



AROUND THE PALACE

VE Day Celebrations:

Are you and your family planning to celebrate VE Day at home? It's not too late to make your own bunting. Simply use this link to download a template. www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4TrqYDyf4PMdLypxzyTwGDg/great-british-bunting

Then print it out, colour it in and hang it in your window to show you are marking the day. You can even send us a photo for the bulletin. Just email: nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk.

Have fun!

Dear all,

Lockdown certainly hasn't dampened Old Palace's creativity. From Mr Griffith's inspirational Virtual Choir to the staff's 'catching' video and Year 10 and 11's brilliant 'student planner' reply, my week has been brightened by these ingenious reminders that life at Old Palace goes on - despite the circumstances.

I hope you and your family will enjoy the VE Day celebrations on Friday; surely a poignant reminder that "we'll meet again..."

Jane Burton, Head

Staff and Student Virtual Videos

Have you seen the brilliant video from our Year 10 and 11 students? This was created in response to the one Mrs Burton sent out from staff earlier in the week.

<https://youtu.be/0XJUZdnz3BI>

https://youtu.be/DR4AQDTZ_kQ

Staff chose to catch a tennis ball.

Students, on the other hand, decided to use their student planner. Says it all, really!

Social Distan-Sing



You can watch the Old Palace virtual choir by following this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8bfArP6sL8

The Making of the Virtual Choir

It was a sad realisation for me that once school had closed for Covid-19, any sort of musical rehearsal could be a long way away - particularly if social distancing rules continue to be applied in the future. Singing has always been a huge part of the culture of Old Palace, and is a form of musical interaction accessible to everybody (contrary to popular opinion, there is no such thing as someone who 'can't sing!'), so I thought that creating a 'Virtual Choir' would be a great way to continue some form of communal music making.

I did some research and found a series of arrangements of choral pieces that I thought would work well, before settling on the Earth, Wind and Fire classic *September* as it had always been a song I liked. The version we sung had been arranged by gospel supremo Kirk Franklin with lyrics which I felt (metaphorically at least) were quite apt for the scenario we were all in - particularly given that September marks the start of the school year.

Below are a few of the words:

Do you remember, when it was like September? Before you grew cold like December and all you saw were cloudy days.

And I remember that day when you surrendered, you stopped hurting 'cause you remembered, the season it won't last always.

My concern was that the arrangement was quite difficult (it splits in to six different parts) but I was confident that our girls would rise to the challenge.

After uploading a number of instructions, scores, words (thanks to Miss Orr and Ms Fitzgerald for typing these up) and audio on to the VLE, I waited for the videos to roll in. Which they did... slowly at first, led by some keen staff members (Mrs Morris keeps her talents well hidden!) and a few younger students. All of the Prep entries were fantastic and included some amazing choreography, with the youngest singer in only Year 2! A string of talented senior students added some final gloss, perhaps unsurprisingly, a bit closer to the deadline(!). I put everything together using two software packages - Logic Pro for the audio and Final Cut for the video (but I won't bore you all with the technical details!).

I'm sure you'll agree that the final result is fantastic! (I recommend listening with headphones). I'm particularly pleased for the Year 13s involved who can have this as a leaving memento in a bizarre final year. I'd like to thank everyone that contributed, particularly Miss Fitzgerald for galvanising the Prep students. Watch this space for The Virtual Choir Part 2!

Mr Griffith

Ms Fitzgerald says: "*Did you know that the youngest pupils in the Virtual Choir are only in Year 2. Well done to Hiru and Lottie, as well as Lola and Lola-Marie in Year 4 and Catherine and Tia in Year 5. It was a really hard task/song but they did so well. I am very proud of them.*"



A letter from Mrs Nike



I have been very impressed this week with the rockets the girls in the Reception class have made for their topic on Space. The Reception girls will now be able to blast off into space on an imaginary cosmic adventure. Have fun!

I was also thrilled to watch Daisy in Year 5 home-baking on our YouTube Channel. Check it out. Can you offer any suggestions for what she should bake next? Why not give a recipe a go yourself?

