



# AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



October is Black History Month and an excellent opportunity for Old Palace to explore and celebrate its diversity. Students and staff have ensured that there is lots going on across the school and so along with the articles in this week's Bulletin, please look out for more in next week's and after half term.

Wishing you all a great weekend... especially our Year 6 students who are on their PGL weekend. I know from meeting them this week that they are very excited!

Jane Burton, Head

## The Fire Service Visit Pre School



This week, Pre School children enjoyed a very special visit from the Fire Service; they even got to try on a helmet and use the water hose! *More to follow next week*

### Patricia Bath

Patricia Bath was a significant black figure, who brought new inventions which contributed to the scientific development of the world. She had many great achievements which included, being the first African-American female doctor to create a medical device and also being the first person to invent laserphaco cataract surgery. She was also the 1st African American to complete medical training in ophthalmology. Bath had a passion for science from a very young age as at the age of 16, she attended the National Science Foundation's cancer research workshop where she was awarded for her scientific findings.

During her time at Columbia University, she figured that African Americans were two times more likely to develop blindness and eight times more likely to develop glaucoma. This led to her first creation of the community ophthalmology system that was for the eye care for people who simply were not able afford it. Bath has had several more achievements which have not yet been fully recognised and referred to by society.

*"I wasn't seeking to be first, I was just doing my thing, and I wanted to serve humanity along the way - to give the gift of sight."* - Patricia Bath

### Rupali



### Mae Jemison



Mae Jemison was the first female of colour to travel in space in 1992. Not only is being an astronaut an incredible feat, for anyone – not just a person of colour, she was also a doctor and an engineer. In addition to the many awards that she has earned, Jemison has been enlisted in the National Women's hall of fame, alongside the International space hall of fame.

Her first mission on September 28th, 1992 declared her as the first African American woman in space, where she was selected to join the STS-47 crew consisting of six other members as a Mission Specialist. The team made 127 orbits around Earth and returning to Florida on September 20, 1992.

### James Andrew Harris - 'The African American Innovator and Hero'



James Andrew Harris played a prominent role in discovering two elements, element 104 (rutherfordium) and element 105 (dubnium). This had made him the first black scientist to have discovered an element.

After getting a bachelor's degree in university, Harris served in the US army working his way to the

honourable role of 'sergeant'. After being discharged, Harris tried to find a job as a chemist but struggled due to racial discrimination as most employers thought that a black man wasn't qualified to work in science. Harris eventually found a job as a radiochemist in 1955 where he worked for 5 years but his best work was in the 1960s – 1970s where he worked in the national lab, leading the Heavy Isotopes Production Group as part of the Nuclear Chemistry Division where he prepared targets for the discovery of heavy elements.

After making such important scientific discoveries, Harris worked to ensure that other African American children could have the opportunities and education that he had. After being awarded his honorary doctorate, Harris travelled to schools and universities across the nation to talk to young African American students, especially those from disadvantaged communities, and educate them in Science.

### Anika

After serving six years as an astronaut, Jemison left her life at NASA and soon started teaching at Dartmouth College and started the Jemison institute for Advancing Technology in developing countries. She was even asked to feature in an episode of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* to play as Lieutenant Palmer in one of the episodes.

Jemison is now leading the 100 year Star ship project through the DARPA, (the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency), in the United States and inspiring many young women of colour with her story.

### Nishita



## George Washington Carver



First schooled in a one-room schoolhouse in Southwest Missouri at the age of 12, George Washington Carver went on to attend high school in Kansas and was the first black student to attend Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, from which he transferred to Iowa Agricultural College.

In 1896, Dr Carver became the first black faculty member of Iowa College. He was very interested in helping poor southern farmers who were farming on low quality soil depleted of nutrients after decades of growing only cotton and tobacco

in the same areas. Dr Carver and others encouraged farmers to systematically rotate their crops in order to restore nitrogen to the soil.

Through separation of the fats, oils, gums, resins and sugars, he discovered hundreds of additional uses of peanuts, which helped to save the economy of the southern part of the U.S.

