



AROUND THE PALACE

PTA Spring Event



The PTA's Spring Event on Saturday was very well attended, and we would like to thank the PTA committee and all the volunteers who helped on the day. Here is a photo of Mrs Jewell and Mr Horton with our new Head, Mrs Jane Burton (Mrs Burton takes over from Mrs Jewell in September). Mrs Burton is holding a teddy bear which she won in the raffle.



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Welcome

Thank you to the many Year 7 and Year 10 parents who have been in attendance at Parent Consultation evenings this week.

I do hope that your daughters have found the experience to be thoroughly positive with plenty of encouragement as to next steps.

I am enjoying meeting up with Year 9 families as we look to the future with our students and ensure that they are all thinking ambitiously about their respective career aspirations.

Tonight we bid farewell to our Year 13 students at their Graduation Supper with a lovely concert to follow. We wish them all the very best as they embark on their public examinations.

Good luck also to our Year 6 students as they are spending three days at Osmington Bay over the holiday weekend. They are all very excited, I am hoping the weather will be kind!

Carol Jewell

Carol Jewell, Head

PTA Spring Event *continued*

The Old Palace PTA hosted their inaugural Spring Event last Saturday and welcomed over 100 visitors to the Preparatory School. The event was a great success, especially since a number of families took part in the Unicorn Treasure Hunt and the Egg Rolling Race which was a great source of entertainment to all present.

A number of Preparatory and Senior students hosted their own craft, toy and games stalls which helped them hone their organisational, marketing and financial skills. The Nearly New Uniform Stall had a very impressive turn over with parents stocking up on uniform essentials for both Prep and Senior students.

The PTA hopes to host two further uniform sales in June 2019 - details to be shared via the school bulletin.

The PTA schedule for the remainder of the Summer term will include a Preparatory Disco and the Summer Event on Saturday 29th June at Prep to which all Old Palace students, families and friends are invited - details to follow shortly.

We would like to thank Old Palace staff, especially Mrs Bhatt, Mrs Jordan, Mr Bardens, the caretakers for helping us organise and host this event and the Prep kitchen staff for providing a tasty selection of hot food on the day.

Finally, a big thank you to the girls and their families who attended the Spring Event and supported our fundraising initiative. We look forward to seeing you at the Summer Event in June 2019.



Sports Leader Camp At Loughborough University



On a three day camp in early April, I went to Loughborough University to take part in a coaches training camp run for girls by the Youth Sports Trust. I was selected to attend following a course held in Croydon. It was an amazing

opportunity with many new and inspiring activities which taught me to push myself to my limits in order to make maximum progress.

During the camp, I met many new people who shared the same passion for sport that I have. This was important as it helped me to realise that, as girls, we can enjoy sports just as much as boys do. I tried many new activities that I would never have thought of doing before, such as Drumba (a mix of playing the drums and Zumba!) I was also able to learn how to teach Boccia (which previously I hadn't heard of).

The main message of the camp was to help improve our CARE during coaching or participating in sport. This stands for Creativity, Ambition, Resilience and Empathy. These attributes should not only be used during sport, but also in daily life. The camp at Loughborough was an amazing opportunity and it helped inspire me to be the change and help sport change lives.

Sarah E-K, Year 10

Millennium Youth Choir Weekend At St Paul's

The Millennium Youth Choir (MYC) is the Royal School of Church Music's (RSCM) National Choir for 15 to 23 year olds. On the 27th and 28th of April, I was privileged enough to sing with Millennium Youth Choir as I became a member back in February this year when I was old enough to audition.

I sang Choral Evensong on Saturday and Eucharist and Choral Evensong on Sunday. I sang a vast range of repertoire from Ayleward to Alexander l'Estrange. The acoustic of St Paul's Cathedral is gorgeous and once you have finished a piece it continues to echo for about eight seconds.

Rehearsals were really efficient as everyone was sent the music in advance so we could learn it. Some of the music was quite challenging but it was all beautiful. We sang Evensong from the choir stalls and I could hear the echo all the way down the Cathedral. Sunday Eucharist was sung under the dome of the Cathedral which was an amazing experience due to the acoustics of the Cathedral. I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to sing at St Paul's again as I love everything about it. If anyone else is interested in joining, please let me know.

