



# AROUND THE PALACE

## Year Five Go Wild In Carrot Wood



Article to follow in next week's bulletin.

## Welcome

Warmest congratulations to our sports champions Jessica, Marie Rose, Zeno, Jaeda, Kei-Kei and Tahlia on their outstanding achievements at the Croydon Secondary Schools' Athletics Championships!

My thanks to Mrs Frost at Preparatory as pupils have clearly enjoyed the most fabulous residential expedition to Carrot Wood. Special commendation to all the girls on their excellent manners and attitudes at all times.

Yet further congratulations to Prep pupils Lara, Kara, Marly and Daisy on their fighting spirit in the tennis finals. My thanks again to Mrs Coster as she continues to work hard with them all on developing skills. Equally, well done to Mia in Year 9 as she strives with spirit on her sporting performance. Congratulations!

At Seniors we are in the middle of three nights of dramatic madness with our production of *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. Many more exciting details and photographs to follow in next week's bulletin.

Carol Jewell, Head



## STEM WEEK

25th-27th June

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 6   Year 9	Year 8	Year 7

# Croydon Secondary Schools Athletics Championships

We are absolutely delighted at the success of our Year 7 and 8 team at this year's Croydon Secondary Schools Athletics Championships.

To get a place in the top three out of all the Croydon Secondary Schools is an exceptional achievement, and we are delighted to list the following medal winners:

## Results

1st	300m	Year 8	Jessica
1st	Long Jump	Year 8	Mary-Rose
2nd	200m	Year 8	Zino
2nd	Relay	Year 8	Zino, Jessica, Jaeda, Kei Kei
3rd	100m	Year 8	Kei Kei
3rd	Discus	Year 7	Tahalia



Mary-Rose - Year 8  
**1st Long Jump**



Jessica - Year 8  
**1st 300m**

## Finalists

4th	800m	Year 7	Bethany
6th	800m	Year 8	Catherine
4th	100m	Year 7	Chisom
	Relay	Year 7	Chisom, Skye, Bethany, Cecilia

Mrs Smith said:

*"All the athletes represented the school with pride and worked really hard. We received lots of positive comments about their performance as a team. Well done to everyone who took part!"*



## Croydon Schools Tennis Finals

**Year 4 had two teams in the Croydon Schools Tennis finals this week, but it ended in heartbreak as one of the tennis teams missed the Youth Games by one point and the other finished 3rd.**

The joint partnership team of Elmhurst and Old Palace was out in force on Tuesday afternoon at the finals of the Sports Partnership tennis finals.

Competition was tough but spirits were high and players dug deep. However, it was not quite enough to secure the place they so desperately wanted.

The team have been playing together in the tennis programme



set up at Preparatory five years ago by Mrs Coster, so the progress and development with tennis is clear to see. Mrs Coster is extremely proud of their achievements and knows they

will be back on the court first thing in the morning ready to fight back.

Congratulations Lara, Kara, Marly and Daisy.

## Surrey County Athletics Championships



Well done to Mia (Year 9) who took part in the Surrey County Athletics Championships at the weekend, competing in the 100m and the javelin.

Mia qualified for the semi-finals of the 100m with a PB of 13.76s, and then improved her time to 13.73s in that race. Well done. We always talk about the importance of realising that athletics is all about improving personal best performances and not always placings.

In the javelin competition Mia threw a PB distance of 22.38m placing her 4th in Surrey for her age group.

## Award Holders' Workshop

Recently the Music Department saw another excellent award holders' workshop led by the inimitable Miss Rowsell. The subject was careers and linking music with other jobs. Throughout the workshop the girls were encouraged to consider the wide range of transferrable skills that being a musician provides, and how they can provide access to a wide range of career paths.

The discussions involved options such as performance, sound engineering and music therapy, as well as less immediately obvious job roles such as publishing, journalism, medical, legal and finance careers. The girls were encouraged to consider what qualifications might be a pre-requisite for each career path, as well as how their musical skills might help them in each role. The girls all left with detailed handouts about the careers that had been discussed in the workshop.

