



AROUND THE PALACE



Dear all,

I very much hope that Old Palace families managed some rest and relaxation over half term. It has been great to welcome everyone back to school this week ready for the second half of the autumn term. Of course, we are now facing a national lockdown for the next four weeks but we know that the Old Palace community will rise to any challenges that this will bring, as we have done since the start of the pandemic. Yet again, this Bulletin reports on some of the fantastic activities that

our students, from Pre School to Year 13 have been involved with during the first half of the term, showing how much enthusiasm, creativity and love of learning they show each and every day - which is why we are so proud of them!

Wishing everyone a good (if maybe a little quiet) weekend.

Jane Burton, Head

Welcome to the Year 7 Palace Group



Congratulations to our new Year 7 scholars, who automatically become members of our prestigious Palace Group.

Virtual Open Afternoon
Seniors
Tuesday, 17 November 1.00pm Live Q&A

Virtual Open Morning
Pre School & Preparatory
Thursday, 19 November 9.30am Live Q&A

OP Students Join Minster Choir For Live Sunday Worship & Choral Evensong



Year 7 student Azriella wrote the following words about her involvement in the Sunday service:

'On Saturday, 18th October, I had the privilege, along with my peers, to be part of the Sunday Worship Service that was broadcast live on BBC Radio 4, from Croydon Minster.

This event was very special to me because I knew that this service would be heard by millions of people, without having to leave the safety of their homes to attend a church service (due to the pandemic).

While I sat in my chair, my heart was pounding, because I was both excited and anxious, and between the rustle of papers and the bellow of the organ, the entire choir praised God.

I thank God for giving me this beautiful opportunity and hope that we can do this again, to brighten people's lives through music!



A number of Old Palace students took part in some fabulous services at Croydon Minster recently which were broadcast on national radio. On the 18th October, Sunday Worship was broadcast LIVE from Croydon Minster on the Feast of St Luke, and on Wednesday 21st October, Choral Evensong was broadcast on Radio 3 at 3.30pm.

Congratulations to Shreya and Ellie (Year 13), Mayowa, Grace and Sanjana (Year 8), Azriella and Saphy (Year 7), and Catherine (Year 6). They all did a fantastic job.

If you didn't hear them live then you can listen to the programmes here, which are available for a couple of weeks:

BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship, The one who heals

Click on the link to listen: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000nkg9

BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong, Croydon Minster

Click on the link to listen: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000nmr8



*I had the opportunity to sing as part of the BBC broadcast at Croydon Minster. This was an enjoyable experience and a great privilege but difficult at times, because of the social distancing changes. All the hard work paid off; the broadcast was successful and an experience that I will always remember. **Mayowa***

New: Year 6 Knitting Club

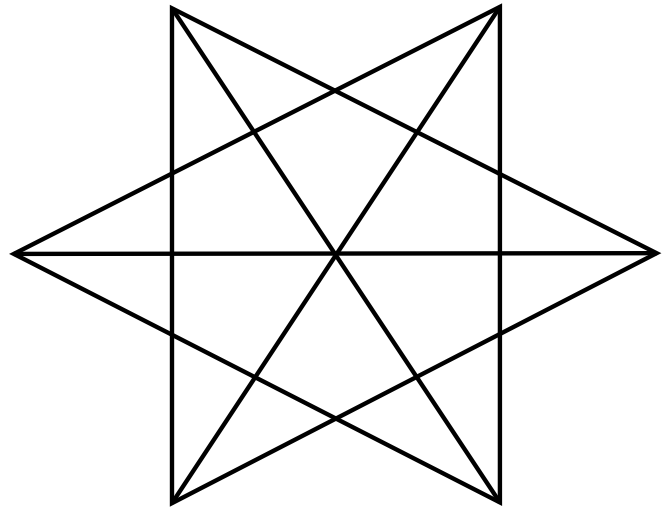


Pupils in Year 6 enjoy a lunchtime knitting club with Mrs Adamson every Monday.

Fun Puzzle Competition

How many triangles can you count?

Tip: You should approach this logically.



Answer on page 13

Year 8 Drama Explores *Matilda*



Students in Year 8 had an exciting start to the term in Drama.

They studied the play 'Matilda', based on Roald Dahl's beloved children's book. In lessons, students developed a wide-range of acting skills and learned how to perform in the style of musical theatre acting. Students really enjoyed exploring the characters of the play in different scenes.