For under 15's the RSCM has set up a new Intermediate Millennium Youth Choir (iMYC) for young people aged 12-16, with membership via application. Members may be former cathedral choristers, looking to continue singing at an advanced level in a liturgical context, or experienced singers in church or school choirs. Focussed on developing musicianship skills at a high level, iMYC meets for occasional day events and summer residentials to work with high-calibre choral directors and vocal coaches. The iMYC has a close relationship with its sibling groups and is an excellent next step for members of JMYC who are looking for a new challenge. There is a summer course in Norfolk, from the 1st to the 5th of August. For more information go to <https://www.rscm.org.uk/courses/imyc-summer-course-norfolk/>

Constanza, Year 10



Year 5 Gifted And Talented



Year 5 attended a workshop at St Mary's University as part of the Gifted and Talented trip for Sport and enjoyed a full day of sport and exercise.

Isobel, Carmen, Sappy and Amber enjoyed Ultimate Frisbee and New Age Curling as well as a tour of the university. The girls were looked after by 4th Year university students studying Sports Science. This meant the girls got to ask lots of exciting questions about university life and sports science as a subject.

Year 1 Receives Visit From BA Pilot

Year 1 had a very special visit from Captain Louise, a pilot who works for British Airways. She told us all about how she trained to become a pilot and used balloons and paper aeroplanes to show us how planes stay in the air. Captain Louise also showed us what she keeps in her hand luggage bag...her teddy bear!



Restless Development Triathlon

On Sunday morning, ten teams from Year 3-7 took part in the Restless Development Triathlon

It was an early start at 9am for some of our budding competitors and their army of supporters. Swim kit, bikes running gear and registration all needed to be organised well in advance for this professional course, as well as raising a minimum of £50 each. Some girls raised well over this amount (final total yet to be confirmed).

For some of our girls this was their first experience of a triathlon and we are pleased to say it did not disappoint. Fortunately the weather held off and the sun even made an appearance.

Some quotes from parents...

"Absolutely brilliant for their first triathlon with cheerleading support from their siblings - You were on fire" - FLAMING FIREBIRDS!

*"Super proud of this group of girls today. They smashed it today with their group – massive high five to all of them."
"Great to see everyone enjoying themselves. Thanks for all the amazing support" RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT.*

"The girls did a wonderful job and showed amazing team work". – UNITED UNICORNS

"The amount of effort the girls put in was super and raised an incredible amount for charity."

Mrs Coster was so proud to see so many happy faces cross the finish line. The girls' smiles could not have been any bigger and they should wear their medals with pride. The final team of Crazy Catz made it home just before the first drops of rain at 5pm!

Well done everyone!



Year 7 CRAZY CATZ



Year 6 UNITED UNICORNS



Year 6 GREEN BEANS



Year 5 GIRL POWER



Year 4 POWERFUL MAGICAL MERMAIDS



Year 4 THE GOLDEN DOLPHINS



Year 4 THE BRONZE BESTIES



Year 3 THE FLAMING FIREBIRDS



Year 3 SUPER DUPER STARS



Year 3 THE SPORTY GIRLS

Easter Trip To Berlin

On the 14th of April, a group of German and History students went to East Berlin to improve their German and experience the fascinating culture there. When we arrived, we dropped off our belongings at our hotel rooms and went to a Vietnamese restaurant for dinner.

The next day we ate breakfast at the German Language School in Berlin and went to our first classes. Some of us found it a bit daunting at first as the teachers only spoke to us in German, even in the beginner classes, but we soon settled in as we participated in a combination of studying and games such as hangman. For the beginner classes, one of our first tasks was to fill in a questionnaire about ourselves, then scrunch up the paper and have a makeshift "snowball fight" until we each had to write a paragraph in German, using another person's questionnaire.

On Monday, we walked around East Berlin visiting the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, which was a series of different sized concrete slabs on uneven ground so that you walked amongst them. It created an uneasy atmosphere made to

recreate the feeling of being in a concentration camp. Then we visited the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag building and learnt about its significance for the history of German democracy. On Tuesday, we visited the Stasi museum and had audio guides outside before we could go in and have a tour around the museum.