As ever, we would like to thank Miss Rowsell for her thoroughly well prepared, informative and enjoyable workshop.



## How Languages Can Open Doors To A Fascinating Career



Last Wednesday, Mary Brazier, a former Old Palace student, gave a talk at the Sixth Form assembly.

After studying French at university, Mary's career began as a Civil Servant, which included working as a translator.

After about five years, she moved to work in Europe and she now works for the European Parliament Secretariat in Brussels.

The studying of languages enabled Mary to carve a most successful career in Brussels where she has worked for all three institutions: the European Parliament; the Council of the European Union; the European Commission. This has involved travelling around the world and she highlighted her work in Tunisia following the Arab Spring in particular, where she was part of the EU election observer team for the 2011 election. One of her special memories of this visit is the long queues of people waiting to vote.

It was interesting to see the real world implications of Brexit on a British person working for the EU. We hear a lot in some sections of the media about 'faceless EU bureaucrats' so it was certainly interesting to hear a former

Old Palace girl discuss her work in that role and the workings of the EU.

Mary explained that EU laws are passed once consensus has been reached between the MEPs and the Council of Ministers. We were especially surprised to hear how active Britain had been with regard to many environmental measures undertaken by Europe and she praised the work of Caroline Lucas as an MEP. Europe is part of our politics syllabus, so we were really listening hard when she discussed the democratic deficit and the proportional voting system.

Finally, she emphasized just how important it is for young people to vote and to make their voices heard within politics. She encouraged the Year 13 to register so that they too can take part in the upcoming elections.

**Zoe and Mariam**, Year 12  
*Politics students*

## Prep Music Competition 2019 Vocal Heat



Twenty-two solo singers from Years 2-5 bravely entered the 'Vocal' heat of the 2019 Prep Music Competition last Thursday in the music room.

They sang a range of songs including 'Sunflower', 'Litany to the Holy Spirit', 'Never Enough' and 'The School Song' to name but a few.

Mrs Newlands, Mrs Wallis and Miss Fitzgerald have selected eight singers to perform in the finals on Thursday June 6th at 4.00pm in the Assembly Hall. The finals will be adjudicated by Mr James Hargraves.

The other two heats will take place next week - 'Piano' and 'Instrumental'

when a further eight girls from each category will be selected.

**All finalists will be notified by Friday 24th May 2019...**  
watch this space for further updates!

## Year 6 Trip To Osmington Bay

On the 3rd of May, Year 6 went on a residential trip to Osmington Bay which is located in Weymouth, Dorset.



Osmington Bay was one of the best trips we have ever been on. To begin with we had a campfire and we learnt funny songs. Our first activity the next day was the zip wire. We had to climb up these ladders in a tower and the tower shook. Then we got harnessed and went zooming off down a wire.

On the last day we did rock climbing and I got to the top of two walls. It was the most fun. Our last activity was mountain biking which I was not very good at. I fell off many times but got back up again and eventually reached the end of the course. The trip was amazing and I would like to thank Miss McCabe, Miss Trinidad and Mrs Evangeli.

Sanjana, 6J

I really enjoyed Osmington bay. The indoor rock climbing was my personal favourite – particularly watching Mrs Evangeli compete against Ms. Trinidad.

I enjoyed the nerve racking zip wire and the giant swing. At first it was frightening but after I did it I wanted to do it again and again.

Abril, 6W



## Year 6 Trip To Osmington Bay *continued*



One of the activities was Buggy Building. I found it creative because you have to work as a team to make a buggy and apparently Group 2 (my group) was the fastest ever group to build a buggy, so I was very proud (of us all).

