



# AROUND THE PALACE

## Wish Tree Takes Root at Whitgift House



This week, at Whitgift House, a mural of a 'wish tree' was painted on one of their walls by Old Palace's Art Department Technician, Rebecca Dawson.

*continued on page 4*

Dear all,

There is a very clear theme of connectivity throughout this week's Bulletin which reports our students being connected through their contributions to Whitgift Care, the excellent student-led charity project (Big Christmas Give) and the fantastic opportunity that our African Caribbean society set up through inviting Mr Lawrence to speak to students last week, alongside many other activities.

It was also great to see connections to the past through the wonderful Tudor Costumes project that Nikita in Year 5 has produced. In these current times it is so important to engage as much as possible with others where we can do so (safely of course!) and as ever, Old Palace students are taking advantage of all the opportunities to do so.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Jane Burton, Head

## Hockey Year 7 - 9: Students Learn New Skills with GBs Grace Balsdon



Students in Years 7 – 9 had the fantastic experience of learning some new hockey skills with Grace Balsdon. Grace is a member of the GB Hockey Squad and took time away from her schedule to help out in the PE department on Tuesday.

Students learnt to use the reverse stick, to realise how important the top left hand is in hockey for ball and stick control and how to lift a ball over a defenders stick. Some groups played hockey tennis and some tried controlling the ball in different ways before moving on to shoot at goal.

Grace made all the skills look very easy – but a number of students really worked hard and were determined to be able to complete some of the demanding tasks.



Women's Sport is slowly but surely gaining a higher profile in the world of sport and the media. Grace's matches have been televised on BT Sport and we hope that some of our students were able to watch the Women's Rugby on BBC last weekend. Being aware of women in sport and showing an interest in women's sport helps our students be aware that 'This Girl Can'.





The Sixth Form Student Leadership Team are launching the Old Palace **'Big Christmas Give'** campaign during December. They have selected four local Croydon charities to support this Christmas.

Each charity is working hard to support the homeless, refugees and those who are struggling financially – especially during Covid times.

**Every donation will help to make local people's lives just a little easier.**

#### Food items:

- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Tinned fruit
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Packet mashed potato
- Jars of honey
- Jars of peanut butter

#### Toiletries:

- Bars of soap
- Shower gel
- Deodorant
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Sanitary towels

#### Other items:

- Winter coats (adult)
- Woolly hats, gloves and thick socks (adult)
- New toys for young children
- Chocolate treats for children

Alternatively, you could make a small donation via WisePay. Open to Pre School, Prep and Seniors. Staff and Alumni can use this justgiving link instead if they wish to donate:

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/oldpalacebigchristmasgive2020](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/oldpalacebigchristmasgive2020)



Charity No. 1152807



Charity No. 1060157



Charity No. 214779



Charity No. 274925

## Pre School: Making Music



## Puzzle Fun

Three different positive integers add to make sixteen.

$$\square + \diamond + \nabla = 16$$

The smallest numbers also add to make the biggest number.

$$\square + \diamond = \nabla$$

Find all three possible solutions to this problem.

Answer on page 8

## Wish Tree Takes Root at Whitgift House *continued*

The concept is for residents to write down something they wish to do. The wishes will be stuck on the branches of the tree and then Whitgift House will aim to fulfil all of the residents' wishes!

*"I arrived at Whitgift House with the lovely task of creating a mural of a 'wish tree' on one of their walls. I painted plenty of branches so that residents can write up lots of wishes, which the home will try and fulfil. Staff passing by seemed really pleased to have something new and colourful appear on the wall! I hope the residents will enjoy looking at it as much as I enjoyed painting it". Rebecca*

We look forward to hearing how the project continues!



## Forthcoming Library Events

### Scholastic Book Fair



We are holding our annual Scholastic Book Fair at Prep from **26th November to 10th December**.

### Christmas Holiday Activities



Motivating kids to read

Pupils will each receive a *Read for Fun, Read For Good Readathon* booklet and Years 3 and 5 will also receive a Marty The Mighty Nose poetry writing competition entry form.

We hope pupils will complete these over the Christmas holiday.

Classics Department Word of the Week 22/11/20

# Kaleidoscope

A tube you look through to see different patterns of light, made by pieces of coloured glass and mirrors.

From Greek *καλός kalos* (beautiful) *εἶδος eidos* (shape) and *σκοπέω skopeo* (I look at).



## A letter from Mrs Nike



It was great to meet so many parents during Parents' Evening over the last two days. It was wonderful to be able to share with you the progress your daughter is making. Thank you for continuing to partnership with us to ensure the best outcomes for your daughter.

