

# BERKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



*If children are happy, they will achieve!*

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019



Here we are, the final week of term. It has been jam-packed, and the children (and staff!) are doing so well to keep going! I would like to firstly say what an incredible event the PTA put on at the end of June with the Circus! Nicola and her team worked so hard behind the scenes to organise such an amazing community event, and all their hard work truly paid off. So many people came to Berkeley field for a fun, family evening full of entertainment, and the Big Top was filled with families and children of all ages. Thank you to Nicola and the whole PTA team for making this happen; you will have created many happy memories for so many people. Huge gratitude from all of us here, including the Governors and Trustees of CBAT.



The end of term does sadly come with some Goodbyes for schools everywhere, and the first of those goodbyes is to some of our PTA members, who have formally resigned after putting in so much of their time to the PTA over the years. We say a huge Thank you, and Goodbye this term to Nicola, Lee, Kate and Pippa. You have made such wonderful contributions to the PTA and the life of the school, and we cannot thank you enough for your time, commitment, creativity, and for championing our school. THANK YOU! Nicola may have stepped down, but I know she is still scouting for talent to take over the helm! It now does of course pave the way for a new team of creative, innovative, adventurous individuals for September 2019: details to follow in the new term.



We also say Goodbye to Mr Williamson this term. As many of you will know, Mr Williamson is our Maths and Science specialist, and over the past four years, he has worked with children across the school. Mr Williamson is a man of many talents, and is off to follow his passion to work with children with additional needs in a specialist setting. Affectionately known as the 'BFG', he will be missed dearly, and we wish him every success as he moves on to a new career path.



We also say Goodbye to Mrs McCombie, who has been working in Reception as a supply teacher this summer. I think it is fair to say, we have all become very fond of her, and she has been an asset to the EYFS team this term; we are sad we could not keep her! The work she has done in such a short amount of time has been phenomenal, and I am so grateful to her for her extreme hard-work, dedication to the children and such commitment to the school this term. Thank you Mrs McCombie; the door is always open for any future supply work.



And of course, we say a very fond farewell to our Y6 children on Friday. They are all moving on to their next phase of schooling, and have developed their skills in independence and resilience so much this year. They are more than ready for secondary school, but are the schools ready for them?! Rednock, Marling, KLB and Stroud High are so lucky to be inheriting our superb Y6 children, and we all wish them so much happiness on their new, exciting adventure!



Last Thursday, we held our induction evening to welcome the new Reception families who are starting in September. Parents had an opportunity to meet Miss Rimmer, our new Reception teacher, tour the classroom and find out about our school. They each received a letter from their new 'BUDDY' in the current Y5 class, who will help look after them and help the children to settle in when they start school. The letters were superb, and I am so proud of the high standard in which

they were written. Well done Year 5! The hall was full of lovely new families, who I am sure you will all join us in welcoming in the new term.



Another wonderful welcome we have had this term is the arrival of two new babies! Firstly, Carole became a Grandma with the birth of beautiful Flora and we are all thrilled for her. Secondly, Mr Hart and his wife welcomed a baby brother to Evia on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July: Finley Alexander. Congratulations to you all on such wonderful news.



Just four days before Finley's arrival, Mr Hart put on an assembly for the Year 4 parents and children to show them everything they did on their residential trip to the Wilderness Centre, which included video clips and photos. Y6 had their camp celebration assembly (from their trip to Osmington Bay) the Friday before, and also received some awards from their trip away. It was so wonderful to see so many families at these assemblies, and seeing you all witness how much fun they had was just magical. Both trips were a huge success this year, and it has been delightful to see the children grow in confidence.



Congratulations to the children in SCOTT house who won this term's treat day for earning the most house points. They enjoyed a morning of inflatable fun in the pool last Monday in the glorious sunshine. It felt like they were actually on holiday. Well-deserved, and wonderful to see them enjoying their treat together.



Year 6 had a treat last Friday, as Claire Gibson organised a fun morning for them in the pool with kayaks. Berkeley parents past and present joined Claire to teach the children lots of kayaking skills, in a variety of fun ways, which they absolutely loved. This is something they have done for a few years now, and we are so thrilled and grateful that such a team of kind, committed volunteers offer to do this for our children. Thank you!