Another activity was the zip wire. I felt like I couldn't do it but with a little self-belief and encouragement from everyone in my group, I felt I could. The evening activity was Splash, and it was fun because we got very wet. We went on a coastal walk and we collected pebbles and played some games. After lunch we did mountain biking. It was fun because we went down a massive steep hill.

Next, we did abseiling with our instructors Zoe and George. I think they were the most encouraging people to convince me to do the activity. After dinner, it was time to go home.

**Mayowa, 6J**

Our first activity that day was a campfire. We sang many songs and roasted marshmallows, although we weren't allowed to roast them ourselves so the teachers did it for us. The next day we did many activities such as: zip wire, Jacobs ladder, giant swing, abseiling, rock climbing, mountain biking, buggy building and we did a coastal walk.

I had a wonderful time at Osmington Bay and it was really fun. I would love to go there again.

**London, 6W**

## Duke Of Edinburgh



On 11th May, 23 Year 9 students completed their qualifying expeditions as part of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. This consisted of an overnight camping trip where we had to navigate to and from the campsite during the day, the route of which we had planned prior to the trip. We were responsible for carrying our own belongings – including the tents, clothes and food – in order to complete the expedition self-sufficiently.

The expedition itself took place in Surrey Hills near Milford and Godalming. We were extremely fortunate to have beautiful weather that was perfect for walking, which

enhanced the experience itself. Escaping the buzz of the ever-moving city and exploring the more peaceful and naturally stunning scenery in the countryside was inspiring, as it urged us to keep moving and to keep exploring.

Although the expedition was tiring and difficult at times, we successfully worked together in our groups to complete it. Not only did we show an enormous amount of resilience and perseverance throughout the expedition, but we proved that we could successfully provide for ourselves and support each other during the tough weekend. Upon reflection, we bonded with each other in ways that would not have happened solely at school – everyone contributed to help each other and to keep up morale, showing a true sense of team effort.

I believe that it was an eye-opening experience that helped us to appreciate the place in which we live, seeing how close we are to such beautiful surroundings, and our own privileges: having to sleep in the almost-freezing weather made us grateful for what we have at home.

We are now in the process of completing the award itself by finishing our required sections involving volunteering, physical and skills as well as creating our presentation based on the expedition itself.

**Suraiya, Year 9**

## House Water Polo

### Laud loud and proud!

The inaugural House Water Polo tournament took place on Monday this week. The atmosphere was absolutely electric, with cheers and shouts of encouragement throughout each game. The standard of play was extremely high and far exceeded expectations.

After six closely contested matches, Laud finally came out on top winning all their games, followed closely by Hatton in second place, Anselm in third and Stafford in fourth.

Mrs Smith and Mrs Tamplin were extremely pleased with the level at which all the girls played and also very proud. Old Palace may have many budding stars of the future!



## Year 12 Welcomes Visitors From The University Of Law And Cardiff University



In preparation for applying to university, Year 12 welcomed visitors from The University of Law and Cardiff University as part of their L4L lessons.

James from the University of Law presented on Personal Statements giving a clear insight into the importance of submitting a personal statement, which makes your one stand out amongst other applications. He revealed that the best ones are those which show the student's interest in the subject, that they have studied it in more detail and developed an interest in it outside of school. Clarifying how to best structure the Personal Statement was greatly appreciated by Year 12, from the strong opening and closing sentences, to the suitability of both their school and wider experiences, as well as reasons for choosing the course.

Emma, a recent graduate of Cardiff University, captured Year 12's attention with a presentation on how to choose a course and university. Covering the benefits of a degree, the wide-range of courses available and the numerous options within each course, as well as the number of Higher Education Institutions in UK, Year 12 were encouraged to start their research early. Emma explained how to use key '4 C's' when choosing a course and university: Course-Campus-Career-City and the 'ABC' guide for Personal Statements: Activity-Benefit-Course.

Both presenters were very engaging with informative presentations and answers to Year 12 questions, which will help considerably with their preparation for their applications to university in September.