Year 8 began the scheme by exploring a scene between Miss Trunchbull and Miss Honey, where they developed their comedic acting skills. They also explored the characters of Mr and Mrs Wormwood and Matilda in subsequent lessons. Students enjoyed developing the grotesque comedy present in the play. The scheme culminated in an assessment of students' rehearsal and acting skills.

The performances students developed over the half term were creative and entertaining. Year 8 demonstrated their outstanding exaggerated acting abilities in this scheme of work. Well done!



Year 6 Creative Design



In their Creative Design lessons, Year 6 students were set the task of making 3D hug buddies which were designed with visually impaired children as their target audience. The students created exciting, sensory designs that incorporated different textures and colours. They learnt how to sew on embellishments and filled their hug buddies with stuffing to make them 3D. Some students even added in plastic bags and other unusual items so that their hug buddy would have another sensory element! You can see their wonderful creations displayed in the glass cabinet outside the canteen.

*This was an amazing experience. My hug buddy is called Cuddly Teddy, it was the most fun DT thing I have ever done. **Andrea***

*I enjoyed making my hug buddy called Avo-Cuddle the Turtle. I have never made a project with lots of sewing. Before I wasn't that great at sewing, but now I feel better about it. **Marly***

*I enjoyed making my hug buddy because you got to learn different techniques. My hug buddy is called Mujie. I didn't feel it would look good as I'm not very good at sewing, but after I felt very good about it. **Tia***

*This was an amazing project. We have so much fun, sewing and stuffing teddies. I've never made a teddy before. The outcome was amazing and sooo cute! **Maya***

*I enjoyed making a hug buddy. I made a dog for blind people, I love my hug buddy plus it's called Luna. **Shankkavi***

*I have never made a teddy before. It was so fun to make it and sew and stuff in the different textures. This hug buddy project was really exciting to take part in. **Catherine***

*Although I have quite a bit of experience with sewing, I have never made a teddy, especially ones for blind children/ who are visually impaired. This made it very exciting and also fun. I loved taking part and I hope everyone in the future enjoys taking part too. **Sophie***

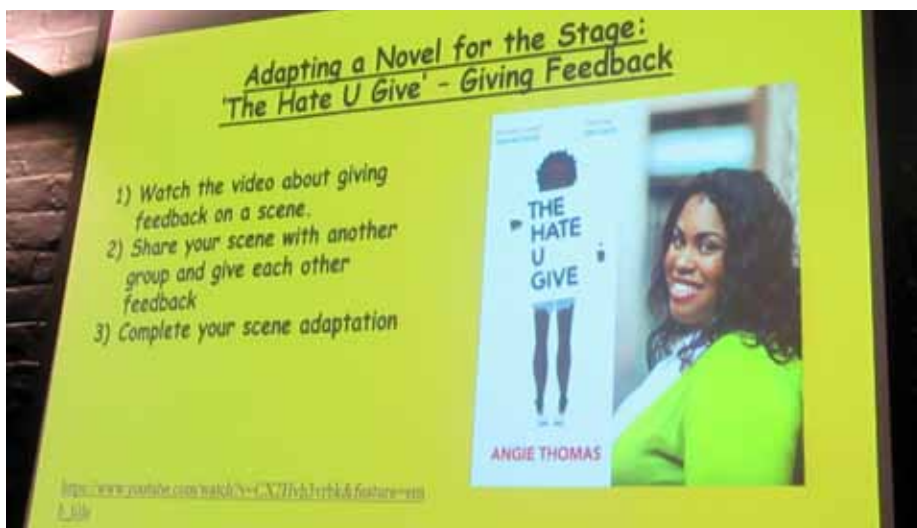
*I have a lot of experience with sewing and cross stitch and I made a mini teddy bear before, but this was a new experience because it was for blind kids. I found it exciting and fun. My one turned out quite unique with sock feet and pyjama leg arms! It was very exciting to take part in this project. **Avani***



Year 9 Drama: Adapting *The Hate U Give* into a Scene for Performance

In September, Year 9 Drama students began an exciting scheme of learning called 'Working with Text'.

