



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



Spring has certainly arrived at Old Palace this week, the sun is shining as I write this and the daffodils are a welcome sight around both sites. As ever there is lots to report in this edition and some wonderful achievements in music, sport and other areas.

The forecast for the days ahead is looking very positive and so I wish everyone a relaxing spring weekend.

Jane Burton, Head

Chamber Choir Wins Bromley Festival of Speech & Music *continued on page 3*



Reception: Painting Daffodils

This term, Reception's topic *Are Carrots Orange?* has involved lots of learning about healthy eating, the benefits of exercise, planting and growing.

The girls enjoyed creating observational paintings of beautiful blooming daffodils. They looked carefully at the flowering plants and observed the colours needed for their painting. We also discussed the different parts of a daffodil and enjoyed smelling their beautiful scent.



Year 5 Sports Leaders

Year 5 took on the role of Sports Leaders on Thursday. They planned and organised PE activities for Year 2.

The Year 5 activities were super fun and very competitive!

Anika N: *I loved the obstacle course.*

Elenor H: *I loved the throwing station.*

Alice: *My favourite was the way Year 5 helped us learn.*

Mrs Coster would like to say a massive well done to Year 5. They were amazing.





On Friday, 11th March, Old Palace Chamber Choir competed in the Bromley Festival of Music and Speech and won the Bromley Choir Cup for their category. They performed Eric Whitacre's 'Seal Lullaby', and 'Hallelujah, Get Happy!' arranged by Greg Gilpin.

All of the many rehearsals the choir committed to were made worth it as they were awarded a Distinction with a score of 91/100 for the performance.

I found the competition really exciting. As it was Chamber Choir's first time competing it was a new and slightly scary experience, but I think we did really well!

Natalie, Year 9

We learnt a lot as a choir and we definitely went outside our comfort zone as we had never received feedback on our performances from anyone other than our teachers. The Festival was a positive experience for us and we were thrilled when we got 91 marks overall.

Ria, Year 12

To perform after such a long time as a choir, was a wonderful experience. Our performance filled the entire room with a sense of warmth and vibrancy; refined and honed from weeks of hard work, which was reflected in our winning score of 91/100! This competition propelled our confidence and reignited our passion as a choir! We look forward to learning more challenging songs and showcasing our talents in future competitions.

Idara, Year 13

Parvati Wins Prizes at Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival

Recently, Parvati in Year 7 performed in the Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival, coming first in two categories: Folk Song and Song from the Shows.

Parvati received high praise from the adjudicators and was awarded Honours and a Distinction for her respective performances.



The adjudicators commended her 'warm tone', 'musical phrasing' and 'expressive performance'. After singing, Parvati had this to say about her experience:

I had a great time at the Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival. There were many amazing singers who sang beautifully.

I enjoyed singing to the audience who listened intently. After the songs, the adjudicator would give comments about the singing and how we could improve.

These were very meaningful and helped me to understand my singing better and tips to improve.

Maths Puzzle Fun

Work out the answers to the questions below and find them in the grid.

- 1) $75560 \div 8 = ?$
- 2) $2000 - 37 = ?$
- 3) $7 + 3 \times 500 = ?$
- 4) $58000 + 209 = ?$
- 5) $\frac{2}{3} = 131$

What is the total of the numbers that are used twice?

Answer on page 15

3	1	4	1	5	9	2	6
5	3	5	8	9	7	9	3
2	3	8	4	6	2	6	4
3	3	8	2	7	9	5	0
2	8	8	4	1	9	7	1
6	9	3	9	9	3	7	5
1	0	5	8	2	0	9	7
4	9	4	4	5	9	2	3
0	7	8	1	6	4	0	6
2	8	6	2	0	8	9	9

Ms Kolpatchi's Croydon Minster Lunchtime Recital – Ukraine Charity Fundraiser

Hello, my name is Maria Kolpaktchi. I am a first-generation British Ukrainian musician, and I am hosting a fundraiser concert for British-Ukrainian Aid. With a broad range of music from Classical to Jazz and even some Ukrainian Folk, I hope everyone can enjoy this concert and raise money for this cause.

