



AROUND THE PALACE



Science club

Each week students from Years 6-8 attend Science Club to try something different. Last week they were making bath bombs (using a Science Museum recipe).

A reactive pair of chemicals had to be mixed rapidly with food colouring, fragrance and witch hazel and then moulded into shape. Unfortunately the mixture cannot be tested at home for fear of staining but it is guaranteed to fizz furiously on contact with water! Pictured above Eloise Robertson, Shriya Parsotam-Chitnavis, Rozhina Modaresi and Hanna Ghufoor are choosing their colours.

Reception Christening ceremony

Last week, the students in Reception attended a mock Baptism at Juniors with Reverend Sara Goatcher.

The Reception classes have been learning about Christening ceremonies in their KUW lessons (Knowledge and Understanding of the World).

Sara used a class doll and the students named her Emily. Tallulah pretended to be the mother, Asia was the father and Zoe was the godmother. Emily was dressed in

a christening gown that had been used by Mrs. Blok's children when they were baptised. Sara placed water on Emily's head in the sign of a cross and welcomed her into our school. She then gave a candle to Asia which was a sign to show that Jesus is the Light of the World.

The girls listened with interest and were keen to be part of the ceremony.

Welcome

As we approach a well earned rest for all, I would like to say how much I am enjoying meeting with Year 11 students and their families to discuss plans for the Sixth Form. I am looking forward to seeing a number of you during half term.

May I thank all parents for their support at this critical stage in their daughters' education. It has been an excellent opportunity to start consultations on our Dress Code. I welcome more feedback and ideas on this.

Congratulations to those students with inspirational thinking for our Sixth Form Common Room. I look forward to hearing more about your plans.

Carol Jewell, Head

Junior ICT



Reception and Year 4 have enjoyed working together during their ICT lessons this week.

Reception students have made their own jigsaws and boxes on the computer and invited Year 4 to come and help put them together. Year 4 have also shown Reception how to log on and use some of their favourite websites.

Forthcoming events

Mon 06 - All week

2012 British Biology Olympiad (first round) for Year 13

Mon 06 - 13:30 – 16:45

Year 6 Netball Tournament, Bromley High

Mon 06 - 17:30

Polyphonic Evensong, Croydon Minster

Tues 07 - 09:00 – 13:30

Years 10 & 11 GCSE musicians to an illustrated concert, Southbank Centre

Tues 07 - 12:40 – 13:30

The Palace Talks: "What's so special about ten (and what is a binary digit anyway)?", St David's

Tues 07 - 14:40 – 16:45

Year 13 Biology Olympiad, CR1

Tues 07 - 15:30 – 16:45

Year 6 Netball v Regina Coeli, Seniors

Tues 07 - 16:00 – 17:30

Maths STEP Classes, Westminster, St David's & Truro

Tues 07 - 16:00 – 18:00

Reception – Year 5 Consultation Meeting, Juniors

Wed 08 - 16:00 – 17:00

Extension Task Reward Tea Party, Small Hall

Wed 08 - 19:00 – 21:00

Careers Convention, Shah

Thu 09 - All Day

Year 12 Geography field trip, Docklands & Stratford

Thu 09 - 16:00 – 18:00

Reception – Year 5 Consultation Meeting, Juniors

Fri 10 - All Day

Whole School Mufti Day in aid of the Floating Shelter, Seniors and Juniors

Fri 10 - All Day

Years 12 & 13 Sixth Form Ethics Conference, Trinity

Fri 10 - 09:00 – 13:00

Maggini Quartet in Residence (Composition project with Year 12 music students), Chapel

Fri 10 - 16:00 – 17:30

Years 3 – 5 School Spring Dance (PTA event), Assembly Hall

For a complete look at the week ahead please visit www.oldpalaceofjohnwhitgift.org/parent-calendar

Greek and Philosophy Masterclass

On Saturday 21 January, we continued our series of Masterclasses where students from Years 5 and 6 were introduced to Ancient Greek, its alphabet and the derivatives in our modern day English language.

They then moved to a Philosophy masterclass during which they engaged in lively discussion on whether it is possible to think of nothing.

They also discussed what happens to numbers when we are not using them and the class ended with a heated debate on what is art, by looking at various old masters and modern art.

Plato would have been most impressed by the students' reasoning and how well opinions were expressed on the matter.



Swimming championships success

A talented team of 10 students competed at the Prestigious Croydon Schools' Swimming Championships on 19 January.

The outstanding results were testament to the tremendous dedication and effort shown by the students. Old Palace finished as the second placed Girls' School in the championship.

The camaraderie of the students supporting and cheering each other was delightful to see and Mrs Tamplin was overwhelmed with the excellent results and individual achievements.

Year 8:

Callisto Singh, Year 8 - 1st breaststroke, 2nd freestyle relay, 2nd medley relay, 2nd breaststroke relay; Tara Shah, Year 8 - 3rd butterfly, 2nd freestyle relay, 2nd medley relay; Iysha Bhinda, Year 8 - 2nd individual medley, 4th backstroke, 2nd freestyle relay, 2nd medley relay, 2nd breaststroke relay; Alice Talleux, Year 8 - 2nd breaststroke relay; Millie Pringle, Year 8 - 2nd medley relay, 2nd freestyle relay; Katie

Morgan-Williams, Year 8 - 5th Year 8 freestyle; Year 7:

Lauren Sinclair, Year 7 - 2nd backstroke; Fiona McNevin, Year 7 - 4th breaststroke, 2nd breaststroke relay; Ese Oraka-Onojeje, Year 7 - 2nd freestyle and Faye Goodfellow, Year 7 - 4th butterfly.

Congratulations also go to Old Palace swimmers who performed extremely well at the Surrey County Swimming Championships last week.

The highlight of the evening was a magnificent second place for Deputy Head Girl, Izzy Rhodes in the Senior Girls' freestyle. Well done to the whole team: Izzy Rhodes, Lucy Frost, Callisto Singh, Iysha Bhinda, Tara Shah, Millie Pringle, Rachel Fleming, Ese Oraka-Onojeje, Faye Goodfellow, Fiona McNevin and Lauren Sinclair

Chinese New Year at the Nursery

This week Old Palace Nursery's Chinese New Year celebrations came to an end.

Children have been involved in some lovely activities, including fan making, chinese writing, making spring rolls and lanterns, a martial arts session and dancing.

Pre-school children made a spectacular Dragon after watching the New Year celebrations on the iplayer - eight children were needed to move the dragon around which strengthened their listening and collaborative working skills.

