



AROUND THE PALACE

Year 9: Lockdown Art



We often talk to our students about the need to stay positive during lockdown, so many thanks to Zainab K in Year 9 for sending us three of her beautiful watercolours. They remind us of sunny days ahead.



Please send your bulletin photos/contributions to Mrs Berry:
nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk.
If we don't have room to include it in the current week's bulletin, please be assured it will be featured the following week.

Dear all,

A year ago this week, the BBC reported the first cases of Covid 19 in the UK. As the saying goes, 'the rest is history', but it is a history that the whole school community has had to live through and adapt to.

I have said this many times already, but the whole Old Palace community should be incredibly proud of the way we have faced the challenges of the last year.

This week's Bulletin shows, yet again, the incredible amount of learning, interaction and activities that are happening across the entire school and makes for very positive reading.

Enjoy!

Jane Burton, Head

**Virtual Open Morning
Live Q&A**

Seniors
Saturday
6 February
10.30am

Open
to families
looking for a
Year 7 place in
September
2022 or
2023

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



As Old Palace moved into virtual teaching mode last March, Year 12 had already started planning for their next steps after Year 13. As part of their fortnightly careers lessons they had become experts in how to choose a university, course and other post 18 options, such as degree apprenticeships and school leaver programmes. Over half had participated in an individual Career Planning meeting, providing personal advice on what next and then receiving targeted information to help with these important decisions.

Adapting to the new 'norm' was a challenge, especially with motivating Year 12 to continue with their planning, even though we didn't know what the world was going to be like when they left in July 2021. By the end of April, all had received targeted advice and were then tasked with completing their research and deciding upon a degree subject. With weekly goals, they registered with UCAS and started their applications for university.

With universities and employers switching to Zoom, Teams and other online platforms, Year 12 were able to virtually attend university open days and explore their degree subjects in more detail with specially prepared Subject Tasters. Work experience was also available virtually, with one or two students taking advantage of this provision and gaining valuable insight into their sector of interest. Meeting their allocated Subject Mentor virtually in late May, the majority were able to



produce their first Personal Statement draft by the end of the summer term.

Luckily, we were in school in the autumn term and, with a high number applying for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine and Dentistry courses and an early deadline of 15th October, the research and work completed in the summer term by Year 12 was impressive. The subject support received from their individual Mentors, both in the summer term and reviewing the updated content prior to submission, was evident in the excellent Personal Statements produced.

Careers lessons continued, in a socially-distanced manner, this time preparing Year 13 for the world of work. Whilst they were receiving individual support with their university applications, they also practised interviewing and being interviewed by their peers, learnt how to network and decide which university offers to accept. Planning their end of Year 13 celebration, as part of an event management lesson, was an opportunity to collaborate, taking all opinions into consideration and exploring the possibilities.

Interviews were now all online with universities using a variety of platforms to interview potential undergraduates. Providing a quiet place to have both the actual interview virtually and, beforehand mock interviews, was made much simpler by our excellent IT support team. Being available to manage any connection issues was invaluable and reassuring to the interviewees.

Subject Mentors and Heads of Department helped to prepare individuals for their university interview, with students receiving a mock interview and then personal feedback with a subject specialist, either from personal contacts or Old Palace alumni.

Heading into the 2021 lockdown, with a few applications sent just before the 29th January deadline, over half our students have now received a decision from all the courses they applied for. Virtual multiple mini-interviews (MMI) are ongoing for our medicine and dentistry applicants, with weekly support from Dr Edwards in MedSoc. In Learning for Life last week, the 'preparing for the world of work' continued with a lesson on Student Finance and budgeting, key skills they will use both at university and in a future job.

Before they finish formal teaching in May, Year 13 will have their last Learning for Life session 'Moving on'. For this we have arranged a talk by a university representative entitled 'Enhancing Employability and Student Life'. This talk will provide an overview of the opportunities for Year 13 to enhance their employability whilst at university, and give an insight into starting university, which can be one of the biggest changes in a young person's life.

Being able to prepare Sixth Form students for life outside of Old Palace, through both their Careers and Learning for Life lessons and with the support of the teaching staff at Old Palace, has been fantastic to witness.

