



AROUND THE PALACE

Year 3 Easter Project



Fatima in Year 3 made Easter eggs from foam, paper and other materials as recommended by Mrs Wallis.

"My family and I made a house, baskets, cars, carrots, eggs, and more for my bunny. It was all made out of cardboard and paper. My bunny's name is Easter. She has been with me since I was 5 years old."

Dear all,

I very much hope that all Old Palace families managed to get some sort of break over the Easter period and enjoy the sunshine that has accompanied the very strange circumstances that we all find ourselves in.

Staff across the whole school have enjoyed reconnecting with the Old Palace community this week as the summer term starts and hopefully this Bulletin will provide another reminder of the positivity and enthusiasm that is being shown by students, staff and parents during these unprecedented times.

I very much hope that we are soon in a position to be able to safely re-open the school before the end of the summer term so that we can get back to some sort of normality as soon as possible.

We continue to follow all government advice in this respect and will provide regular updates as the term progresses.

Jane Burton, Head

We want to hear from you

Send your contributions/photographs for the bulletin to Mrs Berry:

nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk

Year 10 Success at Biology Challenge



Biology Challenge is a national competition run each year by The Royal Society of Biology.

The competition consisted of two online papers whose questions were set to reflect not just a secure knowledge of the school curriculum but also to reward those students whose knowledge of Biology has been increased. This was achieved

by reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes and taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest.

There were over 23 thousand entries this year and I am delighted that this year our students gained a total of 32 awards, including 16 medal winners. Sophia gained a Gold medal, putting her in the top 5% of the competition.

Seven students achieved Silver medals, Shahd, Rohaan, Mia, Dora, Abhirra, Lilia and Suraiya. Eight students gained Bronze medals, Evancika, Ilma, Jessica, Indrani, Aparnaa, Anna O, Anna K-S and Chenai. A further six students were Highly Commended and another 10 students were Commended.

Well done to all the award winners and to everyone else who took part.

Charlotte Named Joint Winner of YPTE Essay Competition



Miss Richards writes:

"Many congratulations to Charlotte in Year 12, who has just been announced as the joint winner of the inaugural 2,000 word essay writing competition run by the Young People's Trust For The Environment and sponsored by Eurostar".

The competition challenged 15 to 18 year-olds to write 2,000 words to Change the World. Entrants could choose four topics: climate change, sustainable development, responsible travel and reducing waste.

The YPTE website says:

The quality of (the winners') work was outstanding and they both produced some very effective arguments and some fantastic ideas for possible solutions to two of the key environmental issues we face today. Charlotte chose to write about how we can tackle climate change, whilst Kirsty addressed how it may be possible to live more sustainably.

Here is the link to Charlotte's, winning essay:

<https://yppte.org.uk/content/2-000-words-to-change-the-world-charlotte>

Charlotte writes:

A few weeks ago I got the opportunity to have a zoom meeting with a worker from Eurostar, the director of the YPTE (Young People's Trust for the Environment) charity, one of their presidents (Cel Spellman), and two of their young trustees who created the essay competition. During the meeting we talked about current attitudes towards climate change and some of the short-term environmental successes that have come from countries going into lockdown – like the clearer Venice canals.

I also got the chance to speak to the other competition winner, Kirsty, who spoke about the importance of global co-operation so that developing countries can industrialise with less impact. We were both awarded our virtual certificates on call, which I enjoyed. Luckily Eurostar have also agreed to extend the tickets we both won, as travelling this year might be problematic.

YPTE has also allowed me to become one of their 'young trustees' which is exciting as it means I can attend meetings and stay involved with the charity.

Overall, it was really inspiring seeing so many people passionate about the environment and hearing their perspectives and plans for the future.



A letter from Mrs Nike

Today marks the end of the first week of teaching using Microsoft Teams (MT). The majority of lessons have been successful, with most children fully engaging in the learning experience. I am thrilled that we have been able to introduce this online learning platform to enhance our teaching provision at this difficult time. I have received many emails from parents and children to say how much they are gaining from this interactive way of working.

Teachers have been very positive about the children's behaviour online and their attitude towards learning. I have seen many of the completed tasks that have been set and the quality is excellent. I am very pleased that high standards have been maintained and a lot of effort and concentration is going into the work. Well done girls!

We have encountered a small number of technical problems, but these have been sorted out quickly. On occasion, the camera or microphones have not worked or microphones have been left on. However, as children and teachers become more familiar with the technology, incidences like this will lessen, making the quality of the experience even better.

I would like to say thank you to our teachers who have all worked tirelessly to implement MT in such a short amount of time. It is a very different way of teaching, but they have taken it in their stride and worked hard to deliver lessons that are engaging and fun.

Mrs Nike

Head of Nursery & Preparatory

Old Palace Anagrams

Mrs Morris has devised some clever Old Palace-related anagrams.