Clarissa

## Betty Harris



Dr Betty Harris is an American chemist. She was born on the 29th of July 1940, and is currently 81 years old. She is well known for her work as the leading expert on explosives, environmental remediation, and hazardous waste treatment. From a young age she showed an interest in chemistry and it was always her favourite subject at her school in Louisiana where she gained a qualification and PhD in chemistry at the university of New Mexico.

As a research chemist at Los Almos

in National Laboratory, she worked in areas of hazardous exposure and radioactive materials. She became a world renowned expert in explosives. Dr Harris got a patent for her invention of a spot test to identify explosives in the environment.

More recently, she has worked with the girl scouts to develop a chemistry badge that the boy scouts already have. She recognised very early on that women should be given the same opportunities as boys regardless of race or gender. Growing up this is one of the challenges she faced and hoped that she could change this for girls growing up after her. For her achievements throughout her life she has received the state's Governor's Trailblazer Award.

Christina

## U16s Crystal Palace FC

On Saturday 24th September myself and Tahalia (who play for U16's Crystal Palace FC) had a game against Watford. It was a very intense match which resulted in a 3-3 draw.

**Bethany**, Year 10

Good luck to Bethany and Tahalia for the rest of the season. We look forward to hearing all about your successes.



## South Croydon Swimming Club Champs



A year and a half ago I joined a club called South Croydon Swimming Club. I soon moved up a level and got into the County Development which was very exciting.

I then got an opportunity to get myself timed against Sutton and Cheam. For the first race 100m breaststroke and I came first in the under nines. I was really shocked about this because it was my first race. I did eight events: 200m and 100m Free style. I got 2nd and 3rd place too. I learnt a lot. I had an amazing time too.

**Hiru**, Year 4



## Year 10 Art Trip to Kew Gardens

On Tuesday 28th September, the Year 10 GCSE art classes took a trip to Kew Gardens near Richmond. First stop was the Treetop Walkway, where we were able to see a couple of views of London and were able to get some amazing pictures from up high. It tested a few of us to be up so high but we all made it.

Secondly we went to the Temperate House. Here we met many types of flowers and also saw a piece of artwork being hung from the ceiling. This was part of the Japan Autumn Festival. The piece we saw was called 'One Thousand Springs' which is a mesmerising construction of red threads and 5,000 haikus. There were so many great photo and drawing opportunities.

The next greenhouse, the Palm House, had a tropical climate where we found many trees and plants you would find in rainforests such as the Amazon and parts of Africa. It was very warm and humid inside and some of us even got a few droplets of water on our head!

We stopped off at the Lily house where we saw some giant Lily pads and some very strange looking flowers followed by the Hive. The last greenhouse was the Princess of Wales Conservatory, which had some even bigger Lily Pads in the water and we saw some very colourful fish and some interesting structural plants. This greenhouse was home to carnivorous plants such as Venus Fly Traps. After a quick stop off at the Cacti it was time to go to the gift shop and head home!

Thank you to Mrs Broad, Ms Clauser and Ms Dawson for such a fun tri. I am looking forward to seeing what we will produce in Art as a result of it.

Zoe F, Year 10





# Working Open Morning

## Seniors

Friday, 15 October

9.00am - 11.00am

Sign up at:

[www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days](http://www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days)

## New Film Alert!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ax3QaV0scwM&t=9s>

New film alert! Watch our new film 'In conversation with Abisha and Amanda, Head Girls'.



## Year 7 & 8 Netball

It was great to get back to being able to travel to fixtures again for the first time after such a long time!

Year 7 and 8 Netball teams travelled to Nonsuch on Tuesday after school for a training match.

It was Year 7s first match and it was tough. Nonsuch had

some very tall players which made it hard for us - but the players learned a lot and we still need to establish more sense of positions and roles. A great first effort though and lots of lessons learned. Reya and Kara were named as Player of the Match by the opposition .



Today the Year 8 Old Palace team won 6-0 against Nonsuch.

It was a very well deserved win as each individual player had their own great moments.

The team consisted of: Saphy, Ines, Amira, Emma, Tejaska, Suruthi, Tahlyah and Ella.

We should all feel very proud.