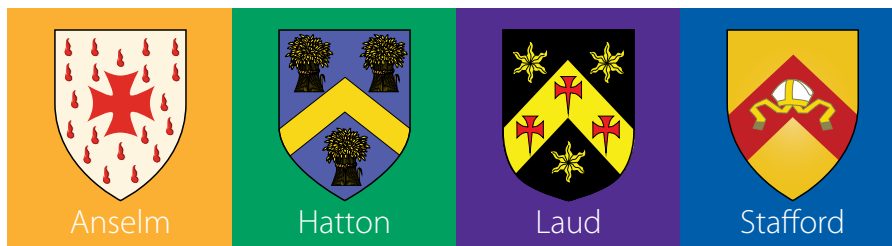
We are all set up for this new virtual world and are always looking for other professions to add to this programme. We are reaching out to our parents, staff, alumni and their network of contacts to provide an opportunity for Old Palace students to meet someone who may inspire them to consider that particular field of work and also enrich the experiences we are able to offer here at Old Palace.

If you can offer any support, either yourself, family, friends, your network of contacts or even just the name of the person responsible for 'early careers' where you work, all will be gratefully received and welcomed.

Mrs Williams

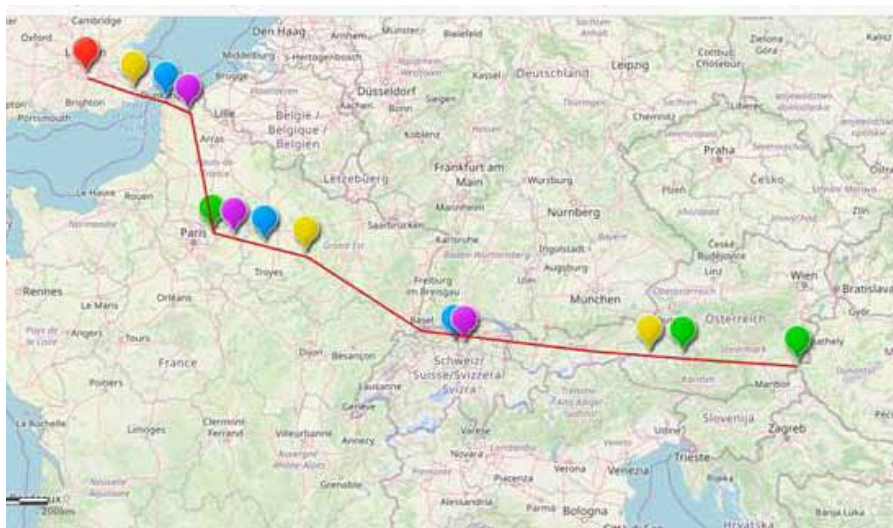
Higher Education and Careers Coordinator

Week 3: House Challenge to Walk Around the World



Another impressive week of walking by all teams, and once again all 4 houses walked further this week than last. Hatton is still in the lead, having reached the border between Austria and Hungary, but Anselm walked the furthest this week and are now up a mountain in central Austria. Both Laud and Stafford are enjoying a hot chocolate in Zurich, but don't stay too long...!

House	Total steps walked this week	Total km walked this week	Total steps 5/2/2021	Total km 5/2/2021
Anselm	984,515	635	1,803,802	1,164
Hatton	309,455	200	2,311,399	1,491
Laud	608,864	393	1,285,211	829
Stafford	542,127	350	1,265,528	816



You can follow our progress here: <https://arcg.is/1W4m1T>

Keep up the great work everyone and keep tracking those steps on your House Team

Virtual Open Morning Live Q&A

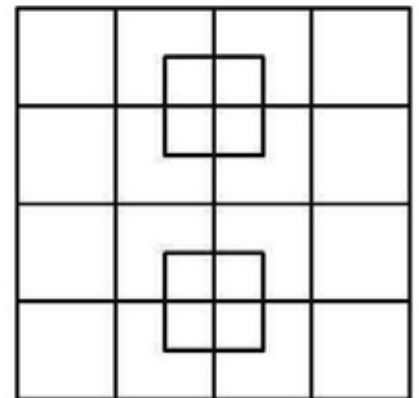
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Puzzle Fun Competition

How many squares can you see?



Solution on page 15

Walking with my Dog



On Wednesday, PE staff asked Year 11s to make the most of the hour they would normally have for PE by doing something active. Kiruthyaa decided to walk her dog!

Classics Department Word of the Week 08/02/21

VACCINATION

From vaccinia, a cowpox infection. Ultimately from Latin vacca ("cow"). Coined by Edward Jenner (1749-1823) in 1798. Jenner infected people with weakened cowpox viruses (Vaccinia), to immunise them against smallpox.

