



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,

The first Bulletin back after what I hope was a relaxing half term for our students and families showcases the activities of our Year 13 students as they celebrated the end of their A Level assessments and their time at Old Palace.

This cohort of students have been a credit to themselves and their families in the way they have coped with such an extraordinary year.

They are back in school next week for some pre-university activities and have a celebration event later in the term.

Well done Year 13!

Jane Burton, Head

Year 13: Leavers' Day





On the Friday before Half Term, Year 13 arrived at school ready for a fun-filled day of events and activities to mark the end of their time at Old Palace.

Our Year 13 students have been with us anywhere between two and 13 years and to say that this cohort has had a challenging Sixth Form experience is something of an understatement! However, for just a few, memorable hours we were able to suspend time, come together, remember, give thanks and celebrate.

The day began with each Form having their photograph taken with their Tutor. This was followed by activities chosen by the students, ranging from swimming and benchball, to arts and crafts and karaoke. There was something for everyone!

After a lovely lunch, we all gathered in the Minster for our Leavers' Service. Our prayers and readings were presided over by Reverend Dr Andrew Bishop whose homily was inspirational and thought-provoking. The students raised the roof with their favourite hymns including *Shine, Jesus, Shine* and *Jerusalem*. There were smiles and tears as they sang the School song for the last time.

Ms Ford, Mrs Burton and Mr Talleux gave short, poignant and entertaining addresses, reminiscing about their personal memories of the class of 2021. To conclude the service, Nadia treated us to a wonderful rendition of Debussy's *Syrinx*. The service concluded with a medley of 50s melodies - I am



not sure how old Year 13 think we all are! But it was great.

In thanking the students for the planning they put into their last day, we are grateful to their parents who have supported them and the School over the years. We are now looking forward to seeing Year 13 at their Prom on Friday 2 July.

Mr Talleux, Head of Sixth Form



Year 13 Leavers' – Last Day Activities

Year 13 students took part in numerous activity options on their last day. It was great to see so many opt to play benchball and then swim.

Benchball is always a favourite! The students really threw themselves into the activity; it was potentially the most exercise some had done for a long time!

Those who chose to swim played the infamous 'Spoons' game and then had free time using the fins, floats and generally re-living their days in the lower end of the school.



Year 8 Cricket

Just before half term, our Year 8 students were fortunate to enjoy a coaching session with professional cricketer, Amy Gordon. They were able to improve their hand-eye co-ordination and had lots of fun playing a competitive game at the end.



Curiosity Badges

At Prep, this last half term we have been focusing on curiosity and how students have been developing this trait. So why is being curious important?

- It makes your mind active instead of passive
- It makes our brains more receptive for learning, and then as we learn, we enjoy the sensation of learning.
- Finally, curious students not only ask questions, but also actively seek out the answers.

In fact, there isn't an intellectual giant who was not a curious person: Thomas Edison, Leonardo de Vinci, Albert Einstein, Marie Curie were all curious characters, to name a few.

Therefore, it gives us great pleasure to announce the Prep winners of the curiosity badge, as nominated by their teachers:

Reception	Kiara and Michaela
Year 1	Ayla and Lana
Year 2	Maya, Mischa, Charlotte and Nia
Year 3	Arya, Alynna, Olivia A and Aanya
Year 4	Tamalia, Adelise, Jessica, Michaela K, and Keyala
Year 5	Riya and Erin



Curiosity in Action in Year 3



"Arya's homemade Victorian theatre was spectacular, as was the Victorian puppet family she made. Arya used both the theatre and her Victorian family to tell us how Victorians entertained themselves, something that she had been curious to find out about. Thank you Arya. It was a wonderful lesson."

Mrs Frost

Curiosity in Action: Year 4

Year 4 pupils have been focussing on what makes a good open-ended question. They wrote down questions they were curious about on Post-it notes.

Here are some of them:

Keona - How do you make primary colours?

Caroline - Is there other life out there?

Alex - How do trees grow?

Tamalia - Deep, deep, DEEP down, who are we? (Further than humans)

Grace - How do you make a bowl out of clay?

Chloe - What will happen in the future?

Ava - How does time go by?

Michaela K - How does the world rotate and why?

Moriah - Who first created music?

Jessica - What is inside and the other side of a black hole?

