



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents

I was delighted to welcome one of our parents, Mrs Howard to school this week, to talk to the children about a brand new Berky initiative. Our School Council, Eco Committees, those taking part in the Platinum Award - and many individual pupils - already carry out plenty of good work, but Mrs Howard and her team - with the school's support - are on a mission for the Berkhamstead community to do even more. She told the children all about her idea for a social action group, and implored the children to become 'Change Makers' in order to make the world a better place. Good deeds may be environment-themed, for instance, or raising money for charity. She has challenged the children to come up with a name for the social action committee, and is planning a special pupil-led assembly each term. Much to the delight of the children, there will be an afternoon dedicated to social action activities (the children's ideas) and starting from this term, there will be a food waste competition to determine which school house wastes the least amount of food over the course of a week. Her overriding message was that everyone has the power to act with the utmost kindness and empathy, to make the world a better place, and that anyone can be a change maker.

Fittingly, during this same assembly, I congratulated Year 6 pupils, George J, Zack P, Wilf M and Josiah R for taking part in the Eastnor Mud Bath at the weekend. George was fundraising for Football For Humanity and has raised a whopping £645 so far. I was also incredibly impressed that out of 538 runners, Wilf and George, a couple of our finest athletes, came 13th and 14th in this mainly adult 6km race! Well done, too, to Year 4's Hermione H and Anna H who organised a fun charity run for Great Ormond Street Hospital and have raised an incredible £844, and are still counting. The kind-hearted duo, who have impressive PR and marketing skills, invited David Moorcroft, (former middle and long-distance runner - and former world record holder for 5,000m), to start the run. These altruistic tendencies bode well for the success of Mrs Howard's initiative.

**FRIDAY 3RD MAY
SUMMER TERM**

DIARY DATES

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 6th May

Bank Holiday - School Closed

Tuesday 7th May

Year 3 trip to
Chedworth Roman Villa

11:00 am Early years Water

Safety Talk from Puddleducks

2:20pm 5B Visit Cheltenham

Ladies College Science

Afternoon

Wednesday 8th May

2:30pm U8 & U9 Girls' Cricket
v Cheltenham College (away)

2:30pm U8 Boys' Cricket v
Cheltenham College Prep (away)

2:30pm U9A & B Boys' Cricket
v Beaudesert (home)

7pm PTA meeting, Pre-Prep hall,
everyone welcome

Friday 10th May

Year 2 Great Fire of London
Workshop





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL CONTINUED

I must commend the 44 children who attended our annual Berky Chess Congress on Saturday. I was most impressed with their superb behaviour throughout the day. Seven games of chess is a challenge for such young children - two were from Year 2 - but they all displayed great sportsmanship and admirable concentration skills, not to mention impressive chess prowess. There were prizes for everyone, and I had the super job of awarding three trophies: Maddie LG won the prize for the best Year 2, Ollie S was the champion of the Year 2 - 6 age group, (Rupert S was the runner-up) and Tom R was the Year 5/6 champion (with his twin brother Ben R coming in at second place). Ioan C was the top scoring Year 4 pupil and Jasper W the top Year 5 player. Well done to you all. Thank you very much to Mr Cole, and his team of volunteers - Mr and Mrs Rolfe, Mr Roberts and Mrs John - who helped on the day; the event made £138 for the PTA.

The much-anticipated PTA discos took place the evening before the Chess Congress, so it was a very busy weekend for plenty of our children - my huge thanks to the PTA for organising another great event for the children, and thank you to the staff who attended. The event made a brilliant £700. We were also grateful to the PTA for saving all the crisp packets from the event; they have been recycled appropriately by our Berky Gets Greener eco committee. The PTA's next meeting takes place at 7pm on Wednesday in the Pre-Prep hall; everyone is welcome to attend.

Our latest Visiting Head's Assembly happened on Wednesday. I was pleased to welcome Balcarras School's Mr Burke, who told us all about his Kenyan safari in 2007, and how he was touched by the plight of a young man he met who had to leave school at just 11 years old. He advised our Year 6 children to take hold of the opportunities that they will be offered at senior school as not everyone has the privilege of senior school education. Wise words indeed.

Wishing everyone a fun bank holiday weekend.

Michelle Bareham

Michelle Bareham
Head of School





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS FROM PRE-PREP

Year 1 dived straight into the ocean with a splash for this term's topic, 'Under the Sea'. The children have amazed us with their knowledge of the world's oceans! Year 1 have used atlases to locate the five oceans; they even know why some maps look as if they have two Pacific Oceans! The children have found out about the layers of the ocean and were fascinated to find out about the creatures that live there; ask us which animals live in the Sunlight, Twilight and Midnight zones! The children wrote some fantastic sentences, of course using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The children have also been practising using question marks and exclamation marks.

Year 2 have been rehearsing for their production – we hope you can come and see it on 17th May! The children loved rehearsing in the Prep hall, and are looking forward to many opportunities to visit Prep over the next few weeks. Year 2 have also been preparing for their verse speaking at the Town Hall. Please help your child to practise their poem in a big, clear voice, using plenty of expression!

All Pre-Prep children have been mixing paints this term. Year 1 have added white or black to blue to create different tints of blue – they blended these beautifully to create the layers of the ocean. Year 2 have been mixing primary and secondary colours and are looking forward to creating their own fire scene to fit in with their topic 'The Great Fire of London'.

The children have been very eager to explore their new Maths Seeds program. Huge well done to all of the children who have already earned certificates! We hope the children will continue to enjoy using their Maths Seeds at home. AS





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

VACANCY: DAY NURSERY MANAGER

Do you know anyone who may be interested in a post we are currently advertising? We are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic Nursery Manager to join our friendly team at our Pittville Circus Day Nursery. This full-time role requires someone who is passionate about leading a team to provide superb care and a stimulating education for the youngest children in our community.