**Amira, Year 8**

## Netball: U13A's v Nonsuch

On Tuesday, the U13A team played against Nonsuch High School. The team included: Anna, Amber, Theresa-Mae, Isobel, Keona, Rosie and myself.

In the first quarter we were off to a strong start with great attacking and defending. We got the ball down the court quickly and Isobel scored 3 goals. The score was 3-0 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter there was great defending from both teams, but no goals were scored from either team.

In the third quarter Nonsuch came back really strong with their attacking and scored 3 goals. It was now 3-3.

In the last quarter, despite all the pressure, we worked as a team and got the ball down the court and Rosie scored.

The final score was 4-3 to Old Palace. Well done to Anna for being Player of the Match!

Also, a big well done to U13B Team for winning 6-0!

**Tori, Year 8**



# Royal Mail Stamp Competition

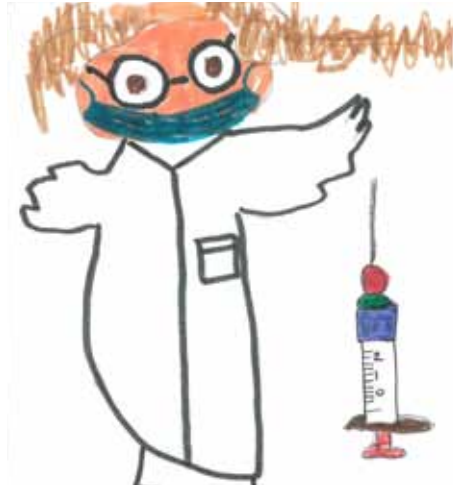


Congratulations to all students who entered the Heroes Stamp Design Competition. It was so lovely to see such stunning designs, the judges must have had a very difficult job!

Well done to all of you for being part of the Guinness World Record for the largest postage stamp design competition!



Aditi, aged 9



Katherine, aged 5



Ishika, aged 12



Alice, aged 6



Michaela, aged 8



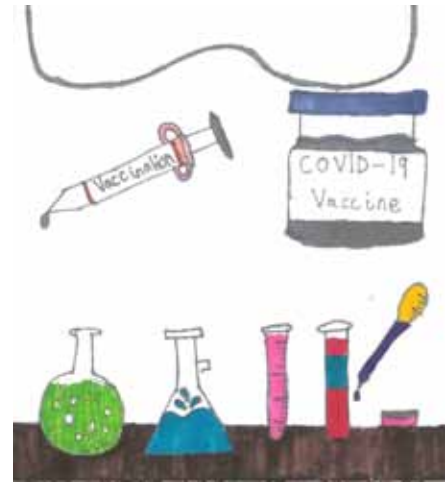
Ayesha, aged 12



Anna, aged 7



Marina, aged 7



Amanah, aged 10



## A letter from Mrs Nike

Dear all,

This week at Prep we started learning about Black History Month. This year we are specifically focusing on The Windrush generation and exploring why it is a significant part of history. We have been thinking and discussing about what it means to belong and what we can do to create a sense of belonging in the communities we are part of.

There was great excitement in Pre School this week as we welcomed both the police and the fire brigade. It was great to see the delight on the girls' faces as they were given the chance to wear the helmet and use the hose!

Year 6 are off to PGL today. I can't wait to hear about your adventures when you return.

I would just like to finish by highlighting the Holiday Club that will be running over half term. If you would like to book a place, please contact Karen Bardens [kbardens@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:kbardens@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk)

**Mrs Nike**  
*Head of Preparatory*

## Year 5 and 6 Cross Country

It was perfect running conditions on Wednesday after school for the Borough Cross Country championships at Lloyd Park.

A number of pupils took on the 5K course and ran extremely well.

Congratulations to all the runners. However, a special mention must go to Ellie in Year 6 who finished 4th overall.

Well done!



## Year 6: Hearts

Following on from their science lesson where they dissected a lamb's heart, Year 6 have continued to learn more about the human heart and different animal's hearts.

They did a fantastic job collating everything they have learnt

into fact files on this important organ. In art, they made clay models of the heart and some girls included these in their fact files, labelling the different parts.





