



AROUND THE PALACE

Polyphonic Joint Evensong, Exeter College, Oxford



Article on page 4

Welcome



My thanks to Father Andrew as he had led a range of services this week to mark the sad passing of Mr Michael Parris, member of the school transport team.

May I thank staff for the multitude of events in the closing stages of term, including the Summer Concert, the Sports Presentation Evening and Sports Days.

I am so looking forward to seeing you all at Prizegiving on Monday 1 July. Do join us after the ceremony in the Medieval Gardens as I would very much like to say farewell to families after 22 years at Old Palace.

Carol Jewell

Carol Jewell, Head

Sports Presentation Evening

What a fantastic evening of celebration and recognition of commitment and achievement on Tuesday at the Sports Presentation Awards Evening. It was lovely to see the students dressed in their finery to receive their awards – whether Half Colours, Full Colours, Most Improved Player or Player of the Year.

We were delighted to welcome Cecily Scutt – former Surrey Women’s Cricket Captain – to talk about her experiences and to hear how the skills she developed in cricket have helped her in her working life. Cricket has been introduced to Old Palace this year so having Cecily with us was very apt. Cecily managed to juggle a successful

sporting career with her studies at University to become a successful Finance Lawyer in the City.

The students selected to speak at the Awards Evening did so with great confidence, and Cecily commented afterwards on how articulate the students were.

Seeing the amount of students involved and the montage of photographs, was a reminder of just how busy it has been throughout the year – the number of fixtures, tournaments, competitions and clubs has been phenomenal! Well done to all staff and students who have been involved. The supportive atmosphere

was good to witness at the evening in the form of parental support, but also the genuine applause and congratulations from one student to another.

A big thank you to Mrs Fowler for pulling the evening together; to the PE department for all their hard work; to other staff members who have helped and supported the PE department throughout the year and to the students for showing passion, commitment and dedication to all that happens within the PE Department!

Mrs Smith

A big thank you also to Mrs Smith! *(ed)*



Senior Sports Day



On Wednesday the 19th of June, Old Palace Seniors held their Sports Day at the Whitgift School grounds. Despite threats of rain in the days leading up, the sky was clear and it didn't rain.

The day was made possible through the hard work of the sports teachers and the Year 12s, who ran events, cheered people on and created a fun and relaxed environment for the younger years. It was a perfect way to unwind after a year of hard work.

One of the highlights of the day was the relay race which involved teachers and sixth form students, and the whole school got involved in supporting their friends and teachers. Laud were the overall winners of the Sports Day, and Gabriella, Laud deputy house leader and sports day house manager, collected the trophy and celebrated with her house in a well-deserved win.

The whole experience really helped to unite the school and create better inter-house and inter-year friendships, making it a day to remember.

Phoebe, Year 12

2019 Sports Day Records

Relays			
Year 8	3 x 100m	Hatton	42.85s
Year 9	3 x 100m	Anselm	45.47s

Year 7			
Discus	Kiyah	Hatton	12.90m
Javelin 300g	Bethany	Hatton	13.63m
Shot Putt	Rebecca	Laud	7.12m

Year 8			
200m	Jessica	Hatton	28.75s
Javelin 300g	Amera	Anselm	17.10m

Year 9			
100m	India	Anselm	12.68s
200m	India	Anselm	27.99s
Long Jump	India	Anselm	4.64m
Javelin 300g	Mia	Stafford	21.39m

Year 10			
100m	Gabrielle	Anselm	13.60s
200m	Gabrielle	Anselm	30.25s
800m	Alice	Hatton	2:43:87
Discus	Treynelle	Hatton	19.46m



Steel Pans



On Sunday, 23rd June, the Old Palace Steel Pans ensemble performed at the Gresham Primary School Summer Fair. This was another opportunity for the tightly rehearsed and talented Steel Pans players to play to the local community.

The sun was shining and the public were dancing along, whilst the pans played a number of popular songs that had been given the Caribbean treatment by their excellent bandleader Mr Dowie. The pieces played included *Get Lucky* by Daft Punk, and *One Last Time* by Ariana Grande. Well done to all performers involved!

Polyphonic Joint Evensong, Exeter College, Oxford *continued*

On Friday, 14th June, Polyphonic had the privilege to sing a joint Evensong with the Choir of Exeter College, Oxford in their magnificent Chapel.

The weather was lovely, so before the service we explored central Oxford, passing famous sites including the Bodleian Library and All Souls College. We then sampled some of the delights of the Covered Market and had a short tour of the college.