It is VE Day on Friday. VE stands for Victory in Europe and it marks the day towards the end of World War II when fighting against Germany in Europe came to an end. This year it is particularly significant, as we are also facing challenging times as a country and globally. However, as I have listened to some of the stories of World War II survivors- people describing living for months in hiding, no sound, no friendship, no meals with others, no end for years, I was really inspired and challenged. The courage to live in these ways in those days without an end in sight makes a lock down full of luxury- like food, WiFi, outdoor exercise, online learning, clean water, telephone calls, books, home delivery- really worth thinking about and being thankful for. That is not to say that this is not a challenging time, but I think as individuals and as a community we can and will get through this!

Mrs Nike
Head of Nursery & Preparatory

VE Day



Sonia in Reception has been learning all about VE Day. She sent a photograph of herself recreating a wartime evacuee along with a fascinating document listing the items boys and girls were allowed to take with them (including a gas mask).



Reception Challenge



Mrs Wellington has set her Reception class a series of challenges over the last few weeks. They include learning to skip, ride a bike without stabilisers or hoola hoop!

Summer is already off to a flying start with her bike, as this photograph of her riding without stabilisers shows. Well done!

Lydia Makes a DT Purse



I really liked making the purse for DT. At first my design was a draw string as I didn't know I was going to sew it. I soon changed it to a light-weight pocket sized purse.

I made it out of blue craft felt since I couldn't find any other material the right size. I folded it in half and sewed two edges before turning it inside out. Then I attached the strap, which can come off if you want to use it as just a purse, and easily goes back on.

Lydia, Year 4

Design an Easter Egg Competition



WINNER Alice Reception

Mrs Wallis organised a Decorate an Egg competition as part of Prep's Easter Holiday Activities.

You could use a real egg and see what you could turn it into, paint an egg, make a collage, make a papier mâché egg or simply draw an egg and colour it in.

Many congratulations to the winner, Alice in Reception. Mrs Wallis chose Alice because of the variety of materials she used to make her egg.

These are the entries we received...



Lydia Year 4



Harriet Year 1



Keyala Year 3



Alynn Year 2



Sophie Year 5



Olivia Year 2



Rhiannon Reception and Angharad Nursery

Story Time with Jessica Year 3



Jessica in Year 3, together with her new friend, Pipin the kitten, has been volunteering in the local community since lockdown started, offering Story Time online for young children every Friday at www.eventbrite.com/e/childrens-story-time-online-for-families-in-croydon-tickets-103810070716?aff=erelexpmlt.

Her mother explains: In this uncertain time, Jessica is very keen to help little ones and families in Croydon to get through this and encourage more children to read while sharing her passion for reading.

Jessica has been reading children's books and short stories for children ages 2-6 years old. They also have a

chance to ask questions, predict stories' endings and engage with the reading in an interactive way.

Story Time Online for families in Croydon is a brilliant way to keep children entertained and a fun way to help develop their language skills.



Year 7 Tennis Skills

Year 7 students have been getting creative with their tennis skills. In this case, substituting a tennis ball for a rolled up pair of socks.

Do you think this might catch on at Wimbledon?



Year 6 Fitness

Isobel in Year 6 has been working out each morning. In the afternoon she does her tennis warm up and racket challenges.

Isobel says: I'm doing sport every day and it is making me feel better and helping me do my other work better as I'm in a good mood and ready to get going.

Isobel, Year 6



Year 9 Athletics Comprehension Quiz

Year 9 students have been researching their athletics knowledge and completing this quiz in PE, alongside the physical activities and challenges they have been set.

Why not have a go and see how many questions you can answer.

