



# AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



As this most difficult of terms draws to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to all Old Palace families for the support shown to the school over the past few months. To those families off to new schools in January, I wish your daughters all the very best for their new school. In the meantime, I hope this edition of the Bulletin spreads some festive cheer.

I would also like to send best wishes to all those in the Old Palace community who are celebrating Hanukkah this week.

We wish your families peace and light during this festive season.

Seasons Greetings to all and I hope you have a relaxing break over the Christmas period.

**Jane Burton, Head**

School group photographs are available to view and order by clicking [here](#). Alternatively visit [www.schoolphotographs.co.uk](http://www.schoolphotographs.co.uk) Click on 'Order Photos' and enter these details: Photo ID: W3TMSgKh Photo Key: 96Dfs9vT

## *Baarmy Bethlehem is a Triumph*





## Cricket Tournament



The cricket tournament was really fun and I think everyone enjoyed it. We played against three schools Sutton High, Coloma and Wallington. We won our match against Coloma and it came really close for our other matches.

Kemafo and Ellie both took an amazing catch, Gracie-Mae took 5 wickets against Coloma and Caitlin had some great stops from the ball and nearly caught someone out. I was behind the stumps and took one or two run outs, I was also bowling and took a wicket then as well. Akshi was brilliant at batting that she had to keep on retiring but she was also an excellent bowler and took a wicket.

A funny moment was when the batter was out of the crease from another school and Kemafo fielded the ball really well and threw it to me, but I missed the stumps and we didn't get a wicket.

Overall it was an amazing experience and I think we all would like to do it again!

**Rishita, Year 8**

This Tuesday we had a cricket tournament at Sutton High. We ended up winning one out of three matches! It was a lot of fun, and we scored many runs and took loads of wickets.

Gracie-Mae took 5 wickets as well as Kemafo who took an amazing catch. Rishi was behind the stumps and also took wickets and run outs! A lot of great fielding by Catlin who didn't let the ball go past her. For batting we overall did really well, and I retired at 15 runs! Fielding was pretty good although we did miss a few opportunities to get people out.

All-round a great day with lots of amazing achievements.

**Akshita, Year 8**





## Netball v Sydenham High

Twelve players from Years 10 – 12 travelled to Sydenham High School this week to play a friendly Netball match. It was a great opportunity to gather some more GCSE footage.

We played lots of mini matches lasting six minutes; allowing plenty of changes and opportunities to play different positions. The match was played in great spirits and there were some excellent moments of play.

The mini matches varied in score lines but at the end of the afternoon, when scores were totalled, the score was 24 – 24 which was a good and fair result!

Well done to: Skye, Zara, Arabella, Safiya, Maryam, Leilani, Nikki, Olivia, Mayowa, Harini, Isobel and Rosie for taking time out of their schedule to play.

On Monday 25th September, our Senior Netball A & B teams played against Sydenham High at home. Unfortunately, our A team lost 8-13 and our B team also faced defeat with a 9-19 score. Although we were disappointed with the results, there are plenty of positives to take away from this match.

For the B team, Stephanie, our GK, won Player of the Match for her brilliant defence-work. On the A team, the Player of the Match was Anna A for her stand out performance. We will continue to work on our chemistry as a team whilst we adapt to playing with different members of the squad as well as learning new positions. Hopefully, our first win of the season will not be too far away and we'll continue working hard in our Monday training sessions to achieve this.

**Skye W, Year 12**



## PTA Prep Christmas Cinema

The girls enjoyed a festive Christmas film thanks to the PTA.



## Year 13: Dance Session

Year 13 enjoyed Just Dance sessions in their weekly HAL lesson this week. They all thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to have a break from academic studies. This is so important for mental health at this busy time.





## Year 8 Croydon Indoor Athletics Championships

On Thursday 7th December the Old Palace, Year 8 athletics team took part in the Croydon Indoor Athletics Championships.

They took part in a range of events including the speed bounce, triple jump, standing long jump, vertical leap, shot put and a variety of races.

After 2 hours of competition, the Old Palace team finished a respectable 5th out of nine schools.'



## Netball v Wallington



On Wednesday, Old Palace netball team travelled to Wallington to play a friendly netball match.

Old Palace started off strong and displayed some amazing attacking play, the team worked solidly to pass the ball quickly through the court. The shooting was exceptional and shot after shot went in and by half time we had a five goal lead.

Wallington came back strong after half time but thanks to some amazing interceptions Old Palace managed to win back possession and continued the hard work to bring the ball back down the court. The final score was 8-1 to Old Palace.

The whole team displayed great sportsmanship throughout and congratulations to Gracie-Mae who was voted Player of the Match for her superb shooting.

## Year 13 Sports Leaders

Sports leaders in Year 13 continue to develop their leadership skills by delivering sessions at the Prep School. Mary, Ria and Megan ran a Christmas themed session with Year 5 with fun had by everyone involved!

