



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



This edition of the Bulletin is truly 'jam-packed' with wonderful examples of our students making positive contributions to school life. In the last edition I was full of praise for the Dance Show and some wonderful photos are included this week to illustrate the talent we all enjoyed that evening.

This week we had the Spring Music Concert and I am sure I speak on behalf of everyone who attended in saying what a superb event it was, showcasing a wide range of musical

genres and encapsulating the strength of music at Old Palace. It was a wonderful way to spend a Monday evening!

The rest of this edition gives updates on how the Senior School marked both International Women's and World Book Days in one special event and so much more. I very much hope that you enjoy reading it!

Jane Burton, Head

Cash is Queen Author Visits Seniors



Seniors Performs Dance Show at the Royal Academy of Dance

On Friday, 3rd March, around 70 students performed in our annual show, *Kinetic Flow*. This year was particularly special as we performed in a professional dance specific performance environment at the prestigious Royal Academy of Dance in London, to an audience of 200.

It was a great privilege for us to have our dance show at the RAD this year, as the performance was really brought to life with the professional staging, lighting and sound system which was used creatively to really enhance our performance pieces.

Look out for our special *Kinetic Flow* bulletin – out shortly!



Seniors Performs Dance Show at the Royal Academy of Dance *continued*





World Book Week at Seniors

Facing Facts

Our Book Week theme at Seniors this year was 'Facing Facts', looking at how being informed with knowledge and fact can both empower and improve wellbeing.

A series of events were put on by the library spanning a fortnight that incorporated World Book Day and International Women's Day, ending with our Keynote speaker on Friday 10th March, from the inspirational founder of the women's finance organisation, rainchq and author of *Cash is Queen*, Davinia Tomlinson.

Author of *Cash is Queen* Visits Seniors

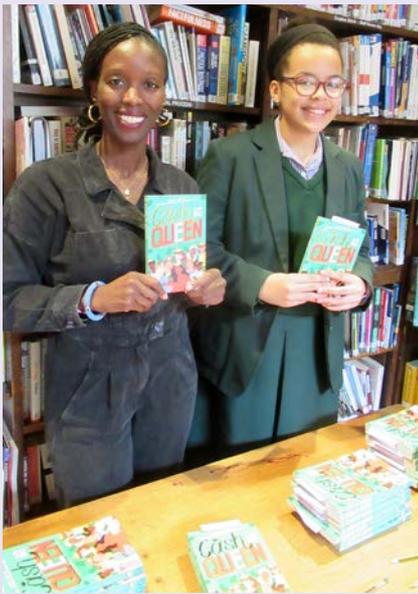
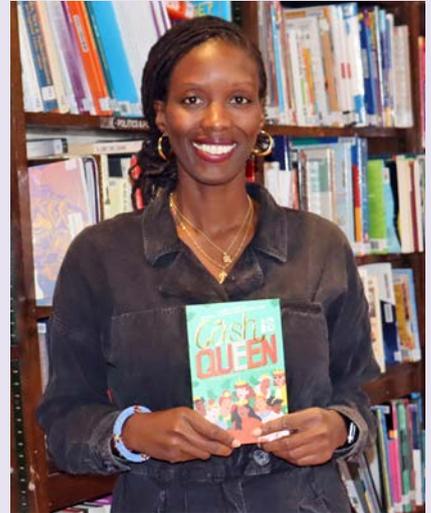
Last week, Mrs Chevalier was delighted to welcome the author, Davinia Tomlinson, to talk to students about her new book, *Cash is Queen: A Girls' Guide to Securing, Spending and Stashing Cash*.

Davinia is the founder of rainchq, a financial education platform for women and girls. She is on a mission to answer one big question: why don't more women feel confident talking about money? It's certainly a topic our students are very interested

in and they asked Davinia plenty of questions.

Thank you Davinia for braving snowy conditions in the Midlands to travel down to see us, and for signing so many copies of your book.

"Davinia was very engaging and inspirational... I loved the experience and would like to say if we have more of these events, I recommend people should come!" Liana 7H



Fact Finding with Britannica Schools

Adrian from Britannica Schools (online Encyclopaedia Britannica) delivered five online research skills sessions during Year 7 library lessons and a special lunchtime session for the whole school.

