



# AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,

The festive season has arrived at Old Palace (a 2020 version!) with trees and decorations at both Prep and Seniors and filming for the OPA & Friends Carol Service at the start of the week. We also wish Old Palace families a Happy Hanukkah when it begins on the 10th.

It was fantastic to see the progress that Old Palace has made in cricket reflected in our recognition as one of the top 20 all girls schools in the country for the sport. Well done to Mrs Smith, the PE team and our enthusiastic cricket players.

There is no Bulletin next week; this has been replaced with a 'bumper'

edition that will be sent out at the end of term on 15th.

Wishing you a good weekend

Jane Burton, Head

## Old Palace Recognised in The Cricketer's Top 20 All-Girls Schools for Cricket





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We are absolutely thrilled to learn that Old Palace has been included in The Cricketer Magazine's Top 20 All-Girls Schools for Cricket. We are very proud of both our Old Palace PE department, under Director of Sport, Mrs Smith, and our students, for this well-deserved accolade.

Mrs Smith says:

*"Inclusion in The Cricketer Magazine's Top 20 All-Girls section highlights Old Palace's achievements so far and affirms the plans we have for the future to take cricket to the next level. We are very proud to have been recognised for our efforts in developing sporting opportunities for our students."*

Women's cricket is a fast growing and developing sport in the UK. The Old Palace PE Department has worked hard to develop cricket within the school; both in the curriculum and the extra-curricular programme.

This is the first time that The Cricketer has featured a Top 20 All-Girls Schools category in their prestigious Schools Guide, alongside their usual Top 100 Senior Schools and Top 50 Prep Schools.

It follows an exhaustive process which saw a record number of schools submit entries to be included in the Guide, despite the ongoing pandemic.



All entries were judged against an extensive set of criteria, which included a compelling commitment to cricket in the curriculum, facilities, fixture programmes and coaching.

The Cricketer gathered entries and compiled the leading lists, working alongside former England star Lydia Greenway to select the inaugural top 20 all-girls schools.

The Cricketer magazine editor, Simon Hughes, said: *"This year's Schools Guide is particularly important in showcasing schools who have kept the game alive through a very challenging*



*summer. Whether it has been remote video sessions, drills in the garden or even Zoom quizzes, school's cricket has emerged resolutely from this pandemic and the appetite to get back out on the playing fields is palpable.*

*There should be deserved praise for all the teachers, coaches and volunteers who have put in so much hard work, in the most difficult of circumstances, to preserve a love of the game among the next generation."*

[www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/old-palace-recognised-in-the-cricketers-top-20-all-girls-schools-for-cricket/](http://www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/old-palace-recognised-in-the-cricketers-top-20-all-girls-schools-for-cricket/)

## Prep News: Hanukkah & Human Rights Day

On Thursday, 10th December, we will be learning about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah and about International Human Rights Day.

As well as learning about Hanukkah and how it is celebrated, Early Years and Key Stage 1 girls will be making a menorah picture whilst Key Stage 2 girls will play Spin the Dreidel.



We will also be celebrating International Human Rights Day.

In Circle Time, girls will be learning about what their human rights are and will be given the opportunity to take part in a discussion.



The Royal Society Young People's Book Prize aims to inspire young people to read about science and promotes the writing of excellent, accessible STEM books for under-14s. The prize is unique in that the winner of this prize (from the oldest continuous scientific establishment in the world) has a shortlist selected by five adult judges (including Waterstones Children's Laureate, *How to Train Your Dragon* author Cressida Cowell and TV presenter and author Konnie Huq). However, final judging to decide the winner comes from the feedback of 500+ schools and youth groups across the UK who act as 'judges'. This year, one of these groups includes our Year 6 students.

Judging requires specific skills, with votes for the shortlisted books being cast against four specific criteria based on: *Ease of Reading*, *Layout*, *Interest* and *Overall Appeal*. Students scored these categories and marks were tallied to discover our overall winner.

The six books shortlisted cover a range of STEM topics; from how one-click shopping works, tips on thinking like a Nobel Prize winning scientist, astrophysics and a verse story about friendship using coding.

The shortlisted books for 2020 are:

***Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry*** by Neil deGrasse Tyson

***Cats React to Science Facts*** by Izzi Howell

***Gut Garden*** by Katie Brosnan

***How to Win a Nobel Prize*** by Barry Marshall

***In the Key of Code*** by Aimee Lucido

***The Everyday Journeys of Ordinary Things*** by Libby Deutsh

Being National Non-Fiction November, we discussed what makes a good non-fiction book, how non-fiction books are created to allow facts to be easily understood using a combination of pictures, illustration and text.

