

*If children are happy, they will achieve!*

## Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December

### BFG News

The first project for the newly formed BFG (Berkeley Fundraising Group) was the Smashing Pumpkin Trail which I am sure you will agree was hugely successful. Thank you to all who took part and helped raise a fantastic £180.



### Staff

After a successful recruitment process, last term we welcomed three new teaching partners to the school. Miss Thomas, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Tadman carried out their inductions and are currently enjoying getting to know the children they are working with. They have settled in very well and have made a positive impact to our team.

### Vacancy

Can you help make sure children have happy lunchtimes? We are looking for someone who enjoys working and playing with children to make sure that they do! Our school is looking for a friendly, dedicated and enthusiastic lunchtime supervisor to join our team to assist with the children. If you are interested please email [vacancies@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:vacancies@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk)

### Uniform

Please be reminded that winter uniform rules now apply. Please see uniform list on our website under the parent section under policies. Please also ensure your child has a warm coat.

### Children in Need

It was great to so many of you taking part in pyjama day for Children In Need earlier this term. We are very pleased to announce that we raised a fantastic £181.18. Thank you!



## Attendance

Children in primary school are expected to have above 95% attendance. Our target for the whole school is set by the government and the local authority and we are expected to reach at least 95% this academic year. We acknowledge that each family's circumstances are different, and we aim to work with parents to provide the best education for every child. Pupils' welfare is of paramount importance to us, and we believe that regular attendance throughout the year is essential for their success and fulfilment.

Please see the table below showing the whole school attendance since September:

School Attendance	Target Attendance	Actual Attendance
September to date	95%	96.4%

## Christmas jumper day & Christmas Dinner

This year's Christmas Jumper day will be held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December with a suggested donation of £1 in aid of Save the Children.

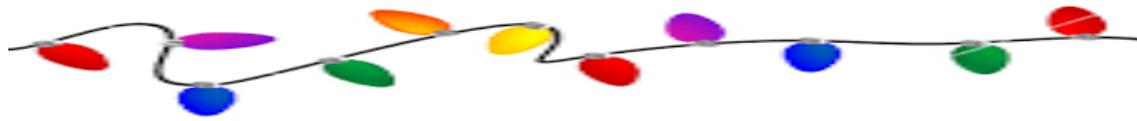


Christmas dinner will be held over two days as follows:

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Little Jesters, Reception, Year 1, Year 2
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

Please note due to the amount of hot dinners being catered for on these days, there will not be an alternative hot choice on the day if your child is not having Christmas dinner; your child can bring in a packed lunch from home or opt for a school packed lunch. The menu for Christmas dinner is below. If your child would like a Christmas dinner, please [click here](#) and complete the survey to help us gauge numbers. Thanks you





## EYFS report



On Thursday 12th November EYFS had an external review visit from an Early Years Consultant and previous HMI Inspector for Ofsted. Since our last Ofsted inspection in 2019, we have made changes in our provision to improve the quality of our Early Years Provision. The outcome of the review was extremely pleasing, showing huge impact and we received a fantastic report, highlighting and celebrating the positive changes implemented for our children. Below are a few statements Mrs Ferris has pulled from the report to share with you all. Congratulations to our entire EYFS and leadership team for all their continued hard work.

*"The children learn in a warm, caring environment where children feel safe and secure."*

*"Areas within the classroom, which reflect the different aspects of early years learning, provide subtle challenges and opportunities for the children to think creatively."*

*"The outdoor area effectively enables children to play, explore and create with a wide range of different activities."*

*"Phonics is taught in a systematic, but fun way. Children respond to this very positively and look forward to their daily phonics sessions."*

*"The pre-school has been set up so that there is a calm and purposeful atmosphere with children engaged in a wide range of appropriate activities, such as carefully navigating a route on a bike, painting, and creating a hedgehog picture using leaves."*



## Bookcases

Last year, we donated some old book shelves to a school in Gambia. They have provided us with this picture to show how they're being used and enjoyed by the children in Gambia. How wonderful that an act of kindness has spread so far across the world for others to benefit. We love this and are so pleased these bookcases found such a happy home.



## Christmas Cards

This year we will need to organise our Christmas card collections slightly differently. Children will be able to bring in Christmas cards on Friday 4th December and Friday 11th December and place them in the box in their classrooms. The cards will then be left for 72 hours before being distributed.



## It's VIRTUALLY Christmas!

We thought long and hard about how to make Christmas at school special for the children this year, and were determined not to let Covid cancel Christmas in school. Luckily, we have a great team, who embrace all things creative, and they ran with my plan for a virtual, advent this year! We have lots more to come, but it's so lovely to hear how much families are enjoying the children's videos on the run up to Christmas. The classrooms are all looking very festive, and the corridors are filled with Christmas music...it's pure joy!

As this will be our last newsletter before the end of term on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, we wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas together.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Robbins'.

Miss Robbins and all the team here at Berkeley Primary