Sports day was a huge success (when the weather finally decided to play ball) as were the swimming Galas (although very hot for those not in the pool!). The children showed superb resilience and sporting skills, and thrived on having their families there to see them in action. I would like to thank my staff, as so much organisation goes into putting on each event, and as always, they go above and beyond for our children. Mrs Lanceley granted me the pleasure of 'watching' as a Mum this year for my daughter's final sports day, and although it felt strange, I felt immense pride watching the whole team work together for the children. I got to see the pride in the children's faces, the excellent sportsmanship and comraderies, and just how much love and attention our staff give to the children, encouraging them all the way. I felt like a very proud Headteacher indeed. Well done to all the children and staff, and thank you to everyone who came along to support them.



On Wednesday 3rd July, A team of 9-Y6 pupils competed in a rounders tournament at Cam Woodfield Junior School. After the first 2 games, they had 2 close victories but had now accustomed themselves with the rules and style of play. In the third match, the team came into their form. With a combination of precision batting and collaborative fielding, they had their most successful game and had a comfortable win. This took them into a final match against Dursley who had also won all three of their matches. This was a tough game against a much organised opposition, and they unfortunately were defeated by a better side. Everyone played superbly and hopefully all had a fun afternoon, well done team! Mr Chaffey. 😊



Some exciting PE uniform news! From September 2019, children are to wear the t-shirt of the colour of their house for PE and all sporting events within school for house tournaments. These colours have been made available for you at [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com) although many stores sell collared polo shirts in the colours required. This should also help during the hotter weather for the children to tell the difference between their PE tops and their uniforms.



Your children's school reports will be sent home with them today, and I must say, that I am delighted with them this year. Having listened to your feedback, we have made them even more personal this year, and they have been written as letters **to** your children, not **about** them. I love the personal feel to them, and feel you will value them so much more than a report full of educational jargon, which you have told us does not tell you about your child. We are always told that the part you value the most, and the bit you skip the rest to read, is the 'bit at the bottom'. So we have made the 'bit at the bottom' the whole focus, because, your child is the focus! Happy reading! Hope you feel as proud as we do.



Whilst your children begin their holidays next Monday, the staff will be in school doing some training on Curriculum. We will be working together to design a creative curriculum, to provide breadth and depth in all subjects. They will also be learning about how we can encourage our children to **Build Learning Powers** to enable them to succeed and be the very best they can be. Subject Leaders will be working on action plans for next year, as per our recent Ofsted targets, and the whole staff will be looking at school improvement, and our next steps here at Berkeley.



Thank you all for your positive contributions to the community of Berkeley school this year, and for your continued support. We have received some truly touching letters and emails recently full of gratitude to the staff and the positive impact they have had on your children, both academically and pastorally. This means the world to us, and we really value you taking the time to let us know what we have done really well for your children. I hope you all have a fabulous summer with your families, making wonderful memories together.

Yours sincerely

Miss Robbins and all the team here at Berkeley Primary

**Attached are the term dates for next year, which can also be found on our website.**



Please ensure your parentpay account is settled by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Thank you.



**2019-2020**

**TERM 1**

***INSET DAYS MONDAY 2nd & TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER***

PUPILS START WEDNESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

NEW RECEPTION INTAKE START WEDNESDAY 11th SEPTEMBER

***INSET DAY MONDAY 30th SEPTEMBER***

TERM ENDS FOR PUPILS THURSDAY 24th OCTOBER

***INSET DAY FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER***

**TERM 2**

***INSET DAY MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER***

PUPILS START TUESDAY 5th NOVEMBER

TERM ENDS FOR PUPILS FRIDAY 20th DECEMBER

**TERM 3**

***INSET DAY MONDAY 6th JANUARY***

PUPILS START TUESDAY 7th JANUARY

TERM ENDS FOR PUPILS FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY

**TERM 4**

TERM STARTS MONDAY 24th FEBRUARY

TERM ENDS FRIDAY 3rd APRIL

**TERM 5**

TERM STARTS MONDAY 20th APRIL

TERM ENDS FRIDAY 22nd MAY

**TERM 6**

TERM STARTS MONDAY 1st JUNE

***INSET DAY MONDAY 29th JUNE***

TERM ENDS FOR PUPILS FRIDAY 17th JULY

***INSET DAY MONDAY 20th JULY***