The book Year 6 will be putting forward to the Royal Society as their winning book is:



***The Everyday Journeys of Ordinary Things*** by Libby Deutsh

Year 6 commented that this book was "Brightly coloured and really attractive", "Full of fascinating facts" "Really Interesting" "Great to read with others" "A book you could go back and read again"

We will discover whether our choice is the same as the overall winner when the results are announced in February 2021. Thanks to Mrs Marren and the Science department for assisting the Librarian with running this non-fiction book shadowing experience.

All shortlisted books are on display and available to borrow from The Friends' Library.

## Library News

### Trinity Schools Book Award 2021

Shadowing book awards are a great way of experiencing a diverse range of subjects, authors, writing and illustration styles through reading, which helps boost imagination, creativity, knowledge, discussion and empathy.

Library Seniors is involved with many local and national book awards, allowing Old Palace students the chance to read, review and reflect on a range of exciting new books.

From October to February, Year 7-11 students can take part in the Trinity Schools Book Awards. The shortlisted books this year are based around the theme Only Human. Students have the opportunity to read, review and take part in competitions alongside 30 other schools (including Trinity and Whitgift) in South East England.

TSBA Book Club will take place during Year 7-11 allocated library lunch time sessions.

To find out how to take part, contact [libraryseniors@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:libraryseniors@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk)

### CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards 2021

From March until June 2021, students will be able to take part in shadowing one of the oldest and most prestigious children's book awards in the world, CILIP's Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards. Since the beginning of November, Old Palace has a more personal connection to this award. For the next two years, our school librarian Mrs Chevalier will be one of the 15 national judges. She is currently reading all 152 nominated books, reducing it down to a longlist, then shortlist. It is the Carnegie Award shortlist that we will be reading as part of our Old Palace Shadowing group from March 2021.

More information on being part of the Old Palace Carnegie Shadowing Group will be given next year.



## Virtual OPA & Friends Carol Service

Filming got underway on Monday for our Virtual School Carol Service and the OPA & Friends Carol Service. We had to do things a little differently this year and each carol was sung by an individual year group (keeping to their bubbles) rather than choirs made up of different year groups. The results, however, were a joy to watch and we will be sharing both services with the Old Palace community over the next few weeks.

**The OPA & Friends Service will go live on our YouTube channel at 6.00pm on Monday, 7 December.**

We will be sending out the link to the Service via our Twitter and Facebook channels nearer the time. It will also be on the OPA section of our website.

Our grateful thanks to the OPA committee for their generous assistance in the filming of this Service.





## Anne Boleyn Portrait

This outstanding portrait of Anne Boleyn was completed at home by Advika in Year 5.



## Year 12 Table Tennis

Year 12 students continue to stay active during their academic studies; it is so important to appreciate the benefits of exercise on the brain and on mental health! Each session we cover a different activity – this session was table tennis. The students enjoyed having a go and developing skills and in these photos are playing 'Round the World'



## Act of Kindness Advent

Year 3 have been learning about Advent during their RS lessons with Mrs Coster and have handmade their own Random Act of Kindness Advent calendars. Each day of Advent, the girls will pick a random act of kindness from their calendar.



Hiru with her Act of Kindness Advent calendar.



Hiru's first act of kindness - feeding the birds.



Hiru's second act of kindness - making a donation to a food bank.

# PTA Christmas Competition

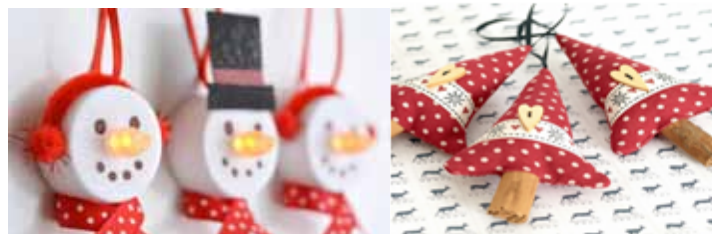
PTA Christmas fundraising to support the Big Give



- ❖ Design and Make a Christmas Decoration that can be hung on a Christmas tree.
- ❖ Gain inspiration from YouTube and Pinterest websites online.
- ❖ You may use any materials to create this decoration.
- ❖ Dimensions for Decoration: Maximum of 15cm long and 15cm wide.
- ❖ Hand your decoration and entry fee of **£1** into the Prep Office.
- ❖ All entry fees will be donated to a local charity for Christmas.
- ❖ Please ensure your decoration is labelled properly using the label enclosed below. and hand it into the Prep Office on Friday, **11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**.
- ❖ Decorations will be judged and a winner will be chosen from each year group and all winners will receive a prize.
- ❖ You can take your creations home on the last day of term to hang and display on your own Christmas tree.
- ❖ So, get crafting this weekend and have fun making your colourful and creative ornament!

