

# The Berkeley Institute "Weekly Times"

## Week of December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Our Mission Statement

*"The mission of The Berkeley Institute, a diverse senior school with a rich heritage and tradition of excellence, is to ensure a stimulating learning environment that prepares all of its students to lead full and purposeful lives and to assume leadership roles in both the local and global communities."*

*Revised April 2019*

### Berkeley Choir Wins Skyport's Carrol-Off



## Principal's Corner:

Good Day Parents and Guardians,

### Happy Holiday Season!

Even though the work is so hard, it is so worth it. What a great week we have had overall with our Honour Roll Assemblies, field trips, the Aspiring Leadership Institute, netball & volleyball games, winning the **Skyport Great Bermuda Carol Off** and success with our Mid-Term Accreditation Report!! Team Berkeley you rock and we appreciate all that you do and continue to do to ensure that our school shines! I cannot say thank you enough...

### Here are a few reminders:

1. Principal Leave- Principal Douglas will be on Personal Leave from **Monday, December 9, 2024 until Monday, December 16, 2024.**

As such, the following Deputy Principals will be Acting Principal and should be contacted accordingly in Principal Douglas' absence:

- i. **Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>** - Deputy Tiannia Symonds ([tsymonds@berkeley.bm](mailto:tsymonds@berkeley.bm))
- ii. **Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>** - Deputy Quincy Paynter ([qpaynter@berkeley.bm](mailto:qpaynter@berkeley.bm))
- iii. **Friday & Monday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**- Deputy Kali Douglas([douglas.kali@berkeley.bm](mailto:douglas.kali@berkeley.bm))

2. **Measles-** As you may be aware, there have recently been 2 confirmed cases of measles in Bermuda, which constitutes an outbreak. Although there are presently no outbreaks in schools, there is the potential for ongoing cases and outbreaks in Bermuda as uptake of the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccination (MMR) in the country is lower than recommended. Measles is a highly infectious viral disease that can have serious and sometimes fatal consequences. Measles spreads quickly from person to person, especially in schools. Spending more than 15 minutes in direct contact with someone infected with measles is sufficient to transmit the virus. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with.

Measles is spread through coughing and sneezing, close personal contact or direct contact with infected nasal or throat secretions. For more information about measles and the symptoms, see below the attached Measles Fact Sheet.

## Measles 2024

i. **Important for staff and pupils:** Our school could be negatively impacted if unvaccinated/under vaccinated staff or children contract measles. If a pupil or staff member thinks they have measles they must not come into school or work for at least 4 days after the rash first appears. If identified as a close contact of someone with measles (at or outside of school), pupils and staff may be asked to self-isolate for up to 21 days. These close contact children/staff must not attend school and will be advised of this by the Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit.

ii. **From the Office of the Chief Medical Officer-** Call to action: We are urgently asking that the school: • request that parents and staff inform the school if they are suspected or confirmed with measles or are a close contact. • advise your parents and staff to be alert to signs and symptoms of measles and ask parents to check that their children are fully vaccinated, i.e. 2 MMR vaccines. If anyone has missed one or both doses of the MMR vaccine, it is not too late to catch up. We have advised parents to contact their GP practice or the Department of Health to book an appointment as soon as possible if they have missed either dose.

3. Finally, please encourage your son/daughter to complete and return their **pledge sheet for the Berkeley Annual Charity Walk** by Thursday, December 19, 2024.

Be well and look forward to [Principal Douglas' return next week!](#)

Kind regards,

Keisha L. Douglas

Principal



The Berkeley Institute

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**Respice Finem!**



# Serenades that Stir The Heart



“Spreading Holiday Cheer!” – Berkeley’s choir captivates hearts.



On Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 2024, The Berkeley Institute’s choir, directed by Mr. John Woolridge, earned the top prize for winning Skyport’s second annual Great Bermuda Carol-Off competition. Berkeley took first place in the middle and secondary school choir category. Our school performed at the LF Wade International Airport on Thursday afternoon before a panel of judges decided the finalists of the carol competition. 2023 winners, Bermuda Institute, took second place to our singing Panthers. Berkeley and Bermuda Institute competed for \$5,000 for the winners, along with \$2,000 for the runner-up. Skyport, the airport management firm, celebrated the 21 choirs that participated in this year’s competition, saying each brought something “unique and festive to the stage”. Congratulations to Mr. John Woolridge and The Berkeley Institute’s choir for winning Skyport’s second annual Great Bermuda Carol-Off Competition.





FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

# DECK THE HALLS

YEAR LEVEL ADVISORY DOOR  
DECORATING COMPETION



*S1 THEME~ HOLIDAY MOVIES*

*S2 THEME~ HOLIDAY*

*CARTOONS*

*S3 THEME~ HOLIDAY SONGS*

*S4 THEME~ SANTAS*

*WORKSHOP/ WISHLIST*

From December 9th-18th  
Judging will also take place  
on the 18th



STUDENT COUNCIL FOR THE STUDENTS  
BY THE STUDENTS



# CAN DRIVE WEEK

Cans will be collected at the door  
three cans= free Holiday PJ grub day

December 16-19 | Free grub day will take place  
on Thursday December 19th







# COZIES & COCOA

DEC. 19TH 2024  
DURING ADVISORY

**HOT CHOCOLATE-\$2 ◆ MOVIES ◆ PAJAMAS**

.....  
FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS



FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

# Candy Gram

SPREAD SOME HOLIDAY CHEER!

SEND A CANDY CANE AND A NOTE TO A FRIEND  
OR CLASSMATE!

## HOW IT WORKS:

**SIGN UP DATES:**

**DECEMBER 10 - DECEMBER 12 2024**

**UPPER ATRIUM - DURING LUNCH**

**WRITE YOUR MESSAGE AND CHOOSE YOUR  
RECIPIENT**

**CANDY GRAMS WILL BE DELIVERED**

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**DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS SWEET SURPRISE!**

**2  
FOR  
\$5**





You are invited to

# Frosty Friday

Join us for a jolly good time at our school's Festive Friday event! Bring your holiday spirit and enjoy festive fun and cheer for everyone!

December 13, 2024  
During Lunch

In the Court Yard  
For the students by the students





*Around Campus: Winter Concert*



THE BERKELEY INSTITUTE  
ARTS DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

# WINTER CONCERT 2024

**18TH  
DEC**

**THE BERKELEY  
INSTITUTE  
CAFETORIUM**

TICKETS \$10 - AVAILABLE FROM THE BERKELEY INSTITUTE  
MAIN OFFICE  
DOORS OPEN 5:30 P.M. | SHOW START 6:00 P.M.

@theberkeley\_bda    www.berkeley.bm    441-292-4752





# ANNUAL CHARITY WALK 2024

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024  
9:00 A.M.**

**EACH STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A PLEDGE SHEET WORTH \$20 TO COMPLETE AND RETURN TO SCHOOL BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024.**

**DEPARTING FROM WARWICK  
POST OFFICE IN THE **WEST****

**DEPARTING FROM THE  
AQUARIUM PARKING LOT IN  
THE **EAST****





# The Berkeley Institute

## Hours of Operation

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Student Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

School Telephone Number: (441) 292-4752  
Attendance Clerk's Direct Number: (441) 294-0357  
Fax Number: (441) 295-5646

## The Week at a Glance

- ❖ Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 2024
  - ITL Meeting & Year Head Meeting @ 3:45 p.m.
- ❖ Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 2024
  - Principal & Deputy Meeting
- ❖ Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 2024
  - Berkeley Educational Society Meeting
- ❖ Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 2024
  - School Grub Day \$3.00

## Around Campus: Giving Tuesday Campaign



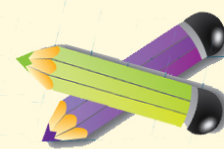
The Berkeley Institute has taken its 127th anniversary as a creative opportunity to fundraise for a good cause. Its Giving Tuesday campaign aims to raise \$12,700 in 127 hours, according to Stephanie Lee, the school's development and communications officer. She conveyed to the Royal Gazette, "Funds raised will go towards various initiatives and programmes within the school that provide enhanced educational experiences and student services support programmes." Berkeley raised \$9,155 of a \$12,600 target during its first Giving Tuesday initiative last year. Visit [berkeley.bm/about/donate-online.html](http://berkeley.bm/about/donate-online.html) to donate towards the drive, which runs this week from Tuesday to Friday.

## Berkeley Pictures of the Week



From left to right:

1. The Berkeley Institute's choir members gather for hot chocolate after singing at the L.F. Wade International airport.
2. Mr. John Woolridge and The Berkeley Institute choir pose for a picture after singing at Skyport's annual Great Bermuda Carol-Off competition.
3. Berkeley's choir warm-up their voices on the shuttle bus ride to the airport.



Quincy Paynter  
Deputy Principal  
Editor

## Respice Finem! Keep the End In View!