The girls raised their game and did a magnificent job in the service, with Stanford's *Beati Quorum Via* and Shephard's *Preces and Responses* sounding particularly fine.

Thank you to Mr Griffith, Miss Orr and Ms McCabe for running the trip.



Preparatory House Music Competition Finals

Last Thursday, the Preparatory House Music Competition Finals were held in the Assembly Hall after school.

27 finalists were chosen, nine from each of the three categories; Vocal, Piano and Instrumental. Many parents came to watch and there were some very confident and musical performances throughout.

We welcomed back a familiar face, Mr J Hargraves, as guest adjudicator this year. He gave a detailed adjudication to each student and girls were rewarded with praise, encouragement and advice.



... and the overall winner this year is... LAUD who were awarded a staggering 64 merits for all of their entries into the competition!

They were followed by Stafford with 38, Hatton with 28 and then Anselm followed with 21 merits.

Congratulations to everyone who performed in the finals and a BIG 'Thank You' to Mrs Newlands for accompanying the students brilliantly on the piano.

Miss Fitzgerald



Vocal Section

1st	Amber	Laud
2nd	Rhianna	Stafford
3rd	Lola-Marie	Stafford
4th	Aarna Avani	Laud Laud

Piano and Instrumental results on page 5

Preparatory House Music Competition Finals *continued*



Piano Section

1st	Nailah-Belle	Stafford
2nd	Lara	Laud
3rd	Isobel	Anselm
4th	Aashita	Laud



Instrumental Section

1st	Lara	Laud
2nd	Nailah-Belle	Stafford
3rd	Catherine	Hatton
4th	Aarna	Laud

Year 12 Biology Trip To Medina Valley Centre

On the 17th June, a group of Year 12 biology students travelled across the Solent by ferry to the Isle of Wight. We stayed at Medina Valley Centre, just south of Cowes and on the banks of the River Medina, for three days to carry out various biological investigations, as part of our A level.

On the first day we went to Yarmouth Spit, a salt marsh where we investigated the different species of plants present using a line transect. We also took soil samples to examine later on. Later that day, back at Medina Valley Centre, we analysed the soil we had collected to find out the % water content and salinity.

We started the second day by looking at a moth trap and identifying the various different species that had collected there, including a massive Privet Hawk-moth with a wingspan of about 8cm! We then travelled to

Bembridge Rocky Shore and conducted an investigation into the size of limpets on the rocks, and how long they had been there for; the larger the limpet is, the older it is. We then spent some time rock-pooling and had a fantastic time finding the various creatures living there and collecting them, including an awful lot of crabs!

On day three, we assessed the biodiversity of two local ponds, one in the Medina Valley Centre and the other was nearby Dodnor Creek. We took samples of the pond life from each one (being careful not to disturb the ducks!) and studied the samples back at the centre. The Medina Valley Centre pond was much more diverse: it had a plethora of wildlife, including Ramshorn Snails and Pea Mussels. One group was even lucky enough to find some newts!

All in all, the trip was both useful and



great fun; we had the opportunity to build up our practical and analytical skills in an idyllic landscape.

Emily and Alex L, Year 12

The Year 12s were accompanied by Mrs Stockwell and Mrs Peplow.

Summer Fair

Saturday 29 June

12 noon - 3pm at Preparatory School

Tug of War

Hula Hoop Competition

Water Balloon Game

Face Painting

Unicorn Game

Hook a Duck

Obstacle Course

Giant Jenga

Horse Racing Game

Stalls

Raffle

Food includes:

Hotdogs, Samosas,
Ice Cream, Freshly Made
Candy Floss/Popcorn,
Drinks and Snacks

Nearly New Uniform Sale

Student Stalls:

For £5 you can set up and run
your own stall and practice your
money skills

Volunteers Required

Please email the PTA if you are
able to help:
pta@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk



£1 entrance fee

Bring your own picnic and blankets, relax and enjoy
the company of the Old Palace community

Year 4 Science Presentations

Year 4 children were given a group of scientists who had influenced our knowledge of the topics we have covered in Science this year. Each child selected a scientist to research and prepared a class presentation. We had a fabulous range of PowerPoints, posters, fossils, film clips and models. Scientists researched included Dame Jane Goodall, Alexander Graham Bell, Mary Anning, Joseph Priestley and Thomas Edison.