Happy Crafting!

Old Palace PTA



**Cut out and securely attach this label to your ornament**

**£1**

Please tape £1 coin entry fee to the circle above

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_



## A letter from Mrs Nike



Dear all,

Well, Christmas is around the corner and the Prep girls have been busy practising for the nativity. As you walk around the school, you can hear the sounds of beautiful singing and festive instrumental pieces! So get your hot chocolate ready and settle down in your living room because this year you really are in for a treat!

I am very impressed with the standard of artwork from the girls in Year 1. What artist flair you have!

I am also in awe of the outstanding portrait of Anne Boleyn produced by Advika in Year 5. Fabulous work!

**Mrs Nike**  
*Head of Nursery & Preparatory*



## What have our Pre School pupils been up to this week?

The recently introduced Cornerstones curriculum has made learning such fun, whilst our new outdoor space provides the children with plenty of exciting opportunities to explore and investigate.

Of course, a delicious roast dinner is always guaranteed to put a smile on their face!





## Year 2: Movers and Shakers

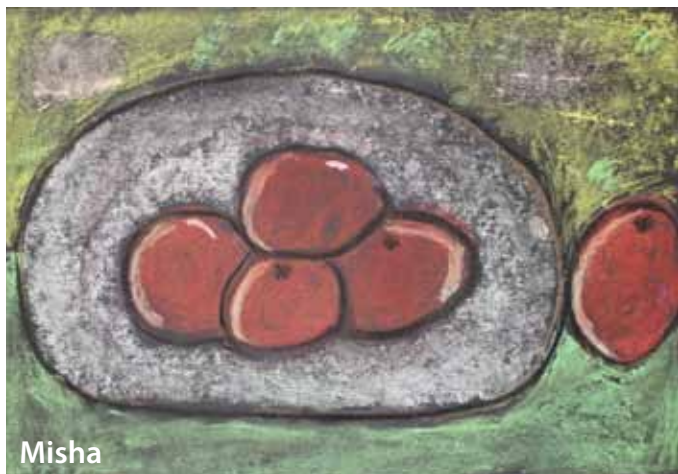
2J's topic this half term is Movers and Shakers! We are studying significant people throughout history such as Rosa Parks, Mary Anning and Paul Cézanne.

In Art, we are really enjoying our learning on the life and work of Cézanne. We used chalk pastels in our still life art work.

**Nuryia** said 'We used our fingers to blend the colours and a white pastel to make it look as if light was shining on the fruit!'



Nuriya

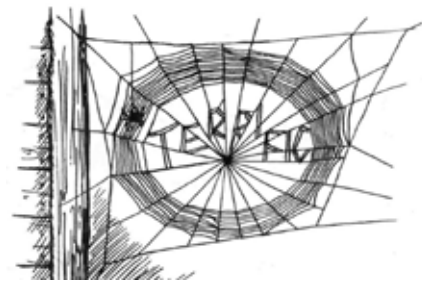
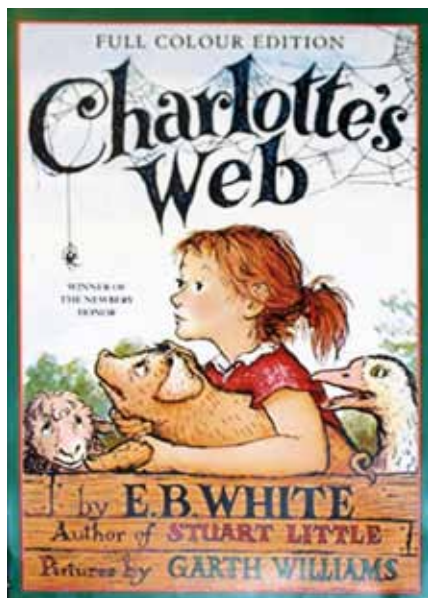


