



AROUND THE PALACE

The Spring Concert



Welcome

'Moments of awe and wonder... surely all that we seek for this and for generations to come.'

On Wednesday evening our neighbouring Minster welcomed Old Palace musicians into the church for an evening of 'All Kinds of Music'.

Under the leadership of Mr Griffith, aided by Miss Orr, Miss Fitzgerald and members of our peripatetic instrumental staff, our Old Palace students shared their love of music with a veritable 'feast' for all to enjoy.

Their collective sense of commitment is both memorable and inspirational. From Preparatory to Sixth form, students conveyed a passion for 'all kinds of music' accessible to 'all kinds of people'. As we were all transported 'to the stars' in the culminating items of the concert I felt immensely privileged to share and experience this remarkable evening.

My thanks to you all for this.

Carol Jewell, Head

The Spring Concert *continued*



The Spring Concert *continued*



The Spring Concert *continued*



Year 4 Wins Royal Russell Netball Tournament

Our Year 4 students had a very busy time last week, playing no less than 18 matches across two tournaments. The girls displayed some fantastic Netball skills and their hard work over the term (practicing centre passes and work in the circle) really paid off.

The Caterham tournament was incredibly close, with the girls finishing an agonising two points short of a medal! However, their persistence paid off on the Friday, when their efforts were rewarded by winning the Royal Russell Tournament. They went unbeaten over the course of the whole afternoon!

Well done Year 4. Mrs Coster was very proud of you.



Mi Hye Year 8



Mi Hye in Year 8 ran The Little Half on Sunday which started in Southwark Park. The route follows the last 2.4 miles of The Vitality Big Half to the stunning finish by the Cutty Sark in Greenwich. Mi Hye had a great day despite the blustery conditions and even managed to produce a sprint finish at the end. Well done!

Advanced Mathematics Lessons

This term, Sixth Form mathematicians had the opportunity to attend STEP (Sixth Term Examination Paper) sessions after school. These were delivered by Mrs Morris and Ms Ford and involved students from Old Palace, Trinity, Wallington High School and Wallington County Grammar.

While STEP is based on GCSE and A Level material, questions are of an undergraduate level – indeed some universities consider STEP grades as part of their offers for Mathematics or related courses. Participating students are required to solve detailed questions, with little guidance on how to proceed. Therefore, it is essential that students are fluent in their application of Mathematical knowledge, skills and techniques and are able to work at an extended task.

In the weekly classes, students were reminded of the skills necessary for the problem and, where possible, given an easier example of the question that they would then tackle.

The following is a question from a 2015 STEP paper.

A prison consists of a square courtyard of side b bounded by a perimeter wall and a square building of side a placed centrally within the courtyard. The sides of the building are parallel to the perimeter walls.

Guards can stand either at the middle of a perimeter wall or in a corner of the courtyard. If the guards wish to see as great a length of the perimeter wall as possible, determine which of these positions is preferable. You should consider separately the cases $b < 3a$ and $b > 3a$.

The first part requires that you draw diagrams for all three possible situations and then involves similar triangles, followed by some complicated algebraic manipulation. In theory, it does not require any Mathematics beyond that taught in Year 9.

Students have responded enthusiastically to STEP: "The topics and questions were challenging and we were encouraged to think about how to solve them rather than being taught the method."; "I liked the ease with which I could ask the teacher questions, I never felt patronised or intimidated."

The STEP course will be offered in 2020 and any students in Year 11 and 12 who are interested in taking part should contact Mrs Morris for more information.

The Old Palace PTA invites you to.....

Save the Date
Saturday 27th April

1pm -4pm

Spring Into Summer 2019

Head Girl Elections 2019

This week, elections for the Head and Deputy Head girl took place. Each applicant had to write a letter to the Head, Mrs Jewell, explaining why they deserved the role. Then they stood up and gave a speech, promoting themselves to Years 11, 12 and 13.

A vote will be taken this Friday as to who we believe should be Head Girl. This year, we had some great applicants. From hearing all of their speeches, it is tough to tell who is going to achieve the role. All of them had great points to make and they would all make amazing Head girls.

When electing your Head Girl, take into account The Four Pillars. Our school is built around Service, Skills and Knowledge, Courage and Emotional Intelligence. They make up a fundamental part of every pupil's learning and maturing during their journey through Old Palace. Making sure the person you are voting for can display these key qualities is important.

Molly, Year 12

Senior Netball



A team of experienced Senior Netballers travelled to Sydenham High on Wednesday to play a match – and also be involved in a moderation process. The players did amazingly – particularly as they were from different year groups and not used to playing as a team. They started confidently but were challenged by the opponents and had to battle hard to stay in the game.

With scores level after the second quarter, the team put whole team strategies in place – pressuring the passes of the opponents to force a poor ball. This led to a number of turn overs in favour of Old Palace. Demi made a significant interception on a centre pass which was probably the turning point of the game. The shooters – Sarah and Ayana – had a high percentage rate of success and worked well as a unit.