- One of the events in the Olympic Games in ancient Greece was
a) Discus b) Steeplechase c) Pole-vault
- Modern-style athletics competitions began in English schools in the
a) 18th century b) 19th century c) 20th century
- The IAAF World Championships in Athletics have been held since
a) 1896 b) 1961 c) 1983
- Most outdoor athletics tracks have
a) six lanes b) eight lanes c) ten lanes
- Most indoor athletics tracks have a length of
a) 200 metres b) 300 metres c) 400 metres
- The longest running race in athletics is the
a) Steeplechase b) 10,000 metres c) Marathon
- Some of the few team events in athletics are the
a) relay races b) field events c) gymnastics competitions
- Field events in athletics include jumping and
a) running b) throwing c) sprinting
- The champion runner Paavo Nurmi was born in
a) Sweden b) Denmark c) Finland
- How many Olympic gold medals did Carl Lewis win?
a) eight b) nine c) ten

Year 6 Sports Quiz

As part of their double PE lesson. Year 6 had some theory tasks to complete – as well as getting active! Why not have a go at linking each letter of the alphabet to a recognized sporting activity (or more than one) without using the internet?

Sport or activity

A	Aerobics	B		C		D	
E		F	Fencing	G		H	
I		J		K		L	
M		N		O		P	
Q		R		S		T	
U		V		W		X	
Y		Z					

Year 9 Athlete Profiles

Year 9 students have been completing some Athlete profiles alongside their practical activities in lessons.

We have had profiles based on Serena Williams, Lindsey Vonn, Billie-Jean King, Rachel Fatherly, Simona Halep, Jessica Ennis-Hill, Gabby Douglas, Sarah Taylor, Ibtihaj Muhannad, Zara Tindall, Holly Bradshaw, Dina Asher-Smith and Hannah Cockcroft (to date). Well done to Year 9 for using their research skills!

Serena Williams

Serena Williams is a American female tennis player. She represents her home country of America.



Her achievements: She is former world number 1 in women's singles tennis; she has won 23 Grand Slam titles (the second most of all time); her first number 1 ranking was July 8th 2002 and she held it for 186 weeks. She has 23 Grand Slam titles making her the highest of the active players.

She is an inspiration because when she was younger her and her sister Venus were pulled out of a school and had to be home-schooled by their father because people would talk in a derogatory manner and be racist toward them. She also had a daughter in September 2017 that left her bedridden for 6 weeks due to an emergency c-section, but then she came back in 2018 to the French Open defeating Ashleigh Barty and Julia Gorges only 6 months after giving birth.

Sarah Taylor



Debut (Test) 8 August 2006

Debut (ODI) 16 August 2006

Debut (T20) 5 August 2006

Teams: Surrey Stars, England's woman's team, Sussex cricket team

Sport: Cricket

Role: Wicket Keeper

She became the youngest woman to ever score 1000 runs in an ODI, in 2008. She is inspirational because she always put her mental health first, causing her to stop playing international cricket, but she refused to let it stop her from playing small county games, so she is still following her passion whilst taking care of her mental state.



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

May

Diya	Year 7	4th
Maryam	Year 10	4th
Mosfera	Year 7	4th
Warda	Year 9	5th
Amelia	Year 8	6th
Grace	Year 8	6th
Riya	Year 6	7th
Kayla	Year 9	8th
Beatrice	Year 7	9th
Syon	Pre School	9th
Avika	Year 3	10th
Zara-Eden	Year 7	10th

Birth Announcement - Kitt Salter

Many congratulations to Mrs Salter on the birth of her beautiful little boy, Kitt Henry Salter.

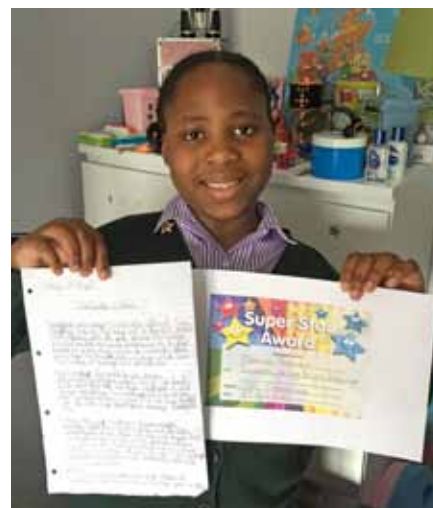
Kitt was born on 26th April 2020.



Praise Certificates Awarded This Week



Maryam with her Praise Certificate. This was awarded for her writing in English on Mrs Armitage.