In this scheme, students engage with a wide-range of texts as both an actor and a playwright. Students began exploring characters from two different stage adaptations of Malorie Blackman's *Noughts and Crosses*. In these lessons, they developed naturalistic acting skills and staging techniques. Year 9 students then worked with excerpts from the stage adaptation of Mark Haddon's novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. In these lessons, students experimented with developing creative movement and physical theatre in naturalistic scripted scenes. They learnt about the West End production of the play and Frantic Assembly's staging techniques. The scheme then continued with students considering how as playwrights they could adapt excerpts from these two novels.



After exploring *Noughts and Crosses* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, students then began adapting an excerpt from *The Hate U Give* into a scene for the stage. This was an exciting endeavour for students as this novel, though adapted into a film, has not yet been adapted for the stage. Students were able to take creative

license with their playwriting, while still ensuring they were truthful to Angie Thomas's intentions. Students then gave each other peer feedback, using feedback structures from a recorded playwriting workshop by the Tamasha Theatre Company. After receiving feedback, students developed their scenes further. In the final lesson, students performed each other's work in staged readings and gave each other further feedback.

These activities built on the playwriting skills students developed during lockdown. The adaptation exercises will also aid Year 9 students when they begin their devising work in the Spring Term. This scheme of learning continues for the remainder of the Autumn Term, with students exploring a play produced by the Tamasha Theatre Company, *The Urban Girls' Guide to Camping*. The scheme will culminate with students exploring 'DNA' by award-winning playwright Dennis Kelly.



A letter from Mrs Nike

Dear all,

Each class started their new topic this week and learning is underway. The girls are very excited to be learning new skills and knowledge.

Year 1 have started their topic on Paws, Claws and Whiskers and enjoyed a visit from Cindy, Mrs Coster's dog. They took her for a walk around the field and the highlight was giving her treats for tricks. What great fun!

I also had the privilege of reading the Year 2 book reviews based on the book *Charlotte's Web*. The exciting language used made their writing very engaging. I can't wait to read what they will write next.

Year 3 have been busy designing and making metal robots this week. They are very impressive! Well done girls.

Year 4 have started their topic entitled, *Movers and Shakers*. They have been learning about the science of sound. Did you know that explosions in sci-fi films should not be heard because there is no air in space? They have also been exploring language structures in poems including alliteration, assonance and onomatopoeia and the ABCB rhythm patterns. What challenging work you have been doing this week. Great job!

Year 5 have started their topic, *Off with Her Head* and have familiarised themselves with Henry VIII timetable.

We are planning some great activities for Diwali. Check out the photographs in the bulletin next week!

Mrs Nike

Head of Nursery & Preparatory



Roman Formations



At the end of our Romans Topic, 'I am Warrior', Year 4 became legionaries in the Roman Army!

We were able to give a short presentation to parents outside on the final afternoon, marching up Melville Avenue behind our Roman Standard!

We demonstrated four Roman army formations – the Testudo, the Orb, Repel Cavalry and the Wedge – and read examples of our soliloquies on the eve of battle and our speeches following our great victories!

On the last day of half term, we also made bread which the legionaries would have eaten during a campaign.



Prep Athlete Focus



Name

Ellie

Age

10

Sport

Tennis

Club

Purley Berry Tennis Club

Round Up

I love playing tennis. I train on a Friday afterschool, Saturday morning and Sunday morning. I play with MDL Coaching. I also play in school.

I like to learn the new shots like top spin and back spin. I am perfecting my backhand to make me a better player. The best thing about tennis is when I get to play my Dad and beat him.

Year 13 Study Tips

As Year 13 progress through their final year of school, 13Laud discussed what advice they would give to their younger selves, based on their experience of revising for many exams. Some of the students are currently taking university entrance exams and Year 13 will have their school mock exams in January.

Here are their top tips:

- Go over notes regularly
- Make notes as you go along - don't leave it until the last minute
- Ask questions
- Work consistently
- Don't rely too much on teachers, do some independent work
- However, don't be afraid to ask for help
- When revising, write everything you know first, then fill in the gaps
- Try teaching the topic to someone else
- Break up revision into chunks - remember to take breaks. Revise in 20-45 minute slots, depending on what works for you.
- If you work best with music, try film or video game music.
- Find a study space that works for you, if possible away from where you have fun.
- Create a welcoming study space.

