



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,

Another busy week across both Prep and Seniors with Year 11 students getting ready for their assessments starting next week and finding the time for the lovely group photo below. Good luck to them for the weeks ahead.

It is great to see the results of the House Challenge to walk around the world and what an achievement that in total Old Palace students and staff walked a total of

13000km. Well done to the winners - Stafford, and to everyone that took part.

Wishing you a good weekend

Jane Burton, Head

Year 11: Assessment Leave



Good luck to all Year 11 students who start their assessments next week.

Winners and Finalists of the 425 Anniversary Pin Badge Competition

We reported earlier that Lilia in Year 11 won the competition to design a badge for the John Whitgift Foundation's 425 anniversary.

The badges have now arrived and are being given out to all pupils at the Senior School.

Here is Lilia, along with runners up Catherine and Isabel, proudly wearing the winning design.



Lilia, Year 11



Isabel, Year 9



Catherine, Year 10



Lilia



Isabel

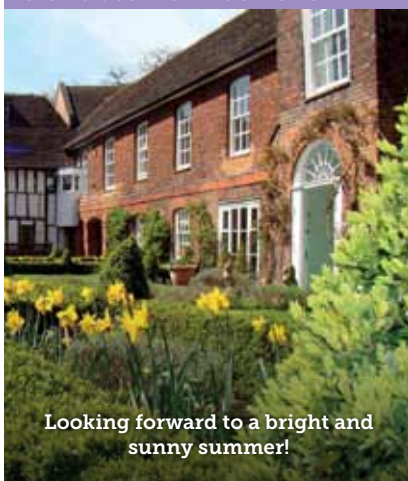


Catherine

Spring/Summer 2021 OPA News Now Online

The Spring/Summer issue of the OPA News is now available to read on our website:

www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/opa/



Looking forward to a bright and sunny summer!

Alumnae Dr Jane Steen Appointed New Bishop of Lynn (Norfolk)

We extend our warmest congratulations to Old Palace alumnae Dr Jane Steen née Bastin (1978-83) on the news of her appointment by Her Majesty The Queen as the new Bishop of Lynn (Norfolk). Read the announcement here:

<https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/news/new-bishop-of-lynn-announced/>



Dr Jane Steen with her husband, Pip

Ramadan and Eid at Senior School

At Senior School, we have been busy planning our assembly marking the last few days of Ramadan and looking forward to Eid. The assembly will be focused on explaining the different experiences and practices of Ramadan and the approaching Eid celebrations. Students will consider how this year has been in contrast to last year when they were in lockdown. This is a collaboration between staff and students in which they will share their experiences and knowledge.

The students and staff that are helping to prepare this assembly come from a range of different cultural backgrounds. We want to explore how the difference in cultural backgrounds, for example being from West Africa, Pakistan or Malaysia, influences the ways in which Eid is marked and celebrated.

We will look forward to sharing with you our assembly and the planned photo montage or our students Eid celebrations in next week's bulletin.

Reception Swimming

Reception girls have really been enjoying their Swimming lessons. They have all grown enormously in confidence since the start of the year, with many of them now submerging and swimming on their own.

Pictured are Rashika doing a lovely star float, Michaela about to swim on her front and Olivia showing an egg flip toy that she had been successfully blowing so it flipped over from yellow to blue.



SAVE THE DATE

PTA

Summer Fair

Saturday 3rd July

at Preparatory School



Virtual Open Day Live Q&A

Seniors

Wednesday,

12 May

12.30pm-1.30pm

www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days

Year 12 Biology: Measuring Biodiversity

I love spring. It is one of my favourite times of the year. The snow drops, crocus (from which Croydon takes its name) and daffodils have faded and we are enjoying bluebells and blossom. It's all over so quickly.

Last week, we marked Earth Day and it was very timely as in Year 12 the students are looking at biodiversity, how we can measure it and the human impact on the number and distribution of species.