British-Ukrainian Aid is providing support to people suffering from the war in Ukraine by offering medical and humanitarian aid. The organisation works with refugees, orphaned children, the elderly, families and vulnerable individuals.

As part of the Croydon Minster Lunchtime Recital series, the concert will begin at 1:10pm and will finish at 1:50pm in the Croydon Minster on **Friday, 25th March**. I hope to see you there!

<https://gofund.me/93ef0e9c>

British-Ukrainian Aid is a Charity Registered in England and Wales 1164472



Ms Kolpatchi with her father

Ms Rodwell Swims the Channel!

As most of you know, I love swimming. I used to swim competitively for Guildford City. I love all things water. For the last two years, I have swum in swamps, lakes and 6 degree lakes. I love swimming along the Jurassic coast. I also love scuba diving and have had some amazing opportunities around the world.

My mum and dad have been my inspiration. My mum can't swim (I'm sure she won't mind me telling everyone.) But she made sure I didn't feel the way she did about water. My mum and Dad did everything they could to make me love water, which I do.

So I thought I would set myself a challenge; why not swim the channel as part of a relay team? I am slightly terrified, if I am honest, and the thought of being in the cold, black, unforgiving channel in the middle of the night is something that has crossed my mind most days. However, I am raising money for an amazing charity and facing my fears (sharks - all in my head).

If you would like to support Ms Rodwell and the charity Aspire, you can donate on her JustGiving page by clicking on this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/32mwhy5s>

Thank you so much.



Old Palace Gameshow

House Activity:

Friday 25th March 4-5pm
in the canteen

On Friday 25 March, our Sixth Form House Leaders are organising a House Quiz competition. This activity is after school from 4.00-5.00pm on Friday.

To sign up, simply click on this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/hhk78vbvyH>

Comic Relief

This week, the Sixth Form Student Leadership Team and Charity Club are organising some fundraising

activities in support of the charity Comic Relief (charity no. 326568) at Seniors.



Staff News - Volunteering for Ukraine

Since the conflict in Ukraine broke out several weeks ago I, like many others, found myself looking for opportunities to support relief efforts. I discovered a local call for volunteers from an organisation called the White Eagle Club, a Polish restaurant/social club based in Balham. They have been coordinating the receipt of donations from the public, boxing and bagging them, before loading them onto lorries to be driven to Poland and Ukraine.

They currently operate two main sites (Balham & Croydon) with a third site having just opened last week in Tooting. Balham and Tooting receive deliveries of donations from the public and group items before boxing and bagging them. They are then driven to Croydon where they are loaded onto pallets and wrapped before being put onto lorries and driven to Poland and Ukraine to help refugees.

Last weekend, I spent some time at the Croydon site where we loaded two lorries with pallets and bags containing clothing, toiletries, canned food, medical supplies and bedding. I had a great day volunteering and met some great people who were so welcoming. At a time when we all feel quite helpless it felt good to be able to provide even a small token of support for displaced people.

With many local relief efforts now being established and calling out for volunteers if you are keen to volunteer at any of the White Eagle Club sites (Croydon, Tooting or Balham), there's no need to register, you can just turn up and stay for as long as you are able to – the addresses for each location are:

Balham

211 Balham High Road, London, SW17 7BQ

Tooting

190 Mitcham Road, SW17 9NJ

Croydon

Unit 5 Newham Road Industrial Estate, Purley, CR0 3JX

If you have any questions about this relief effort or other ways to get involved, please come and find me.

Miss Pringle, PE Assistant



CCF Cadets

This term, the CCF cadets are delighted to be wearing the smart blue uniform (as I am sure many of you have seen already!). Recently, we were informed that a general inspection would be taking place in April/ May to assess the skills we have learnt so far. Therefore, over the past few weeks, we have all been thoroughly preparing and exploring in depth the three main aspects of the RAF. These sections are/ consist of: weapons handling, radio communication and runways.

