



AROUND THE PALACE

Old Palace Welcomes New Year 7 Students



Dear all,

After the first full week of school, it is safe to say that our students have settled back into school life with the usual positivity and both Prep and Seniors feel like vibrant places of learning again and this bulletin reflects that. In particular, we very much enjoyed the arrival of the Year 6 students for their first full day on Monday, after their week at the Prep school (detailed later in this Bulletin) and they seem to have settled in very quickly and are certainly full of smiles every time I have seen them.

In my letter to parents at the start of term I said that we would be working towards introducing some extra-curricular opportunities as soon as we could. We are working hard to determine what might be possible alongside keeping everyone safe at all times and so hope to have an update on this soon.

The weather forecast looks positive and so I hope that everyone has a great weekend.

Jane Burton, Head

Recognition Award



Old Palace works closely with the Croydon Schools Sports Partnership throughout the year, entering competitions from Year 1 through to Seniors. We also help with providing leaders and promoting sport within primary schools in the area.

Mrs Smith was delighted to learn the exciting news that Old Palace has been awarded a 'Recognition Award' which recognises achievement across the autumn and spring terms.

Our Award reads:

Old Palace of John Whitgift School
- for their promotion of sports leadership across the School and their involvement in supporting young women's participation in sport through the Youth Sport Trust video campaign.

Brains!

The Year 10 GCSE Biology students have been studying brains this week and Christina has been carrying out some extension work, making a thinking hat model of the brain out of card.

She writes "I enjoyed assembling the hat. I was enthusiastic to do the extension and I wanted to really challenge myself. I carefully read the instructions and gradually made a brain out of card. It helped me understand the position of the parts in the brain such as the cerebellum and the cerebral cortex."

Christina, Year 10



Junior Mathematics Challenge

The Junior Mathematics Challenge is organised by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT). The UKMT's aim is to advance the education of young people in mathematics. One of the ways this is achieved is by organising competitions promoting problem solving and team work and other mathematical enrichment activities.

The Junior Mathematics Challenge (JMC) is a 60-minute, multiple-choice competition aimed at students across the UK in Years 7 and 8 although a few of our Year 6 students take part. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve

interesting problems. The problems on the Junior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think. Most are accessible, yet still challenge those with more experience. Students are not allowed to have square paper, a ruler or a calculator for the competitions.

The JMC is usually taken by students on a specific day at the end of April in school but due to lockdown it was postponed. The JMC moved online this year and, after some practise in a mathematics lesson, the students then took the challenge on Friday, 3rd July. Congratulations to all of those, listed below, who were awarded certificates.

Certificates awarded in 2019-20

Gold Certificate and Best in Year

Theresa-Mae	Year 6
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Gold Certificate and Best in School

Harini	Year 7
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Gold Certificate and Best in Year

Kyla	Year 8
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Gold Certificate

Lily	Year 7
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Silver Certificate

Abril, Tusara and Mahnoor	Year 7
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Vedika, Rebecca C-I, Sam, Phoebe, Eden, Abia Zymal and Bethany	Year 8
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Bronze Certificate

Aarna	Year 6
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Anjolaoluwa, Umm-e-Raumaan, Rakshana, Sarah, Sahana, Mariya, Maheli, Sheenen, Natalie, Miracleleen, Aimee and Harinika	Year 7
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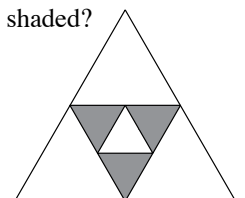
Dilkushi, Anjali, Sumaiya, Aswini, Aliya, Nuwaylah, Keno, Rinii, Zainab, Dilushi, Stephanie, Zayna, Amelia, Celeste, Amrina, Hannah and Zara	Year 8
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Below is a question from this year's JMC.

12. The diagram shows an equilateral triangle into four smaller equilateral triangles. One of these triangles has itself been divided into four smaller equilateral triangles.

What fraction of the area of the large triangle has been shaded?