Misha

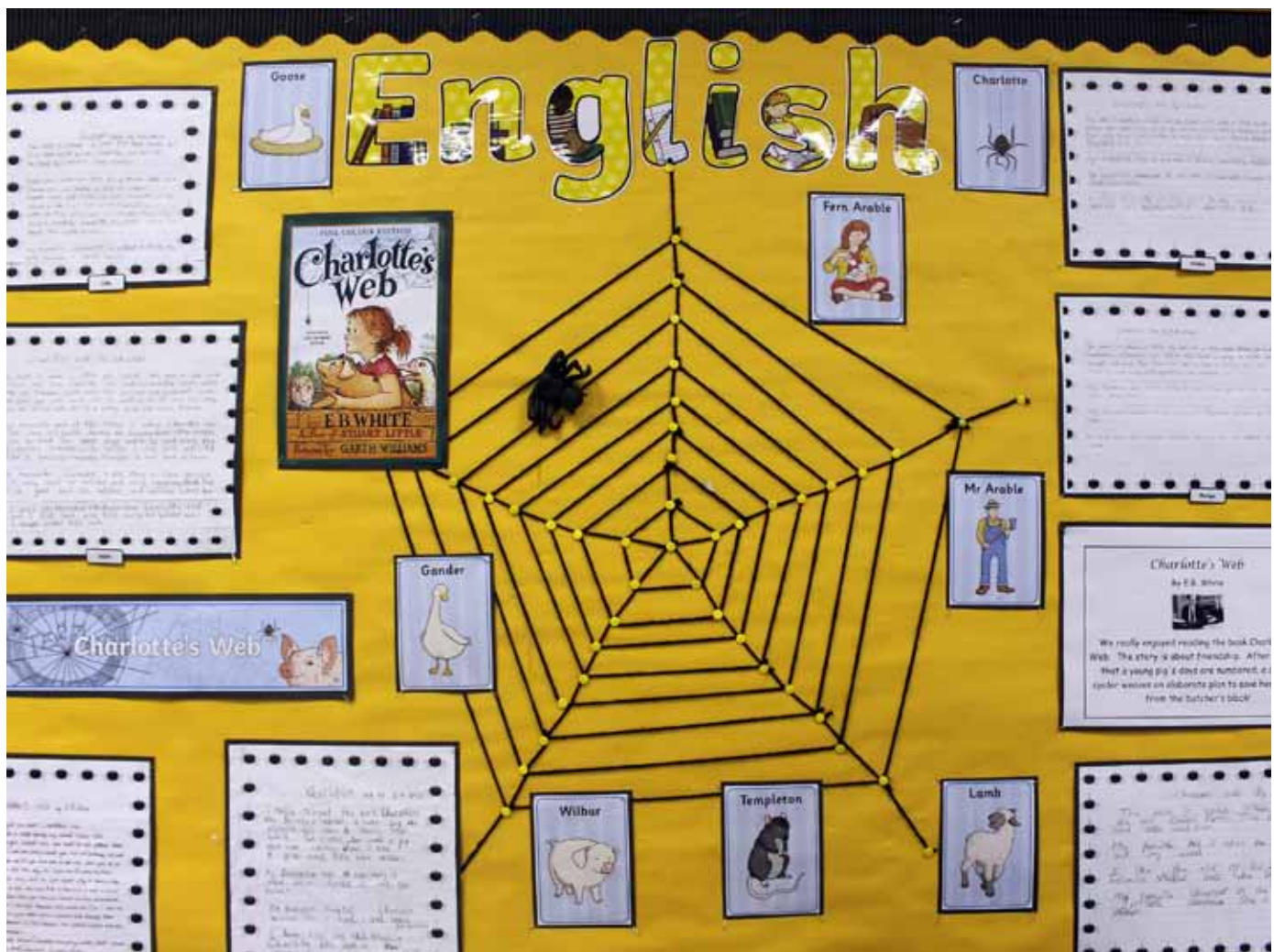
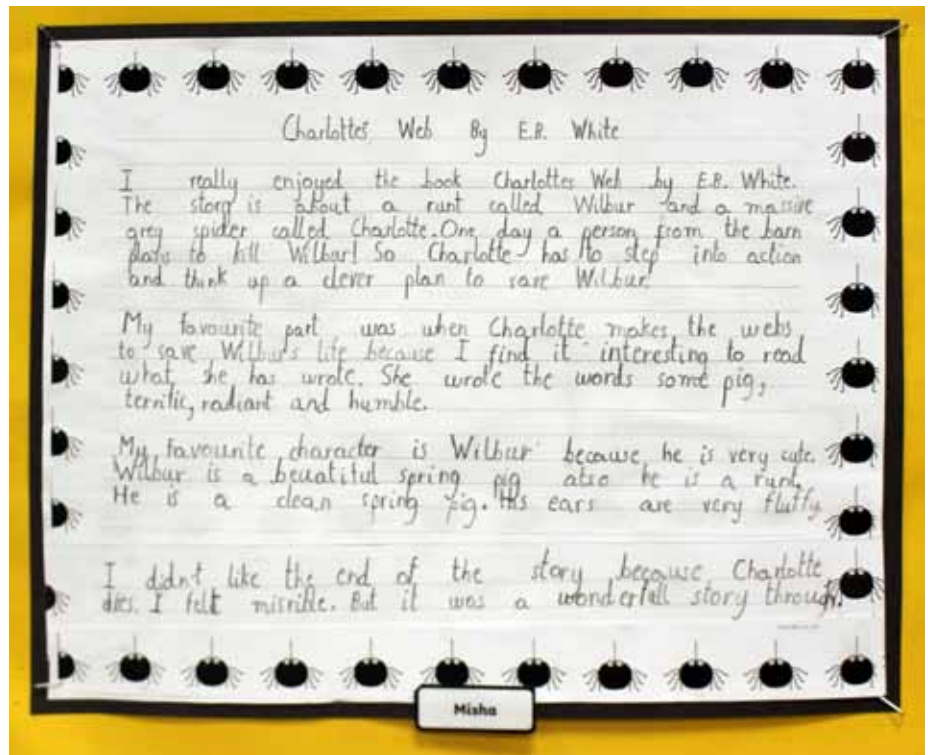