Moriah in Year 3 has been awarded a certificate for her writing on Mrs Armitage.



Jessica in Year 3 with her certificate for her Mr Twit drawing and history work on gods and goddesses.



Annabelle with her Praise Certificate.



Elena (Reception) was awarded a certificate for excellent writing and music home learning. Elena's little brother, **Alessio** (Toddlers), was awarded a certificate for attempting a "Big boys puzzle" (25 piece puzzle with help) and for using more words.

2.6 Challenge Update



Lila's (Year 7) challenge was skipping.



Demi in Year 12 decided to take part in the 2.6 challenge and made 26 sugar cookies.



Zoe (Year 8) on her trampoline.



Nia did 26 laps of her garden on her bike.



Daisy C Year 5 swam 26 laps of her swimming pool for the 2.6 Challenge.



Constanza (Year 11) ran a marathon over 2 days, 15 miles on the first, 11 on the second.



Lizzie (Year 9) set herself a very impressive 2.6 challenge of cycling 26 km around Balham and Streatham.



Emily (Year 11) and **Rebecca** (Year 8)

2.6 Challenge Update



Miss Richards spent 2.6 hours painting her shed this weekend.



Mrs Solari raised money for the Livingstone Tanzania Trust by running and yoga.

Year 6 Remote Learning: Swimming



Here is a photo of **Sariah** doing some Star Jumps during her (remote) Swimming lesson.

Daisy Does Home Baking



With more time on our hands, baking has become super popular amongst Old Palace students.

Daisy in Year 5 has even recorded her own home-baking video (<https://youtu.be/dJaworxClo4>), showing us how she makes chocolate chip cakes. They look delicious.

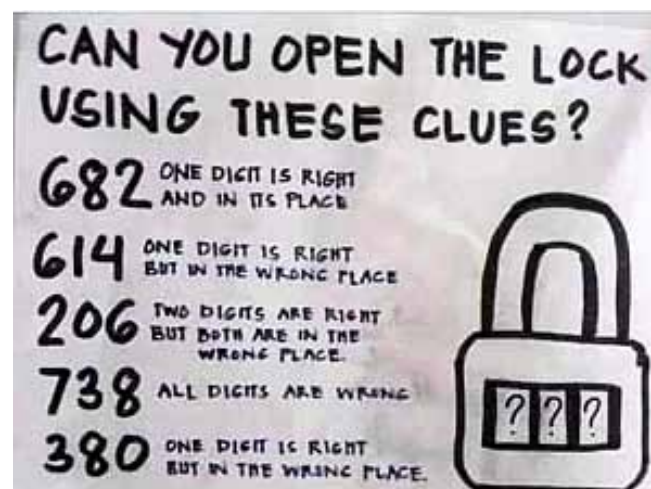
National Numeracy Day



National Numeracy Day (celebrated on 13th May) is about recognising the role that numbers play in our lives and taking the opportunity to sharpen our skills.

Could you be a Numeracy Ninja?

Try this question and see:



If you like, you can take a bigger quiz at: <https://t.co/N3VeSIR5FG>

It closes on **Friday 22nd May**

Year 3 Art Homework... more to follow next week!



Well done to **Caroline**, who looked carefully at how Quentin Blake used his water colours and recreated the effect in her painting.



Tamalia has painted this wonderful picture in the style of Quentin Blake.

Year 3 DT Shaduf Project... more to follow next week!

Mrs Wallis set her Year 3 pupils a DT task asking them to draw a design, collect materials and then build a Shaduf.

Year 3 are studying the Ancient Egyptians in History and Geography and the Egyptians used a Shaduf to lift water out of the River Nile and into the irrigation channels to water their crops.

The Shaduf has a counterweight at one end to make it easy for the farmer to dip the bucket into the river and using the heavy stone weight, lift the water up and out of the river.



Imani's Egyptian Shaduf.



Annabelle with her Shaduf model.



Here is a photo of a Shaduf made by **Caroline** in Year 3.