It was a tough match but Old Palace came away with an 18 -13 victory and should be commended on a high quality netball match. All players worked hard and it was a pleasure to umpire. All students in the upper half of the school have so many commitments and deadlines; yet these students found time to pursue an activity that they enjoy and did really well!

Squad: Vanessa, Ayana, Demi, Hana, Sarah, Alice and Misghana

Learning 4 Life - London Fire Brigade

In Learning 4 Life we learn about skills and things that will help us in later life. Recently, we have had a talk from the London Fire Brigade.

It was very interesting and we learnt that they don't only put out fires, but they go around the neighbourhood and care for the elderly.

This is an important role because many elderly people don't have any relatives and can go without talking to someone for three weeks and go without food for a week.

Christina F, Year 8

Bouncing Total



The grand total raised from the bouncing fundraising in aid of The Children's Trust is **£2,439.38** which is absolutely incredible!



U14 Football v Sydenham High

The students in Years 7-9 played really well against Sydenham at football last Thursday. The players passed the ball well and used and created space effectively allowing goal scoring opportunities. Amy and Zeenat worked well on the wings keeping the ball wide and making it more difficult to defend. Nissi and Lolu worked hard in defence to stop runs towards the goal and then clearing the ball back into attack.

The whole team worked to create goals, but Bethany, Tahalia and Zeenat got the last touch to get their names on the team sheet.

The final score was 6-2 to Old Palace - a fantastic result!

Squad: Tahalia, Zeenat, Bethany, Lolu, Amy, Nissi and Rebecca



Year 3 Royal Russell Netball Tournament

Year 3 worked extremely hard in the Royal Russell Netball Tournament, going from strength to strength whilst gaining confidence.

Over the afternoon they played a total of six matches. They finished a well-deserved 4th place overall. Well done Year 3





**Old Palace of
John Whitgift School**
Independent Girls' School

Encapsulating Energy

A celebration of Dance
2019

Wednesday
27th March

Thursday
28th March

Banqueting Hall
at 7pm

Tickets available on WisePay
£5 adult
£3 children/concession

DT and Business Studies trip to Jaguar Land Rover and Morgan, Birmingham

On Tuesday 12th February, Year 10 DT and Business studies students visited Jaguar Land Rover in Birmingham and Morgan cars in Worcestershire, where they were able to see highly automated manufacturing up close at the Jaguar production line and beautifully hand crafted cars being constructed at Morgan.

Being able to witness these different scales of production first-hand was a great opportunity. The students enjoyed the trip and learnt a great deal, which can be fed back into their lessons at school.

Manufacturing features greatly in both subjects specifications and as always is better understood if able to witness it up close.



Students Selected For U13 Crystal Palace Football Team

Bethany and Tahalia in Year 7 play for Crystal Palace U13 girls team.

They have two training sessions each week as well as a match. It is great to see them developing their love of Football outside of school.



Croydon Schools Swimming Championships

On Wednesday evening, children from across the Borough of Croydon congregated at Trinity School for the annual Croydon Schools Primary Swimming Championships. Boys and girls from over 70 schools took part with the six fastest overall from the four heat galas qualifying for the finals.

Old Palace was represented by Amber in Year 5, and Daisy and Lina, both in Year 4. All three girls swam magnificently! Amber achieved 6th place in a very closely contested Year 5 Freestyle and Daisy finished in 6th position in the Year 3 and 4 Backstroke event.

Lina won a fantastic silver medal for her 2nd placed swim in the Year 3 and 4 Breaststroke, narrowly missing out on the gold medal by the length of her fingers. Well done!



A collection of four one-act comic vaudevilles
and four short stories by Anton Chekhov

Adapted by Michael Frayn

THE 'SNEEZE'

Wednesday 20 – Friday 22 March 2019
7.30pm, Performing Arts Centre

Tickets: £8, Concessions £4 (by reserving on WisePay only)



Learning about adaptation in Science: Design a dragon competition

Recently in Science, we have been learning about adaptation. Adaptation is a way an animal changes their features to increase its chances of survival. Animals need many things to ensure survival, such as defence mechanisms to guard themselves against predators, adapted bodies so that they can survive in certain climates and a way to hunt prey (if they are predators or omnivores).

During our Science lessons about adaptation, we were looking at the movie *How to Train your Dragon: The Hidden World*. First we watched the trailer for the movie, to try to spot all the ways the dragons have evolved.

There was a long list of ways they have adapted; from being able to carry a human's weight when people ride on them, to living in different climates (as each dragon species lives in a different habitat. In one of our lessons, we received a chatterbox which asked us different questions in order to determine which type of dragon we were most like. Our homework was to construct it.



In the next lesson, we found out which dragon we were, and designed a habitat for our dragon. We had to pay close attention to detail and make sure our habitat was suitable compared to its name. Our homework that day- which had to be completed over half term- was to design a dragon, give it distinctive features and write a few sentences about its powers. The purpose of this exercise was to show key features needed for the survival of our dragon.

