



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,

Just two and a half weeks into term and it is a delight to read this week's Bulletin which shows everything that has been going on across the School.

At Old Palace we want our students to be confident, capable and connected and this is demonstrated by each and every article from some of our youngest students in Reception settling into their first school to the Student Leadership Team beginning their year of leading the student community.

Well done everyone!

Jane Burton, Head

Meet the Student Leadership Team 2021-22



Student Leadership Team: Who's Who!



New Chair of Governors



This week, we were delighted to welcome to the school our new Chair of Governors, Michelle Bereaux. After her visit Michelle fed back that she very much enjoyed seeing both Prep and Seniors, especially having the chance to talk to the Head Girls and is very excited about the future of Old Palace and what can be achieved in the years ahead.

Michelle is taking on the role in a personal capacity but in her professional life she is the Chief Operating Officer of UBS Asset Management and a Group Managing Director of UBS. Michelle read Politics and Economics at the University of Buckingham and then law at the University of Cambridge.

Senior Swimming Squad

Senior Swimming Squad got off to a flying start this week with a great turn out.

All swimmers worked really hard and had the opportunity to use various pieces of equipment including kickboards, pull buoys and the pace clock.

We will continue with the hard work next week!



Year 11: Classical Civilisation



We have been exploring Homer's *Odyssey* in great detail often working in smaller groups to discuss key themes and characters in the *Odyssey*. Over the summer, we analysed and answered questions in relation to key events occurring in books 21 & 22 of the *Odyssey*. These books detail the story of Penelope as she asserts her authority and challenges the suitors to string her husband's bow followed by Odysseus' return and vengeance.

In this lesson, as a class we worked together to select key quotes and recreate these scenes, playing close attention to the themes of loyalty, xenia and justice. I thoroughly enjoyed this lesson as we were able to accurately convey the emotions that each of the characters might have felt.

Zino, Year 11
Classical Civilisation student

Year 6: Blood Heart

Year 6 students had the opportunity to visit the Science Lab at the Senior School this week to dissect a heart as part of their exciting topic, 'Blood Heart'. It was certainly a memorable experience; handling a lamb's heart and making incisions to reveal the internal features. The girls were able to spot the major blood vessels, the four chambers and even feel the heart strings. Lots of fun was had and they look forward to writing their non-chronological reports on the heart next.

"I learnt a lot," said Alisha. "I was surprised how difficult the tendons were to get through!"



Bronze DofE

Congratulations to the students who have completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. They should be particularly proud of this achievement as they still managed to successfully complete all their sections during the pandemic.

We look forward to seeing more students complete their award in the coming weeks.



Sixth Form and Open Day Filming

This week we continued filming new videos for Biology, Chemistry and Physics A Level. Then it was on to a chat with our two Head Girls followed by conversations with Years 7 & 8.

Look out for the films on our website soon.



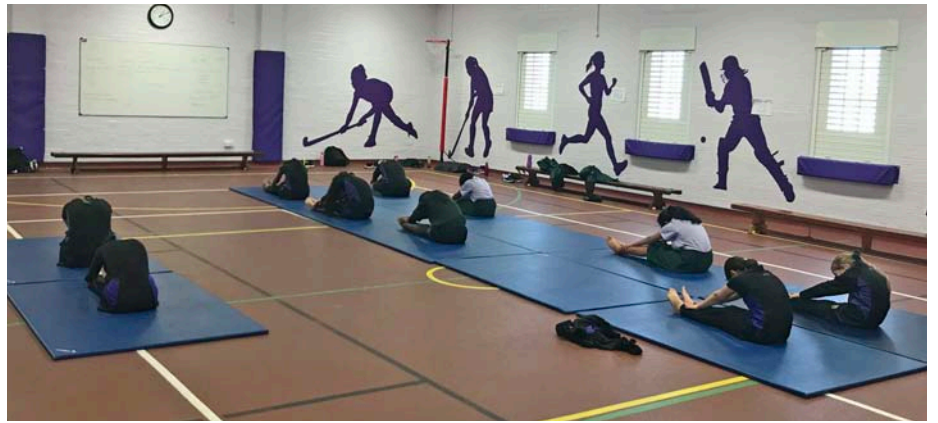
Gymnastics Club

Gymnastics Club began last Friday and it was lovely to see lots of new students attend to work on their skills.

