

BERKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



If children are happy, they will achieve!



Thursday 8th July 2021

Curriculum news

Staff are currently working hard to tweak and develop our curriculum design this term ahead of a new year and will be working on this on our Inset days and twilights. We shall be updating the website with all our curriculum themes for September, so look out for our new information. Curriculum strengths in Maths, Art and reading were highlighted this term during a 2 day school review by an external retired HMI Ofsted inspector, which was booked by the SLT. Included in the strengths were the excellent pastoral care here at BPS and our robust safeguarding measures. The School review has had a positive impact on staff wellbeing this term, with staff feeling valued for their hard work from an external professional. Significant improvements have been made since our last Ofsted inspection, and we are incredibly proud of our thriving school. Our next steps are all about sharing our curriculum design, and the drivers we use to decide what we teach and when we teach it for the children in our community.

As part of the review, three governors were able to attend and answer questions about our shared vision here and they clearly demonstrated their commitment to the school and school improvement with their knowledge ***'Governors have a really strong understanding of school life and most are regularly involved in its day-to-day life. The governors spoken to have a clear understanding of the strengths of the school and know what areas of the curriculum that leaders need to work on'*** ***June Review 2021*** I would like to extend my thanks to all the governors at BPS, who support and challenge in equal measure to help drive school improvement with their forward thinking, knowledgeable and proactive ideas. Their time is voluntary, and the entire staff value them so very much for everything they do.

TP's: As mentioned in our last newsletter, the Teaching Partners have been allocated to the classes shown in the table for the Autumn term. We also have Mrs Wade who works with children on our pastoral care team throughout the school. The children spent time with their new Teaching Partners on 'Move up Day'.

PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER

We are delighted to be able to slowly introduce pre-covid systems in school this September, and shall do this sensitively for the children, as our infant children have never experienced 'normal' routines as yet. We look forward to assemblies, whole school events, productions, curriculum days, and being able to open our doors to our families once more! A detailed plan with some changes you need to be aware of will follow can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Reception – Mrs Combes
Year 1 – Mrs Turl
Year 2 – Mrs Tadman
Year 3 – Mrs Butler
Year 4 – Mrs Tronier & Miss Thomas
Year 5 – Mrs Clarke
Year 6 – Mrs Tarkovski



School diversity week and Rainbow Day

School diversity week and Rainbow Day were a HUGE success. Some of the children learnt that we should be proud of who we are and celebrate it. We loved seeing all the children in their bright colours; it was great to see so many of the children and staff embracing the day and we felt very proud knowing our future generations embrace and celebrate diversity. Thank you everyone! 😊

Final week of term plans

The final week of term will see the whole school take part in a Sports event with a difference. The children will have the opportunity to take part in team races, and have a go at a variety of alternative sports including golf, archery and curling. We also have some obstacle courses and competitive games booked, including giant lego so there will be something for everyone. We have planned a timetable for this where children will compete/take part in their bubbles, and points will be added to each house so even though it's not a 'normal' sports day, we will celebrate a winning team at the end. As much as possible will be shared on our social media platforms for families to see. Please send your child into school in their PE kit with their house t-shirt on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in the final week. This must be with their house colour polo t-shirt please in line with school policy. Thank you.

Swimming timetable for final week

Please note the extra swim session scheduled for the final week should the pool reopen. Please send your child in with swimming kit on the days allocated for their year group.

Monday	Y3	LJ	Y2
Tuesday	Y1	Rec	Y5
Wednesday	Y6	Y4	Y5
Thursday	LJ	Rec	Y1
Friday	Y2	Y3	Y6

Year 6 camp for September

We are so pleased that we have been able to arrange a residential trip for our year 6 class in September. The class will be visiting Magdalen Farm in Chard, Somerset. The children will get the opportunity to challenge themselves in a range of exciting activities (for example: Survival in the Wild, Hands on Farming, Orienteering, Low Ropes Adventure, Team Building, fossil hunting at the Jurassic Coast, Eco-cooking). We are looking forward to hearing all about their adventures!

Class parent representatives

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge THANK YOU to our Parent Reps. I am sure that you will agree they have all done a fantastic job of keeping you all informed of school matters and have been really instrumental in enhancing the quality of relationships and channels of communication between teachers, parents/carers and the children. If anyone is interested in becoming a Parent Rep for their child's year group in September then please email admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk to register interest and we will contact you in September. If you are happy with your current rep then we hope you can encourage them to reprise their role in the new term!

Achievements

At BPS, we want to celebrate children's achievements in and out of the classroom. Our achievement display now needs updating and we would love your contributions. Please email in pictures of your child/ren and their successes so we can add them to the display and inspire others.

This could be:

- Your child holding a swimming certificate.
- Your child doing an awesome yoga pose they've practised.
- You child holding a sports cup/trophy or in their kit.
- Your child with an instrument they are learning to play.
- You child reading their first chapter book.