**Mrs Wendy Williams**  
*Higher Education & Careers Coordinator*



## Year 13 - The Long Goodbye!

We will soon be saying Farewell and Good Luck to our Year 13 students as they go on Study Leave to prepare for their A Level examinations. However, they are going out in style.

Following on from their Valedictory Suppers and their Graduation Supper, they treated us to a Dress-Up Week. Each day, last week, saw the girls arrive in a variety of outfits, all linked to a particular theme. We had Pyjama Day with the students turning up in their pyjamas, dressing gowns and slippers. This was followed by a Character Day, a Favourite Decade Day and then finally, they arrived in their old school uniform. Many felt nostalgic and said how much they enjoyed wearing their uniform again! They created a joyful and fun-filled atmosphere in the midst of the more serious business of examination preparation.

Our final celebration took place in the afternoon. Year 13 and their teachers enjoyed a buffet lunch followed by a beautiful Leavers' Service conducted by Rev Dr Andrew Bishop. We wish all of Year 13 every success in their A Levels and look forward to celebrating with them in August.

**Mr Talleux**, Head of Sixth Form









On 1st May, 2J visited the Horniman Museum to participate in an Arctic Adventure Workshop and to visit the Aquarium. We also had time to find the huge walrus who has been on display at the museum for more than a century! We hope you enjoy the photographs and our thoughts on the day.

*'When we were at the museum, I saw plain white jellyfish swimming in slow motion. Their wriggly and wiggly tentacles became knotted because they were so long! I enjoyed seeing the fish in the aquarium.'* **Grace**

*'The Aquarium was my favourite because there were fishes that could change colour, for example the Purple Queen Fish. I also saw pacific Sea Nettles and a Cow Fish!'* **Adelise**

*'My favourite part was seeing the lady cleaning inside the tank! We thought she was going to release a sting ray because there was one in a bag. We also saw a Cow Fish that was yellow and black.'* **Annabelle**

*'I saw a big walrus and it was a little scary because it had two sharp teeth!'* **Alex**

*'At the Horniman Museum, I saw a beautiful snowy owl with black stripes and white feathers. It also had long pointed white ears, very big dark orange eyes and a pointed black beak. It was really interesting.'* **Imani**

*'My favourite bit was the Arctic Adventure workshop. The room was filled with objects that the curators had brought to the museum. My favourite was what I called snow gliders. They looked a bit like tennis rackets and had buckles in the middle of them. They looked fun to try on but we couldn't.'* **Tamalia**





# POP-UP BIKE MARKETS

10 JUNE  
LLOYD PARK

13 JUNE  
PARK HILL  
RECREATION GROUND

10am  
to 4pm

14 JUNE  
NORBURY PARK

15 JUNE  
WANDLE PARK

## SELL YOUR OLD BIKES

Bring your unwanted bikes – whether they're kids, teens or adults sizes – with you in the morning for our mechanic to check over. We'll contact you with a suggested selling price, and once the bike sells, we'll notify you and pay you.

## BUY SECOND-HAND BIKES

The market is a great opportunity to find a first bike, upgrade to the next size or just buy something new to get you back into cycling. If you're looking for an adult bike you need to pre-order using the form '**MARKET ORDER FORM**' on our website.

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## The Carnegie Shadowing Group 2019



Book awards season is in full flow, with many shortlisted titles/winners acquired and available to borrow from The Friends' Library. These include The Jhalak, The Wellcome, The Women's Prize for Fiction, The YA, Blue Peter, Waterstones Children's, Branford Boase, and the CILIP CKG Carnegie Medal.

The Carnegie Medal is the oldest children's book prize, now in its 82nd year. It is one of the book awards we shadow at Old Palace, taking place over Thursday lunch times during the spring.



Our Carnegie Shadowing group started in April and is currently half way through reading, reviewing and judging the eight shortlisted books vying for one of three awards: The Carnegie Medal, The CILIP Amnesty Honours Award and the inaugural Shadower's Award.