Year 1: Life Skills Challenge

Year 1 pupils have taken up the Life Skills challenge with great enthusiasm. It's certainly been popular with their parents!



Rhianon unloading the dishwasher.



Alexandra cooking.



Alice doing the laundry.



Anika B making her bed.



Zeeyana baking.



Saanvi making cupcakes.



Lana baking.



Sonia cleaning.

Big Garden Bird Watch

In my Year 9 Assembly last Friday, I talked about the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch: such a great way of connecting with nature and forgetting about one's problems for a bit!

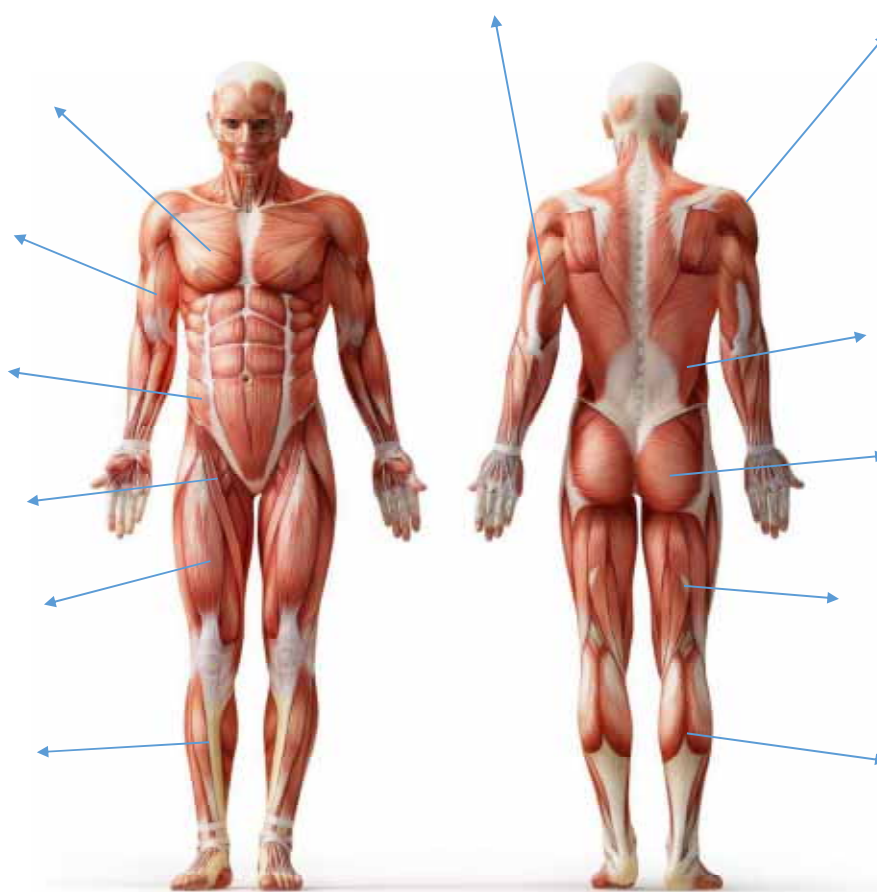
I have two feeders in my garden – one for seeds, one for peanuts. One of the birds I was hoping to see was the Goldfinch, and I read a poem, *Goldfinch*, from *The Lost Spells* – a gorgeous book by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris. I saw fourteen species during my birdwatch on Saturday – even though the weather was abysmal! To my delight, one of the species was the Goldfinch. On Monday, I found a beautiful drawing of the Goldfinch which Stephanie had sent me.

Miss S Funnell, Head of Year 9

Goldfinch by **Stephanie**, Year 9



Year 10: PE Quiz



GCSE PE students in Year 10 have moved on to study muscles and how they work together in pairs, and how they pull on the bones to produce movement.

Can you: Label the muscles in the diagram.

Work out the muscles that work in pairs to produce sporting movements.

Year 9: Scavenger Hunt

At the start of their PE lesson this week, Year 9A enjoyed a virtual Scavenger Hunt; just 30 seconds to find certain items that fitted the criteria.

Below are Daisy, Grace and Chisom with their 'green and spiky' items!



Clodagh:

"This week in PE I had so much fun. As a class, we all virtually took part in a scavenger hunt around our houses to look for items that matched the description given by our classmates. It was my favourite PE lesson ever!"

