesert team putting our tacklers under pressure. Archie, Charlie and Tharusha worked very hard to try and keep up with the opposition and tackle. By the end of the game no-one was really aware of what the score was - so many tries had been scored - and we decided a draw was fair. Secretly though I think we scored more tries! Well done, boys. RC