The club runs every Friday from 1pm -1.30pm.

Everyone in Year 7-9 is welcome.

A big thank you to Manasi and Zoe who are giving up their time to help run the club.



Year 11 Biology Field Trip

Last week, Year 11 students went out for the day to learn data collection skills at Beckenham Place Park.

The sun shone and the students used the equipment at the Field Studies Centre to look at the effect of cutting grass on species diversity. As well as accurately identifying and counting the plants underfoot, they also used light meters and temperature probes. Each group chose a plant to study. They demonstrated that its distribution changed as the conditions changed from under a tree into the open.

Students picnicked at the park and got lots of fresh air.



Steel Pans

Steel Pans provided our visiting families with some welcome entertainment in the courtyard at our Open Morning (21st September), and again for students at lunchtime.



Senior Netball

The students at the upper end of the school have been keen to get their netball skills back up and running; the turn out at training has been very good.

Training has been a little bit of a shock to the system I think but enthusiasm levels are high and it has been good to see so many come along!

We have some matches arranged for Year 10-13 throughout the season; we hope to be able to compete at a good competitive level.

Anyone in Year 10-13 is welcome to come along and try out a session on:

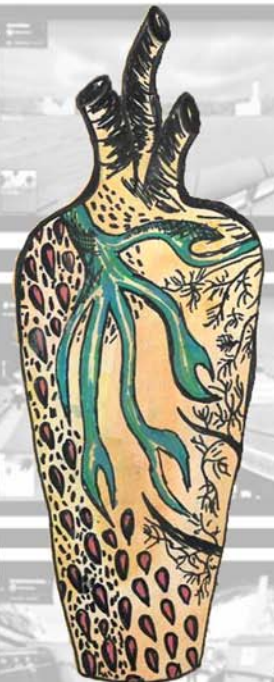
Monday	After school
Tuesday	Lunchtimes



 **Old Palace of
John Whitgift School**
Independent Girls' School



4.00-6.00pm
Thursday 30 September 2021
SHAH FOYER



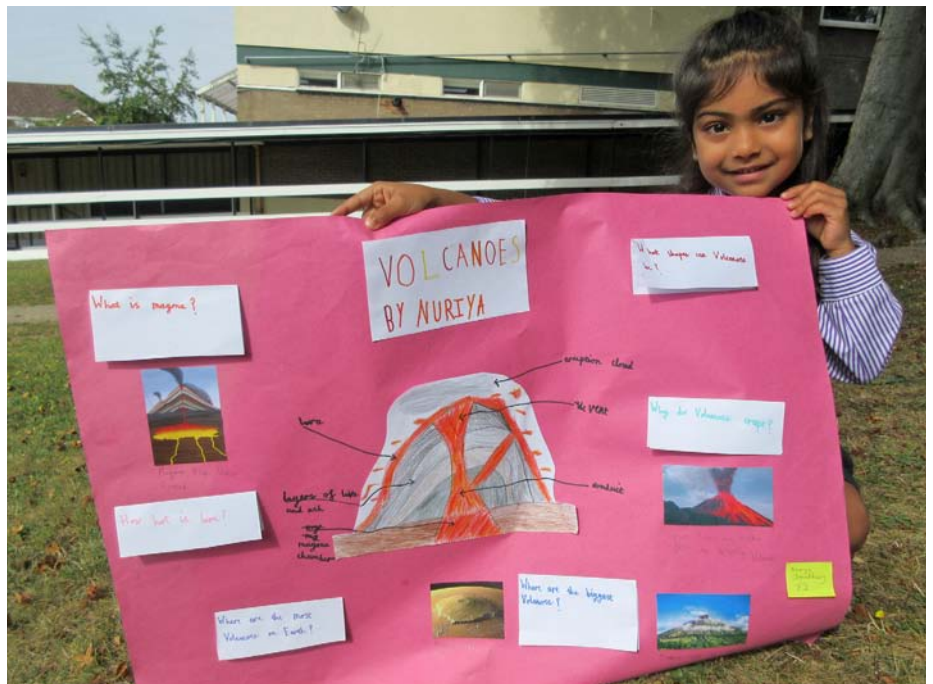
**GCSE & GCE
Art & Photography
Exhibition 2021**

Year 3: Rocks, Relics and Rumbles

In preparation for the Year 3 topic of 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles', the girls in Year 3 could choose to make a poster about volcanoes or make a 3D model of one.