Ruby-Lee - Why do people say that monkeys always eat bananas when they don't?



Amelia - Who am I related to in the Roman times or Anglo Saxons?

When we were writing our Post-it notes, Tamalia said:

'Miss Fitzgerald, in the future people might find these Post-it notes and they will be museum artefacts! They will know all the answers to our questions and be curious about us,'

which encouraged us all to reflect on the impact of our lives in the present and ponder life in the future.

Also, following on from learning about the Sikh naming ceremony in RS, 4J became very curious about their names. What did their name mean? Where did it come from? Why were they named it? What do they think about their name?

Michaela M and Aaliya went one step further and made their own posters (see photo above) to show what they had found. Many other girls presented

to the class what they had found out about their name and what it meant. "Well done Year 4" said Ms Fitzgerald.

After the half term holidays, the girls will be working on trying to answer some of these intriguing questions.

Alongside our most recent focussed value, we are still looking at all the other values and for those girls who have gone above and beyond, we would like to present them with the following badges:

	Kindness	Bravery	Honesty
Pre School	Yara, Ariya and Sienna	Drew and Emily	Calleigh and Angharad
Reception	Sion and Sienna	Lyla	
Year 1	Alice, Amelie, Kiyana and Sophia	Victoria	Grace
Year 2		Nuriya and Lilla	Anna and Aideen
Year 3	Aashna and Paavana	Azra	Hiru
Year 4	Ruby-Lee, Chloe and Jasmin-Lee	Caroline and Aailya	Amelia and Alex
Year 5	Nikita and Imaan	Rachelle, Grace, Ellie and Elise	Lola, Amanah and Lydia

Congratulations Bethany and Tahalia



Bethany and I (who play for Crystal Palace) recently became National League Champions of the Junior Premier League for Crystal Palace FC (Women) U14's academy after a 4-2 victory Vs London Bee's.

We started off slowly and were a bit nervous but then we started to warm up. We got a corner and Bethany headed it in. Then she scored another one; it was a long shot into the top corner. They got one back to bring the score to 2-1. We then took control late in the second half - scoring another two goals to go 4-1 up.

London Bees scored their 2nd goal late on to make it a very tense ending five minutes before the final whistle went and we were JPL national champions.

All round it was a good performance and Bethany got Woman of the Match. We thoroughly deserved the win after an impressive season. We scored 120 goals, conceding 16 and only losing 1 match 1-0 for the whole season.

Winning the National League will give us confidence as we still have a cup final to play in a week's time. It been a very successful season.

Tahalia, Year 9

Sports Leaders - Learner of the Year



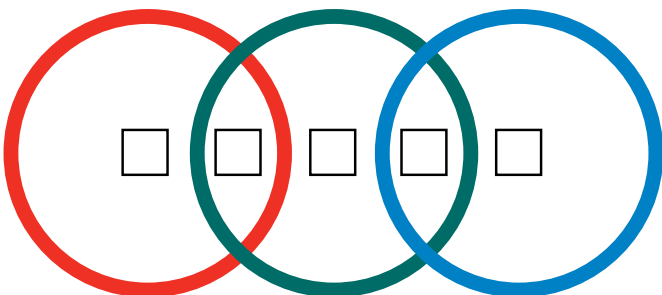
We are delighted that Sophia and Suraiya in Year 11 have been shortlisted for Sports Leaders - Learner of the Year.

The girls now have to submit a video through to Sports Leaders highlighting their leadership achievements and what they have gained from the qualification.

We wish them the best of luck!

Maths Puzzle Fun

Use six different numbers from 1-9 to fill in the gaps so that the sum of the digits in each circle is 11.



Answer on page 15

Year 9: DofE

DofE was a very enjoyable experience as we were able to spend more time with friends and explore and admire the outdoors. As we were on our walk we saw many animals, like cows, dogs and horses, and a lot of flora, but the highlight was definitely when we reached the viewpoint after climbing and were able to see a huge landscape of the towns below. Despite COVID regulations, we were able to successfully complete our expedition!



Year 7 Food Technology

Year 7 students continue to enjoy their Food Technology lessons. Just before half term, they made a delicious Italian tomato sauce accompanied with pasta. They had fun eating it in the food room at lunchtime!