So many skills are learned in this way not only by the Sports Leaders, but also the students who get to practice lots of motor skills and social skills essential for their development.



## Maths Puzzle Fun

Rudolph's nose flashes at 9:00pm and flashes once every 28 minutes.

Dasher's nose flashes at 9:00pm and flashes once every 16 minutes.

How long will it be before both noses again flash at the same time?



Answer on page 16



## A Letter from Mrs Panteli



Dear all,

As we reach the end of the autumn term, I'd like to wish you all a peaceful and restful break. I hope you are able to spend some quality time with loved ones and enjoy the things that bring you joy.

To our Prep pupils starting a new school in January, we wish you the very best. Don't forget how wonderful you each are and how lucky your new school is to have you join them.

To all the Prep staff, thank you for finishing the term with no less enthusiasm than you began it with, and hopefully you feel pride in all you have achieved for yourselves and with the pupils.

Seasons greetings to all,

**Mrs Jodene Panteli**  
Head of Preparatory



## Christmas Lunch at Prep

Prep enjoyed a fabulous, festive Christmas lunch on Thursday. Our thanks to our caterers, Holroyd Howe, for such a delicious meal.









## Baarmy Bethlehem is a Triumph *continued*

Congratulations to EYFS – Year 3 for their spectacular production of Baarmy Bethlehem. The children dazzled us with their spectacular singing, dancing and acting.

The costumes and set were amazing; thank you to the class teachers and everyone who helped with this. We also want to thank the wonderful Mr Randall for accompanying the girls so beautifully on the piano.

Finally, thank you to Ms Fitzgerald who masterminded the whole production. It was so special!

























## Advent and Christingle Celebration

On Thursday morning the whole of Prep gathered in the assembly hall for a joyful Christingle and Advent service led by Father Andrew. Before the assembly, every child found out about what each part of the Christingle represented and then had fun making their own with sweets and cloves. Father Andrew lit candles as a reminder of the light and hope we can all bring to the world. This Christmas we are supporting the charity The Children's Society (Charity Registration No. 221124), [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk). The Children's Society provides specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes in their lives. If you would like to donate to this charity, please do so through the above link.





## Year 1: Enchanted Woodland Party

Last week, Year 1 had an enchanted woodland party. We wrapped up warm and headed out to the field for an exciting outdoor session with Mrs Anderson.

We enjoyed building a mini den for our woodland friends. We also learnt about fire safety and how to light a campfire. Finally, we gathered around the campfire to cook marshmallows and popcorn!





## Year 5: Science Museum

Last Friday, Year 5 travelled by tram, train and tube to the Science Museum in South Kensington.

First stop was Flash, Bang, Wallop, where the girls learnt about the three elements of the fire triangle; oxygen, heat and fuel.

Next was the interactive Wonderlab where pupils were given the chance to interact with scientific phenomena such as lighting strikes and travelling through space.

*"I loved the bit where you put your head inside a mirror and there was a button where you could change the colour."* **Aideen**

*"I loved the space expedition. It links to our topic in English: 4 Hidden Figures."* **Aadya**



## Year 5: Visit to the Senior Site

On Monday, Year 5 took a trip to the Seniors to do an experiment for their topic Alchemy Island. They changed a bronze coin to silver and gold.

Alchemy Island is about making gold, it is also about chemical reactions and substances. 5J learned about the periodic table and different elements. Some Sixth Formers helped out when they burnt the silver into gold.

First was the cleaning, with chemical water so it was able to turn into different types of metals such as silver and gold.

*"We got to put the coins in a jar of liquid containing the zinc powder and sodium hydroxide, over the flame of a Bunsen burner."* **Kirstie**

*"When we took the coins out it was a silver colour."* **Abigail**





## Pom Pom Club

Come and join our Pom Pom Club next term on Thursdays from 4.00-4.45 pm (Years 3- 6).

We will be working together to make a decorative Easter wreath to hang up at school, plus lots of pom poms to make hairbands/necklaces and other fun ideas. Materials supplied.



## Maths Puzzle Fun page 4 Answer

Rudolph's and Dasher's nose will flash again at the same time after 112min. Therefore, the time then will be 10.52pm.

Have a Merry Christmas!!



## Year 2: Croydon Airport Trust Workshop

On Thursday, Year 2 had a very special visitor from Historic Croydon Airport Trust. The history workshop, led by Graeme, was to support learning in the Cornerstones topic 'Movers and Shakers'. The girls were fascinated to learn that Croydon Airport was once the biggest and most advanced airport in the world. The presentation focused on the career and life of Amy Johnson who became a celebrity after flying from Croydon airport to Australia. The museum is open to visitors on the first Sunday of the month.