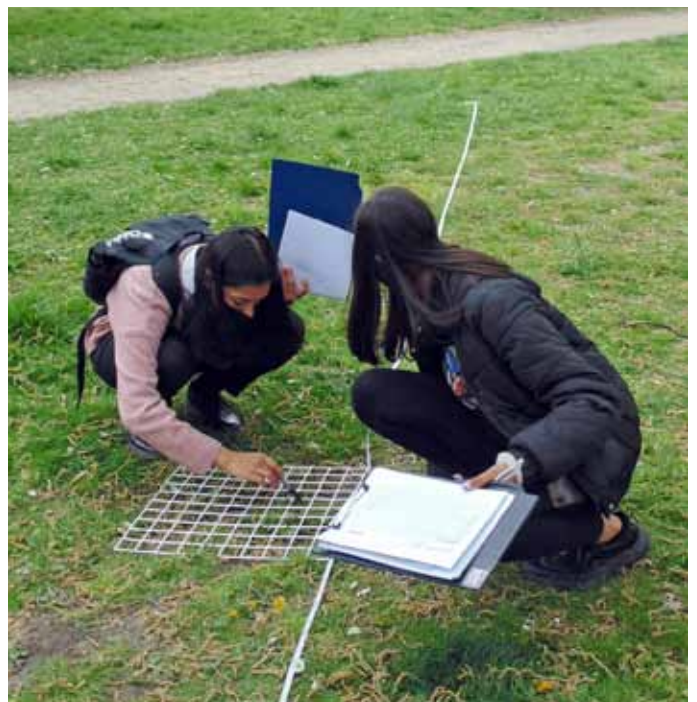
Mrs Edwards

Naomi writes about Year 12's first Biology trip of the year to the Minster Green, south of the Minster.

"Our aim was to explore the biodiversity of the grass area using a line transect and a quadrat and identifying them with a key."

It was surprising to see all the different plant species which would usually go unnoticed and dismissed as 'common grass'.

This investigation not only widened our knowledge and understanding of sample taking but increased our awareness to our surroundings and attention to detail, as it was often hard to distinguish between the different plant species."



Green Alkanet



Common Mouse Ear



Common Dog Violet



Maths Puzzle Fun

Crooked Calculator

Eric has got his sums wrong. Each time he pressed exactly ONE wrong key.

Can you work out which keys he actually pressed?

ON/C 2 5 + 3 6 = 900

ON/C 8 + 8 + 2 = 3

Answer on page 10

Calling all Netball Players and Potential Netball Players!



Lots of clubs are running trials for the SUMMER and also looking ahead to the 2021/2022 season.

Now is the time to take action if you would like to play netball for a club outside school!

I know a number have enquired in recent years – and then the pandemic put a stop to recreational sport. Please do not miss these opportunities to get involved!

If you would like to get involved in a Netball Club outside school please see the posters on the doors of SHAH PE or visit:

www.surreynetball.co.uk/junior-clubs.html

Alternatively, please speak to Mrs Smith in the PE Department.

Trials are taking place NOW – don't miss out!



#ConnectWithNature
#MentalHealthAwarenessWeek



Registered Charity No. England 801130 Scotland SC 039714
Company Registration No. 2350846

Year 2 Start Learning the Recorder

Last week students in Year 2 began learning the Recorder as part of their summer term music programme.

The girls have been very enthusiastic whilst mastering the basics on how to hold the recorder and blow correctly. They now have an impressive repertoire of three pieces.

Here are some students in the lesson this week.



Year 11 Sports Leaders



Sports Leaders in Year 11 have been awarded their Level 1 certificates for their leadership during 19-20. This is a fantastic achievement - well done all!

Year 11: PE



Year 11 had their last PE lesson this week! They threw themselves into the activities on offer and we hope they remember the importance of staying active as they revise for their final assessments!

Year 7: After School Cricket Club

Our Year 7 students are thrilled to be back enjoying After School Clubs; a particular favourite being Cricket.

This week, pupils led their own warm-up before taking part in two fun, Cricket-related activities.

The girls then had the opportunity to play Pairs Cricket. They learnt about scoring and how important it is to communicate with their partner. After a long break, it's fantastic to see so many of them participating in the extra-curricular activities on offer.



A letter from Mrs Nike

Dear all,

This week the girls have had a fantastic time learning about Ramadan, which began on 12th April and finishes on the evening of 12th May.

We have spent time during form times learning more about this very important Islamic festival. The girls in each class were given the opportunity to talk about how their family celebrates Ramadan.

Reception have decorated some henna pattern hand pictures. They are so beautiful and the patterns are very intricate.

Year 1 have been busy making colourful paper chains that feature lots of glitter and sparkle.

Year 2 made Ramadan Sun-Catcher Mosques using coloured tissue paper. They sure do look great near the light!

Year 4 have been making and decorating moon and star mobiles. What a great job they did. The stars really sparkle as they move in the breeze.

Year 5 have made Ramadan paper lanterns. They are very authentic. Great job!

On the 11th or 12th May we are having a themed lunch. Look out for the decorations that each class have created as you go into the hall. On this day, girls will also be invited to wear their own, brightly-coloured clothes to school. We have much to look forward to and I can't wait to see you dressed up and enjoying the day!

For those families that celebrate, we wish you a very happy Eid.

Mrs Nike
Head of Preparatory



World Maths Day

As Wednesday 5th May was World Maths day the girls in 3J celebrated by having some fun with maths.

First they played a three in a row game with a partner. They needed to think carefully about properties of shapes and demonstrate their understanding of the mathematical language: parallel, perpendicular, acute, obtuse and right angles. Using a 0-9 spinner they took it in turns to cover a shape which met the criteria stated for the number of their spin.

