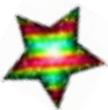


*If children are happy, they will achieve!*

## Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019



Well, here we are, the final term in our academic year, with so much to cram in, in just 4 more weeks. We have sports days, galas, tournaments, camps, trips, secondary school visits, transition days, camps, class assemblies, Y6 talent shows, active treat day...oh, and something also known as the curriculum too! Phew, I am getting tired just thinking about it all now. If the teachers are looking more haggard than usual, it is because they are working hard to complete all their class school reports in time for editing; I have a lot of reading to do over the next few weeks!



Last term ended on a high, with so many of you taking the time to come in during our Open afternoon to showcase the children's learning. It was an absolute joy to see the pride in the children's faces, showing off their work, classrooms, and everything else in between. The children really loved getting out and about too, and exploring what their friends in other classes have been doing. Given the positive feedback from so many of you, it is something we plan to build in to regular topics of learning. Thank you all for coming and making it so special for the children.



Another highlight at the end of term, was another event we put on for parents with educational psychologist Dan O'Hare: 'Spiders in the bathtub'. This was a workshop to help parents understand anxiety, and how it looks/feels to children. Dan looked at ways to help parents help their children through it. A thoroughly interesting, and helpful workshop. Again, such positive feedback from parents, making it such a worthwhile event. All staff received the same training during the INSET days in June, and have already begun using emotion coaching techniques to good effect.



It's all about the rain it seems this week! Typical British weather, but great for farmers! Thank you all for your understanding about Sports day; no one wants to stand out in the rain all day! We hope to try again on July 11th. Such a shame the rain stopped the community 'Pride of Berkeley' project last weekend too, who are using school as their base. Keep an eye on their facebook page, as I think they are hoping to try again this weekend. Let's hope for some sunshine also so we can get in the pool! So far, lessons have been somewhat sporadic, with the rain and temperature stopping lessons going ahead.



Thank you all for using the postbox and dropbox outside the main office where possible. As you will no doubt have heard, poor Mrs Goodall is out of action for the next 8 weeks as she broken her foot in three places, and has had to have an operation, leaving her bed-bound. Therefore, we have no one on the front desk. The phones and emails are covered, but the front desk is not, so please be patient with us. If you have an urgent message for class teachers in the mornings, please speak to the member of staff on the door. We have an increasing number of children being dropped off late for school in the mornings too, so please ensure they are in school by 8:55am at the latest for registration, as Mrs Goodall is not on hand to deliver children to classes. Please use the dropbox to drop off any clearly labelled items such as, lunch boxes, PE kits, drink bottles etc. The box will be checked before lunch and after lunch each day. Thank you.



At the start of this term, we took some Y5 and Y6 children to Dursley pool for a swimming gala with other local schools. We were so proud of our children, who thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. We had three 1<sup>st</sup> place races, four 2<sup>nd</sup> place races and four 3<sup>rd</sup> place races. Wow! Go Berkeley!

 After some careful analysis and consultation with the children, we have made the decision to say 'au revoir' to French lessons in KS2, and 'Hola' once again to Spanish. We have been impressed at how much our older children remember from when they were younger. Most children tell us that they use Spanish on holidays too, so we have listened to their interests, and they will hopefully come home with some new words and phrases soon. Gracias.



From Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June, we are going fully paperless. If you do not receive your letters from school via email, please email your name and child's name and Year group to [admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk) by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June. This will be the last letter to come home in paper form, for those of you who opted for this a couple of years ago. You can also email [admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk) with reply slips and permissions, so save the environment and sign up today. Thank you.



Year One have had an exciting start to their Kings and Queens topic! They have spent time writing letters to the Queen. They have asked her to join them for a tea party which will take place in July. The letters have already been sent off, and they are eagerly waiting a reply. We are all crossing our fingers hoping that she will make it to Berkeley!



Last week, Year 5 had a trip to Marling School with the aim of making some perfumes. This was a fun-filled science and DT day that saw the children take on three separate activities. Firstly, they explored senses, in particular smell. They learned some interesting facts about the sense of smell and then put their noses to the test to try and identify different types of fruit teas. Following this, they moved on to the perfume making. Initially, they were slightly put off after being told that the base of all perfumes comes from sperm whale sick! To their amazement, with the addition of some different oils such as citrus, lavender and rose; they all produced a wonderfully smelling perfume. The final activity was exploring some technology on laptops, which is used to design nets for 3D shapes. It was a great day that Marling School organised and hopefully one that can be repeated again by pupils at Berkeley.



Roll up, roll up...don't forget to get your circus tickets for next Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June!

Yours sincerely



Miss Robbins and all the team here at Berkeley Primary