Year 12: BioSoc



Students have been busy in BioSoc developing practical skills in a number of areas. During the microbiology session, the students used aseptic techniques to spread bacteria onto agar plates using different methods.

They have used their investigative skills to explore the action of an enzyme inhibitor on catalase.

More recently in BioSoc, students have had the opportunity to develop the skills used to separate DNA fragments. Chloe-Marie and Divinia explain the process.

After a DNA segment has been digested using a restriction enzyme, the resulting fragments can be examined using a laboratory method called gel electrophoresis, which is used to separate pieces of DNA according to their size. DNA samples

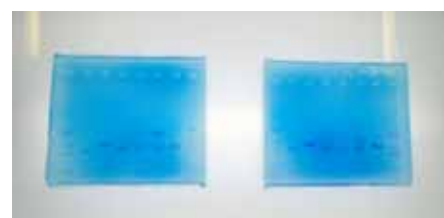
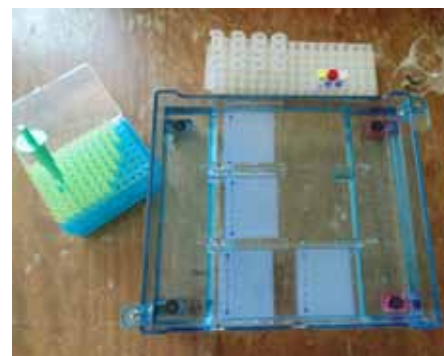
are loaded into wells (indentations) at one end of a gel, and an electric current is applied to pull them through the gel. DNA fragments are negatively charged, so they move towards the positive electrode.

Chloe-Marie, Year 12

In BioSoc, we separated DNA fragments by gel electrophoresis which I have never done before. It was really interesting and fun to separate the DNA fragments and use micropipettes. What I found interesting was that the process was quite similar to thin layer chromatography, which we had learnt about in Chemistry. I really enjoyed applying my previously knowledge to develop these new skills. Thank you, Dr Haughey and Mrs Peplow.

Divinia, Year 12

Photos of the equipment used and the results of the gel electrophoresis are shown below;



Young Voices Rehearsal

Rehearsing *Lovely Day* for the Young Voices 'Biggest Sing' next Tuesday at 2pm.



Year 2: Planting Seeds

Year 2 enjoyed planting Sunflower seeds for our new science topic, *The Scented Garden*. This week the girls learnt about the functions of the parts of a plant and what plants need to grow and thrive.



Whole School Musical Auditions!

The Drama, Music and Dance departments are excited to announce that we will be holding the first round of auditions for Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*



The weeks of 14th (Years 6-9) and 21st June (Years 10-12).

The call-back auditions and auditions for students entering Year 7 will be in September.

Final casting will also be announced in September.

Auditions are open to all current Years 6-12 who will be returning to Old Palace next academic year.

The performances will be in February 2022.

More information regarding auditions has been sent to parents. If your child wishes to audition you must sign up using a Microsoft Form and the link is in the letter.

A letter from Mrs Nike



Dear all,

As we reach the end of another fantastic week at Prep, I am truly impressed by how much our girls have achieved.

Well done to all those girls who have received their Curiosity badge. Curiosity is an important ingredient in the process of learning. It awakens our interest, motivates us and makes us feel alive! Life is never boring if you are curious. Keep it up!

I am so pleased with the amount of entries we received for the music competition. The standard submitted was exceptional. Well done to everyone who took part.

Aadya's running achievements are remarkable. 21 runs is a real achievement. Great Job! We are also very proud of Lana for being accepted to join the Woodside and Thornton Heath Swimming Club.

The girls have taken part in a lot of physical exercise this week. They have rehearsed for sports day, learnt how to play Jeu de Boules and had great fun playing the Spoons game during their swimming lesson.

Tonight, the Euro 2021 tournament begins. If you like football, or are curious about the sport it is a great opportunity to get involved by watching teams from around the world compete against each other. I am looking forward to watching Italy v Turkey tonight in the first game of the competition.

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Nike
Head of Preparatory

Reception: Rehearsing for Sports Day

Mrs Coster and our Reception pupils were out bright and early on Monday morning rehearsing for Sports Day. The sack race is a tricky technique to master, so well done girls; you did really well.