## 1-0 Victory for Prep Football

It has been lovely to see fixtures back on the calendar and Year 5 and 6 had their chance with a football fixture v Croydon High. It was a beautiful autumnal afternoon and the sun was shining on the Prep field.

A goal from Ellie in the first half took us in front. OPS held their own all the way through the second half but couldn't quite hit the target to take a higher lead. Alisha worked hard in goal along with Chloe to ensure there were no conversions from the opposition.

Well done girls on your victory.



# Half Term Holiday Club

The Holiday Club is running for both weeks of Half Term.

The theme will be **'Can you imagine'**

Craft, indoor and outdoor activities

£42 per day to include breakfast, mid-morning snack and light tea

Girls need to bring a healthy packed lunch

7.30am- 6pm

Open to Old Palace girls from Reception to Year 6

If parents would like to book a place please email: [kbardens@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:kbardens@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk)



## Classics Department Word of the Week 04/10/21

# CLINIC



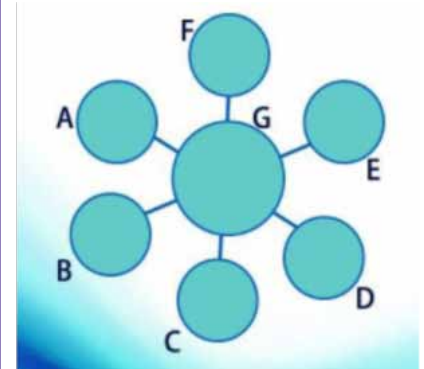
FIG. 5. — Le lit de repos, d'après un vase grec.

*An establishment or hospital department where patients are given medical treatment, especially of a specialist nature.*

*From Greek κλινικός (klinikós, "pertaining to a bed"), from κλίνη (klínē, "bed")*

## Maths Puzzle Fun

Put the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 into the circles so that each straight line of three adds to the same number



Answers on page 14



## Geography Trip to Stratford



*Students overlooking the new construction sites in East Village*

We are delighted that Geography trips are now back in force. Our first this term was taking Year 11 geographers to Stratford in East London last Friday.

The regeneration in Stratford continues at a rapid pace, and since our last visit in 2019, the International Quarter is now open for business. It was also interesting to learn about how they are designing sustainable urban spaces, which reduce the carbon footprint of the new developments. But

whilst the regeneration is successfully transforming parts of Stratford, this 'island of prosperity' is not benefitting everyone equally, as the students discovered.

You can see the dramatic change to the area in this video:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/time-lapse-video-dramatic-change-stratford-olympic-park-international-quarter-2017-7?r=US&IR=T&jwsource=cl>

## GCSE and A-Level Drama Devising Work Share

Earlier this week we had the Year 13 Drama students join our Year 11 Drama lesson for a collaborative work share session. With one A-Level group and three in the GCSE class, each group presented an excerpt from their devised pieces in front of their peers and the drama teachers.

The GCSE groups were devising on the theme of surveillance and in this session, we were submerged into dystopian societies and corrupt governments, while the A-Level students showed two scenes from their devised piece which explores Apartheid in South Africa.

After all the groups performed there was an engaging and open discussion between the students about the pieces they had just seen. It was particularly special to have the Year 13 girls giving such detailed and constructive feedback to the GCSE students. This

session was very helpful and created a very motivated and productive environment to be working in.

The final performances of the GCSE devised pieces will be in early

December, so with only a few more weeks to go we hope this session inspired their creative process.





## The Year 7 Digital Leaders and the Whole School Assembly

Year 7 Digital Leaders were tasked with delivering the whole school assembly using Microsoft Teams. The theme of the assembly was being safe whilst playing games online. Playing online games has increased significantly due to lockdown and the Year 7 Digital Leaders took great care and pride in putting together an interesting and engaging assembly. Though at first nervous at addressing the whole school, the team acquitted themselves brilliantly! They have put together several articles based on their research for the bulletin, which will help inform parents as well.