Harriet





We really enjoyed the book Charlotte's Web by E. B. White. The story is about friendship. After learning that a young pig's days are numbered, a clever spider weaves an elaborate plan to save her friend from the butcher's block!







# Save the Date: 9th December

Join thousands across the Country  
for the  
School Games Virtual

## SANTA DASH



#santasmiles

#YourSchoolGames

Contact your School Games Organiser for more details

## Christmas News ...

### The Bulletin

There will be no issue of the bulletin next Friday, 11 December.

Instead, we will be sending it out on the last day of term, which is **Tuesday 15 December**.



### Christmas Lunch

#### Seniors:

9 December  
(open to all pupils)

#### Pre Prep & Prep:

10 December

### Puzzle Fun

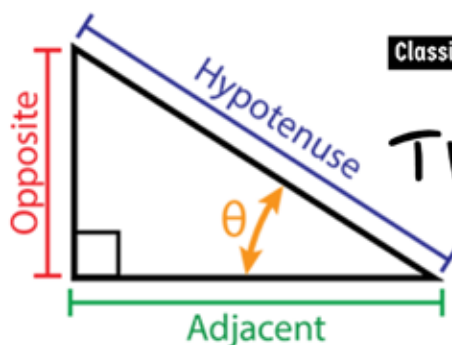
Can you find the next term in the following pattern?

77, 49, 36, 18, ...

#### Hint:

it's not a usual sequence rule!

Answer on page 11



Classics Department Word of the Week 30/11/20

## Trigonometry

The branch of mathematics that deals with the relationships between the sides and the angles of triangles.

From the Greek τρεῖς (treîs, "three"), γωνία/γωνυ (gōnía/gonu, "corner, angle/knee") and μέτρον (métron, "measure").





# Old Palace Big Christmas Give

## Christmas Jumper Day

£1

Tuesday 15th December

### What to wear?

Christmas jumper (if you don't have one, why not decorate a jumper with tinsel). Jeans or other plain trousers (not leggings). Please respect the rules: no novelty headbands, hats or earrings.



Charity No. 1152807



Charity No. 1060157



Charity No. 214779



Charity No. 274925

### Answer Fun Puzzle

#### Competition on page 10

You multiply the two digits of one answer to get the next term-

$$7 \times 7 = 49$$

$$4 \times 9 = 36$$

$$3 \times 6 = 18$$

$$1 \times 8 = 8 \text{ So the answer is 8}$$

### Maths Puzzle Winner

We received seven correct entries for last week's puzzle. Congratulations to the lucky winner, Jessie in Year 7.



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**john  
whitgift  
foundation**