Lara:

"Today, we took part in a scavenger hunt, where someone asks us to find a certain object e.g. something blue and we find an item of this kind in our house. After we find it, we show it to the camera or write it in the chat box. I told everyone to find something multi- coloured and ended up choosing my multicoloured pencil case."

My favourite object that I had to find was something pretty beginning with P (I thought that was really creative and it reminded me of the "pretty in pink") and I ended up choosing perfume. It was really fun, and I enjoyed interacting with my classmates."

Anaika:

"Today in our form PE lesson we did a scavenger hunt, I really enjoyed it because it was something different and I liked that we all got to interact with each other by putting our cameras on."

The things I asked people to find were something that they liked beginning with A and something that has helped them through lockdown."

Freya:

"I enjoyed our PE lesson most exceptionally because of the scavenger hunt we took part in."

It was a pleasant 50 or so minutes of searching for things and thinking about our possessions in a new way. In the lesson I suggested to look for something that was a plant."

Manasi:

"Today in our PE lesson we did a scavenger hunt. This was a fun change and I enjoyed it a lot. It was challenging to find items we don't normally use every day, which really got us to think hard. I had a great time playing this game with my class."

Cecilia:

"Lockdown has proved to have had a hard effect on everyone especially kids and elders who have been deprived of socialising with people of our age groups. To help us feel better the PE department organised a scavenger hunt. It was nice to have an interactive lesson like this and to see people's faces on camera. It helped remind us that everyone is facing this together and we're not alone."

Ava: *"We did a scavenger hunt in PE. I really enjoyed it as it allowed me to get away from my screen and interact more with my friends. I got everyone to find something big and red and also showed my hamster on camera. This was a really fun experience and quite different from normal lessons."*

Phoebe:

"It was really nice to do the scavenger hunt and change things up a bit from our normal lessons. It was fun trying to be as creative with our objects as possible. I asked people to find something pretty beginning with p."

My favourite thing to get was my dog (something that helped me through lockdown)."

Dupe:

"My favorite thing that I had to find was cream – I chose 'salad cream'."

Lily:

"Today in 9Hatton's P.E. lesson we did a scavenger hunt and I told everyone to 'find something beginning with L' because my name starts with L. I enjoyed finding something beginning with A as I got to find my cat who is an Animal! I don't think my parents enjoyed it as much because I was running up and down the stairs trying to grab things from different areas in my house, haha."

Kiyah:

"Today we did a scavenger hunt in PE. I enjoyed it because we got to interact with our classmates, and it was a change to what we usually do. I asked people to find a kid's toy with blue or purple on it and it was fun to see what everyone had come up with and find things ourselves."



Design the Old Palace Family Competition

We have been working on creating an animated, Old Palace Family, but we seem to be missing a few key members!

Can you help us design a Pre School and/or a Prep girl along with a Sixth Form student to join the Old Palace family?

- Choose one or all three; it's up to you.
- Please draw as an outline and/or with colour
- You can do this by hand or digitally
- You can draw more than one to give variations such as outdoors and inside.

When you have completed your drawing, photograph it or send the digital file via email to Mrs Broad:

lbroad@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk

Requirements:

Pre School - Year 2:

School hat, stripy blouse, pinafore dress, green cardigan

Prep girl:

School hat, green cardigan, green skirt and stripy blouse

Sixth form:

Smart jacket with blouse skirt or trousers or dress and jacket

Closing date: Monday 22nd February

Please note that the chosen designs may require adaption and adjustments to be digitally complementary to the rest of the OP family. We are looking for the essence of the new members of the OP family.



A letter from Mrs Nike



Dear all,

We have reached the end of another fantastic week of learning and yet again I am overwhelmed by the standard of work showcased in the bulletin this week. What a wealth of creativity you all have!

What is most evident this week, is how much each girl is enjoying the learning experiences on offer. Year 1 look thrilled to have completed their Life Skills challenge and the girls who received their certificates look overjoyed. The sheer concentration on Eliana's face as she created a snowman is of particular note.

Well done for staying positive. I am so impressed with the way you have embraced every challenge that has come your way.

Talking of challenges, I would encourage you to take part in the Old Palace Family Competition. It looks like such great opportunity to get involved in a digital project. I can't wait to see what you come up with.

Take care

Mrs Nike
Head of Pre School & Preparatory

Year 4 Maths Bronze Award Winners



Well done Fatima for gaining your Bronze Award.



Well done Alex for gaining your Bronze Award.

