



AROUND THE PALACE

Croydon Stands Tall (page 9)



Introducing...Michael Miss Daisy

Dear all,

It is quite unbelievable to think that we have finished our final week in school for this academic year. Staff and pupils were still very much smiling and demonstrating their energy and commitment to all aspects of school life, even though they must have been tired.

The last couple of weeks most certainly ended on a high and in true Old Palace style with members of the school community; past and present, children and staff, parents and friends joining together to celebrate another successful year in the life of Old Palace Preparatory.

The summer fair was a roaring success, thanks to the dedication and support of our PTA, and the pupils' enterprise stalls were, as always, brilliantly facilitated by staff, who gave up their day to come along and support.

Music has filled the air, quite literally, with demonstrations from the Steel Pan band, the Year 5 and 6 production, Music exams and performances; we will never know how Miss Fitzgerald manages to achieve so much in such a short time each week.

We have also seen some incredible sporting successes, some of which can be read about in this Bulletin, but we also had two very successful

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Sports' Days, with thanks to Mrs Coster and the team who helped organise on the day. Finally, it is important that we stop and celebrate together the three members of staff who are leaving Prep this year: Mrs Bhatt, Mrs Elliott and Mrs Jetha. All have a long history with the school and all of

them will be very much missed; we wish them all the very best for their new adventures and new beginnings and hope they choose to keep in touch with us. To all Prep staff for all their hard work, dedication and care of your brilliant daughters, I'd like to thank them.

My first year at Prep has been one

of the very best in my whole career to date, and that is down to every single one of the staff, girls and of course you, the parents.

Wishing you all a restful break

Mrs Jodene Panteli
Head of Preparatory

Year 6: Oscars Ceremony

On Wednesday evening we said goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 pupils and their families with the annual Oscars ceremony.

Hosted by Miss Jenkins and Miss Gallagher, each pupil was awarded an Oscar in recognition of a quality or achievement that was personal to them.

It was lovely to see families coming together to celebrate their daughter's achievements and the end of their time at Old Palace. We wish them all the best, whether they are going on to our Senior School or somewhere else.



Year 6: Oscars Ceremony *continued*



Year 5 & 6: Mission Implausible







London Schools Championship!



Wednesday afternoon saw the long awaited semi-finals and finals of the 2023 London Schools Swimming Championships held at James Almeyns Girls School in Dulwich. Old Palace had two qualifying semi-finalists, Hiru and Aanya, both Year 5, vying for places in the finals.

Hiru swam the Backstroke sprint 25m event, with Aanya competing in the sprint Breaststroke.

Hiru swam a fantastic Backstroke semi-final qualifying for the final in second place.

Aanya also swam a great Breaststroke semi-final race, narrowly missing out on one of the six final places.

The atmosphere and tension was building for the finals. Hiru fought through her nerves finishing triumphant in an amazingly nail biting close finish with a JAGS swimmer, winning by the smallest of margins .09 of a second. Hiru is now the reigning London Schools Champion!

Congratulations to both Hiru and Aanya!

Prep Swimming: Well done Hiru

Hiru, Year 5, was very busy competing in her first ever long course swim meet last month. The competition was held at K2, Surrey Sports Park's 50m swimming pool. It is a completely different experience swimming in the longer length pool with not many opportunities to do so! Most galas take place in 25m pools; the same length as our very own Old Palace swimming pool.

Hiru swam seven events in a very full programme. She did exceptionally well in her age group, winning a fantastic gold medal in the 50m Backstroke, in a personal best time of 39:56. Hiru followed this with a silver medal in the 100m Butterfly in a time of 1:37:05, another best time by over three seconds. Hiru also swam 100m

and 200m Freestyle, 7th and 5th places respectively, 50m and 200m Breaststroke, 6th and 4th places and the 50m Butterfly where she was also 4th. Her 200m Breaststroke time was faster than she had previously recorded by an enormous 42 seconds!