They could be the name of a teacher or something related to Old Palace e.g. Ayckbowm. See if you can work out what they are.

Answers next week.

CLAP EH
STORM BURN
YON CORD
FIGHT WIT
RIM NETS
RYE URNS
IRKS MEN
BOLD CHEAT CLARK
BLUE LINT
CIRCULAR RARE TUX
ARMOUR DOG
HUSH BALI DING
COUGAR APPLE

Old Palace YouTube Channel - New Videos

Mrs Solari makes Magic Water Cake without eggs or butter!

<https://youtu.be/Aet8uVFoSCc>



Mrs Coster IS...The Lockdown PE Teacher

https://youtu.be/d8VEeN_rmmY



Joe Wicks Workout

Joe Wicks continues to be very popular with our students. Here are photos of Sarah (Year 9) and Nissi doing their workouts.



Year 8 Easter Project



8 Stafford were given a creativity project to do over the Easter holidays. This follows on from some of the creativity projects that the girls were doing in school. The project set for 8 Stafford was to create a marble run either in the garden or throughout the house. Here is an example of one from Anjali. Well done!

Churchill College, Cambridge Q&A Session at Whitgift

Earlier this term fifteen Sixth Form students attended a lunchtime Q&A session at Whitgift School, organised by Matt Bullimore, the Widening Participation Officer at Churchill College, Cambridge, the link college for Croydon schools.

This talk focused on applying to Oxbridge, the admissions process and life at Oxford and Cambridge and was for students who were considering an application to Oxford or Cambridge next year. Questions answered by Matt ranged from: How to choose a college; what should be in my Personal Statement to make it stand out?; admissions tests and the college system.

Most surprising was that there was no specific reasoning as to why you should choose a particular college, other than personal preference. As most already knew, it is the passion you show for a subject and the extra reading/knowledge you have gained through supra-curricular activities, which can make a candidate stand out.

Our potential Oxbridge candidates found the session informative and are now keen to take the advice on board in their future applications.

Mrs Williams

Higher Education and Careers Coordinator

Congratulations Amy

Congratulations to Amy in Year 10 for achieving a distinction in her Grade 6 cello exam!



Year 8 Support Local Charity Evolve



We are issuing an emergency appeal, asking members of the public to support the homeless people in our services.

The cost of the Coronavirus to our services = £41,000/ fortnight.

We do not have this kind of money.

Amazing support has helped us so far. With further help we can continue running our services. Your donation can help us keep homeless people in our services fed, housed, and supported. Be it the cost of a coffee, your daily/weekly commute, or more, every penny will help keep our services running.

Donate here to help homeless people

www.justgiving.com/campaign/Covid-19-homeless

We know this is a difficult time for everybody. If you are able to give, it would be truly appreciated.

Charity Registration No: 1099051

Year 9 Student Learns Korean



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

I had to change my skills section for my Duke of Edinburgh award to something I could do from home, following the Covid-19 lockdown.

I chose to learn Korean, and was pleasantly surprised by the logical writing system and Korean alphabet, called "hangul" or 한글.

It is made up of 10 basic vowel sounds and 14 consonants. Each syllable in a word is in a separate square. For example, in the word hangul, the two symbols are 한 and 글.

I have been using free YouTube tutorials to learn it, and now that I know the basic alphabet I can begin reading simple words and can read some vocabulary, without having to write out the pronunciation in English.

I will probably continue even after I have finished the skills section. Hopefully soon I will be able to slowly read simple children's stories and work my way up onto more complicated books in Korean.



Old Palace 2.6 Challenge



At home? Sometimes bored? Looking for a challenge? Wondering what you can do?

Well let's do something as a community and challenge ourselves to do the **London Marathon** in a very strange and unique way!

Old Palace 2.6 Challenge

The London Marathon was due to take place this Sunday 26th April. The marathon is an important charity fundraiser, but also an event where thousands challenge themselves to run 26 miles.

The Old Palace 2.6 Challenge is a mini version of this! All you need to do is dream up an activity based around the numbers 2.6 or 26 that suits your skills and complete it between Sunday 26 April (London Marathon day) and Sunday 3rd May.