Full Marathon-parkrun



Many congratulations to Aadya, who has completed 21 runs (equivalent to a full marathon) at Lloyd Park. Her PB this year stands at 14:16. Well done!

Year 1: Lana Swimming

Over Half Term Lana (1J) was selected by her Saturday swimming teacher to go for a trial to join the Woodside and Thornton Heath Swimming Club.

She attended the trial and has been accepted into the club, and will begin swimming training with them this week.

Well done Lana!



Year 3: Jeu de Boules

During one of the French lessons, Year 3 took the opportunity of the lovely weather to step outdoors and learn a classic French game. Boules, also called Pétanque, is a ball game similar to bowls. In French, the word "boule" means "ball" and in France people often refer to the game simply as "boules" (pronounced BOOL).

The girls looked at different types of boules: metal ones, wooden ones as well as the lighter water filled plastic

boules. They also learnt the rules and different throwing techniques.

The aim of the game is to try to throw your boule as close to the jack ("le cochonnet") as possible. Each player has two boules and take turns to throw. Both feet must stay together on the ground and the throw must be taken within a circle or behind a line. There are several different strategies, the most common being to throw the first boule directly at the jack, hoping

to stop right in front of it in order to block your opponent. There are two main ways to throw your boule:

Faire rouler - to roll the boule along the ground.

Faire plumber - to lob the boule to land as close to the jack or to try to knock out your opponent's boule.

Hopefully with these newfound techniques, Year 3 will now be inspired to play the game over summer.



Year 9 DT Cushion Covers



Year 9 students have been busily working on their cushion covers in DT. Their covers have been inspired by a selection of designers; some from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries such as William Morris and Charles Renee Mackintosh and some very modern designers such as Alexander McQueen.

Many have stayed on during lunch breaks and after school to get them completed before the end of term!

Well done Year 9. We hope to post the finished items here for you to see very soon.



Prep Music Competition Update

To date there have been an impressive 106 entries into the competition and Miss Fitzgerald has been absolutely amazed by the standard and commitment shown by the students (and parents).

At this point there are 11 girls who deserve a special mention for entering all three categories:

Victoria	Year 1
Misha	Year 2
Aashna, Anokhi, Mya and Hiru	Year 3
Jessica, Avika and Tamalia	Year 4
Lydia and Lola-Marie	Year 5

Many girls also entered two categories which is fabulous.

A special 'Well done' to 1J for sending in the most entries of any one class (27) Wow!

Miss Fitzgerald is still in the process of deciding which girls will go through to the finals and adding up the Housepoints from all the entries. The finalists will be listed in the bulletin next week and their videos will then be adjudicated by Mrs Pauline Stone the week after to decide the individual winners and overall winning House... Watch this space!



OP Donates Surplus Baby Equipment to Local Charity



We were very pleased to be able to donate all of our surplus baby furniture and equipment to a local charity **Christian Family Concern** who provide Mother and Baby Supported Accommodation. Wallis House and Beracah bedsits aim to provide safe,

secure, comfortable supported accommodation where young first time mothers can develop their confidence and skills in parenting and independent living.

The Nursery Head Teacher and Old Palace Alumni Mrs Radika Jordan said 'This is wonderful. As we are a charity we are always in need of more cost effective ways of resourcing our Nursery'. She explained that she had a young mother who would benefit immediately from the donations.

Virtual Open Evening Live Q&A

**Seniors
& Sixth Form**
Monday, 28 June
5.30-6.30pm

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

Year 8 Sports Club: Cricket

We are delighted to have been able to forge links with Addiscombe Cricket Club – something we hope to develop in the coming years.

On Tuesday, students who attend Year 8 Sports Club after school enjoyed their first visit to the Cricket Club and experienced batting and bowling on grass and a full length wicket. This helped to assess areas for development in the coming weeks. Players were reminded about 'walking in' as fielders as the ball is bowled, sliding their bat into the crease when running and backing up in the field. Lots to learn and remember! We look forward to many more visits in the future.



Year 2: Swimming

Year 2 were so excited about playing the Spoons Game!

It is a crazy submerging game we play at Old Palace with all year groups. Even the Year 13 leavers requested an extra swimming lesson before they left, just so they could play the Spoon Game!