These interactive sessions enabled students to discover the importance of careful research and checking information sources and highlighted ways to find and reference online resources using trusted information sources such as Britannica Schools.



Dewey Detectives

Our World Book Day activities included Dewey Detectives, which saw students learning about the Dewey decimal classification system used worldwide in libraries to navigate finding information on any subject. Students had to discover clues using the subject Dewey numbers on book spines to unlock a three-digit padlock using a final Dewey number to win prizes.

Liana in Year 7 said:

"My most favourite event was the Treasure Hunt. It's when we had to work together in groups or by ourselves to answer six questions which gave you a section of the code. When you have answered the questions, it will tell you to look around the Guard Room in a subject area from its Dewey code to find a final clue. This gave us a final code to open two boxes to win prizes. I absolutely loved the events and recommend everyone to come along on the next World Book Day."



Guess the Staff Shelfie Competition

Further detective work was required from Senior students in guessing the staff shelfie competition, with students trying to work out from the books and objects on the 27 bookshelves, which members of Old Palace staff the shelves belonged to.

Congratulations to the team efforts of Year 7's Elise, Amelia and Rosie and Year 12 students Summayyah and Charlotte: joint winners, who received signed books and World Book Day limited edition badges as their prizes.

A big thank you to Old Palace staff for sharing their shelfies for the whole of seniors to enjoy.



Design a Bookmark Competition

To celebrate World Book Day, we held a Design a Bookmark competition, where the winning bookmarks would be made into bookmarks to hand out on World Book Day.

A huge thank you to all the students that took part, producing a wide variety of creative and inspirational bookmarks.

The Art Department were our judges

for this competition.

Congratulations to Ayesha in Year 10 with her winning bookmark and to Laura, Elise and Anastasia for their beautiful runners-up bookmarks.



Spring Concert at Croydon Minster

On Monday 13th March, Senior School students welcomed in Spring with our annual music concert.

The Steel Pans Ensemble kicked off the entertaining evening with a vibrant rendition of two popular songs by Lizzo and Meghan Trainor, which the audience thoroughly enjoyed.

The evening welcomed a beautiful vocal arrangement of Abba's *Slipping Through My Fingers*, two evocative and warm pieces of music from our very own Guitar Trio, Jazz Band's sophisticated and funky improvisations and so much more.

The night came to a close with the Chamber Choir, Polyphonic and String Orchestra's performance of *Stabat Mater* (sorrowful mother). Each student performed the ancient hymn with profound emotion and depth, exemplifying the great musical talent that Old Palace enjoys.

The night was a wonderful success and our students should be very proud of themselves for contributing to such an enjoyable concert.



Community News

Year 9 Bake Sale Success

Year 9 students have been learning about earthquakes in Geography this term, so when the recent devastating earthquakes struck Turkey and Syria, a group of the students were motivated to organise a fundraising bake sale in support of the relief efforts.

They did a fantastic job – raising £184 from their homemade cakes and Mrs Beeharry's Buba teas.

Thank you to everyone for supporting their bake sale!

All funds have been sent to the DEC Turkey-Syria appeal:

https://www.dec.org.uk/?gclid=EAlaIqObChMI1rCYxZLK_



Level 3 Sports Leaders Run Cheerleading Session at Prep

Our Year 13 Level 3 Sports Leaders group travelled to Prep on Friday to lead a Cheerleading session with Year 6.

After going through some warm-up exercises with the girls first, the students demonstrated some introductory moves before working in groups to complete a short routine – complete with Pom Poms!

Well done to our Sports Leaders and to our Year 6 pupils. It was a most enjoyable session.



Illustration Club

Illustration Club has been working on creating a new piece of artwork for the canteen. The students sketched out some ideas, created their own graphic designs and then painted them on to a large canvas.

Well done to Melat, Serwa, Sharon and Ella for producing such a brilliant painting - it will be on display very soon!

Illustration Club is on Wednesdays: 12.25 – 12.55 and is open to Years 7, 8 & 9.



Art Club



In Art Club, the students are working in pairs to design food-related artwork to be hung up in the canteen. They visited the canteen this week to take photos for inspiration. We look forward to seeing what they produce!