This could be something as simple as pledging to run or ride 2.6 miles as your daily exercise, holding the plank for 2.6 minutes, to something a bit more whacky: 26 forward rolls or cartwheels, 2.6. Joe Wickes sessions

There are lots of ideas here: www.twopointsixchallenge.co.uk/inspiration.html

Share your challenge success

Take a picture of yourself competing the challenge and share it with us:

- Email: hrichards@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk
- Staff Pigeonhole: Smith-Mrs A>Old Palace 2.6

If you would like to make a donation to charity here are some suggested charities you may choose to support:

- **Crisis** www.crisis.org.uk/get-involved/donate/
- **Evolve** www.evolvehousing.org.uk/
- **Croydon foodbank** <https://croydon.foodbank.org.uk/>
- **Livingstone Tanzania Trust** www.livingstonetanzaniatrust.com/covid19-appeal
- **Captain Tom's walk for the NHS** www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tomswalkforthenhs
- **Charities Aid Foundation 2.6. Challenge** www.twopointsixchallenge.co.uk/getinvolved.html

Virtual Prep Challenge

Mrs Coster has asked Prep School pupils to complete a virtual challenge as part of their home learning.



They can either do:

<https://racethedistance.com/products/nhs-challenge-2020-do-what-you-can> or Couch to 3k or 5K

They can also use the 2.6 challenge for their miles.

Do let Mrs Coster know how you get on. Why not keep a diary of your progress to show Mrs Coster when we are back at school and don't forget to bring your medal!

Reminder

This year, the May Bank Holiday falls on Friday 8 May (*rather than the traditional Monday*) to commemorate the anniversary of **VE Day**, so the bulletin will be published on **Thursday, 7 May**



Year 7 PE Challenge

Mrs Fowler says:

"Similar to the amazing work of Captain Tom Moore who set himself a challenge of walking 100 laps of his garden to raise money for the NHS, Year 7 have been completing their own challenges. They had to decide what they wanted their challenge to be and then plan how they were going to complete it. They have been working on their challenge for the past three weeks.

Here are a few examples of what they challenged themselves to do"

As well as completing my challenges I have also been walking around with my grandmother. She does not usually like going out and the majority of the time she stays inside, but I have persuaded her to at least go and sit outside whilst I do laps around my house. After she does this she also walks around whilst she is praying and she does little exercises whilst sitting outside.

I am glad that I have got her feeling the fresh air once again.

Diya

My challenge was to try and do 12 keepy-ups in a row! I chose 12 because I was just about able to do 10 already but I knew I couldn't do 15 so I went for somewhere in the middle! I had to do this many times before I succeeded but in the end I did.

I carried it out using a football in the garden and I gave myself a time limit to do it in!

Beatrice



For our Year 7 PE lessons, we were asked to take on a challenge of our choice. We could make it up. I chose to do an exercise video every day for three weeks and I roped in my mum and sister too! It was a bit of an ask but...minus a few days because it was such nice weather that we went for a walk instead... we managed it! We've now learnt some basic boxing movements. It's really helped me and my family keep fit and carry on exercising during lockdown and release pent up aggression!

Natalie

During this time it is extremely important that we keep healthy which is why in our PE lessons we have been told to do different types of exercises, including doing PE with Joe on YouTube and creating our own exercise regimes and trying them out. Doing these exercises during our PE lessons is also fun and easy to do. For my circuit, I tried to use what I have at home; for example, I used small plant pots as cones and bigger plant plots as hurdles. Doing exercise makes you feel energised which is why I especially like to do it in the mornings as it makes you feel ready for the day.

Harini



Old Palace Talent Show

Just before half term, the Student Leadership Team organised the first Old Palace Talent Show. From a tough round of auditions, the best eight acts performed to an enthusiastic audience and a panel of judges.

The winners were Celeste and Alex in Year 8 with their comedy sketch. Second place was awarded to Nishita who sang and played the ukulele.



House Poetry Competition



Theme: **Time**

The poem can be in any form and any structure, as long as it links to the theme. (It must also be longer than two lines).

Entries will be judged in three categories by House:

Year 6-8

Year 9-10

Year 11-13



The winner of each category will earn 15 house points and the best overall entry in each house will become the 'House Poet' and earn 25 house points.

Entries should be emailed to Mrs French (RFrench@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk)

Deadline: 8th May

This competition is being run by the Poetry Society

Nursery

Ariyah and Eliana have been learning about special events by making Easter cards and chocolate nests. They've used one handed tools and equipment in an egg and spoon challenge, improved their health and self-care by feeding competently with a spoon after making a banana smoothie, practised Cosmic yoga and found time for some mathematics - filling and emptying containers indoors and out!



Easter Round Up



Katherine climbed a tree in the park on our family walk today



Lily baked some Easter nests



Olivia in Year 2 insisted on sharing her beautiful NHS rainbow picture with us all. Apparently it has pride of place in her living room window.