They shared with the class what they have discovered so far and how they made their volcanoes. They all look absolutely fabulous and some were enormous! A few of the volcanoes have already erupted and the others are expected to erupt soon!

Nuriya's huge poster tested the girls' knowledge with questions she had included on it. Ellie's photo frame was a super way to show the different steps of making her volcano.





As part of our enrichment curriculum in Sixth Form, we have the opportunity to join Engineering Prep, which helps us to develop our understanding of the engineering-related courses offered at university and other higher education institutions.

In our first session, we discussed our aspirations for future study and career options – this varied from biomedical engineering to environmental energy and sustainability, whilst also including careers in the mathematical and physical fields.

We explored different websites and resources to support our extra and super curricular activities, and also to support the admissions process for Oxbridge and Russell Group university applications. As part of our commitment to EngPrep, we have been taking part and helping to lead SATRO club, which is a practical problem-solving club involving teams of up to six pupils in their respective year groups. Each team must come up with a practical solution to a problem, such as designing and building a wind-powered lift that can lift up to 23 polo mints.

This club helps pupils to develop various skills, such as leadership and teamwork skills, creativity and problem-solving. In the upcoming weeks, we will be researching potential university courses and begin preparation for our personal statement. We will also be participating in the Engineering Development Trust Industrial Cadet Gold Award project. This is a 6-month programme focused on solving a real-life STEM

challenge, where we will develop key employability skills, such as problem solving, team working, careers awareness, personal development, to meet the Industrial Cadets Gold level accreditation and gain skills and competencies necessary for a successful career in engineering.

I hope to study biomedical engineering post sixth form and am really looking forward to the Engineering Cadet Programme opportunity, which will be extremely beneficial. – Indrani

I enjoy studying maths and physics, and I am hoping to pursue a career in engineering, so I chose Engineering Preparations. I am particularly looking forward to taking part in the EDT (Engineering Development Trust) project, as I will be able to get some hands-on experience and learn from professionals in the industry.

Through participating in this project and attending Engineering Preparation sessions, I hope to develop personal, analytical, and problem-solving skills. I am also hoping to broaden my knowledge and the opportunities and potential pathways in maths, physics, and engineering. – Amy

I am not completely sure what my aspirations for higher education are, but I know I would like to pursue a science related degree at university and hopefully this year I will figure out what subjects I am most interested in. I decided to join engineering prep as it

may help me with the degree I decide to do. I think one of the opportunities for engineering prep I am looking forward to is the Engineering Development Trust Industrial Cadet Gold Award project as it sounds like an interesting opportunity. – Rohaan

I have been interested in a career in engineering/physics, therefore I joined Eng Prep. I hope to learn more about the different types of engineering and to find one that I am passionate about. I am looking forward to the Engineering Cadets programme which will involve a team project. – Anna

I am passionate about pursuing both maths and physics at university. I wanted to join Engineering Prep as it would provide me with the opportunity and more resources to research potential courses to study, whilst also giving me the support and guidance required to prepare for writing my personal statement and any admissions assessments later in Year 12.

I am especially looking forward to participating in engineering related courses, such as the EDT project, since it will provide me with a great insight into engineering at industry level, whilst also developing a number of integral skills, e.g. communication and problem-solving. – Suraiya

Year 8: Cross Country



Some of our Year 8's took part in a cross country meet at Croydon High against three other schools on Monday. The Old Palace runners did extremely well to complete the course.

Olivia came 6th out of 30 girls which was a fantastic result. It was an opportunity for the students to practice for district cross country. Well done!

Year 2: Beat Band Boogie!

Year 2's topic this term is Beat Band Boogie! During the summer holiday, pupils made these fantastic percussion instruments from recycled materials.



Classics Department Word of the Week 20/09/21

AMBITION

A strong desire to do or achieve something.
From Latin 'ambire' "to go around, go about" - often trying to encourage voters to support you at elections

The Spanish Language: History and Development



Spanish is considered to be one of the most important languages in the world with more than 559 million people speaking it globally. Its origins date back to 200 BC-9 AD in the Iberian Peninsula from what is now known as 'Vulgar Latin'. Vulgar Latin refers to one of the multiple dialects of Latin, which eventually developed to become one of the many romance languages such as Spanish, French and Italian.