Art Club is open to all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 on a Tuesday lunchtime.

Holi Art Workshop

Nishita (Year 12) ran an art workshop last week to teach students about Holi, the Festival of Colours.

Students coloured in Rangoli patterns using different media while competing in a quiz and learning all about Holi.



Mixed Media Workshop

Mrs Evangelini ran a mixed media workshop where students (and staff!) had a go at creating a piece of artwork using a variety of materials. Time limits were set for each material so students had to work quickly and confidently to create their work. Thank you to those who attended; the results were great!

We are running another workshop, open to all year groups, on Monday 20th March at lunchtime.

Sign up via SOCS!



Hockey News

We played hockey against Woldingham in a friendly training match last week. It was good for the students to work on their skills. They are becoming much more aware of their positions within the game and their passing has really improved. They scored two goals which was fantastic.

On Monday evening, our U14 team played Croydon High School in what was a very close match (we lost 4-3). The students did extremely well and should be really proud of themselves for their fantastic passing and scoring.

The girls have improved so much since the beginning of the academic year; this is due to their ongoing commitment to training, so well done.



A Level Spanish

On Thursday 9th March, Spanish A-level students had the opportunity to watch the play studied in the course called, 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba'.

We went to the Cervantes Theatre in London which is the City's only theatre that performs Spanish/Latin American plays. The theatre was small and very intimate so we enjoyed the performance even more as we could clearly see the actresses and their expressions.

The play itself was written by Federico García Lorca in 1936 and was the last one he wrote before he died. The play is a tragedy and tells the story of Bernarda Alba and her family. It features themes including repression, love and tyranny. It is said to have been inspired by real life characters and Lorca himself described it as a true record of village life in Spain at the time.

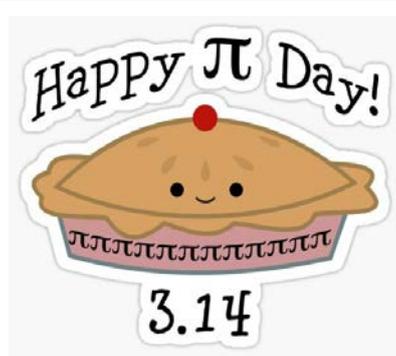


It was exciting to finally see what we had been studying in school come to life. The actresses were phenomenal and I would definitely recommend you to watch or even read the play. Thank you very much to Señora Pietragalla for

organising this for us and to Miss James for accompanying us. We had a lovely time and look forward to watching something again soon.

Fizza, Year 13

A Maths Puzzle Inspired by Pi Day



Pi Day is observed every year on March 14th. March 14th is always Pi Day since the date 3/14 resembles the first few digits of Pi: 3.14

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

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

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

Answer on page XX

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

WHITGIFT

SUMMER SCHOOL



Applications for Student Hosts Now Open

Applications for students to take part in the Whitgift Summer School are now open.

Pupils currently at Old Palace in Years 9-12 can apply to act as hosts in this year's International Summer School, which is scheduled to take place between 9 July and 20 August 2023. The programme caters for 11 to 17-year-old boys and girls from all over the world, who study on General English or Pre-IB preparation courses and partake in exciting and engaging sporting, creative and social activities alongside our Student Hosts – Old Palace pupils, and boys from Whitgift School.

This is a fantastic opportunity for Old Palace students in Years 9 -12 to develop their cultural awareness, learn invaluable communication and leadership skills, and form long-lasting, international friendships in an enjoyable, supportive and positive environment. Applications will open on 31 March and full details will be sent out separately about how to apply to take part in the Summer School as a Student Host.



If you have any questions or would like more information about the International Summer School, please visit:

www.whitgift.co.uk/short-courses-key-information/student-hosts/become-a-student-host and also the FAQs page, or email studenthost@whitgift.co.uk

English Schools Water Polo Championships

March saw the start of the annual English Schools Water Polo Championships. The Under 18 age group were the first tournament to be played this year. Our round comprised of some of the best teams in the country; Alleyns being current national champions and Trinity past champions.

Old Palace fielded a varied age group team of nine, where other schools like Trinity, Alleyns, Queen Elizabeth and Colfe's were able to compete playing only Sixth Form students and with full teams of thirteen players.