Personally, I really enjoyed this lesson, as it was something quite fun and different, but it still could be incorporated into our lessons, and taught me a lot about adaptation.

Lila, Year 6

My Dragon is called:

Thor



My Dragon has the power to:

Be hot when he's cold and cool when he's too hot.

My Dragon is called:

Wing Wielder



My Dragon has the power to:

My Dragon can shoot molten lava out of her spikes and by pointing her tail to a certain place she can teleport there.

World Book Week coincided with International Women's Day, so our World Book Week combined a focus this year on Non-Fiction focus with an emphasis on Women.



Monday saw a visit from non-fiction author Kate Moore, who gave two talks about the process she took in writing her internationally acclaimed book, *The Radium Girls*. This told the inspirational true story of 1920's working class women dial painters who were exposed to radium poisoning and the importance of their fight for justice which still resonates today.

The Radium Girls Review

I'd never heard about The Radium Girls and I learnt so much! We learnt how the Radium girls painted dials in 1920's America and how they did something with paintbrushes called 'lip pointing' to bring messy brush bristles to a point in which to paint the radium onto the tiny dial numbers.

The radium is dangerous but in the early 1900's they didn't know that; in fact, it was thought to bring health benefits! They thought that taking it in small amounts wasn't bad for you. What they didn't know was that the radium consumed was settling in their bones. After several years they started getting pains in their bodies. Symptoms included back and joint pains and jaw pains which included their teeth falling out by themselves!

The Radium Company didn't believe the radium was causing the problems and only took it into account when the first male worker died (having taken steps to hide it). In another room in the same company, only boys were allowed to work in the laboratory. They had to be really careful with the radium and were told to wear lab coats and gloves and goggles and couldn't even touch the radium because of how "dangerous" it was. So, on one hand, there were the girls licking the radium and taking it into their bodies where it settled, but then there were the boys that did the complete opposite!

I really enjoyed this talk and hope that if you get this book, these woman inspire you too.

Zayna, Year 7

Wednesday saw a visit from Head Archivist of Sutton Libraries, Abby Matthews. Abby is also Project Manager of a very important local conservation project called The Past on Glass; an HLF funded project at Sutton Archives to conserve, digitise, research and make available over 10,000 glass plate negatives from the David Knights-Whittome collection.

David was a local photographer and photographer to King Edward VII with studios in Sutton and Epsom from 1904-1918. His collection of negatives were discovered in the 1970s and subsequently lay untouched in the basement of the Civic Centre offices for many years, until its extraordinary value was realised. Since 2014, The Past on Glass project has received two substantial awards from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the conserving and digitalising of this amazing collection of photographs.

Abby spoke about the techniques used in Edwardian glass plate photography, as well as examples of some of the fascinating Edwardian lives uncovered by this project. She gave everyone a book, *Writing On Glass*, a book created by authors and poets from the Sutton Writers community who reimagined the lives of some of those glass plate sitters.

The Past On Glass Glass plate negatives in research

I was fascinated by the concept of negatives on glass plates. As a photography student, I have worked with film negatives and was interested to see the evolution of photography through this talk.

What most surprised me about the photographs was the editing that was applied to the customer's specification. I previously considered after-shot editing a modern concept (such as the commonplace use of Photoshop) but was intrigued to find out that editing photos by painting or scratching over the plate could precisely edit small features.

The most extreme example of this was where a man had been edited into a family photograph where a space had been left for him!

This talk really highlighted the impact of preserving the past so that we can learn more about the daily lives of people who lived before us.

Eleanor, 13H



Friday saw pupil librarians raise £30 through a second hand book library book sale on behalf of the World Book Day charity, BookAid International.

Throughout World Book Week, voting took place to discover our Favourite Fictional Female. What qualities make a favourite female character? Inspirational? Funny? Kind? Bravery? Clever?

Votes collected during form times throughout World Book Week were collated ready for the winner to be announced on Friday 8th March, International Women's Day.

The top three female characters were:

1st place

Starr Carter from *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas - our Favourite Fictional Female

2nd place

Hermione Granger from the Harry Potter series by J K Rowling

3rd place:

Violet Baudelaire from *A Series of Unfortunate Events* by Lemony Snickett,

"Brave doesn't mean you're not scared. It means you go on even though you're scared."

"Sometimes you can do everything right and things will still go wrong.

The key is to never stop doing right."

Starr Carter *The Hate U Give*



Tuesday and Thursday saw groups of up to four students take part in our non-fiction challenge, Escape! The Guard Room!

Working together, students had to solve clues linked to subject areas in The Guard Room and Dewey classification numbers to work out 3-digit codes to break the locks in order to 'escape'

Congratulations to all 'escapees' who can now locate the science, classics, history, geography and women's studies areas of The Guard Room, especially Constanza, Laura and Anjali and who 'escaped' in the fastest time of 10. 32 sec.

A REMINDER ...

**World Book Day
Tokens are valid
until 31st March
2019**