Grassroots Award

On Tuesday 18th June some Old Palace students sang at the Croydon Commitment Grassroots Awards 2019. Croydon Commitment is a local, well-established charity, founded in 2004 to help Croydon businesses to achieve the best value and impact from business corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities to benefit local people and the environment. In the awards ceremony, they celebrated their 15th Birthday and gave out grants to up to 15 local charities.

The girls from Old Palace opened the awards with a number of upbeat songs, including a Motown Medley, the jazzy *Cry Me a River*, an Aretha Franklin medley, and *Chatanooga Choo Choo*.



The girls sang with tremendous power and energy, creating a stirring sound with just five singers, and ensuring that

the celebrations started with a bang! Well done to all the girls involved.

British Laser-Run and British Tetrathlon Championships

At the weekend, I took part in the British Laser-Run Championships in Solihull. As I am in the U15 category, the event comprised four alternate shoots and four hundred metre runs. The field was very competitive as it was the qualifying event for the GB team for the World Championships, with the top twelve athletes being chosen. I was disappointed to come seventeenth which meant that I did not make the GB team, but I was very pleased with my shoots and with the fact that, despite my recent health issues, I was able to complete the runs and continue to compete at National level.

Last month, I took part in the British Tetrathlon Championships at the Pentathlon GB training venue at the University of Bath. The event comprised a 100m swim, followed by an epee fencing competition where I had to fence all of the other competitors in my age group, followed by a laser-run. I was very pleased with my 10th place finish as it was my first British event following my return to training.

Lilia, Year 9



Year 2 to 5 Summer Reading Challenge

Dear Parents,

Children's reading can 'dip' during the long summer holidays. 20 minutes a day engaged with books can build their confidence.

We would like to encourage the girls from Year 2 to Year 5 to take part in this challenge and we will be letting girls borrow up to four books from the School library to help get them started. The books will then need to be returned in September. Girls moving to Year 6 will be able to return their books to the Senior Library.

Further information and links to related activities can be accessed on the website below.

Summer Reading Challenge 2019

Years 5 and 6 Athletics Competition at Royal Russell

Well done to the students who represented Old Palace at the Athletics Competition at Royal Russell last Friday afternoon. Athletes from Years 5 and 6 took part in a friendly competition and all of them worked hard to produce some great results!



Year 5

Year 5 Amber, Isobel, Nia, Carmen, Sapphy and Rosie worked hard in all of their chosen events. Girls produced some fantastic performances in the 75m Sprint, High Jump and Long jump over the afternoon and finished in a well-deserved 3rd place.

Excellent work Year 5.

Year 6

In Year 6, Neema, Daisy, Mayowa and Amarachi all qualified for the finals of their sprint event. Neema came third in the High Jump and Amarachi came second in the Long Jump. Combined with the results of the 800m (Shazia) and the ball throw, the Year 6 team came 2nd overall and were presented with silver medals!

Well done – you did really well!

Year 3 Instrumental Scheme Assembly



On Thursday morning girls in Year 3 entertained their parents and friends by performing on the instruments they had been learning on the Year 3 Instrumental Scheme.

Students wowed us with their debut performances and demonstrated the fantastic progress they had made in such a short time since beginning in November 2018. For the first

time ever all the peripatetic staff were able to come and lead their groups which was the icing on the cake!

A big thank you to Mrs Parry-Dickenson, Miss Holford, Mrs Wilson, Ms Duncan, Miss Milne, Mr Dean and Mr Whitestone for teaching the girls so well this year and a big well done to all of Year 3!

Year 12 Physics Trip - HQS Wellington



The HMS Wellington was used during World War II to perform convoy escort duties. It is now called the HQS Wellington as it became the headquarters of The Honorable Company of Master Mariners in 1948. The A-level physics students had the opportunity to visit this ship and perform a series of challenging experiments on it.

We started the day with a tour around the ship where we learnt the physics behind the building of the ship. What I found particularly interesting was that cork was used to cover the steel to prevent condensation so water wouldn't be falling on people's heads. On the way to the court room, we walked through long corridor with pictures of pictures of Master Mariners.

During the day, we had to look at the experiments and obtain results from

them using this data to predict how the ship would behave under certain conditions. The first experiment was to determine how the time period of oscillations changed as the cargo was moved further away from the hull of the ship. We found that the higher the cargo is, the longer it takes for one oscillation and there is an increased risk of capsizing. My favourite task was using a sextant to calculate the height of The Shard. Despite it being quite challenging, we managed to obtain quite an accurate value. We also investigated the optimum power for a propeller to work efficiently and how to track a submarine using triangulation.