Year 7 Earth Day - World's Largest Lesson Activity



As part of the Year 7's work in lockdown, students have been celebrating Earth Day (22nd April) by taking part in the 'world's largest lesson'.

Their activity was to take the time to contact an elderly relative and have a 'climate conversation'. These are some of the results.



Design a 'Working From Home' Certificate Competition - Winner



WINNER Amera Year 9



RUNNER UP **Lila** Year 7

Before Easter, Mrs Evangeli set an all Year Group competition to design a certificate that rewards students who have demonstrated excellent effort in 'Working From Home'.

Mrs Burton was asked to choose the winning designs. Many congratulations to Amera in Year 9, who has won first prize, and Lila in Year 7, who is runner up.

Amera's design will be printed and presented to students who have demonstrated working well at home during the lockdown period and completed all the tasks set across all their subjects.



Alexandra Year 8



Sarah Year 7

Year 7 Climate Change Project

Lila Climate Change Dance and Design Project Museum of Tomorrow - Designed by Santiago Calatrava



The part of the architecture that inspired my solo and my model, was the protractor like shape on the underside of the structure. In my head I imagined it as a fan, initially because of the shape. Based off of that, I thought of movements that could correspond with a fan. On a pleasantly warm day, a fan could move with soft lyrical motions, but on a boiling one with frenzied, rapid swats. My solo starts off with slow swats and lyrical movements with smooth transitions, such as an arabesque followed by a relaxed teddy bear roll, combined with glides and leaps with no tension. However, throughout the duration of the dance, these movements grow more rigid and quick, the swats that were inconsistent earlier grow much more frequent, and the movements dissolve into jerky erratic actions such as arm jerks, high kicks and high jumps, until slowly the dancer slows down, and sinks down to the ground, their fans still.

This solo reflects climate change, the temperature which was once so bearable and endurable has now spiked out of control, represented by the increased fluttering of the fans. To add insult to injury, when the fans are unfolded, you see an image of a vibrant tree on one, and a recycling symbol on another, symbolising that mere posters won't make any difference to climate change, but only by taking action that, as in the solo, the heat doesn't get out of control.

Imaan Climate Change Dance and Design Project Museum of Tomorrow - Designed by Santiago Calatrava



For my model I was inspired by the linear design. I tried to cut it almost like a window with skeleton effects (many lines). I was also inspired by the wing shaped top.

For my dance I was tried to be very straight and stretched. At times I also flowed or melted loosely down to the floor; this was inspired by the water and setting of the museum.



Grace Climate Change Dance and Design Project Museum of Tomorrow - Designed by Santiago Calatrava

In my piece I wanted to capture the slanted part of the museum so you could use diagonal pathways and arm and leg gestures to show the slanted part of the museum. In the motif I wanted too use many balances to show that I was on the water just like the museum so I would be all smooth then suddenly be all rigged just like the museum.

Zara Climate Change Dance and Design Project- Museum of Tomorrow - Designed by Santiago Calatrava



My model

The part of the architecture that inspired my model and my dance was the fan at the bottom of the architecture. I portrayed this in my model by using a shell for the tail of the fish which looks like the fan in the picture of the architecture. I also used muscle shells for the fins because they kind of look like the triangular parts of the architecture. I used a recyclable soap box for the body of the fish because a box makes me think of being trapped or stuck somewhere as do the lines in the architecture because they make me think of a cage.

A Poem to my Teacher

A teacher can always touch your life
With a magical mystical glow.
Investing her heart in the
work that she does
She helps you to learn and to grow.
With wisdom she patiently
guides you along
Towards becoming the best you
can be.
And when I can consider
just how far I have come
That teacher you loved was the key!

Chloe, Year 11

Year 4 Art Lesson



Here is a photo of Ellie busy working during her Year 4 Art lesson.

Year 1 - Model House Building



Year 1 pupils have been building a model house. Here is a photo of Safah, who has designed and painted a beautifully crafted house.

Reception in Space... more to follow next week!

Reception's topic this half term is Space! The girls really enjoyed researching Mae Jemison. Dr Jemison was the first African American woman to travel into Space. She was not only an astronaut but also a medical doctor, a teacher and a dancer. We think she's a super role model because she worked hard and never gave up on her Space dream.