Year 9 Fitness Training

Year 9 have been working through a unit of work based on FITNESS. We've looked at different methods of training, different components of fitness and done some fitness tests. Here, some Year 9s are working to improve their AGILITY. Agility is the ability to change direction at speed and is a vital element of a number of sporting activities. They conducted a test based on agility and then devised some activities to improve their agility before completing the test for a second time to see if their score had improved.

They also looked at SPEED and REACTION TIME – both also vital elements of most sporting activities. This is great preparation for GCSE PE.



Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award

During the second week of half term I went to the Peak District for my Gold DofE Residential. When I arrived on Monday morning I didn't know anyone there but I very quickly made lots of friends from places including Nottingham, Essex, Leeds and Warwick. Throughout the week we took part in some amazing activities, all of which were Covid-19 secure.

On Monday afternoon, after we had put our tents up, we went scrambling on the rocks at Stanage Edge and visited Robin Hood's cave. On Tuesday we went into Castleton to explore the town. On Wednesday we went back to Stanage Edge to go rock climbing. This was my favourite day because I really enjoyed pushing myself to climb to the highest point possible. On Thursday we took part in a group navigation activity around Hope Valley to improve our map reading skills and get to know each other better as a team.

Finally on Friday we packed up our tents and returned to Stanage Edge to do some abseiling, before we set off to go home. During our visit the weather was definitely our biggest challenge. It was extremely rainy and windy, and it was very cold at night in our tents.



The leaders, however, made sure we were well looked after, and as a team we all encouraged each other to stay motivated and keep going.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the week, and I shared an incredible experience with a group of fantastic people, whom I will continue to keep in touch with. I look forward to continuing with the other sections of my Gold DofE.

Emily, Year 12



A Visit by Cindy



On Thursday, there was great excitement at Prep when Mrs Coster's dog, Cindy, arrived to spend a misty morning with Year 1.

Getting Ready for Diwali

Year 3 pupils have been making colourful and sparkly, paper lamps (diyas) for Diwali, the Festival of Light.



Pre School Celebrations

This week, Pre School children have started finding out about special events, festivals and celebrations, and with Bonfire night first on the calendar they began by talking about the story of Guy Fawkes, fireworks and fire safety.

After creating some wonderful firework pictures, children took part in a special 5th November campfire activity where they enjoyed toasting marshmallows over an open fire. There was much excitement collecting wood and then sitting watching the fire burn while talking about each other's own experiences and what they could hear, see and smell!



Year 3 Mighty Metals Topic

As part of our Mighty Metals topic in Year 3, the girls read the story *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. The girls were then set a challenge task by Hogarth, the boy in the story, to make a companion for the Iron Man.

They had to use lots of scrap metal items like tins, screws and foil. The girls worked in teams and had to think carefully about what item would make a suitable head, body, arms etc and then join them together using paper clips and modelling wire. The girls were full of ideas and were so excited. They worked together with great enthusiasm. The Iron Man now has four super companions to choose from!

Our challenge hasn't finished yet! We are now going to incorporate a circuit to give their companions a light up nose or pair of eyes! Watch out for them in the next bulletin.



Creative Solutions to Climate Change

What Happened to the Donated Clothes?

Last academic year, students in the Pre School, Prep and Senior School participated in a project exploring creative solutions to the climate change crisis.

As part of the project, students explored fast fashion and its damaging effect on climate change. In response, students participated in upcycling projects. They were asked to bring in used clothing to be used in these textile projects, as well as for donation. Students were also encouraged to re-use and donate clothing at home to fight against climate change.

The school had planned to complete this project last summer but due to lockdown, students were sadly unable to finish the final textile project. However, as planned, all the remaining clothing items collected were donated to the Croydon Crisis Shop on Church Street.

Crisis is a charity that works to end homelessness and in 2018, they set up a charity shop in our local area. If you would like to know more about the charity and their shops, please visit:

www.crisis.org.uk/get-involved/shop-from-crisis/croydon/

Thank you to all the staff, parents and students who donated clothing items for our project.

Ms Berk

Chair of the Whole-School Creativity Committee



Fill our school with **FREE BOOKS** when you buy from the Book Fair

SCHOLASTIC

STEP THIS WAY TO THE

BOOK FAIR



Please help the School Support the Scholastic Book Fair

Thursday **26th November** to Thursday **10th December**

We will receive a free book for every book you buy!