All the times Hiru swam were personal bests. This is testament to the tough training regime she now follows, after progressing up to the next level squad at her South Croydon Swimming Club. Well done Hiru!

Mrs Tamplin was also delighted to see Old Palace Preparatory swimmers Hiru, Aanya and Anokhi competing in the Rising Stars event at Beckenham Swimming Club where she coaches outside of school.

I recently took part in Crawley Open Swim Meet at the Crawley K2. The pool was a 50m pool so the length would be double what I am used to. I took part in seven events and I got personal best on all of them. I am thrilled about my 42.7 seconds improvement on 200m Breaststroke.

I came first in the 50m Backstroke and second in the 100m Butterfly. The atmosphere was very different to what I was used to; everyone was more excited than usual and more energetic from our club. I came fourth in two events and fifth in another event. It was an amazing opportunity and I hope to swim there again.

Hiru, Year 5J



Swimming: Tamalia Wins Silver Medal in her First Competition



Last month, sisters Tamalia and Lana competed in their very first swimming Open Meet in Enfield. It is always daunting entering into new sporting

events for the first time, especially with terms such as 'whipping area' to make the mind boggle!

Tamalia and Lana both swam 50m events on all strokes. Tamalia won a fantastic silver medal in her age group Breaststroke and a bronze in the Butterfly - knocking over 3 seconds off her personal best time. Lana also swam a great Butterfly race finishing just out of the medals in a brilliant fourth place.

Well done to both of you!

Foot note: Whipping - technical term for gathering swimmers together, before events, to tell them their heat and lane numbers.

Pre School and Reception: Minibeasts Workshop

When Cairis from the Wiggly Wild Show came to visit, she brought with her some amazing creepy crawlies including a very large millipede, a giant snail, some very clever stick insects that could walk upside down and a HUGE beetle!

Cairis also introduced us to some reptiles such as the very handsome, bearded dragon and an orange bellied frog. We saw an incredible spider's skin too! The children used their sense of touch to describe what a millipede and giant snail felt like and lots of scientific

facts were shared by the children such as 'invertebrates are animals without a backbone' and 'camouflage means blending into your surroundings'.



Pupils Decorate the Old Palace Giraffe

Just before half-term, a 4ft giraffe looking very plain arrived at the Preparatory School. The girls were invited over the half-term holiday to create a design, showing how it should be decorated. The Year 6 STEM prefects, Aisha, Ayaana and Lina, had the huge task of looking through all the wonderful designs from Pre School up to Year 6.

They noticed that there was a common theme of the school colours running through a lot of the designs. With that in mind we decided to use green and purple tissue paper and use a technique called 'decoupage'.

The STEM prefects gave the giraffe a coat of green paint first and then over the next couple of weeks, each class from Pre School to Year 6 came to the Design and Technology room to add pieces of tissue paper to the giraffe. Pre-School started at the base, Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 decorated the legs. Year 5 decorated the main body and Year 4 the neck. Year 6 then filled the giraffe's patches with purple tissue paper.

Mrs Tooze and Mrs Wallis then completed the tail and head using decorative green decoupage paper. The giraffe was given a school badge and Mrs Baklanov added Michaelmas daisies to the base. Eye lashes were added as the final finishing touch as we all know what long eye lashes giraffes have!

The completed giraffe was unveiled to the whole school on Friday before departing school for Grosvenor House, the centre of the Croydon Stands Tall project, in Mrs Wallis' car!

Our giraffe will now be photographed and moved to a secret location around Croydon. The project goes live on the 21st August when an App and the Croydon Stands Tall trail around Croydon will be launched. The giraffes will be on public display for 10 weeks to see before our giraffe is returned to us in November.

Stop Press: the girls have named her 'Michael Miss Daisy'.



Find out more at www.croydonstandstall.co.uk

Croydon Stands Tall is supporting the work of Crisis Croydon Skylight, who offer vital help with housing, jobs, health and wellbeing to help people facing homelessness. We have set up a just giving page for families if they would like to donate:

www.justgiving.com/page/old-palace-prep-school

PTA Summer Fair

It was a glorious day on the Prep field for the PTA Summer Fair at the end of June.