A $\frac{1}{8}$ B $\frac{3}{16}$ C $\frac{1}{4}$ D $\frac{5}{16}$ E $\frac{3}{8}$





During lockdown, following Mrs Morris' recommendation, I decided to take part in the "Girls in data", data communication challenge. "Girls in data" is an organisation that was set up aims to connect young women to accessible and positive role models, whilst providing a resource platform to explore various career opportunities in the world of Data and Technology. Throughout lockdown, they ran various challenges that focused on different topics via Zoom. I attended a few of them and particularly enjoyed one that focused on the importance of communication within the data industry.

This particular challenge was led by Ronke Kokoruwe who is the director of Iverbalize. Iverbalize work with businesses and organisations, schools and colleges, women's groups and individuals to provide opportunities and spaces to develop a diverse range of communication skills. The brief was to create a presentation (in any format) addressing any one of the following topics: Covid-19, BLM and Home learning, as if we were presenting to the Prime Minister and his advisers. We had to research and use relevant data

to validate and back up our points of view and the best three presentations would be given the opportunity to present to experts in each field, including some of the Prime Minister's advisers!

After hearing about the countless incidents of police brutality resulting in unjust deaths and most recently the tragic murder of George Floyd, I knew which topic I had to do. I chose Black Lives Matter as it highlights the injustice that black and ethnic minorities have gone through for decades and still do to this day. I strongly believe more can and must be done. In my presentation, I focused education of black history and the importance of diversity, particularly in the younger generations because we are the future of this country, although education on this topic is extremely important for all generations. I also spoke about being aware of our unconscious racial bias, which contributes to our thoughts, decisions and actions.

I was fortunate enough to be one of the three selected to present to Dr Shola Mos-Shogbamimu - Lawyer, Founder of Women in Leadership Publication; Political and Women's rights activist. Dr Shola has made many appearances on the news and various breakfast shows, such as *Good Morning Britain*, where she discusses relevant topics, such as racism and inequality. She has also taught intersectional feminism to female refugees and asylum seekers; scrutinizes government policies from a gender and diversity inclusion perspective; and co-organises women's marches and social campaigns.

On Tuesday 24th July, I excitedly logged onto Zoom to share my PowerPoint presentation to Dr Shola, Ronke Kokoruwe, Rachel Keane (Co-Founder of Women in Data and Girls in Data) and the other presenters. I was so nervous but felt so privileged to have the opportunity to speak to such an inspirational set of women. This opportunity helped me to build my confidence and improve my public speaking skills.

Even though the protests have ended, I encourage you to start the conversation within your community, with your friends and family, because the struggle for equality continues. This is a difficult topic to talk about, but until we break the stigma our society will continue to be embedded in racism and inequality. We must stand up for what is right!

More information available at:

<https://girlsindata.co.uk/>

<https://iverbalize.co.uk/>

<https://www.drshola.com/>

https://twitter.com/Girls_in_Data/status/1286307241197473792?s=20

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=dr+shola+mos-shogbamimu

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KKw4lVcixk>

Amy, Year 11



A letter from Mrs Nike



It has been a real joy this week to see the girls back at school. They bounced back through the doors with smiles on their faces. All the girls are following the Covid-19 safety measures with ease and applying hand sanitizer has become part of our daily routine. I am very proud of the way our girls have risen to the challenge of following the government guidance. Their sensible approach to the safety procedures has made returning to school a very positive experience.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Reception class. It was lovely to meet all the parents and their girls for a socially-distanced Teddy Bears' picnic on the lawn last week - fun was had by all despite the slight rain shower.

We also celebrated Year 6's time at Prep last week before waving them off to Seniors. The girls had a fun-filled week with a variety of activities including a team building morning with the new girls that joined the class. We also hosted a socially-distanced afternoon tea for parents on the lawn and the girls performed a repertoire of songs and instrumental pieces. The week was finished off nicely with an Oscars Ceremony. The girls and parents dressed up and had a fabulous time parading down the red carpet.

This week each class started their new Cornerstones topic and enjoyed experiencing the new Maths Curriculum. As I walked around the school, I could hear the shouts of our Roman soldiers in Year 4 and experienced the awe in Year 5 as the Chief Alchemist's apprentice came to visit.