Only seven players are ever in the water at one time which meant we only had two substitutes to play. Old Palace were triumphant in their game against Queen Elizabeth's, Faversham, winning 6-3. Our other three matches were challenging and we unfortunately lost; however, Old Palace players showed grit and determination and performed extremely well.

Congratulations to Bella and Elina (Year 8), Isobel and Anastasia (Year 9), Beatrice (Year 10), Rosemary, Grace and Feran (Year 11) and Zino (Year 12).



Congratulations to Lola-Marie

Many congratulations to Lola-Marie in Year 7, who took part in The Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival on the 4th March.

We are delighted to learn that she was awarded second place with Honours for her performance of 'Colours of The Wind' from Pocahontas.



Year 9 & 10: House Netball

Senior School's House Netball has been hotly contested this week.

Year 9 and 10 competed in three highly competitive matches. Each team featured players from both year groups.

Congratulations to Anselm who triumphed!

1st	ANSELM
Joint 2nd	LAUD and HATTON
4th	STAFFORD



Year 7 & 8: House Netball

Following on from the excitement of the Year 9 & 10 House Netball, the Year 7 & 8 matches proved equally competitive.

Congratulations to Hatton, who came first:

1st	HATTON
2nd	LAUD
3rd	STAFFORD
4th	ANSELM

Thank you as well to the Sports Leaders, House Leaders, Ms Rodwell and Mrs Smith for organising and running the events this week.

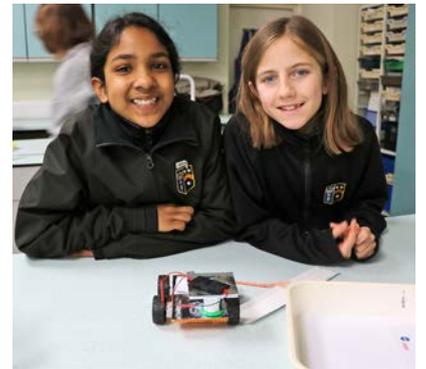
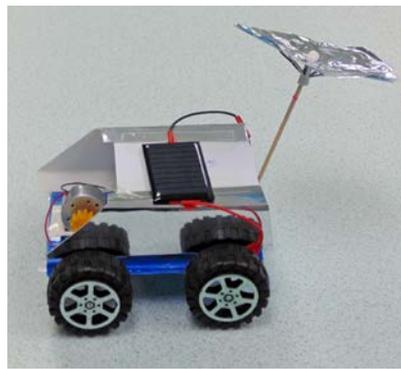


Seniors Hosts Year 5 STEM Workshop

Year 5 pupils visited the Senior School on Wednesday to take part in a STEM workshop.

They were involved in making film cannister rockets, building a moon rover and using 'astronaut' gloves to 'work in space'.

The girls were very excited to discover the possibilities that studying a STEM subject can offer in Year 7.



Running Club

Running Club happens every Friday after school from 4pm until 5pm. Open to all. A great way to end the week!

We have about 24 students who attend on a regular basis. Feel free to join by signing up on SOCs.



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY...

Ghanaian Independence Day

On March 6, 1957, Ghana became the first sub-Saharan African nation to achieve independence from colonial rule. Kwame Nkrumah, who had long campaigned to end British control, became the country's first Prime Minister.



A Maths Puzzle Inspired by Pi Day page 9 Answer

- 1) $75560 \div 8 = \mathbf{9445}$
- 2) $2000 - 37 = \mathbf{1963}$
- 3) $7 + 3 \times 500 = \mathbf{1507}$
- 4) $58000 + 209 = \mathbf{58209}$
- 5) $?/3 = 131 \quad ? = \mathbf{393}$

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

$$\mathbf{5 + 0 + 9 = 14}$$

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

Netball Practice

U15, U16 and U14 Netball Squad members had some additional match play practice as the scheduled fixture was cancelled due to school closures locally.

To begin with the U15 and U16 played a lot of 3 v 3 to help develop attack and defending skills before full match play.

U16 played the U15 and then U15 players played short matches against the U14 – it is always good to gain extra match play experience!