Overall, this trip was most enjoyable and using concepts learnt in the classroom to investigate and obtain data from real-life situations was a great way to solidify my knowledge.



Chicks In Reception – STEM Week

Reception children were very excited when ten eggs arrived in the classroom. They were lucky enough to watch some of the eggs hatch. The girls observed changes up close and wrote about the different stages of the life cycle in their diaries.

'The girl chicks are a little bit brown and the boys are pale yellow,' informed Layla. On Friday the ten healthy chicks were taken back to the farm. 'It was difficult saying good bye to the chicks because we watched them grow up. I miss them,' said Marina.



Reception End Of Year Visit To The Horniman Museum

The Reception children enjoyed an exciting hands on session discovering how aquatic animals survive in their habitats. The girls were able to explore and examine a wide range of real museum objects as well as dress up as jelly fish, sea horses and crabs and imitate their movements.

After a picnic in the sunshine we explored the array of herbs and flowers in the gardens.



London Youth Games

On the 23rd of June Rebecca, Anna and I went to the Redbridge Centre in Ilford to compete in the London Youth Games for Table Tennis. We started off with a round robin. This means you are allocated four teams to play and whoever wins the most goes through. In each round we played two singles matches and one doubles match. Our results were as follows:

1st Match - Hammersmith and Fulham
I won my singles match

2nd Match - Wandsworth
Anna won her singles match

3rd Match - Bromley
Rebecca and I won doubles

4th Match - Newham
I won my singles
Rebecca and I won doubles

We didn't win enough matches to go through to the quarter final so we played in the Plate. This is where all the losing teams play to see who gets



4th, 5th and so on. The results were as follows:

1st Match - Havering
I won my singles match
Anna won her singles match
Rebecca and I won our doubles match

Although we didn't win, it was a really good experience for us all; especially for Anna, who had never been before. It was really fun and we all had a great time.

Mia, Year 9

Croydon Schools Borough Athletics

On Tuesday Night the Preliminaries for the Croydon Schools Borough Athletics were held at Croydon Arena

Competition was extremely fierce and with over 100 croydon schools participating the girls had to fight hard for a place in Wednesday's finals night.

Girls are only allowed to compete in one event plus a relay

Ellie	Year 3	Sprint
Marly	Year 4	Sprint
Sapphy	Year 5	Sprint
Mayowa	Year 6	Sprint
Carmen	Year 5	Long Jump
Amber	Year 5	High Jump
Neema	Year 6	High Jump
Amarachi	Year 6	Long Jump
Daisy	Year 6	Ball throw
Lina	Year 4	800m
Relay Team	Amarachi, Mayowa, Daisy, Neema, Sapphy	

The girls produced some outstanding performances and those lucky enough to get through to the finals night were the Relay Team, Neema for High Jump, Marly for Sprint and Lina for 800m.

Final placings were as follows:

Marly	Year 4	Sprint	2nd place in the whole of Croydon!
Neema	Year 6	High Jump Final	5th place
Lina	Year 4	800m Final	6th place
Relay Team	4th place in semi finals		

Congratulations to all competitors over the two nights. We are very proud of you all.





Last Saturday the OPA held their Annual Summer Reunion. It was a lovely sunny day with welcome drinks and everyone gathering at 12 noon in the Cathedral building courtyard.

A delicious lunch was served at 1pm in the Banqueting Hall. A presentation was made to Carol Jewell to honour her 22 years service to the school for her kind support and generous time given to the OPA. Jacqueline Derbyshire, one of the Committee members, had made a fabulous cake which was also presented to Carol!

There was a presentation given to Jo Tuck who after nine years as a superb Newsletter Editor was retiring from the role and stepping down from the OPA Committee.

There was time to have a meander around the school and catch up with friends before the AGM. With the formalities finished, tea and coffee and the celebratory cake was served, which was delicious!

The afternoon finished with a rousing rendition of the school song which was very kindly accompanied by Carol on the piano!

Reception Violin Demonstration

Students in Reception were treated to an extra special Music lesson when Mrs Parry-Dickinson came to play her violin to the class.

Mrs Parry-Dickinson currently teaches violin and viola to students at Old Palace in Years 1 - 13 as well as directing some of the ensembles. Today she played a range of

extracts on her violin to from 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' to 'Baby Shark'!

Students were excited to try and play a small 1/8 sized violin and enjoyed learning the names of the strings and how to make a sound.