We spent Wednesday looking around the Sanssouci Palace which is a small Palace as it was only meant to be used in the summer. We saw the grape vines

that inspired much of the architecture there; for example, stone carvings of Bacchus, the Roman god of wine, and images of grapes on the walls. Our last day went quickly as we took pictures of the Berlin Wall and ate vegan Swedish ice cream after our lessons and meal at the German Language School, before flying back to England.

Alice PW





**Old Palace of
John Whitgift School**
Independent Girls' School

The Drama Department Presents

Alice IN Wonderland AND THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

By Lewis Carroll
Adapted for the Stage by Adrian Mitchell



May 15|16|17
7pm in the Chapel

Tickets: Children/Concessions: £3 Adults: £5

Available from www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/wisepay

Nursery And Pre School Round Up: April



Celebrating Easter is always a lot of fun and this year we had added excitement with the arrival of six duck eggs. After a few days, we saw the eggs hatch and baby ducklings emerge. Within a week, and to the children's delight, the baby ducklings were already at the stage of enjoying their first swim.

A huge range of Easter crafts were also high on the agenda with all sorts of different media, colours and textures to explore and some beautiful creations emerging!



Singing Hot Cross Buns helped us understand numbers and counting money, and to end it all we had a whole Nursery Easter egg hunt and Easter bonnet competition. Children and parents used all their creative skills to make some stunning bonnets - making it very difficult for the judges to decide on the winner.



Sailing At South Norwood Lake



I was lucky enough to be part of a group of 12 girls who signed up to go sailing. We had our first session this week and we learnt how to rig and de rig a sailboat and we learnt all the parts of one too:

- Hull
- Tiller
- Cleats
- Kicker
- Port
- Dagger board
- Tiller extension
- Sail
- Traveller
- Rudder
- Mast
- Boom
- Starboard

We paddled our boats into the lake. It was scary and exhilarating at the same time. It was really difficult at first but we got the hang of it eventually through a lot of screaming and team work.

The next day my arms hurt so much but it was 100% worth it because now I can just about paddle a boat.

Miali, Year 8



Year 7 Athletics

On Monday, a group of Year 7 students took part in a friendly taster session for athletics.

Students from Old Palace, Riddlesdown and Croydon High took part and it was a good opportunity for students to try out a number of athletics disciplines in a non-pressured environment. A whole selection of events were on offer – track sprints, distance events as well as throws and jumps.

The student results have not yet been sent through, but to some extent they are not important! The great thing was having the chance to have a go! There were some excellent performances on the track with Sumaiya and Chisom winning their heats in the hurdles and 100m respectively.

We look forward to future competitions throughout the term. Indoor athletics club takes place on Friday lunchtimes for any students who would like to improve and develop their basic athletics skills.

Well done to all the Year 7 students who took part!



Athletics At Whitgift

Athletes in Years 9 and 10 have been invited to join the Athletics Club at Whitgift School on Monday evenings. It was, and will be, a great opportunity for students to train with access to full athletics facilities and with extra specialist staff.

The athletes who went this week really gained from the experience and enjoyed working on the full track available at Whitgift. It is always good to build relationships with other Foundation schools and share the resources available.

We look forward to future sessions, and to using the Whitgift facilities for our **Senior Sports Day on Wednesday 19th June.**

Athletics Years 8 And 9



On Wednesday, a team of Year 8 and 9 athletes took part in a pre-season athletics competition. This was a very low-key, relaxed environment for athletes to try out a number of field and track events – some of which they may not have tried before.

It was pleasing to see the Old Palace students experience a range of activities and try to improve their personal best performances. There were some good performances on the track including some very pleasing times in the 800m and 1500m as well as some good, close finishes in the sprint events.

It was a really good opportunity for athletes to prepare for the season ahead. A number of students have enrolled in athletics clubs outside of school (eg Croydon Harriers) where they will have the opportunity to further develop their skills.

Well done to all those who took part – you were great ambassadors for Old Palace School.