The Young Palace Yearbook is now available to view on our website. I would encourage you to take a look. It is special to see all the fantastic work that has taken place during this usual year of remote learning.

I would like to say a special 'well done' to Nikita in Year 5, who produced a beautiful Tudor drawing. Good job!

**Mrs Nike**  
Head of Nursery & Preparatory

## Young Palace Yearbook Now Online



[www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/prep-school/life-at-the-prep-school/](http://www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/prep-school/life-at-the-prep-school/)

## Year 5: What is a Bystander?

As part of anti-bullying week, Year 5 looked at the role of a bystander during their drama lesson in order to better understand the different roles involved in bullying.

A bystander is 'a person who does not become actively involved in a situation where someone else requires help' and in this way is understood to be a passive observer, an onlooker who watches something happening, such as an incident of bullying, but stays on the sidelines and doesn't intervene or get help, even if someone needs it. Not only do they not intervene to stop the bullying, they

are the audience that engages in the spectacle, and watches as a drama unfolds.

Most of us have been a 'bystander' at some time. We justify it by saying that it's natural to be curious about unusual events; that there may be good reasons for not getting involved in other people's business, such as fear of getting hurt ourselves, and that we're not doing any harm.

To tackle bullying, we must understand the responsibilities of peer and adult bystanders who want to seek solutions to bullying and take action where it is needed.



Kindness Quilt

## Year 5: Tudor Project



Nikita, in Year 5, writes about her project on Tudor costumes. Congratulations, Nikita, on your beautiful illustrations.

*The idea of the Tudor costumes homework came to me through my interest in fashion and history. I started off with online research about rich and poor Tudor clothes. Then I made my sketches and chose colours to go with the outfits. To finish off, I rummaged through my Mum's arts and crafts drawer to source material, fabric and sparkly bits to add to my homework. I found this topic to be both informative and interesting. Nikita*

## Visit from Author Lee Lawrence



about the dynamics of race during that time in Brixton, which is not that far away from us, and were able to draw parallels to the existing relationship with the black community and the police.

For me, the highlight was having the time to speak to Lee Lawrence personally when he came to kindly give some copies of his book *The Louder I will Sing* in which myself and Sumaiya were able to have a well needed conversation about what we can do as young people to be active in our community and how to champion issues surrounding race and our history in the most effective way.

Overall, it was great to have Lee Lawrence speak to us as he shared with us an important piece of black history which has been relatively side-lined, especially post-black history month.

We were also very excited to learn this week that he had been shortlisted for the Costa Book Awards in the biography category.

**Amanda**, Sixth Form



On Tuesday 17th November, African Caribbean Society was privileged to have Lee Lawrence speak to us about his own personal experience with race relations between the black community and the police.

He shared the story of a raid on his house which resulted in his mother being shot and eventually paralysed. It was an emotional and informative session in which we were able to learn



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<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/>

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For every £10 spent, £2 will be given to The Friends' Library to spend on Scholastic books.

Free home deliveries for all orders over £25



## Year 10 and 11 Sports Leaders

Sports Leaders have been back in action leading sessions this week for their peers within their bubble. For Year 10, this was their first experience and Lily and Jessica did really well leading sessions on fitness and stamina. Year 11 Level 2 Sports Leaders are now delivering 40 minute sessions and this week it was Lauryn's turn to lead.

Sports Leaders is a great course offered in Years 10 and 11 offering students the opportunity to develop their self-confidence, teamwork and cooperation, self discipline and time management skills as our students learn to plan lead safe, informative and motivating sessions for their peers and younger students.



## Year 11 Trampolining



Anna (who is taking GCSE PE)



Some of the Year 11 core PE students have had the amazing opportunity to try TRAMPOLINING during their weekly lesson.

A big thank you to Mrs Coster at Prep who has helped to facilitate this. While a number of students have experienced trampolining in their back garden – it is not quite the same as using a full sized trampoline.

We hope to extend this opportunity throughout the year.



## Answer Fun Puzzle Competition on page 4

The biggest number must be half of the total – 8

The other two numbers must add to 8.

So the answers are

$$1+7+8=16$$

$$2+6+8=16$$

$$3+5+8=16$$

You can't have  $4+4+8$  as that would make the two smallest numbers the same.

### Maths Puzzle Winner

There were 20 entries to last week's puzzle. 14 got the correct answer.

Many congratulations to our lucky random winner, Zainab, in Year 7.

## OPA and Friends Virtual Carol Concert

Monday  
**7th December**  
at 6pm

Available on YouTube.

Further details in next weeks bulletin



Old Palace  
**Alumnae**

## Year 5 Gym

Year 5 have worked extremely hard this week developing partner routines.