There were Enterprise stalls organised by teachers and students from Pre School to Year 6 including an elderflower cordial stall, plants and flowers and pin the tail on the cat! A big thank you to the Prep dad who kindly managed the running of the delicious pizza stall in the baking heat!

The announcement of the winners of the summer raffle was very exciting. Mrs Panteli was the proud recipient of a fabulous but huge hamper of chocolate which had to be rushed inside before it melted. Everyone had fun and enjoyed an array of exciting activities including arts and crafts, football and sumo wrestling!



Year 3: Music Scheme Assembly

On 27th June our Year 3 students entertained their parents and friends by performing in a special morning music assembly. Since November 2022 all Year 3 students have been learning an orchestral instrument in groups – Violin, cello, oboe, flute, clarinet or trumpet.

This was a first opportunity to perform in public and showcase the skills they have learnt over the past seven months. Their debut performances were most impressive - Well done Year 3!

In addition, our Year 2-5 Prep 'Mini strings' group opened and closed the assembly with *Spy Movie* under the direction of the one and only Mrs Parry-Dickinson.





Year 6: Roman Banquet

For their last Latin lesson at Prep, Year 6 made Roman Apple Cake, flat bread and ice cream.

They then enjoyed their cooking at a Roman Banquet in the small hall. Also on the menu were other foods that the Romans introduced to Britain, including cucumber and grapes, with grape juice instead of wine!



Year 4: Magical Science Workshop

To link with their current Cornerstones topic, Year 4 pupils took part in a magical science workshop creating potions with Mrs Ball at the Senior School. The girls were invited to combine fascinating ingredients, such as phoenix tears, monster serum and snake venom, with vampire blood.

While observing lots of colour changes within the solutions, the girls learned about the effects of mixing different acids and alkalis. They had an amazing time experimenting with potions!

Thank you to Mrs Ball and Mr Poole for organising such a wonderful workshop for our Year 4 scientists.



Croydon Borough Athletics

Many congratulations to the following girls for being selected to take part in the Croydon Borough Athletics.

With over 70 Croydon schools taking part, competition was tough. Special mention to Lana, Paavana, Tamalia, Jasmine Lee and Caroline for making it through to the Finals on Friday night

Year 6

Adelise
Caroline
Jasmine lee
Imani
Michaela K
Tamalia
Sarah

Year 5

Mya
Sophia
Paavana
Anokhi

Year 4

Ellie

Year 3

Lana



Paavana	3rd place	Year 5 High jump
Caroline	4th place	800m
Lana	4th place	55m sprint
Jasmine Lee	4th place	High jump
Tamalia	8th place	Long jump

Prep: Wellbeing

Girls at Prep enjoyed an energetic and fun-filled start to the morning when they joined the dance session with Year 6 Wellbeing Prefects. It was amazing to see so many girls taking part and looking after their wellbeing!



Donations to Building Blocks Baby Bank

A big thank you to our Old Palace Prep School community for their kind and generous donations for the Building Block Baby Bank charity. Your donations were very well received by the Ismaili Civic Representative and were duly passed on to the Building Block Baby Bank charity.

It is very encouraging to see your active participation in supporting the most vulnerable families and individuals in the neighbourhoods of Croydon.


The charity collection was also a good opportunity for our Year 6 Charity Prefects to get involved and raise awareness around the school about helping people in need.

A sincere thank you once again to all the parents and pupils involved.





Year 2: Father's Day

Year 2 enjoyed writing Father's Day poems inspired by Anthony Brown's poem, 'My Dad'!




