



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Bullseye!

## NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

Once again it has again been a busy week and the first half of term seems to be racing by. The girls had much success in their Netball fixtures on Wednesday and they were keen to tell me all about it. Despite having Miss Keegan away for much of this week, the sport programme has continued as usual - a big thank you to all the games staff for their dedication to providing so many opportunities for all.

Early this week Mrs Holland took our fearless and talented Year 6 mathematicians to compete in the Cheltenham College Maths Challenge. They worked well together and showed tenacity and skill in the maths problems they were set and returned clutching certificates – well done Manas, Otto, Reuben and Sam who achieved fifth place out of the 16 schools competing, as well as the best Year 6s in Cheltenham! Maths is a much-loved subject at Berky and I witness many varied and practical ways in which the children use and develop their skills - there was even a darts board in Year 2 this week!

We start our Spring Term Parents' Evenings next week - starting with Year 4 - and due to the current COVID case rates we are doing this online using the School Cloud Parents Evening system. Do look out for the details - sent to you in advance for you to book appointments. It is a great opportunity for you to find out more about how your child is progressing. Of course, if you have concerns, please don't hesitate to ask the staff for feedback at any time.

There are many trips and visits next week including Year 1 having an African Mask and Dance Workshop and Year 5 visiting The Commandery in Worcester. It is great having these back in the calendar and I know the children really benefit from the experience. More on these next week.

*Richard*

Richard Cross  
Headmaster

FRIDAY 4TH FEBRUARY  
SPRING TERM

## Diary dates

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Mon 7th Feb

Start of Year 1 Activity Week

#### Tue 8th Feb

Year 1 African Mask & Dance Workshop

Year 5 trip to The Commandery  
5.30pm - 4E Parents' Evening

#### Wed 9th Feb

2.15pm - U10/U11 Netball v  
The Elms (A)

2.15pm - U9/U10/U11 Football  
v Beaudesert (A)

5.30pm - 4T Parents' Evening

#### Thur 10th Feb

am - Year 1 visit to  
All Saints' Church

4.00pm U8 Netball v St Ed's (A)

#### Fri 11th Feb

Early Years & Pre Prep

"Dress to Express" day

Years, 4 5 & 6 Sounds Roadshow

2.15pm U8/U9 Netball v  
Rendcomb (A)

2.30pm - U8 Football v  
Rendcomb (H)

Nb. PTA Quiz postponed



## Children's Mental Health Week

Early Years and Pre-Prep children are invited to Dress to Express on Friday, (a letter has been sent to parents). Meanwhile, Prep pupils will be having a special assembly on Wednesday, and activities will take place in CWB lessons.

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S  
MENTAL HEALTH  
WEEK

7 - 13 FEBRUARY 2022



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## News from Early Years



### KINDERGARTEN

This week in Kindergarten we have been learning about the artist George Seurat and his techniques for painting using small dots of colour to create an image. The children have accomplished this using their fingers dipped in different coloured paints, and they have built up and mixed colours to create pictures of flowers and trees. We have loved how the children have become excited by the colour changes; everyone has taken great care, and some children have been particularly precise about staying within the lines. We have been so impressed by their amazing hand-eye coordination!

The children have also created their own 2D shape pictures by sticking shapes onto paper, and when the desired shapes were not available, the children have cut their own shapes. We have seen some lovely flower gardens, trains, rockets and islands.