A fascinating part of the weapons handling module involved handling and firing an assault rifle - which surprisingly to us all, was much heavier than it looked. It was particularly interesting to find out that the actual process of firing a gun was a lot harder than it seemed and required many elements to be adjusted before actually being able to shoot. Whilst preparing to fire, we discussed the different parts of the guns and their uses such as the cocking handle which when manipulated, results in the bolt being pulled to the rear, putting the striker into a spring-loaded position. Additionally the dust cover for the ejection port keeps the dust out of the gun. We were also presented with the scenario of how to carry out a gun check skilfully and safely while utilising an assault rifle. For this activity, we were lucky enough to be led by one of the Head Corporals, who is highly experienced and trained to conduct this type of training to cadets like us!

Next, we studied runways. Last week, my flight (lead by Archie a sixth form Squadron Leader) learnt about the different types and features of RAF runways. For example, grass covered runways on which an aircraft can land in any direction and station



runways which have white marking to indicate the bearings of landing as well as a wind sock (to give the exact measurements of wind speed). Whilst learning about the different runways we also evaluated the pros and cons of each type by having a mini debate (boys v girls), which was great fun.

Lastly, we covered basic radio communication; how communication is vital in life as well how it plays an important role in transmitting and receiving information in certain situations. We learnt how to use the NATO phonetic alphabet which consists of a set of words used to represent alphabetical letters in oral communication. For example, R is for Romeo, M is for Mike and G is for Golf. The RAF use the NATO phonetic alphabet to communicate with one another in an accurate and efficient way. We were also taught the importance of not using your real name/surname when communicating over long distances – instead, to identify yourself to your fellow team members, you would use something like this: “this is MRG92 radio check over”

All in all, this term’s work has been highly enjoyable for both my peers

and I. Combined Cadet Force has given us an insight into the work of the RAF and that it’s not all about flying planes and shooting guns - but it also involves a lot of theory to do the job well.

On behalf of the Old Palace CCF team, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Mrs Rodwell, Mrs Scott and Mrs Richards who take a lot of time and effort in the planning and organisation of CCF. We are all very grateful that we are part of the very first CCF OP team and it just wouldn’t be possible without them. On a personal level, I have enjoyed every minute of my CCF training and I would strongly encourage the future Year 9’s to get involved to further develop your life skills, technical skills as well as your social skills.

Furthermore, working in a diverse and mixed environment while having to confidently and clearly communicate your ideas with people in a formal manner, is such a great skill to have. The aim of being a Cadet is to be empowered with responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, respect and a sense of public service which I hope to achieve with the help of CCF.

Shazia, Year 9



U18 English Schools Water Polo Tournament

On Tuesday, 15th March, a keen U18's Water Polo team travelled to Allyn's School to compete in the English Schools Water Polo tournament.

The competition consisted of six teams all fighting it out to advance to the final round, where they would compete against the top six teams in the country.

Old Palace started well, winning their first match against Brighton 5-2, a great result against a quality opposition. The next two matches didn't go Old Palace's way; however the team fought to the final whistle and held their own throughout both matches. Old Palace's final game was against Trinity; again the result didn't go their way, however, the result (4-2) didn't reflect how close the game was and how well the students played. The young Old Palace squad took it right up to Trinity who consisted of an all six form side.

A big congratulations to the Water Polo squad and Mrs Tamplin for an excellent effort on finishing 4th overall.

Well done!



U15 English Schools Water Polo Championships

The past couple of weeks have been extremely busy with Water Polo!

Our Old Palace Under 15 team participated in the prestigious England South/South East preliminary rounds of the English Schools Championships last week. We had a small team of nine players from Years 7 to 10, with only two from the highest Year 10 age group.

The team played extremely well against some very tough opposition. We unfortunately lost two of our three games to the overall leading two teams, who now progress through to the finals in Northampton.

The Old Palace team were overjoyed to have held their final opponents Colfe's to a 2-2 draw, finishing in third place overall!



Well done to Rosemary, Feran, Grace B, Beatrice, Nia, Anastasia, Isobel, Bella and Annie.