'I really enjoyed playing 3 in a row and I won!' **Fatemah**

'It was fun and I really had to think a lot before I covered a shape with my counter.' **Hiru**

Later, in the IT room the girls in 3J logged in to their Mathletics accounts to take part in the special World Maths Day activities playing against other children around the World!

'I played against someone in Italy!' **Sofia**

'It was hard to answer the questions quickly to compete against the other players!' **Aanya**



Reception Music

The girls in Reception listened to the famous piece, 'Gymnopédie No.1' by Erik Satie in their music lesson this week. They came up with some delightful and intelligent responses:

Sion: *It's played on the piano.*

Katherine: *It's calm and soft.*

Selena: *It uses high and low notes.*

Olivia: *It made me relax.*

Michaela: *It reminds me of getting up in the morning.*

Rishika: *It feels like a lullaby.*

Avia: *It sounds like ballet and made my eyes watery.*

Chiara: *It was very gentle and soft.*

Lyla: *It makes me sleepy.*

Sienna: *It's very slow.*

The girls also discussed how the music sounded like a boat sailing on the sea and learnt the terms semibreve, minim, crotchet and quaver through movement around the music room. Well done, Reception!



Old Palace House Music

Competition!

Everyone who enters will receive house points and will therefore contribute to the overall winning house!

For Years 1-5



What do I need to do?

- Pick up an entry form from Miss. Fitzgerald
- Choose your piece and film yourself performing
- Submit your entry by *Friday 28th May 2021*



Piano

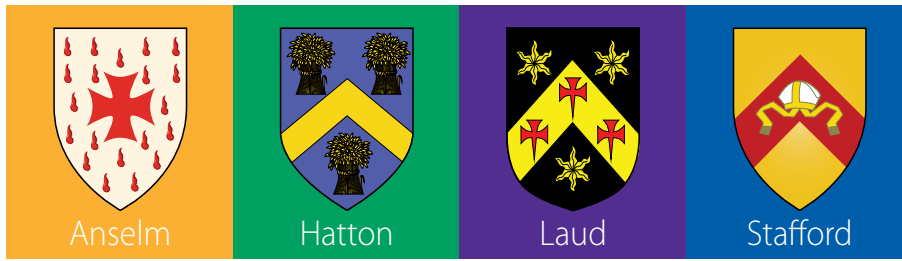


Vocal



Instrumental

Final Result: House Challenge to Walk Around the World



House	Steps Grand Total	Grand Total km
Anselm	4,673,154	3,015
Hatton	5,577,164	3,598
Laud	4,025,782	2,597
Stafford	5,849,706	3,774



What a close finish to our House challenge!

Stafford have leapt ahead at the last minute, beating Hatton into 2nd place by just 176km. Both reached the lovely Black Sea coast in Turkey and walked more than three and a half thousand miles!

Anselm and Laud are 3rd and 4th respectively, but a valiant effort from all teams.



If we add all the steps together, Old Palace walked a fantastic 13000km – that's all the way from Croydon to the small island of Pilau Biak in Indonesia!



Oxygen For India - Emergency Appeal



The situation in India is worsening every passing day. The scenes of devastation being caused by the impacts of COVID-19 are heart-breaking. People are cradling sick loved ones in hopes of receiving help, but their prayers are not being answered as vital supplies and equipment, including oxygen, are running low.

The British Asian Trust (charity no. 1127366,) is raising funds to provide oxygen concentrators, and together with their local partners in India, they will rapidly deploy them to the hospitals and patients that need them most.

It is a non-profit organisation that was founded in 2007 by the Prince of Wales and a group of pre-eminent British Asian business leaders: britishasiantrust.org.

My sister and I believe that we cannot stand by and do nothing, so we have set up a JustGiving page to support them in their emergency appeal for oxygen.

You can donate to the JustGiving page by clicking here:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dhanisha-patel?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=dhanisha-patel&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=64385026aa8243daa77a12365180001d

Together let's help the people of India by supporting this great cause today!

By Vishali, Year 12 and Dhanisha (Alumna)

Reception: Bike and Scooter Day



Reception enjoyed a fantastic Bike and Scooter Day this week. We created our own driving licences and checked each part of our bike or scooter for safety before taking part in a tricky obstacle course!

We took turns to watch each other take on the course and ensure that they did so safely without speeding. However, some girls unfortunately received speeding and parking tickets! In the afternoon, we washed our bikes and scooters in the garden until they were squeaky clean and sparkling.

We also listened to a funny story by Quentin Blake called *Mrs. Armitage on Wheels*. We rounded up our day by writing about all the fun activities on the Literacy table!



Maths Puzzle Fun page 5 Answer

The wrong keys he pressed are shown in red below.



Maths Puzzle Fun Winner

Last week's winner was **Dayna** in Year 7.

WANTED Nearly New Uniform

We are asking for donations for the PTA Nearly New Uniform Sale.

Please drop off any donations at either the Prep or Senior School Office.

Thank you.