This new award allows shadowing groups around the UK, including our group, to vote on which book students think should win.

All winners will be announced during a live stream ceremony from The British Library that students will be able to watch during lunch time on **Tuesday June 18th**.

Carnegie shortlist book reviews, including our 'Spot On' reviews are currently on display. All shortlisted books are available to borrow from The Friends' Library.

## The Excelsior Awards 2019

Old Palace Seniors joined over 200 school groups from the UK and beyond in shadowing The Excelsior Awards. The Excelsior Awards were set up in the UK eight years ago to encourage reading through the underused and highly creative storytelling medium of graphic novels.

Split into five different age groups, the shortlisted graphic novels and manga books were given marks set against a criteria of story, characters, artwork and dialogue.

Thanks to Year 8 students Patricia, Hana, Saskia, Natalia, Ruby and Amelia for reading and reviewing over consecutive lunch times. Shortlisted books for The Excelsior White award

(10+) and The Excelsior Blue Award (11+) are available to borrow from our new Graphic Novels section of The Friends' Library.



## Mental Health Awareness Week

A reminder that we have a 'Shelf-Help' area in The Friends' Library containing both books and magazines supporting mental health and wellbeing.

## Lupus Fun Run



Friday, 10th May was World Lupus Day and the Nursery and Pre School held a Fun Run in memory of Ashley Thompson (a member of the Nursery staff who died 5 years ago, aged 27).

The rain held off and the walkers, which included Nursery and Pre School pupils together with parents and grandparents, challenged themselves to walk four times round the field. Whether they walked, ran or were carried was up to them!

Thank you so much to everyone who took part. It was so lovely to see the Old Palace community come together to support Lupus UK, and to remember Ashley, who was a Room Assistant here for five years.

If you would like to donate, or learn more, then go to [www.lupusuk.org.uk](http://www.lupusuk.org.uk)



## Sailing Update



This term, I have got the chance to do sailing. When I found out I was very pleased as there were only 12 spaces available, and many wanted to join. Most days we were on the water, but when we weren't we were still having fun, tying knots and learning more about the wind and current. I have had an amazing experience doing sailing and I have also learnt a lot. I would love to join again next year.

**Yusairah, Year 7**

## Year 10 Theatre Trip *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*



On 24th April, the GCSE students went to the Piccadilly Theatre to watch a production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*.

I think it is safe to say that it is one of the most amazing plays I have ever watched. The production was an artfully conceived and skilfully manifested adaptation of the book. I loved the way the set was all in a grid and at the end of each small square was a LED light, so even during key moments the LED lights lit up in patterns.

The way the stage was set up in symmetrical squares reflected Christopher's precise and logical way of thinking. The set was wonderful and the acting, especially Christopher's, was spectacular. I especially loved that the stage was made of chalk board as well because it meant that every time Christopher had an idea or something to say, he would express his thoughts through drawing, which helped the audience understand his condition without it being mentioned in the play. He had an extraordinary brain and was exceptional at maths, while ill equipped to interpret everyday life. I loved the characterisation of Christopher because the acting really portrayed the brain of a 15 year old. Especially the actor's voice because he had to mimic that of a child, so I really enjoyed watching this performance. The plot was true to the book. It was really easy to follow, thus enjoyable to watch.

I would really recommend this play to anybody of any age, as I think it raises awareness about Autism and it the direction is absolutely amazingly.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to Ms Berk and Miss Barker for taking time out of their evening to take us to watch this fabulous performance.

**Sara A, Year 10**

## Term Time Plus...

### Summer Dates

15th - 26th **July**

12th - 16th **August**

7.30am – 6pm

*Includes breakfast, mid-morning snack, lunch and tea.*

**£200 per week**

Open to Old Palace pupils from Reception to Year 5. (*Year 6 and above that have attended in previous years*).

Run by members of The Old Palace Community