I am confident that next week will be just as inspiring!

Mrs Nike
Head of Nursery & Preparatory

New Reception & Year 5 Leavers Afternoon Tea



Prep Oscars Ceremony



DofE Expedition

In the second week of August I was lucky enough to go on my practice expedition to the Peak District for five days. Although coronavirus set back my expedition dates as I was supposed to finish by the end of summer, I was still so grateful to have time away from revision and the city.

I was in a group of five others from all over the country: Birmingham, Reading, Oxford and Glasgow. None of us knew each other which at first was daunting, but we were all in the same boat. At first I was worried that I had lost all grasp on how to talk to others my age as I had been in lockdown with my family for just over four months, but it came back to me quite quickly. We bonded over our fellow struggles with Alevels, UCAS applications and given stories about what to expect by Rohan who had just finished his first year doing Geography. In fact, I found that getting to know five new and interesting people in only five days distracted me from my increasingly aching feet and back.

On the third day we woke up for an 8 o'clock start and saw that the ascent we were headed for was completely consumed by cloud. Within an hour we were in a cloud that followed us for the next 4 miles where we couldn't see past 4m in front of us because of the water vapour. It was really disorientating trying to navigate towards landmarks that you couldn't see, so we simply trusted that our path would eventually lead the right way.

My most memorable part of the whole expedition was our interactions with nature. Whilst you might think this story is going to be the typical DofE horror story of being chased by cattle through a field or having your clothes being soaked through, it's not. On our last night we were staying in a field that was partially occupied by sheep. At first they were skittish and very wary of us, but as the evening went on they became increasingly confident and inquisitive. We were sat around our stoves cooking dinner when we noticed that one sheep was sniffing around the perimeter of our tents, getting curious and creeping ever closer with each minute. The next morning, we were awoken to the sound of sheep eating outside our tents but right next to our tents. A sound very hard to describe and harder still to forget.

The effects of coronavirus certainly tested us on top of the already challenging task of DofE Gold expedition. We all had separate tents, stoves and maps, not only increasing our need to be independent but also piling on a few more kilograms for our backs. Luckily the weather was kind and spirits were high most of the time.

Olivia, Year 13



Two of our new Year 12 students produced these articles as part of the work-related Learning week. These were then passed onto the Museum of Croydon to use in their 'Love Parks' exhibition. Below article by Alison A and Chloe-Marie's on next page.

WHY YOU SHOULD VISIT CROYDON'S WANDLE PARK



Totem pole

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Croydon? As a large town in South London, perhaps it is its crowded streets of commuters or its extensive shopping opportunities or its bustling night-time economy. Often ignored are its 117 parks, so as Love Parks Week comes to a close, I'll take this opportunity to shed a bit of light on just one of these oases of calms.



Bandstand



Pond



Skate park



Rose garden



River Wandle



Innovative play area

What can you do in Wandle Park?

Whether you are simply going for a quiet stroll, taking the dog for a walk, or enjoying a family day out, there's an array of things to do and places to visit. You could: try your luck at the trim trail, test your skills at the skate park, marvel at the selection of roses decorating the park grounds, ignite your child's imagination at the playground or even practise some mindfulness whilst overlooking the pond. During the summer, the park truly comes alive with a summer garden party, sporting events, an outdoor cinema and many more. Take your pick, there's 21 acres of opportunity to choose from!



Trim trail



Children's playground

What is the history behind Wandle Park?

As one of the oldest public spaces in Croydon, it was built for leisure and recreation for an increasingly industrial town. Before, it was part of two meadows called Frog Mead and Stubbs Mead. John Rocque's 1762 one-inch Map of Surrey shows the River Wandle flowing through unnamed fields and the 1800 enclosure award map identifies Frog Mead and Stubbs Mead bisected by the river. Stubbs Mead was part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's land holdings.