Year 3 Maths Certificates



Congratulations to Mya, who has beaten Ironman.



Congratulations to Elissia, with her Thor certificate.



Congratulations to Olivia, who took on Black Widow and won!



Congratulations to Paavana, who has gained her Ironman certificate.

Year 3: Scrumdiddlyumptious!

Year 3 are currently enjoying their new topic entitled Scrumdiddlyumptious! As the name suggests, it is all about food!

As part of this topic, the girls have looked carefully at different recipes, noticing all the command verbs and how instructions can be written clearly so that they are easy to follow. The girls were then asked to follow a recipe at home and photograph what they made.

Some of the girls chose to write a short summary about their experience.

Here are extracts from these and some photos of their marvelous creations.



'I chose to make Honey flapjacks. The recipe was fun to make. It turned out perfectly and tasted delicious! If I made it again I would put more raisins in and some chocolate chips.' **Aashna**



'I made star biscuits because I like making biscuits and it is really fun! I mixed the ingredients together to make the dough and then cut out the shapes. They only went in the oven for a few minutes and then it was done. My Mum, Dad, sister and I ate them. It was yummy!' **Sophia**



'I love the aromas of Indian curries! I followed my mummy's recipe and instructions to make the dish. Whilst we were cooking, Mumy told me about all the Indian spices we were using. Each spice smelt and tasted different from each other. The dish was delicious although a little spicier than I wanted. I would definitely put fewer green chilies in next time!' **Aanya**



'I made potato cakes, they are crispy on the outside and soft in the inside. The recipe is easy to follow as it is a Mauritian food and my Mum knows the recipe off by heart. I enjoyed making them with my Mum and Grandma and they turned out scrumptious!' **Paavana**



'I enjoyed making pizza, especially kneading the dough. It feels soft and smooth. The recipe was easy to follow because it was easy to read. It was from my Mum's favourite recipe book. The pizza turned out buonissima and scrummy! If I made it again I would keep it in the oven longer.' **Sofia**



Olivia B with her Blueberry Muffins

The Year 3 girls all seem to have enjoyed following recipes and I wonder if some of them will continue baking and cooking every weekend?

Hiru Goes Bird Watching

Hiru went to Waddon Pond for some bird watching.

She says: "I saw so many birds and my little sister was talking to the ducks and was trying to jump in the deep water! Some ducks were staying so still I thought they were dead but my mum said that that were alive so I said they were doing yoga. It's like the ducks were not moving a muscle. I saw a giant Swan. It was beautiful - like a great big white flower."



PE: Escape Room - Continued!

PE's Escape Room continues. Here is a photo of Aaliyah's ammunition (socks!) ready to be thrown over the lava.



Aaliyah: "I really enjoyed the lesson because it was different from what we usually do and it was very entertaining."

Inaaya: "I have thoroughly enjoyed online PE lessons. Unlike most lessons we get to do work without having to look at the screen. We are also encouraged to push ourselves further and complete additional challenges. Online PE has given us the chance to experience physical education in a new way. I have also been enjoying the range of exercise."

Charlotte: "In today's lesson we had 5 challenges to complete. My favourite part was the last activity when we had

to hit a tower, that we had made with things from around our house, with balls made of paper or rolled up pairs of socks."

Sariah: "Today in PE we did an escape room challenge. It was such fun! My favourite part was the balances because I am quite good at those."

Maysa: "I enjoyed the throwing, I thought I could do it quite swiftly and it was quite fun- nothing like our usual lessons."

Azriella: "I enjoyed doing the fitness exercises within the breakout rooms, as I was able to interact with my friends."

Zainab D: "I really enjoyed PE today as we did many fun activities. My favorite one had to be trying to aim paper balls into my school bag. But the one that tired me out was running up and down the stairs. I also enjoyed the fitness progress lessons and being in little breakout rooms as everybody encouraged each other."

Laura: "I usually go outside and run around with my sister, playing, and having fun. Sometimes, we climb the trees outside and play with some dogs (but safely of course due to COVID).

I enjoyed the throwing socks activity the most."



Eliana in Pre School: Snowman Home Learning



DT Project: Beat Band Boogie - Balloon Drums!



Aideen was very resourceful. She couldn't find a balloon and so used cling film (and feathers).

The children in Year 2 had lots of fun creating drums from balloons! We were amazed at how well the drums worked. If you would like to make your own balloon drum then just snip off the mouthpiece from a balloon and stretch the neck of the balloon over the mouth of the container. You might need to fix it with an elastic band.