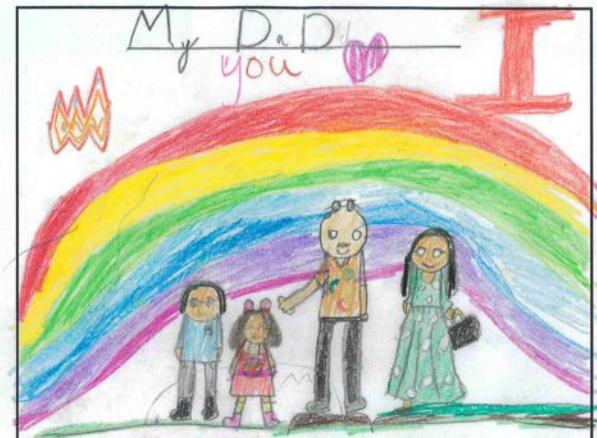
My Dad
 He's all right my dad
 My dad isn't afraid of anything even the big bad wolf
 He's a great teacher and an amazing artist
 He's all right my dad
 my dad is the kindest dad in the world and
 a brilliant helper
 He all right my dad
 my dad is really, really, really
 nice and the best person in the
 world
 He's all right my dad
 I love my dad but he loves me too.

Avia



My Dad
 He's lovely, My dad
 My dad isn't afraid of anything, even a lion!
 He is the best father,
 But is kind too.
 He's really lovely my dad.
 He can be great at speaking,
 but only sometimes.
 My dad's a great driver,
 he's funny too.
 I love him but he loves me too!

from Lyla


My Dad
 He's all right my dad.
 My dad isn't afraid of anything
 even a big white shark!
 He's as strong as a super hero.
 My dad dresses smarter than a
 body guard.
 He's a fantastic footballer.
 My dad is like a story teller.
 My dad is like a teacher he's very
 smart my dad.
 He makes me laugh like a clown
 When things go wrong he roars
 like a bear. My dad loves
 me and I love him too.

Sion

I ♥ You Dad!
 He's fantastic my dad
 My dad isn't afraid of anything even Harry Potters
 magic.
 He makes me laugh a lot and he holds me upside down
 then throws me on the couch.
 My Dad's as tough as a stone, he's as helpful as
 can be.
 He's as empathetic as an elephant.
 My dad runs as fast as a cheetah.
 He's fantastic my dad.
 My dad's healthy and loves so very
 handsome.
 I love my dad and can you guess what?
 he loves me and he always will.

Amelia



Cookery Club

To celebrate the last Cookery Club session, the girls enjoyed a pancake breakfast. They chose to add their own toppings and the results were gobbled up pretty quickly!



Reception: Scooter Day



Pre School: Chessington Trip

Pre School enjoyed a fantastic trip to Chessington World of Adventures which concluded last half term's topic 'Animal Safari'.

The first stop was Zufari, Ride into Africa! The girls climbed on board a safari truck and set off to see wonderful African animals such as the White Rhino, giraffes and zebras who were having their morning feed. There were many other animals in the Wanyama village; the spider monkeys were fantastic at swinging through the ropes and the Meercats were very friendly and came right up to greet them. After a picnic lunch, we headed off to see the Trail of the Kings where the girls spotted the lions having a sleep. The sealions were showing off diving and swimming on their backs and there was a baby sealion pup too!

The girls enjoyed a Super Senses workshop in the Learning Centre where they discovered how animals communicate using different sounds, why they are all different shapes and sizes and how different they feel. They also found out that some are very smelly and they all have different taste in foods, carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.



Year 2: Visit the Horniman Museum and Gardens

Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Horniman Museum and Gardens. As well as the Aquatic Adaptation workshop, to support learning in the Cornerstones topic, Beachcombers, the girls enjoyed visiting The Butterfly House.

'The butterflies kept landing on us and I saw pupae hanging' **Sienna**

'We learnt about how sea creatures move, eat and survive in their environment' **Michaella**

'In The Butterfly House, we saw a variety of colourful butterflies like the Chocolate Pansy'

'I liked the way the jelly fished moved up and down. I found out that they are made from 95% water' **Sion**

'Did you know that sharks can have more than one row of teeth on their bottom jaw?' **Katherine**