This list is a few ideas, but we will accept anything that celebrates your child's achievements! Thank you very much and we look forward to receiving your photos.

Mrs Fryer

At the end of this term Mrs Fryer will be retiring from her role as Caretaker. Mrs Fryer has worked at Berkeley Primary for over 20 years and has had many different roles; we even have parents of children at school now who were taught by Mrs Fryer! I am sure you will all join us in thanking her for her tremendous service over the years and wishing her all the very best for the future and a well-deserved, happy retirement.

ParentPay

As we approach the end of term we would be grateful if parents could make sure their ParentPay accounts are paid up to date. You can check your balance at any time by logging into your account, if you need any help with this please contact the school office. If you have an outstanding balance that you are having difficulty paying please contact our Business Manager, Rachael Stewart at rstewart@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk in the strictest confidence. Thank you.

Early Years News

Reception Garden

We have been working hard to develop our Reception outdoor area. A big part of this has been renovating our garden area. We were kindly gifted lots of plants by a lady called Pat. The children have taken part in digging, weeding, planting and looking after their plants. The children are so proud of their garden and have worked together to create and maintain it.



We have a herb garden that contains mint, chives, oregano, camomile and thyme. We also have a strawberry patch and we have tasted the strawberries we have grown.

We made our own bug hotel using palettes and natural objects. We have had many visitors including spiders, ladybirds, caterpillars, woodlice, ants and worms!



We also have a nature kitchen and we use our own herbs and flowers in our recipes.





BFG News:

The BFG have raised a fantastic £993.75 this year, which is a great achievement given the current restrictions; course none of this could have been achieved without your support, so THANK YOU!

Some of this money has been used for items such as a snow machine, Prizes for different events, the virtual panto and the membership for ParentKind.

The BFG will meet again in the new term to discuss further fundraising events and what the money can be used for throughout the year in agreement with the school, such as Easter and Christmas events and various projects including a ZEN zone, playground areas and upgrading technology for the children.

If you are interested in joining the BFG please contact the Chairman, Mark Veale.



Welcome

A warm BPS welcome to Miss Beard and Mr Woodward who will be joining us in September. Following successful recruitment, Miss Beard has been appointed as our new manager for Little Jesters and Mr Woodward will be our new caretaker. We are looking forward to welcoming them into the BPS team.

Farewell Year 6

We bid a sad farewell to our lively year 6 class next week as they take the next step onto secondary school. We will miss your happy faces around the school and wish you all the very best of luck in your chosen secondary schools. Enjoy making so many new friends and happy memories.

Have a fabulous, safe and healthy summer everyone. We made it!

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Miss Robbins and all the team here at Berkeley Primary

SEPTEMBER INFORMATION 2021

Government's Step 4 Road Map Update – What does this mean for Berkeley Primary school?

The Prime Minister has now [set out details](#) of the final roadmap step (Step 4) as we transition out of lockdown. Subject to a final review of the data next week, legal restrictions will end on Monday 19th July. We are looking forward to slowly reintroducing pre-covid systems for the children, giving them time to adapt as we settle in to the new term. We are delighted that we will no longer need to contain classes in bubbles, but will still remain vigilant and follow our updated risk assessment.

The following control measures will remain:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone. 2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes. 3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated. 4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

What will happen if the restrictions are lifted from July 19th 2021?

The site settings will continue with measures already in place – there will be NO changes before we break up for the summer holidays. **The changes noted below will only take effect from September 2021.**

As a site, we ask that parents and visitors continue to wear masks when entering the premises, up until the end of the summer term. This will protect families and staff before the holidays.

What will happen from September 2021?

Berkeley Primary school plans in light of the announced changes to **commence from September 2021:**

- Parents, staff and visitors can enter the site without wearing a mask or facial covering.
- There will be no staggered timetables in place:
- School gates will open at **8:45am and will close at 8:55am** when all children should be in school for morning registration. Children will enter using the same entrance gate used currently and will go into their respective classes as they have been used to this year.
- All classes will line up on the playground at **3:15pm for collection**; teachers will send children to the adults collecting them. ***We kindly ask that you do not approach teachers whilst they are dismissing children as they need to ensure they have safely dismissed all children in their care.***
- Bubbles will no longer be in place and pupils will be able to mix at break times and during whole school events like assemblies and special days.
- Parents and family members will be able to attend special events in school! (YAY!)
- A risk assessment will be in place to identify measures that will be actioned if there is a positive case within the school from September 2021.
- The risk assessment will reflect the government's new plans to reduce the amount of pupils and staff having to self-isolate, if there is a positive case or an increase in local Covid-19 cases. This is called an outbreak management plan.

Thank you so much for **all your support** during these unprecedented times. We ask that during the summer holidays that all parents check their MME app and our website for updates in relation to Government announcements and changes. We wish all our families a safe and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming you back to some normality at last!