Well over 120 spoons of all shapes and sizes (teaspoons, desert spoons, serving spoons etc) are thrown into the middle of the pool. Then the girls are divided into two teams, starting at the wall on opposite sides of the pool. Both teams are asked if they are ready. The response is a volley of exciting affirmative screams!

On the 'go' signal they have to retrieve ONE spoon at a time that THEY have to take back to the basket on their team's side of the pool. We have to watch them like a hawk for anyone trying to get away with picking up more than one spoon or giving a spoon to a team mate to put in the basket for them. We are really mean and throw any spoons that land on the poolside back in the water.

When all the spoons have been picked up, they are counted and the winning side announced. As you can see from the photograph it's all legs and arms in the air!

Great fun was had by all!



Year 9: Cricket Tournament

On Wednesday 26th May Old Palace participated in a Cricket Tournament.

In the first game we started off slowly but we got better as the tournament went on. We hit a few sixes and a few fours, and we bowled quite well. We came third.

Thank you to Mrs Fowler and Mr Nolan for taking us.



Year 6: House Swimming

As soon as we got changed, I was extremely nervous, as was everyone else. Excited too. I was due to do butterfly while Tia did frontcrawl and Shankavi backstroke and breaststroke. We did these strokes and fortunately Tia won on breaststroke; this was a good sign for Stafford!

We then did a relay, doing continuous widths in turns for a continuous three minutes. Although this may seem easy, you are mistaken! We were all out of breath as we got out of the pool ready for backstroke. Shankavi lined up ready to compete and shot off. She came second, which was amazing. My voice had gone hoarse after all the cheering!



We then did an underwater basket challenge with a little stick that was placed in a basket, we had to transfer the stick to the other basket and see how many times we could do it in the time provided. Stafford got seven.

Next was breaststroke and Shankavi dived into the water with a great start. 1st and 2nd were so close but second was a good achievement! We then did the ball throw. We had to throw a ball to the people in the water and they would then kick it to the wall. This was hard work! My legs were sore, and at the wrong time too! Now it was my turn to do butterfly!

Getting into the water, I began. My arms brushed the surface of the water as I tilted my head up for an occasional breath. Hearing my friends was so encouraging. "A N A Y A! Go Anaaya" they screamed! I ended coming second but this wasn't the end of Stafford's success! After doing the fun rope throw and pulling people in from fake drowning it was time for the results! "In fourth place is... Anselm!" we cheered and clapped as Miss Rodwell got ready for third... Hatton! Second was Laud and surprisingly Stafford was first. We cheered, jumped, splashed and screamed. Victory was sweet!

Anaaya, Year 6, Stafford

WANTED Pre-loved Toys

Old Palace PTA are looking for any pre-loved soft toys that need new homes in the coming months.



Could you kindly bag up good quality soft toys and drop them off at either the Prep or Senior office.

The PTA are looking to fundraise this summer towards hosting a variety of events for the girls and parents in the coming academic year.

We appreciate your generosity over the years and we look forward to engaging with the parents in the coming year once the COVID restrictions are lifted.

Thanking you
Old Palace PTA Committee



We have made your
desserts more
sustainable!

Our dessert pots are **REUSABLE**,
meaning we can use them
again and again and again...



Running Club

Running Club for Year 8 continued last Friday in Wandle Park. Running is a great way of clearing the mind and improving overall fitness. Running club is for Year 9 for the next 2 weeks.

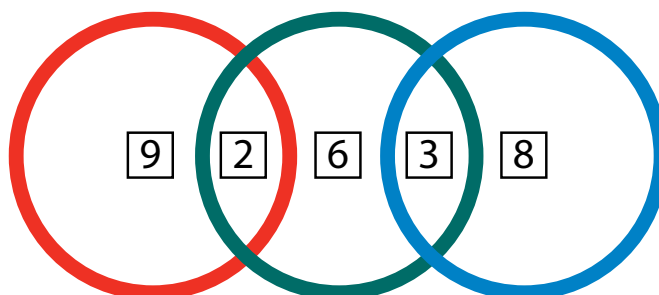
A big thank you to Mr Taruwona and Mrs S Smith for their help with Running Club!



Maths Puzzle Fun Page 7 Answer

Here is an answer.

Did you get a different one?



The winner before half term was **Ines** in Year 7