Further information can be found at:
<https://uk.indeed.com/>

RUBIK'S CUBE COMPETITION

These impressive Year 4 pupils organised a Rubik's Cube competition for the members of their Monday lunchtime club. Categories in their competition included Speediest and Most Improved; well done to Ella H, (6E), Ollie S, (3C), Sebbie R, (3C), Teddy B, (4P) and Starla H, (4P) for scooping up Eddie's beautiful handmade trophies!



PTA DATES

The Summer Festival is on Saturday 29th June, 1-4pm, more details soon.

The Summer Celebration takes place on Saturday 8th June at The Frogmill.

LOST...

Posey L has lost her navy, crested raincoat; please check that your child's is theirs.

CONNECT WITH US

Instagram: [berkhampstead_school](#)
[berky_head](#)
X (formerly Twitter): [BerkyCheltenham](#)





THE
BERKY
experience club
7-11 years

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

BAKING CLUB... AFTERNOON TEA (Y3-6)

Monday 29th July,
9am - 4pm

At Baking Club, children will have the opportunity to make afternoon tea-themed bakes - including scones, mini Victoria sponge cakes and a savoury bake - under the guidance of Berky's Star Baker, Stephanie Wootton. The cost of the day will include all the ingredients, and the children will be able to take home their creations.



RAINBOW BAKES (Y3-6)


Tuesday 13th August,
9am - 4pm

The children will bake rainbow piñata cupcakes, funfetti cookies and rainbow fudge, again, under the guidance of Miss Wootton. The cost of the day will include all the ingredients, and the children will be able to take home their creations.

MUSICAL THEATRE CLUB (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6)

Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd August,
9am - 4pm

Musical Theatre Club, led by Gemma Baker, will include singing, acting and dancing. Through engaging activities and games, the children will have the opportunity to develop their skills, build their confidence and work together to experience the magic of musical theatre.



THE
BERKY
holiday club
3-8 years

MAY HALF TERM SPACE WEEK (AGED 3-8)

Tuesday 28th - Friday 31st May, 9am - 4pm

Join Miss Wootton and her team for a week of space-themed fun!



All of these days cost £47.50, and include a healthy mid-morning snack and a nutritious hot lunch (in the case of the afternoon tea-themed baking day, the lunch will be afternoon tea-themed (sandwiches, cakes, crisps, vegetable sticks and fruit).

To book any of these clubs, please visit: berkhampstead.magicbooking.co.uk



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



SPORTS REPORTS

CRICKET

Mixed U11A v Ashley Manor

The U11A team had their first hardball match against Ashley Manor on Wednesday. We won the toss and elected to field first.

The team generally bowled a good line and length and made it difficult for our opponents to score for certain periods. Fielding was pretty good and improved as we got into the game. We took regular wickets throughout the game from Zack, Hugo, Jasper, George E and Ella.

We had restricted the run rate until the last two pairs came in and pushed up the finishing total to 273.

Although a work in progress, our batting was sensible and included some lovely shots with lots of players contributing to the total. Jack H (13) was the top scorer, supported well with good knocks from George E (9) and Wilf (8). We were on course to reach the required total, when a flurry of wickets in the middle order pegged us back. However, we moved along nicely into the last over with a lead of 8. Ella had played superbly against a very quick county bowler and had managed to keep him at bay. Then on the penultimate ball, our opponents took a wicket, which resulted in a 5 run loss. It was all down to the last ball and a very tense finish. Never in doubt, Wilf dealt with the last ball resulting in a win for Berky by 2 runs.

Well done to all of the team for a fine performance and particularly pleasing was our encouragement towards each other and good sportsmanship. P MC

Girls U10 v Ashley Manor

The Year 5 team travelled to Ashley Manor for two great, competitive games.

Team 1

The girls bowled with great consistency however the opposition had some big hitters who took advantage of the straight balls.

We batted well and the calling between the girls was superb. Our Year 4 guest certainly held her own, playing in the year above! IP

Team 2

We were down to nine players, due to illness but the girls' spirits were high. We lost the toss and were put into bat first. With clear calling, some well calculated runs and a good dose of boundary balls, we marked up a healthy score of 287. We took to the field and the girls impressed with their bowling - accuracy and pace. Some of the Ashley Manor girls connected with the balls but Berky were strong in the field and were rewarded with some excellent catches. We restricted the runs to 223. A lovely warm afternoon with a super display of cricket skills and team spirit! Well done to you all! JH

U10/11B v Ashley Manor

On Wednesday the U10/11 boys played their first cricket match of the season against Ashley Manor. Our boys batted first and played some fantastic shots with a 6 and some 4's scored. They finished their innings 314-3. The boys bowled next and their bowling was superb, accurate and quick and they took 13 wickets from Ashley Manor. This left Ashley Manor with a score of 209-13. DB

U10/11C v Ashley Manor

The first match of the season was against Ashley Manor on a warm afternoon at the immaculately prepared Victoria Ground. The boys were super keen to get going and were discussing bowling and batting pairs well in advance of the match. Captain Isaac won the toss and decided to bowl first. Wow! The bowling was incredibly good for the first game of the season. There were obviously a few wides but in the 15 overs bowled there were two maiden overs, and 8 wickets taken. The pick of the bowlers was Fergus with 3 wickets and 1 run scored. The boys did very well to restrict Ashley Manor to 207 runs. Then came the batting and yet again all contributed. The pairs were Atlas and Leo, Charlie and Fergus, Tommy and Miles and last pair Isaac and Luis... and the scores 28, 26, 24 and 27 respectively. Two wickets were taken but the boys scored over 100 runs ending up on 302 runs. This was a convincing victory from an excited and talented cricket team. Well done boys! RC