In Maths, we made fantastic rockets from 3D shapes. We had lots of questions about Space: Lana wondered why the Earth stays in one place and Libby wanted to know how big the Moon was. We think learning about Space is out of this world!

A space joke: When has the Moon had enough to eat?
When it is full!

We received so many photos we are unable to include them all in this week's bulletin. Look out for the rest next week.



Alice with her Space project.



Sophie with her Space project.



Alexandra with her Mae Jemison project.



Elena with her rocket.



Saarvi with her rocket.



Eileen with her rocket.

Whitgift Care Home Letter

Dear residents of Wilhelmina House Care Home,

I hope you are all doing well during all the strange things that are happening at the moment.

My name is Rosemary, I am 13 years old and a pupil of Old Palace Girls School. I have two brothers called Robin and Edward (Ed). Robin is 24 and Edward recently turned 20.

One of my favourite things to do is swim and usually, I swim six times a week for about two hours each day and sometimes with a competition at the weekend. My favourite and best stroke is butterfly. As I am unable to swim at the moment (I wish I had a swimming pool in my garden!) my coach has set me exercises to do, such as running and exercises I can do on a mat in my garden. My brother Ed also does these with me so that he can get some exercise. At his university (Bristol) he does tennis and yoga with his girlfriend and I think he will teach me some yoga soon too.

I have been spending a lot of time in my garden recently and, in our pond, there are lots of frogs and newts which is really exciting! There is also a lot of blossom and wildlife around which makes everything look beautiful. My parents really like gardening and they have been doing a lot of that, sometimes I help them too. I like gardening and I especially like weeding as you can see the results afterwards when everything looks neat again.

I have also been doing baking. I

have mostly made healthy food as I don't want to make lots of cakes, but we found a recipe for chocolate brownies which I'm going to make later. I found this really good recipe for making something called 'nice cream' which is ice cream but not nearly as bad for you. It's just frozen bananas (you can add more fruit if you like) and then you blend it up and it turns into this really nice and creamy ice cream! Me and my brother Robin made it the other day and gave some to the rest of our family and they were really surprised when we told them how easy it was to make.

As we can't go out shopping, we have been doing a lot of online shopping. My parents bought me a sewing machine as I really enjoy making things and it's supposed to be coming today which I'm really excited about. We also ordered a comb for my cat, Henry as we recently found out that he really enjoys being brushed. He gets very bossy and meows at you and turns over so you can brush him where he wants to be. When my Dad was looking at a website, he accidentally started looking at Kayaks and he jokes by saying that Henry wants a kayak now.

I am very interested in meteorology and geography so I would quite like to be a meteorologist when I'm older but I'm not quite sure because I also like the sound of marine biology.

In a few years time, as a job to get some money, I would like to be a

lifeguard at my local pool and I thought, in the summer, I could stay at my friend's house as she lives near a beach (Southwold) and do lifeguarding on the beach.

I also play the flute and am working towards my grade 7. I have been having lessons with my teacher via video call and it has all been going well so far. I have been playing the flute since I was about 8 and I really enjoy it. I also play in an orchestra at a place dedicated to music and acting and dancing, it's really fun as my friend from my swimming club also does it, she plays the clarinet.

We always arrive with slightly wet hair as it is on a Saturday at 9 o'clock and we have swimming training, starting at 7 o'clock for two hours so we get out at half past eight. We have to get changed really quickly and then go straight there. Everyone else is usually half asleep but we're wide awake from swimming!

Every Thursday, we do a quiz with my brother Robin's girlfriend and her family via video call, it's really fun and a good thing to look forward to. On Fridays, me and my brothers play games while my parents go up to their room and watch Gardener's World because they insist that, whenever they watch it, there has to be absolute silence which I think is funny.

I hope all is well.

From Rosemary :-)

Do you have a news story/photograph for the bulletin?

If so, please email Mrs Berry, Marketing & Communications Manager: nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk and we will endeavour to include it - space permitting.



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