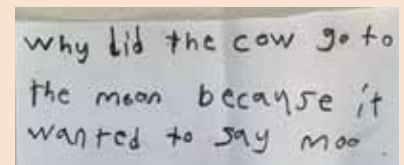
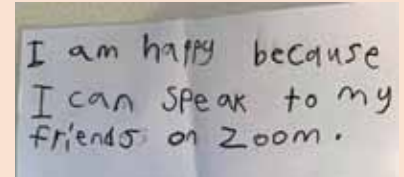
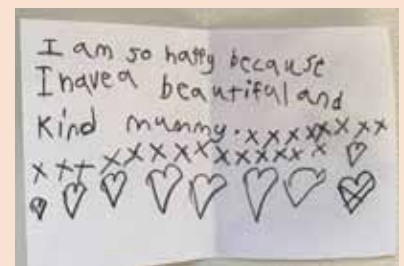


Olivia in 2J writes:

I have put happy messages inside my Happy Box. This is what we do in school and Mrs Frost then reads some of them out in assembly.

I have also put some jokes in my Happy Box so that I can make my mummy and daddy laugh. Mummy and Daddy have also put their happy messages in the box and we get to share them with each other.

My mummy has taken some photos of what I have written inside my box.



Archives Update

Old Palace holds a small but important repository of archives relating to our school's rich history. Since January, Esther Mann, (Heritage Manager for the Whitgift Foundation), and a small group of eager volunteers have undertaken some superb work in helping to record and protect archive materials including photographs, items of uniform and staff log books. Esther has kindly written a brief update on this work:

Over the last few months, the Foundation volunteers and I have been organising the Old Palace archives. We have slowly been documenting and organising newspaper cuttings and the vast collection of photographs according to date and event details. When a date is absent or unclear, we undertake internet research to ascertain more specific information. Hopefully this will enable us to establish an accurate record of special occasions, awards and practices within the school.

Archive items are slowly being added to a basic database with the intention to extend the object information at a later

point; this will provide the opportunity for some level of research and retrieval. Over time, scanned images will also be uploaded. All items are being placed in acid free boxes and wrapped to ensure their long term preservation.

I am immensely grateful to Esther and her team for their work and look

forward to embarking on archive-based projects with students and the wider community.

Do look out for updates about the Archives in future newsletters.

Karen Parker



Old Palace Teaching Staff c1900

Support for Parents and Carers Helping Children with Maths

The NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics) has created some useful video guides for supporting parents and carers during school closures. It covers primary and secondary Maths. There are video tips as well as learning activities and games. As the website points out, any activity that involves thinking mathematically or encourages students to practise their mathematical skills will be of great help in the long run, so don't worry if you're not sure exactly what your daughters have done before at school.

Mrs Morris recommends:

www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/54432?utm_source=NCETM%20Newsletters&utm_campaign=09c3bba146-national-newsletter-easter-2020&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_13f8d631f4-09c3bba146-228537369



Maths and Cupcakes



Here is a photograph of Sonia in Reception doing Mrs Wellington's maths homework, whilst enjoying a rainbow cupcake from her dad. It was brought to the hospital by a local bakery for staff.

Year 2 - A Taste of the Caribbean

On Monday 30th March, Year 2 had planned to have a day learning about Trinidad & Tobago, as part of our Humanities 'Islands' topic. Even though we were all at home, it still went ahead.

We all wore red and black clothes, the same colours as the country's flag, and completed a number of different activities. We produced posters about Trinidad and Tobago, including information such as its location, climate, currency, population, favourite foods and sports and the country's national flower and bird.

We designed and made our own carnival masks and drew or painted a hibiscus flower, which grows on the islands. Some of us even managed to find enough flour to make delicious 'Trinbagonian Roast Bakes'! Unfortunately, we weren't able to have a go at playing the steel pans, which originated in Trinidad and Tobago, but we still had a great day as you can see from the photographs that we all sent in!





Whilst the school is closed, we will be wishing happy birthday each week to students whose birthday falls during this time.

April

Nissi	Year 9	20th
Olivia	Year 12	20th
Tabitha	Year 11	20th
Isobel	Year 6	21st
Lily	Year 9	21st
Zahra	Year 9	21st
Beit-L'Tzion	Pre School	22nd
Nia	Year 1	22nd
Rosie	Year 6	22nd
Tahalia	Year 8	22nd
Adjoa	Year 8	23rd
Divinia	Year 11	23rd
Prisha	Year 7	23rd
Yumayu	Year 5	23rd
Hosanna	Year 12	24th

Photography Competition

Closing date: **4th May**

Open to all students and staff

Two categories:

Wildlife at Home or
Everyday Objects



Save your entry in Staff Pigeon Holes:
LBroad

Save your image as a jpg (300dpi minimum) with your name, form and the title of your piece as the file name e.g. LBroad_10S_VisitingPeacock.jpg

By entering this competition you give your consent for your image to be used in the bulletin, website and Wdisplays around the school.

A Rainbow for Croydon

A company called Aubergine has created a rainbow colouring page for different towns. We asked them to do one for Croydon and they have. Why not colour it in and put it in your window?

www.aubergine262.com/stay-at-home-colouring-page-for-the-kids/