Join us at the
OPA Summer Reunion

Saturday, 25 June 2022 at 12noon
£25.00 per head

Drinks Reception/Buffer Lunch/ Tour of Old Palace

Tickets/further information email: oldpalacereunion@gmail.com



Science Week - Year 12 Physics: Gatwick Airport

The Year 12 Physicists attended a trip to Gatwick Airport on Monday as part of Science Week activities.

They had the unique opportunity to look at the phenomenal baggage system, the HVAC, which deals with the heating and cooling system of the airport, the D-pond and management of flooding risks and ecological monitoring of the rivers around Gatwick, as well as meeting the team responsible for maintaining the smooth running of the driverless shuttle between the two terminals. It was an eye opener to different STEM careers which exist at the airport and a good opportunity to chat to engineering apprentices at the airport.



The trip was an amazing experience and allowed me to expand my knowledge of engineering further. As an aspiring Engineer, it was a great opportunity to talk to likeminded individuals such as Scott, the engineer behind the airport. The staff were extremely welcoming and accommodating to our many questions caused by the sheer enthusiasm expressed by students.

One of my favourite parts of the day was seeing the mechanisms of the shuttle service running between the North and South terminal. Learning more about the shuttles was extremely interesting, such as the 600V voltage running through the tracks and how they travelled at 20mph, taking only three minutes between each terminal.

I am so grateful that we were given this amazing opportunity to explore the field of engineering further and greater exposure of how it plays such a vital role in our everyday lives.

Indrani (Engineering prefect)



On Monday, those of us who study Physics went to Gatwick Airport. We were given a tour of the airport and the behind the scenes. We learnt about how water is piped around the whole airport and how the ventilation and heating system works. We were also given an opportunity to see the planes take off and land from the penthouse on the 9th floor. In addition, we were given a presentation on the different parts of the apprenticeship scheme they were offering. On behalf of the Physics students, I would like to thank Mr Taruwona and Mrs Aubeeluck for this amazing opportunity.

Dimanthi

"I enjoyed the trip because I got to see how Gatwick Airport worked behind the scenes and we got to visit the areas that aren't available for public access for example, underneath the shuttle bus"

Rebecca

"I enjoyed leaning about the processes of water testing at Gatwick Airport and how they examined water samples to monitor waste pollution in the nearby rivers."

Elise

"What really fascinated me was the Archimedes Screws; they were used to efficiently move water vertically up from the rivers that surrounded the airport to reservoirs where water movement was controlled to prevent the runways from being flooded. As we followed the movement of the water, we were taken to the water purification room where we learnt about the various tests used to examine the pollution levels in the water. Tiny species that thrive in good conditions underwater indicated low levels of pollution."

Maryam

"My favourite part of the trip was learning about how the water systems work and seeing them in action. It was fascinating to see that the Archimedes Screw, one of the earliest hydraulic machines, is still in use today!"

Amy

"I found the trip to Gatwick extremely insightful, and my favourite part of the trip was seeing the mechanical components on the underside of the shuttle cars."

Suraiya



Sports Leaders Level 3

On Tuesday, Year 4 travelled to Prep for a PE lesson rather than a swimming lesson.

The Year 12 Level Sports Leaders led the session – taking Year 4 through a warm up, team games and then skills relating to **HANDBALL**.

Well done to Year 12 for leading the session and to Year 4 for joining in so enthusiastically.



Year 12: Kick Boxing



The Year 12 HAL groups had the opportunity to take part in Kick Boxing again this week.

They learnt some of the basic techniques and enjoyed throwing themselves into all of the activities.

The Old Palace Essay Prize for Outstanding Writing in the Humanities

The departments of RS & Philosophy, Geography, History & Politics, and Business & Economics are offering a prize for excellence in writing in their subjects.

This is a competition open to all students in Year 12.

Entrants are to answer one of the questions set below. Each essay will be judged by Dr Nettel, Ms Richards, Mr Fuller, Ms Ojukwu, and Dr Furniss.

Submissions should be no more than 2000 words in length.

First prize: £100

DEADLINE: Monday 16th May, 4:00pm

Submit an essay with one of the questions below as the title. Remember to include your name. Essays must be typed and in MS Word format, in size 12 font.

Send them as an email attachment to Dr Nettel enettel@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk with 'Old Palace Essay Prize' as the subject.