Aadya

The girls used their hands or pencils to tap out rhythms on their balloon drums.



Safah



Kirstie



Anna's brother 'donated' his old swimming hat which made a fantastic sound as a drum.

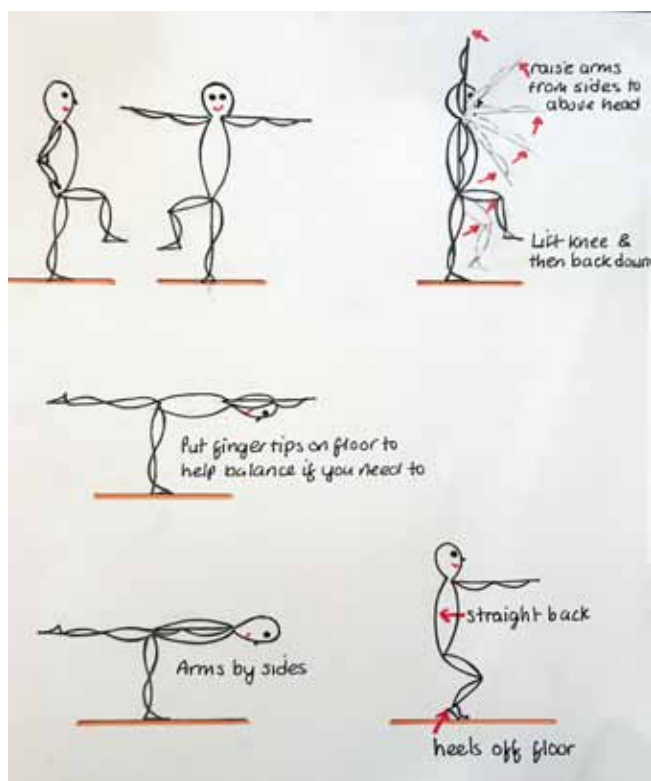
Year 7 Body Balance

Year 7 have been continuing with the Balance theme in their Swimming lessons. They have been concentrating on core control and being aware of how they are using their abdominal muscles.

In these photographs, Nia in Year 7, is demonstrating a balance where she is standing on one leg, the other leg directly out behind her, arms stretching forwards creating a straight line, parallel to the floor, from the tips of her fingers all the way to her toes.

You can also try this balance with your arms by your sides. Have a go!

Remember to try the balance on each leg.



Body balance diagrams by Nia.

Years 9 Drama: 'Othello'

This term has been very exciting for students in Year 9 as they return to remote learning. While remote learning offers challenges, it is also an opportunity for students to focus on different theatre skills.

Year 9 has just begun studying Shakespeare's *Othello*.

This is an exciting scheme, where students will explore this text as an actor and consider the role of the director. Students will also gain an understanding of the history of productions of this play and undertake a research task on the 19th century actor Ira Aldridge, who was the first non-white actor to play Othello in London. Aldridge's performance caused much controversy at the time due to societal prejudices. In the first lesson, students focused on the role of the director.

Working remotely has meant that students can access resources on Digital Theatre more frequently in live lessons. In this lesson, they watched an interview with a director about his concept for his production of *Othello*. Students were asked to evaluate his ideas.

Below is a response from Stephanie C about her thoughts on Twyman's concept.

What are your initial responses to the directorial concept?

"I found the director's intentions admirable, not just because of the performance or the choice of play but the subtext that he had unravelled and how he chose to use it in the play. A great example of this would be adding a scene, the first scene of the play, which was not Shakespeare's original intention. In this scene, the director dove into Elizabethan customs and the radical idea of eloping. He also used this scene to emphasise his intention of highlighting the themes of religious difference present in the play and setting up Othello's portrayal as a Muslim in this production.

The modern costume design also emphasised how the themes of the play still resonate in a modern society. Contemporary themes like: race, religion, jealousy, fear of the unknown and denial."

Is the director the best person to tell this story?

"Really, all the evidence points to show that he is. All the research he did on the terminology of 'Moors' and customs of the Elizabethan period and the origin of the name Iago and how the patriarch, from whom the name is derived, has racist connotations. It is also because he is not afraid to show humanity within the play, the struggles of identity and freedom, which he could relate to outside of race and understand that this is what so many people face in modern society. Twyman mentions Roderigo's line 'He is a stranger, here there and everywhere', to highlight that today, as in Shakespeare's time, people coming from diverse racial backgrounds are often seen as 'others'.