During our Circle Times we have been thinking about what makes us happy. We have been thinking about our facial expressions when we are happy and excited and looking at these in mirrors. The children took turns to pay each other a compliment and we all agreed that everyone looked and felt brilliant after these kind compliments:

**Sophie about Berry: 'I love her'**

**Jack about Oliver: 'He is good at colouring'**

**Alba about Esme: 'I like her hair'**

**Immie about George: 'He brings in motor bikes for me'**

**Oliver about Alba: 'I like her in her P.E kit'**



### THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL  
EARLY YEARS  
VALUES TREE

Kindergarten: Freddie B, Henrietta C, Daniel D, Alba H, Penny S, Jack S, George W, Max W, Esme W





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## News from Early Years

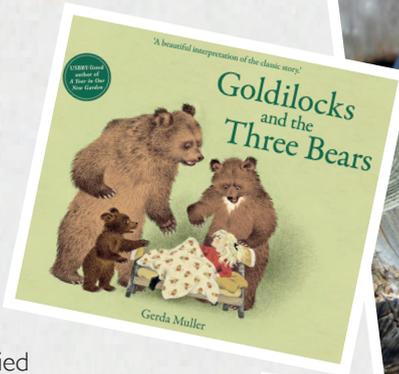
### RECEPTION

Reception children are thoroughly enjoying their topic 'Far, Far Away.'

They loved reading 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears.' Whilst we were reading the story, we learnt all about porridge, so we decided to make some ourselves to see whether it was as delicious as Goldilocks and the Three Bears had led us to believe. Using oats and hot water - and our best mixing skills - we stirred the ingredients together and observed what happened. We all tried porridge with honey, golden syrup, or jam, and most of us agreed with Goldilocks and the Three Bears that the porridge was indeed delicious. We could understand why Goldilocks ate up all the porridge!

The children set off for Forest School inspired by the theme of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and had great fun collecting natural materials such as leaves, sticks, stones. They used these items to create Daddy, Mummy or Baby Bear's portrait. Each portrait was quite different, and the children loved looking at each other's creations.

All Reception children are progressing well with their reading. Three to four reading books are sent home weekly for you to read with your child throughout the week. Please feel free to comment on your child's reading via the Reading Record book. Throughout the week staff hear the children read a different reading scheme and there is a separate Reading Record book in which they record comments. Please see us if you have any concerns.



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL  
EARLY YEARS  
VALUES TREE

### THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Reception: Eleanor W, Isabel B, Heath G, Sophie H, Ivy B, Freddie W, Zac H, Maddie LG





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## Eco news



### TOP TIP... FROM A YEAR 6 ECO-WARRIOR

Reduce your impact on the environment by considering going electric with your next car! Transportation causes about 25% of global carbon emissions, and three-quarters of that is from road travel. Electric cars run on lithium-ion batteries, and although lithium is taken from the earth, the long-term cost is much smaller. Once you burn gasoline, you can't recycle it, but when you use up a battery, you can still recycle the material.



### ECO NEWS

During the week's Prep School Berky Gets Greener meeting, Miss Walter and her enthusiastic team of eco-warriors toured the Prep site to work out what green improvements could be made. There was plenty of discussion about new planting and the location of new water butts. The team were thrilled to see the beautiful professional plans of the new eco/wellbeing garden that have been drawn up from Nancy's winning design.





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## Sports reports

### NETBALL

#### U9s Bee v The Richard Pate School

This was the U9s' first Bee Netball fixture for the year and bearing in mind that we were in lockdown for much of the previous netball season when they were in Y3, this was in fact only their second Netball fixture ever! Bee Netball follows slightly different rules to the traditional 7-aside game and, alongside the early skills of netball, also promotes 6 key values; Bee Proud, Bee Fair, Bee Strong, Bee Friendly, Bee Yourself and Bee Together. The key differences at this age group are that there are only 4 players in a team, roles/positions are non-specific and anyone can shoot. Some of the rules regarding the game-play such as footwork and passing are also 'softer' than for the older girls.

At this first match we were very encouraged to see all the girls participating with great enthusiasm, despite their initial nerves, and working incredibly well as a team. Four matches were taking place simultaneously in a 'round robin' style so that each group of 4 played against each of the St Ed's groups of 4. It is fair to say that we got better as we played more of the matches, but it is also true to say that it was great fun for all the girls to be on the pitch for all of the time and they were thrilled to have won several of their mini matches. A great start to the season Berky U9s!