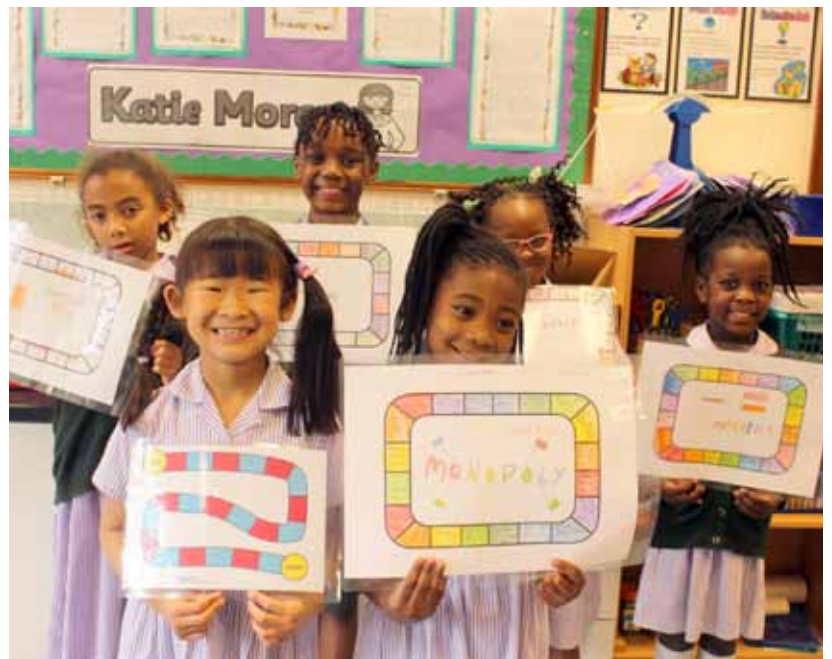


Money Week In Year 2

As part of Money Week, we made our own board games. During one lesson, 4W also came to help us, which was great fun. Some of us modelled our games on Monopoly. The spaces on the board were either spending money, saving money, donating money or earning money. One of the other game designs was Bingo. We had to add coins on the cards and match the totals to prices on our boards.

The final design was a board with two colours. If we landed on one colour, we had to add two prices to find the total spent. If we landed on the other, we had to calculate change from £1.00.

After we had made our games, we played them in class and even played them with our families for homework!



A-Level English Literature Trip To The British Library

On Wednesday 19th June, a group of A-level English Literature students visited the British Library on its annual celebration of 'Dalloway Day' to attend two informative and enlightening lectures on Virginia Woolf, organised by the Royal Society of Literature.

The first lecture addressed 'Love and Presence in Mrs Dalloway'. Professor Dame Gillian Beer opened the talk, speaking about how Clarissa Dalloway's identity is shaped by the presence, and subsequently the absence, of the people she loves. Personally, I had never read the novel with those perspectives and opinions of love and memory; the lecture therefore encouraged me to challenge my preconceived judgements about the protagonist.

After visiting the British Library's Treasures Gallery, we attended the second discussion between authors, Elif Shafak and Monica Ali on how Woolf's work has an impact on current writing. The immediacy and nuances of Woolf's descriptions of London was praised by Ali, while Shafak emphasised the importance of the freedom of a writer, and how significant Woolf is in inspiring writers to imagine situations and characters away from their own personal experiences. Again, the themes and ideas raised in the discussion were new and exciting to me and underlined the difference between how a reader and how a writer approaches a text.

This trip illuminated our understanding of 'Mrs Dalloway' as one of our set texts at A-level, but also conveyed new ideas about the writing process of novelists and how literature can change the way that we think and view society.

A big thank you to Mrs Parker for organising the visit and Mrs Beech for accompanying us.

Disha, Year 12

Netball Workshop

After school on Friday 14th June, Jo Handley from a local Netball Club came in to deliver a Netball Workshop. This was to give students an idea of how to improve their netball skills, the good footwork and foot patterns needed and a sense of what a club netball session would be like out of school.

Jo commended the students on their work rate – she certainly worked them hard! Some students were exhausted after the first part of the warm up, but persevered and enjoyed the session. The session involved warming up in preparation for a match, lots of foot movement and receiving practices, attacking drills, shooting drills and a defending drill. After that the players went into games play and were coached within the game.

Jo invited students to attend a trial training session at an outside club and gave feedback that all were potential club level players with the right training. A huge thanks to Jo for coming over on a Friday after school and to the Old Palace students for working so hard! I hope you will take the opportunity to move your netball on to the next level.