The director also slightly criticises Shakespeare's writing of the play for not diving further into Othello's personality and perpetuating racial stereotypes."

Year 8: Swimming and Lifesaving Rescues

Year 8 students have been working on Rescues in their Swimming Lifesaving lessons this week. Rescues work on a traffic light system **GREEN AMBER RED**.

GREEN rescues, such as 'shout and signal' and 'throwing' rescues, are the least hazardous to the rescuer as they do not involve getting in the water.

AMBER rescues are more hazardous because the rescuer would need to enter the water. For example, a 'wade-in' rescue. They also include reaching rescues, although this time performed in the water.

RED rescues are the most hazardous to the rescuer as they involve getting into deeper water and can also include being in direct contact with the casualty.

This week we looked in more depth at **GREEN** rescues.

More to follow next week.

Prep Big Garden Bird Watch



Eliana looking for birds.



Alynna with her binoculars.

Jessica Appears on CBBC's Mash-Up

We thought we recognised a familiar Old Palace face on last Saturday's CBBC Mash-up. It was only Jessica from Prep! Here she is talking to Strictly Come Dancing's Katya Jones.



Strictly Come Dancing dancer Katya Jones.

Keeping Active

Leah B in Year 10 says: "I am keeping fit and healthy by horse riding, as I'm fortunate enough to still be able to ride.

This is a photo of me and my 4 year old horse, Lara, in the snow."



PE Keeping Active: Year 9 Walk

The PE staff are encouraging students to stay as active as they can and get outside in the fresh air if they are allowed – and within Govt Guidelines.



Clodagh on her 6.49km walk.



Aliya walked 2.57km.

Geography Competition Week 3: Where in the World?

The answer to last week's *Where in the World* was **Argentina** (The picture showed Perito Moreno Glacier)

Deadline: Thursday 11th February 2021

Submit your answer on Forms using this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IEPCiFx-EUiUssKSjqGU5CJ4-zx23UVKvh1xAsZm93FUMzY2Nk1DSVc2TEFLS1E1U0IZUFJKOTThLVy4u>



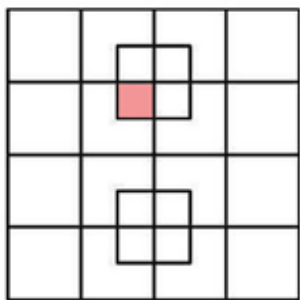
Where in the World?

Discover the world: use the clues to guess what country this image is from!

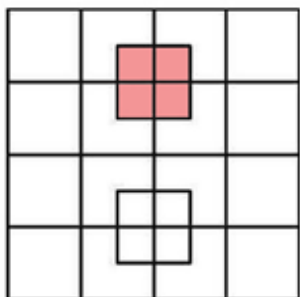


1. This country is one of only two countries in its continent that is landlocked.
2. In this country your marital status dictates your right to vote!
3. You are not allowed to vote until you're 21!
4. Indigenous people make up about two-thirds of its population
5. This country is in a minority as one of the few countries in the world not to have a McDonald's.

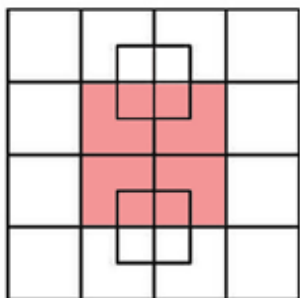
Answer Puzzle Fun Competition on page 3



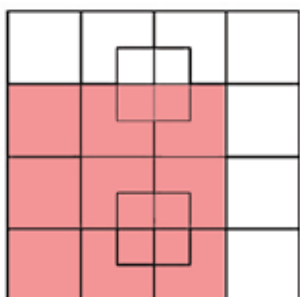
x8



x18



x9



x4

$8+18+9+4+1=40$ squares

Last Week's Puzzle Winner

Last weeks' winner was Ella
in Year 7.

DofE Online

Duke of Edinburgh participants have been busy keeping up their activities during lockdown.

The DofE has adapted many of their programmes to ensure that all the activities can be completed remotely. It is great to see how many students have been creative in the way they can volunteer or learn new skills!

Several of the Bronze Award students have signed up for online cooking courses to complete their skills section.



Isabel has made everything from mac 'n' cheese to banana bread!



Well done to Lily who has completed her Music section!

Riya's Neptune Poster