#### U10 v Kitebrook

This was our first home match and it was great to see so many parents supporting the girls – thank you! With numbers down due to four girls isolating at home, each team had nine players and the girls were rotated on and off every quarter. Both teams played with determination and as they warmed up, the girls' passes improved - driving onto the ball and passing it up the court. It was almost as if we had been working on this in training! I was really impressed with the space we created and the selfless act of those sharing shooting duties - passing the ball to their team member, if she was in a better position. The two girls who were voted 'player of the match' thoroughly deserved this recognition; however all the girls played well and deserved the wins: 8-3 and 8-0. Well done to you all ladies - a super team performance! Now we need to look at footwork!

#### U11A v Cricklade Manor School

Brilliant girls! What a treat umpiring the under 11A team. The whole team was magnificent. The girls played in a variety of positions with Katy P captaining for the day and cheering them on from the side lines.

Superb shooting, fast accurate passing and terrific defending were in evidence for the entire match giving our girls a well-deserved victory. We won 16-10. Well done, girls!

#### U11B v Cricklade Manor School

I was lucky enough to be able to join the U11s at their beautifully sunny and spring-like afternoon fixture against Cricklade Manor on Wednesday. Let me start by saying that I was very proud of the girls in the match I saw; I haven't seen them play since they were in Y4 and I was so delighted to see how their skills have matured and was so proud of their exemplary behaviour! Ena captained the match and we won the toss. Ena chose to take the first centre pass and we quickly dominated the play in the first quarter with three goals - two from Sophia and one crack-shot from the edge of the D from Alice. In the second quarter, Cricklade showed excellent defending skills and no goals were scored from either side. Alice added another to her tally in the third quarter and Ena brought the total to 5 in the final few minutes of the game. Each girl played in many of the positions during the match and I was so impressed by their ability to switch and adapt according to their role. It was a pleasure to umpire your match Ena, Sydney, Thea, Lucinda, Alice and Sophia and great to see the final score of 5-0. Well done and thank you. CMCc





# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



## Sports reports

### FOOTBALL

#### U9A v The Richard Pate School

The U9As took on RPS on Friday in our second encounter of the season. It didn't take long for us to realise that this was going to be a long, tough afternoon with RPS showing a five-man attacking line up and scoring within the very first minute of the match. Despite a valiant effort in defence we were unable to soak up a constant barrage of attacks and further goals came in quick succession. The large full-size goals were very much to RPS's advantage as was the large wide pitch which they used effectively stretching our midfield to its limit and constantly getting behind our defence. A couple of counter attacks by Berky just before half-time gave us some hope but our first touch often let us down and we couldn't quite find the mark with our passing. Further goals from RPS in the second half secured a resounding win by a number of goals and left Berky goalless. The one ray of hope for us was that our heads didn't go down we never gave up. The boys should be commended for a brave performance.

#### U9B v St Edward's

The U9 boys enjoyed a fantastic game against St Edward's. It was evenly matched and both teams approached the game with much energy and enthusiasm. The boys threw themselves into the tackles and battled hard throughout the match.

St Edward's took the lead a with well-taken goal. However the boys struck back with some fine inter-play, ending with a super strike from Alastair to equalise. Although both teams came close to taking the lead, it remained 1-1.

Well done to all of the boys.

#### U9B v The Richard Pate School

Last Friday, the U9B took on a strong RPS team in their second game of the season. We worked hard throughout the game and improved from the previous match in terms of passing and getting the ball wide. We now need to focus on keeping our positions in order to create more goal scoring opportunities.

I was delighted with the energy and commitment that the boys showed. Tom had some excellent runs on the wing and some fine tackles came in from Isaac, Ben S and Luis. Owen, Hugo and Ben R worked hard throughout the game both in attack and defence and Jack made some strong saves in goal. Although we lost by 4-0, it was good to see both the progress and the fantastic attitude shown by all of the boys.

Many thanks to our supporters. Much appreciated as always.

