



AROUND THE PALACE

Further advances in changing value added at GCSE

What is value added?

Every year Durham University analyses our public examination data. Once again they have shown that the value added at Old Palace is increasing. But what is value added?

It is a measure of how the teaching at a school is affecting the achievement of its students - and Old Palace continues to exceed national expectations.

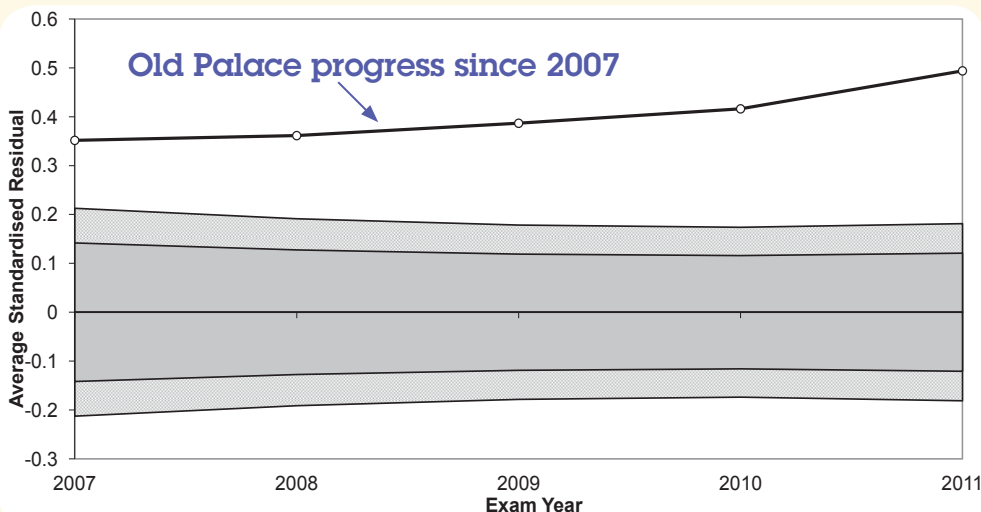
Value added takes into account the ability of students and provides a measure of how much more they achieve than would be expected given their ability.

Student achievement

Continual self evaluation and improvement has resulted in a steady increase in achievement for our students.

Staff work hard to ensure every student exceeds national expectations. Greatest value added is achieved when parents, students and staff work together to maximise learning.

The graph below provides evidence that the teaching at Old Palace results in higher achievement for students. From 2007, the upward trend has seen students go from achieving a grade one third higher than expected through to half a grade in 2011.



Welcome

The recent GCSE, AS and A-Level public examination results achieved by all our students were outstanding.

In addition, we have more good news to share - our 'value added' at GCSE continues to improve.

Value added is a method of recognising achievement against predicted grades. We hope you find this both informative and useful.

Carol Jewell, Head

How does value added work?

The 'average standardised residual' is the measure used to identify value added.

If students achieve what they are expected to, given their ability, then the average standardised residual would be zero - eg if a student was expected to get 10 As and they achieved this then the value added would be zero.

If, on the graph, the value added score lies within the two shaded grey areas, then the value added is considered not to be mathematically significantly different from expectation.

If, on the graph, the value added is in the white areas, it is mathematically important. The teaching and learning at Old Palace has resulted in a significant level of value added.

IT Parental Workshop

Parents of Yrs 7-8 are invited to an IT Parental Workshop on 22 November 2011 at Old Palace Seniors, 18.00-19.00.

With the use of the internet more prevalent than ever before, the need to ensure online protection has become paramount.

Instant messaging, social networking sites and access to the internet via mobile devices; require parents to be more aware of how to protect their children from potential risk.

To support our parents, Old Palace is running a workshop offering advice on understanding the diverse risks posed by misuse of the internet. We will also be considering the use of computer software to monitor your daughter's safety online. Please see the website for further details

Forthcoming events

Tues 08 - 09:00-17:30

Year 13 Sixth Form Conference for American politics, Eccles Centre, British Library

Tues 08 - 10:25-11:55

Senior Maths Challenge (for Yrs 11-13)

Wed 09 - 10:30-12:00

Seniors Open Morning (Years 6-13)

Wed 09 - 19:15-21:45

Years 10 & 11 trip to Mathew Bourne's Nutcracker, Churchill Theatre, Bromley

Thurs 10 - 13:00-13:30

Palace Talk: "The Ethics of Shakespeare" (Year 7 Palace Group), Cranmer

Thurs 10 - 16:00-17:30

Year 11 English, Classics and Critical Thinking Taster Session

Friday 11 - 10:20-11:20

Remembrance Day Service for Yrs 7-10, Banqueting Hall

Friday 11 - 15:15-17:00

Parent Body Second Hand Uniform Sale, Assembly Hall

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

Music Taster Day - 12 November



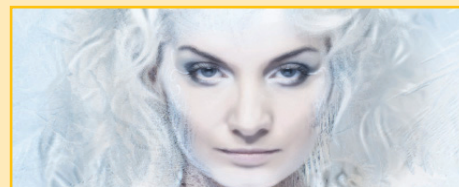
Your daughter is invited to a day of musical activities at Old Palace. The idea of the event is to introduce your daughter to a sample of the musical activities that take place at Old Palace.

There is no cost for this day, the only thing you will need to provide is a packed lunch for your daughter, we will provide a drink and snack in the morning and afternoon. Your daughter will need to bring her instrument and please note music will be aimed at girls of a standard of Grade 2 and above. A draft outline of the day is provided on the website at www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/music-taster

Snow Queen

This year's Senior Christmas drama production is The Snow Queen. Based on the story by Hans Christian Anderson this play by Ron Nicol follows Gerda's search for her friend Kai through a dangerous and unforgiving landscape. Will she be able to rescue her friend Kai from the bewitching charms of the Snow Queen?

The production of this classic is a re-imagining of the fairytale. Stylised and with a post-modern soundtrack this performance will leave you spellbound.



The production will be over three nights from 16-18 November. Ticket prices are £5 per adult and £3 per student or Old Girl.

To book and pay for your ticket please go to www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/snow-queen.

Old Girls' evening - 16 November, Covent Garden



Cantina LAREDO.
gourmet mexican food

There is an Old Girls' evening on 16 November 2011, 18.00-21.00, at Cantina Laredo, Covent Garden, London

If you live or work in London then please join us for this networking and social evening. Catch up with old school friends and enjoy the surroundings of Cantina Laredo, the authentic Mexican restaurant based in Convent Garden. An outstanding menu may tempt you

to extend your evening with a gourmet meal. We're particularly keen to see how Old Girls' can support the School and Carol Jewell, Head of Old Palace, will be joining us.

An extra incentive - the first drink is free! Please spread the word and let us know you're coming by emailing Sarah Luxford: sarah.luxford@europeanleaders.com or Maureen Bunn: maureenbunn@preferredcontracts.co.uk.