This year, Prep School pupils will be able to visit the Scholastic Book Fair during the school day with their class. When they have chosen a book, girls will be asked to note the title and cost of the book in their homework diary/contact book, so that parents can make a purchase if they wish.

Payment can be made in the following ways:

- Scholastic website to buy a gift voucher. The voucher you receive will be worth more than you pay!
- <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/>
Please note our account ID number: 17600438
- Scholastic ordering line 0333 305 2963 you will receive an authorisation code so that your daughter will be able to collect the books from the book fair.
- By WisePay in General Products – Prep Scholastic Book Fair. Please note in your daughter's homework diary/contact book,

that your purchase has been made by WisePay, your daughter will then be able to collect her book from the book fair..

Scholastic Book Fair will follow all COVID-19 guidelines.

Thank you in advance for your support. This is a fantastic way to encourage your daughter to read at home and will contribute to the many titles we have in our library for her to enjoy at school.

Mrs Bhatt

Year 12 Dance Club



This term Year 12 Dance students have been developing their coordination, stamina and musicality all through learning a new style of dance; Afrobeats dance. So far the Sixth Form Dance Club has focused on Afrobeats dance which is a diverse and captivating style originating predominantly from Africa. It is an evolution from traditional African dance styles following the creation of Afrobeats music.

Afrobeat is a music genre that blends West African musical styles with jazz, soul, funk and, in more contemporary tracks, electronic music. These days you could say that Afrobeat is a mix of African music with Western-pop and the dance moves that go along

with it reflect the fusion. This doesn't mean that previous styles have been discarded, but have been built on over the years by Afrobeats dance enthusiasts and musicians.

Afrobeats dance routines are fast paced, fun and charismatic and anyone can learn them. We're lucky enough to have two Afrobeats dance enthusiasts, Amanda and Rachael sharing and developing their skills with us. The Dance Club will explore different styles of dance throughout the year but if you would like to give Afrobeats a go and develop your dance skills, come along to the Dance Studio on Thursday at 1pm. You'll be most welcome!

Last half term in Year 12, Dance Club students, Amanda and Rachael taught us all an Afrobeats dance routine. This is a style of dance I've never done before but I really enjoyed it because Amanda and Rachael were both very clear and explained everything very well. I loved learning and performing a new dance style because it widens my dance knowledge and skills. I look forward to all the new things we have planned for Dance Club this year.

Thank you Amanda and Rachael.

Emily, 12A



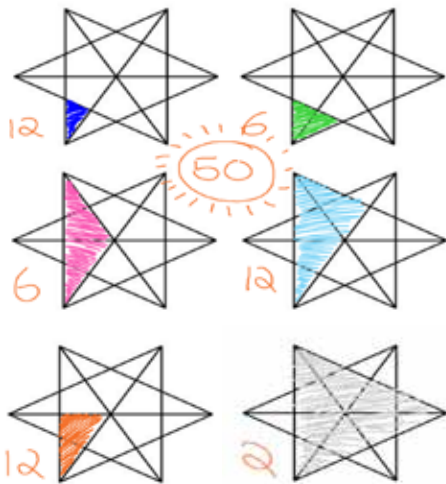
I have really enjoyed creating this piece with Rachael as it gives us a chance to share a bit of our culture with our fellow classmates. I love that we have a diverse range of people who are all willing and open to learning this new genre of dance.

We have a great time just dancing and enjoying each others company and that for me is probably the best part of the club.

Amanda, 12H

Answer Fun Puzzle
Competition on page 3

There are a total of 50 triangles



SCHOOL SHOP: IMPORTANT NOTICE

From the start of lockdown (Thursday, 5 November), the School uniform shop will only be accessible to families via phone and email. **Please do not visit the shop in person.**

Orders/deliveries to Old Palace will continue.

We hope to re-open again in December in-line with Government advice.

Classics Department Word of the Week 12/10/20

HYSTERIA

An uncontrollable outburst of emotion or fear.

from Greek ὑστερικός (hystericus) meaning 'of the uterus'

A gendered term implying irrational behaviour is associated with being a woman. Next time you think about calling someone hysterical, see if you can come up with a less gendered term.

Year 6 Swimming



Year 6 pupils took part in Team Races during their Swimming lesson today. It was a chance for them to develop their leadership skills, teamwork and communication. They thoroughly enjoyed the various different types of races and working within a team.