Latin was the prominent language of the Iberian Peninsula called 'Hispania' during the Roman Empire. However, it integrated between many of the local dialects and languages and soon began to form its own essence. After centuries worth of wars, invasions and conquests, modern Spanish is agreed to have been established in a standard written form in the 13th Century in the Kingdom of Castile, Toledo during the 'Reconquista' period.

The Castilian Spanish language eventually made its way to South America by Christopher Columbus's discovery of the Americas. The Hispanicization of South America led to Spanish becoming the primary language in the region. After the introduction of Catholicism in the region, the language began to expand and natives incorporated its vocabulary in the dialects they spoke. Therefore, the combination of historical events and social impacts have caused a distinct form of Latin American Spanish spoken today in Central and South America.

Languages in general continue to evolve today with new culture, social and media impacts and changes to become a newer version than what it was before. Abbreviations, pronunciation and slang are some examples in which Spanish have changed from the past too.

Fizza, Year 12

A letter from Mrs Nike



Dear all,

It was wonderful to see so many parents at the Curriculum Evening on Tuesday. This academic year has so much on offer for your daughter to help her to learn, grow and achieve and it was great to get the opportunity to share it with you in person. Thank you for coming; we hope you found it informative!

Year 6 had a fabulous time this week visiting Seniors. What a treat to be able to visit the science lab to partake in a dissection of a Lamb's heart which linked to the cornerstone topic, Blood Heart. The book *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman is a very gripping read. I hope you enjoy it.

The Reception class have settled in well and are enjoying all the challenges on offer. This week, they spent time getting to know different people in our school and learnt about their contributions that make our school a very special place.

I was overjoyed to see the Pre School swimming photographs in this week's bulletin. It looks like you are having a really good time learning how to swim together.

Keep up the good work!

Mrs Nike
Head of Preparatory

Pre School's First Swim

One of the highlights of Pre School's first week was a trip to Seniors on the school mini buses for their first swimming lesson.



Reception: Getting to Know Everyone

During their first week, Reception enjoyed lots of exciting activities both inside the classroom and in the outdoor area. As part of their topic on friendship, they have been showing kindness to others by taking turns with toys and using good manners.

They have had a walk around the school to get to know lots of adults who help us. They met Mrs Jordan and Mrs Coy in the office, Mick and Terry, the Caretakers and Mrs Elliott in her classroom.

They have also been learning how to organise their belongings when they arrive at school and when they get ready to go home.