In the 1880s, the Croydon Corporation bought Frog Mead from the Briton Medical & General Life Association Limited for £1,518. 15s and then Stubbs Mead from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for £2,700 to create the park. The indenture says 'The land shall be forever dedicated and used as an ornamental pleasure ground and place of recreation and for the inhabitants of the Borough of Croydon and for no other purpose whatsoever.'

The Corporation's Road Committee oversaw park improvements, with the centrepiece being an artificial boating lake (with an island in the centre planted with trees), which was extended to the east with another island in the early 20th Century, but dried up and later filled in.

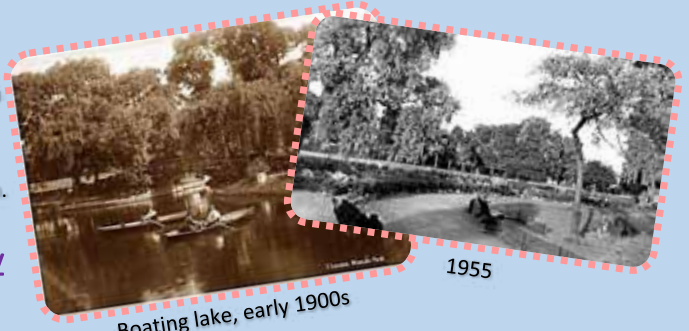
For more information on Wandle Park, Croydon visit:
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/parksandopenspaces/parksatow/wandle/wandlepark>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wandle_Park,_Croydon

How has the park changed since Covid-19?

Covid-19?

During these unprecedented times, parks have seen drastic changes. With people stuck at home, gyms closed, kids home learning and high streets only just reopening, the public have developed a newfound appreciation for nature. Wandle Park has been busier than usual! However, restrictions have been put on place to ensure the experience is both safe and enjoyable for everyone.

So what are you waiting for? Go and enjoy the park! Don't let your love for parks only be released for 10 days!



Boating lake, early 1900s

1955

Beaulieu Heights

Beaulieu Heights is 16 acres (7.08 hectares) and on a slope which runs from Church Road down to Auckland Rise. The woodland was part of the Great North Wood but more recently the grounds of two large houses, Hazelwood and Beaulieu Lodge.

Thomas Bainbridge's map of Croydon in 1800 shows the area belonged to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the 1870 map shows the woodland which is very similar to today's area. Beaulieu Mansion and gardens is still in use and is situated at the top of the hill. The mansion served as a hotel for many years before being turned into a care home.

The Park was formed from the gardens of these two large houses when the land was acquired from the Church Commissioners in 1938, but it was not opened to the public until after the war.

South Norwood Hill was formerly Beulah Hill or Beggar's Hill; the latter name probably arising from the Gipsies who frequented the Great North Wood.

During August 1976, when there was a very hot summer, over one acre of the Oak woodland was destroyed by fire. This area was subsequently cleared and reinstated and the plants and animals which thrive in the woodland soon started to recolonise the ground. Volunteer surveys have counted up to 60 different tree species and 52 species of plants and birds. Mammal species spotted at the site include Muntjac deer and Pipistrelle bats.

Chloe-Marie, Year 12



Online GCSE and A level Art Exhibition

GCSE and A level Art and Photography students were unable to hold their usual annual end of year show this year.

Having worked so hard to complete their courses we wanted to ensure that we could still share it with family and friends so organised a virtual gallery space instead.

Mrs Broad

<https://www.artsteps.com/view/5f035eac83ecaf0b05dfd83c>



George Floyd and the Single Story of Black Lives



In everyday life many black people face a fear of racism, oppression, or bias due to the colour of their skin. Due to the legalised racial discrimination of the slave trade, black people were oppressed, enslaved and stripped of their rights to live freely; They were treated like animals and were not even seen to be human. This animalistic behaviour of slave traders can still be seen today - and it needs to stop.

Racism is something that we can all fall into, even if we have been victims of it ourselves, we can still perpetuate racist stereotypes towards other people. It is an individual's responsibility to learn other people's stories and understand the entire perspective before judging somebody. The single representation of black lives in the media, movies, video games, news and music videos can impact the way people look and deal with different situations. Those who are reliant on the media for their view of others are more likely to pick up these biased views.