The winning submission will be the subject of an Oxbridge Tea 'roundtable' discussion on Tuesday 28th June.

Essay titles:

- Is anything wrong?
- Has the response to the COVID-19 pandemic shown that governments are capable of taking the actions needed to tackle climate change?
- "Without Geography you are nowhere". Discuss.
- Can fiction reveal more to us about history than fact?
- Is it irrational to expect individuals to be rational?

Good luck!

Year 1: Open Top Bus Tour

Year 1 enjoyed a fabulous trip to London! We travelled by minibus to Waterloo and walked through Waterloo station. It was interesting seeing the trains. Then we got on our open top tour bus and were ready to see the landmarks.

We saw the London Eye, Royal Courts of Justice, St Paul's Cathedral, the Gherkin, Monument, Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, Houses of Parliament, Nelson's Column, Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace. We also enjoyed eating the cookies that we had made the day before for our journey; they were very tasty!

Our guide, Dominic, told us many interesting facts. Our favourite was that Waterloo bridge was built by women, on time and under budget! We were amazed by all that we saw.



Clubs: Spotlight on...Economics

The Enterprise Club

Have you ever watched *Dragon's Den* or *The Apprentice* and thought that could be me one day? Do you think you have the skills to start your own business, or want to develop them? The Enterprise Club could be just the club that will help you in your journey.

This year, the Club has already run a stall at the Christmas Fair at Prep, and we were able to make a small profit. Team work was important and I have to admit we didn't always agree with how things should be handled. Unforeseen problems arose and we had to adapt and be flexible in order to overcome the issues. The skills I think I have developed include leadership, resilience, flexibility, team working and communication skills. These skills will be useful whether I end up starting my own business or in any other career I choose.

We are now working towards our next event, the Easter Bonanza, where a percentage of profits will go to charity. It has been exciting thinking up events that will draw students, but also raise money. So far there will be an Easter



Egg Hunt for the Year 7s and Year 8s, a Create an Easter Scene Competition, Guess the Number of Sweets in the Easter Jar and other Easter themed activities. While it has been fun thinking up things to do, now it is time for a major push on getting really organised, as the event is Wednesday 30th March.

If you are interested in joining Enterprise Club, come along Thursday lunch A in Canterbury. You could be the next Debra Meaden or Alan Sugar. Hope to see you either at the Enterprise club or at the Easter Bonanza but preferable both

Kyla, Year X

Senior and U15 Netball v Sydenham High School



Our U15A team played a really high-paced, quality netball match against SHS on Tuesday. Sydenham are a strong team and preparing for a Cup Match/Final and so they were quite surprised when Old Palace were ahead 5-3 at quarter time.

Old Palace certainly helped SHS prepare for their cup game! The defensive unit at Old Palace of Rebecca

and Bethany worked so well to make goal scoring difficult for Sydenham. The attack end also worked hard with Grace taking the ball deep into the attacking end and later being awarded Player of the Match by the opposition. By half time Sydenham had fought back to a 6 - 6 draw and so the pressure was on. The next quarter was end to end with goals but by the end of the match Sydenham managed to forge ahead

winning 10 - 8. The GCSE PE students were filmed as part of their evidence - and it really was a great match to showcase their skills - despite not winning.

Well done to: Tahalia, Zara, Krystal, Lily, Skye, Grace (Player of the Match), Bethany and Rebecca

The Senior team played their final game of the season against a strong and drilled team. I am hoping the Year 13 students involved will continue playing netball beyond school and join a University or club team. The team worked hard to try to keep the ball out of the opponents attacking end and make the most of any opportunities in the shooting circle. A realistic target was set for the final quarter and this was achieved! Sydenham did win the match but it was played in good spirits!

Well done to: Amanda (Player of the Match), Zara, Krystal, Ione, Vishali, Naomi, Chisom and Irvana

Lily's Success at the Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival

On Saturday morning, I played the piano at the Coulsdon and Purley festival.

I competed in the Under 13s ten-minute-long recital and performed the *1st Arabesque* by Claude Debussy and *Fantasia in C minor* by J.S. Bach. Out of the four that played in my class, I came second with a distinction of 89.