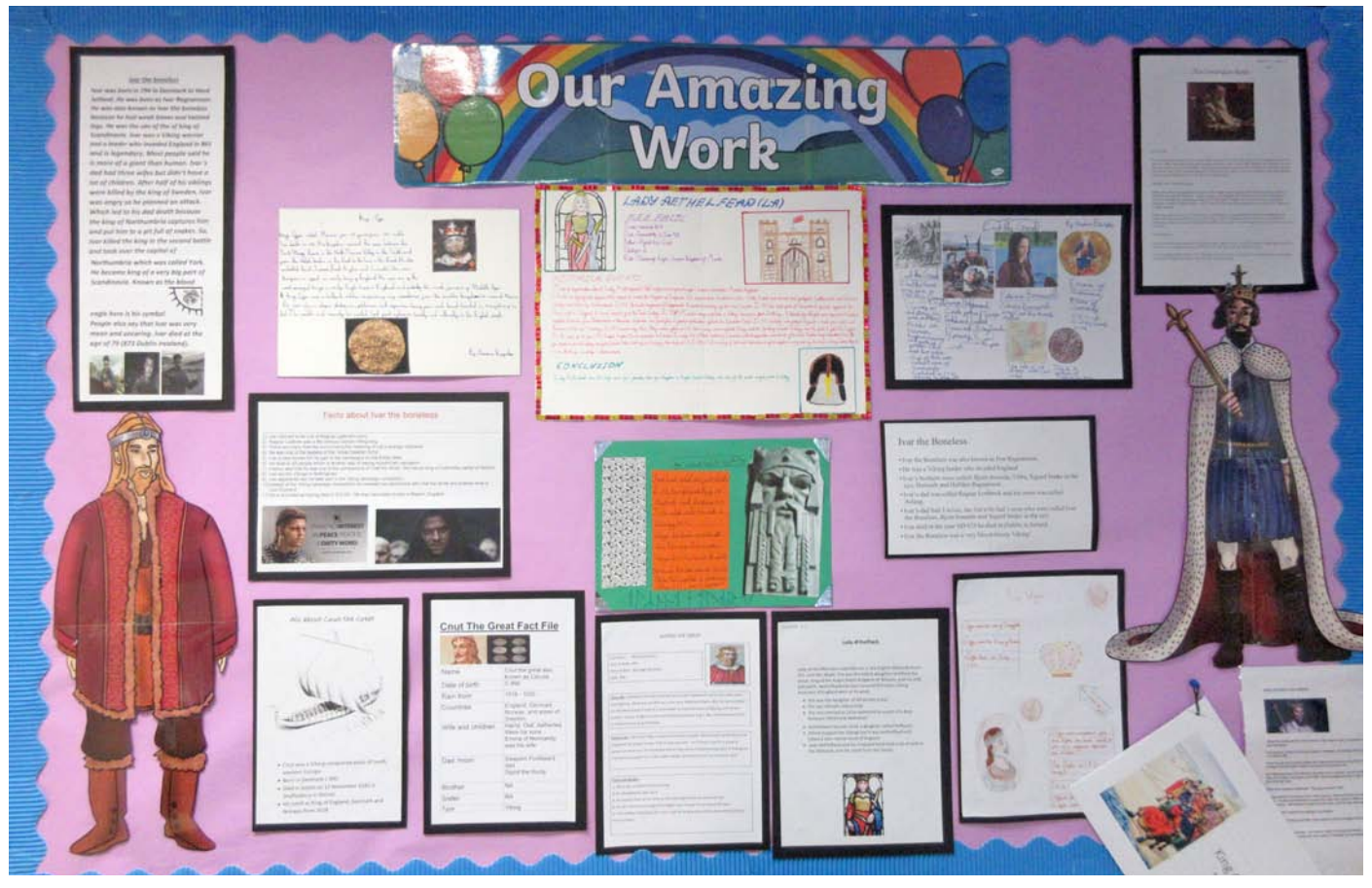
Year 4: Invasion

As an introduction to their 'Invasion' topic on Anglo-Saxon and Viking invaders, Year 4 chose one character from an intriguing shortlist to research and present facts about.

Their choices were: Alfred the Great, King Offa, Lady Aethelflaed or Bede for the Anglo-Saxons and Ivar the Boneless, Guthrum, Sweyn Forkbeard or Cnut the Great for the Vikings! They included some beautiful illustrations and a title in runes.

We learnt that the Anglo-Saxon and Viking eras overlapped and from our research we are predicting that life in Britain during this time was far from peaceful!

We are looking forward to seeing if we are right.



Year 7 Netball Club

We were delighted to see over 20 Year 7's take part in Year 7 Netball Club on Monday lunchtime. This is open to anyone in Year 7 who wants to improve their techniques and tactics during some match play.

This session focused on improving footwork around the

court and passing the ball into space which was put into practice during a 5-side game of netball.

Well done to Year 7 for their great effort and willingness to learn and improve!



Arts Award Bronze...more to follow next week!



Storytelling in Year 7 Drama Club

This term, Year 7 Drama club will be focusing on the skill of storytelling. We are embarking on a journey to find out what exactly makes a good story, and learning the skills required to do so.

After already having had two very successful and energetic sessions with our talented Year 7s, we have started to work on key skills such as communication and confidence.

In Year 7 Drama club, we also play drama games, do acting exercises and work on our devising skills. It is a place for students with a passion for drama to come together, meet new like-minded friends and get creative. We aim to stretch our imaginations as far as we can in a fun and encouraging environment.

This club goes hand in hand with our Drama curriculum, where we are developing the same key skills while working on the importance of team work and trust in drama spaces.

Our Year 7 Drama Club will be working towards an exciting lunchtime performance at the end of this term to showcase their progress in front of peers and teachers.

This club takes place on Monday lunch times at 1pm in the Drama Studio.

Come join us!

Year 7 Drama Workshop



On the 16th of September I did drama for our creative workshop with a few others from my year. At first, I was quite nervous, however as we warmed up, I started to relax and really enjoyed it the more we progressed through the exercises.