Although, the media representations of black people may be subtle, sometimes it can still heavily impact the way we perceive people. For example, a report about the 'distorted patterns of portrayal' of black people states that "although characters of colour in video games have been increasing overtime, blacks in general tend to be underrepresented". When black people are present in video games, they very often tend to be the less active or less playable characters. This makes the players want to side with the white, more active players.

This biased presentation is also seen in the news. Black males are often underrepresented in the news as experts and professionals and are instead mostly seen as the perpetrators

of crime. This idea of black people being criminals is exaggerated and disproportionate. In addition, low income black people are featured more often on the news than middle or high income black families. This can reinforce stereotypes and lead to further racism.

News reports about black criminals tend to have mug shots of the black person to make them appear more threatening and tyrannising compared with crime reports of white criminals. This makes people fear black people more than white people.

Music videos only seem to be reinforcing these false stereotypes. Blacks are over-represented as aggressors and criminals. The most common stereotype being reinforced in music videos are violent black men and victimised white women. Adolescents viewing these videos may be impacted by the aggression and victimisation of similar people.

The news and video games are not the only places where black males are underrepresented as clever and apt people. In television commercials African Americans are belittled and there is less emphasis put on their intelligence and intellectuality. Black people are also not seen using luxury items in commercials. This underlying bias behind simple media can lead to people seeing only a single story of black people.

In movies, people of colour tend to be the less relatable characters that the audience can side with. They are not seen as successful business people with wealth. They are also more likely to be living in a poor area or a 'ghetto'. When black people are positively represented then they are close to never seen as the smart students excelling in their studies. Instead they are mainly praised for their physical achievements and muscular bodies. They are always athletic and not usually intelligent. The media world presents black males as often criminals, gang members or other people with only physical or entertaining abilities.

Through this stereotyping many people who rely on the media representation of people only view a single story of black people. This leads me on to the danger of the single story of black lives.

You must have heard of the recent murder of George Floyd which took place on the 25th of May 2020. A white police officer held his knee on Floyd's neck for nearly 8 minutes, causing him to die. This black male's life was taken at the hands of a white police officer in Minneapolis, because the officer had held a single story of black people.

This is an example of just one of many attacks and murders on black people just because of the colour of their skin. However, we must not just stop with identifying injustice; we must act to prevent it. Derek Chauvin is just one of the many people who are guilty of having a single story of black people that perpetuates their vile hatred. We must change this. The media representation for people of colour needs to improve for a start.

Through supporting the Black Lives Matter movement you can help to bring equality to the world. It is unfair that black people have to suffer every day of their lives just because of the colour of their skin. The colour of your skin should not decide your rights and the way that people treat you.

The colour of our skin symbolises our background and our culture and ought to be celebrated. It does not decide whether you are a good person or a bad person. A layer 3mm thick does not decide the way people treat us.

Sakina, Year 9

New School Menus



New menus for Nursery, Preparatory and Seniors are now on the school website.

Life at the Prep School:

www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/prep-school/life-at-the-prep-school/

Life at the Senior School:

www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/senior-school/life-at-the-senior-school/

FOUNDED IN 1997

HOLROYD HOWE

FEEDING INDEPENDENT MINDS

Virtual Open Afternoon

Seniors

Thursday, 17 September

1.00pm start

www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days

Open Days are going to be a little different this year. We had hoped to offer families at least one opportunity to see the Senior School in person, but this week's change to the Covid-19 regulations means we have made the decision to hold all our Senior School Open Events virtually.

Don't worry; you'll still be able to hear Mrs Burton's talk and get a chance to ask her some questions; it will just be over Zoom instead.

To book, please go to our website:

www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/opendays

Classics Department Word of the Week 07/09/20

resilience

ACT OF REBOUNING, FROM LATIN RESILIENS,
PRESENT PARTICIPLE OF RESILIRE "TO
REBOUND, RECOIL," FROM RE- "BACK" +
SALIRE "TO JUMP, LEAP"