Overall, I really enjoyed the experience of competing in the festival.

Lily T, Year 7

Chapel Recital

On Monday, we enjoyed a lovely Chapel Recital with performances from Flora, Vedika, Tiffany and Phoebe in Year 10 and Ria and Anna in Year 12.

There were some very stylish performances of music from a wide range of genres – from Vivaldi through Chopin and Nina Rota to Billie Eilish.

Our next recital is open to Year 7-9 on 28th March; do sign up if you'd like to perform.



Old Palace of John Whitgift School
Classics Department Word of the Week 14/03/22

DINOSAUR

From Greek δεινός (deinos) meaning 'terrible' and σαύρος (sauros) meaning 'lizard'.

This Week in History...

JULIUS CAESAR KILLED

On 15 March, 44 BC, Julius Caesar was assassinated by a group of senators during a meeting of the Senate. The senators believed that Caesar's dictatorship had destroyed the values of the Roman Republic.



Year 1: Sienna Cheerleading

Many congratulations to one of our youngest members of the Prep School, Sienna in Year 1, who took part in her first cheerleading competition at the weekend – super work Sienna!



Year 3: Scrumdiddlyumptious!

As part of Year 3's topic all about food, we have been looking at food from around the world. On Monday Year 3 made Onion Pakodas.

Mrs Bhatt brought in her Masala tin with lots of colourful and fragrant spices to show the girls. The girls helped to sieve the chick pea flour, chop the onion, add the spices, coriander, garlic and ginger and of course stir the mixture.

Some of the Year 3 photography club girls took a lot of the photographs of each stage.

Mrs Bhatt cooked the pakodas in the hot oil until they floated at the top and were a golden colour.

When they were cool we ate them!

'They tasted so delicious, I ate it all. Thank you Mrs Bhatt!' Ellie

'I had seconds, they were so delicious!' Anna

'I wanted to have a third! I loved the taste of pakodas!' Aadya



Year 11: Sports Leaders

The Year 11 Level 2 Sports Leaders were very excited to travel to Prep last week to lead a PE session with Year 5.

They had planned, in pairs, simple, fun netball stations that focussed on the key skills of footwork and passing before implementing the skills learnt in a mini tournament within their class.

Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed the session and it was great to see the Level 2 Sports Leaders putting into practice everything they have learnt over the past year.

Well done to both year groups!

Miss Pringle, PE Assistant



Year 2: Cornerstones Topic – NCI Safety at Sea Workshop



Last Friday, we had a fantastic workshop lead by Mr Bovey from the National Coastwatch Institution. It was very exciting because we found out about what happens in the control centre, what the different colour flags mean and heard some fascinating stories. We also tuned into the live web cam to see the beautiful Devon coastline. He was very patient and answered all of our questions. It was a lot of fun!

Lana, Elena, Eileen and Anika N, Year 2

Neil The Tortoise Goes Outdoors!

We've really loved having Neil the Tortoise to stay for a few days. He was able to explore the classroom and the girls really enjoyed observing him.

On a sunny afternoon last week, we went outside and did an observational drawing of him.



Prep: Cookery Club

This week, Cookery Club stirred up a delicious pasta salad. Next week, the girls are looking forward to making yummy Easter nests!



Cricket Club

Cricket Club is happening on Tuesday and Friday lunchtimes.

We aim to make it fun as well as introducing the necessary skills for cricket. Anyone is welcome to attend! Fixtures are already in place for the Summer term!



Maths Puzzle Fun page 3 Answer

The answer is:

5

$$5 + 0 = 5$$

3	1	4	1	5	9	2	6
5	3	5	8	9	7	9	3
2	3	8	4	6	2	6	4
3	3	8	2	7	9	5	0
2	8	8	4	1	9	7	1
6	9	3	9	9	3	7	5
1	0	5	8	2	0	9	7
4	9	4	4	5	9	2	3
0	7	8	1	6	4	0	6
2	8	6	2	0	8	9	9

Last week's winner was Lola in Year 7.