Our drama teacher Ms Hargraves was wonderful and encouraged everyone. We started with a quick warm-up, acting out characters from Alice in Wonderland before getting into groups. Ms Hargraves gave each group a different scene and our group was excited to act out the Croquet Garden scene. We practiced reading the scene together and then we allocated the roles.

I played cards 5 and 7 but my favorite part was acting out the Cheshire cat during the warm, because I got to act out one of my favorite animals.

It was really fun and I can't wait to do it again next week.

Tia-Amelie

Last Thursday, some other Year 7s from different forms and I took part in a Drama workshop. We were split into

groups of four and five, and we had to work on different scenes from the film, Alice in Wonderland. As the characters are quite different, it gave us a chance to see the different perspectives in the scene we were acting. Overall, I would say that it was a very enjoyable afternoon!

Enyinnaya

During the creative workshop my group explored on the app, tinkercad. Tinkercad is a online 3D modelling design program, that can be used to print out physical objects. I found this fascinating as we could build our own structures and create 3D designs. My group ventured through tinkercad and discovered lots of new shapes that we could add to our structures in the future. I look forward to learning more about how we can use tinkercad to make more advanced objects, and to fluently know what tools we need to know to make our designs physical. Thank you for reading this review.

Summer

In the Music Creative workshop we worked on low and high pitch. We also explored loud and quiet dynamics using different songs to help us understand these terms. We did warm-up exercises too and these not only helped us hear the different pitches and dynamics, they were great fun too!

Zainab

Sports Leaders Level 1

Sports Leaders Level 1 enjoyed their first taste of leadership last week.

We focused on the five key elements needed to be an effective leader; communication, self-belief, teamwork, self-management and problem solving. Students were placed into small teams and were given mini activities to lead to the rest of the group.

It was pleasing to see how the students helped each other out and took on board all the feedback given to them.

An excellent start – well done!



Year 12 Chemists: Modelling Atoms

Year 12 have been getting to grips with the electron configuration of atoms. A more advanced model, compared to the one they were familiar with at GCSE, explains how electrons are found within electron dense regions called orbitals. These orbitals have different shapes: S-orbitals and p-orbitals. The students found modelling atoms a really useful activity to aid their understanding of these arrangements.

Once they had made a 3D model they were able to visualise the orbitals. In

the models in the photographs the S-orbitals which are spherical can be seen as circles and the p-orbitals which are dumb-bells can be seen as loops.



Year 5: Alchemy Island

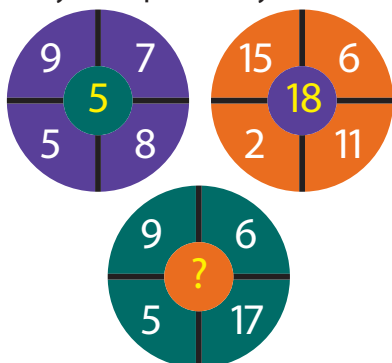
Year 5's first topic is Alchemy Island and during the summer they researched and presented facts about gold!



Puzzle Fun

Which of the options is the correct number to replace the ? in the centre of the last circle?

Can you explain why?



a) 12 b) 15 c) 17 d) 19

Answer on page 14

Running Club

Running Club started on Friday after school for staff and students. It was great to be able to have students from different year groups involved.

Some students opted to run for the whole time with Mr Taruwona around the outer edge of Wandle Park, while others opted into the Couch to 5k programme combining walking and running, with other staff members.

What a great way to finish off the week! Well done to everyone who came along.



Year 7 Netball Trials

A large number of Year 7 students attended the Netball Trials after school to showcase their skills. Their enthusiasm to take part has been great and, although the experience varies within the year group, the skills are developing. We look forward to working with the successful trialists.

There is an Open Access Netball Club for anyone to attend on a Monday lunchtime as well as the Netball Squad for those selected.



Puzzle Fun page 13 Answer

Answer is b

Add the difference between the top numbers and the bottom numbers eg

Purple circle: $(9-7) + (8-5) = 2+3=5$

Orange circle: $(15-6) + (11-2) = 9+9=18$

So blue circle is $(9-6) + (17-5) = 3+12=15$ answer B

Last week's winner was Sofia in Year 7

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY...THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS FORMED, SEPTEMBER 21, 1949

Following victory in the Chinese Civil War, Mao Zedong and his Chinese Communist Party (CCP) announced the formation of the People's Republic of China on September 21, 1949.