The Computer Science Department

## What are the Risks of Online Games?



Along with the massive increase in online gaming during lockdown, there has also been an increase in risks associated with online gaming. Here are some of the negatives associated with online gaming:

## Playing Games Online !



Did you know that the UK's internet use has doubled due to the pandemic? Video conferencing, home-working and especially online gaming have all contributed to the increase. Online gaming had such a big impact on the UK's broadband consumption, that many of the major data spikes (increases) focussed around updates to popular PlayStation, PC and Xbox games - including Call of Duty and Fortnite! Online gaming can be a lot of fun and bring a welcome relief and escapism from being in lockdown. Games like Fortnite, Call of Duty, Minecraft, Overwatch, Animal Crossing, Player Unknown Battlegrounds, League of Legends, Among Us, Apex: Legends, etc are all exciting and a great distraction from being stuck inside!

You can play on games consoles, apps or websites, mobiles, tablets, PCs, or through smart speakers and virtual reality headsets. Some of the reasons people like to play games online include:

- socialising with friends. When gaming you can play together on the same team, or play against each other.
- games based on location, such as Pokémon Go and Wizards Unite, encourage players to go outside and explore.
- games are designed to be entertaining.
- watching your favourite gamers on YouTube or livestreaming on Twitch. You may also want to livestream yourself playing games.

The Year 7 Digital Leaders Team

## Being Bullied

- You may be deliberately excluded from a game by your friends, or criticised for how well you play. Other players may use abusive language over voice chat, and this can be upsetting.
- If you are experiencing bullying in online games, you need to talk to a parent or a responsible adult or contact Childline
- You can use the blocking and reporting functions in a game, so you can prevent bullies from contacting you.

## In Game Purchases

Many free games are designed to make the player want to continue, but need payments to make this possible, which can be very frustrating. These often take the form of microtransactions, often known as MTX. This is where users can purchase virtual goods with micropayments.

Microtransactions are often used in free-to-play games to provide a revenue source for games developers. These can lead to a player spending large amounts of money if they want to progress. Loot boxes are another form of microtransactions, Loot boxes, which are purchased by two in five (40%) of young gamers, are items embedded within games, containing randomised rewards which are uncertain at the point of purchase. These can be cosmetic, such as 'skins' that change the appearance of an in game character, or provide users with an advantage in gameplay.

Many people view loot boxes as a negative aspect of gaming and want them banned, due to the gambling element of getting a randomised reward for money!





## Trolling, "Griefing" & Scams

'Griefers' are gamers who deliberately try to ruin the game for other players. This can also be called trolling. Players may also try to trick or scam people into giving up 'skins' or other in game items by offering them money or by hacking their account.

Some skins are extremely rare and valuable so losing them can be as upsetting as losing a favourite toy or possession.

## What is skin gambling?

A skin changes the look of an item in a video game. For example: the same gun in a game can have different 'skins'. The skins make the gun look differently.

Some skins are much rarer than others. Skin betting is when skins are used to bet or for gambling. These skins become the tokens you can gamble with. Some skins are so rare they are worth hundreds of pounds. Some specialist websites are dedicated to gambling skins. This is seen as introducing young people to gambling. Many people want skin gambling banned because of this.



## Addiction

Though games are fun and engaging, sometimes playing for long periods can lead to addiction, where an unhealthy obsession can develop!

## Talking to People you don't know

Some games are designed to be played in teams or against other people, and sometimes players can be based in different locations. This means young people can easily play with people they don't know and haven't met. They can communicate using voice, video or text chat. Some gamers use voice chat to discuss tactics and many games have a chat room.

There's a risk of young people being groomed on these platforms.

## The Year 7 Digital Leaders Team

## How to Play your Games Online Safely!

Here are some of the smart ways to look after yourself when playing online:

## Check the Game's Content

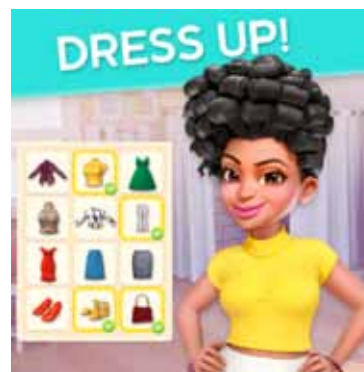


Most games have an age rating based on their themes. Games with violent and sexual content will have a higher rating. The age rating system is provided by PEGI and gives an overview of individual games which can help you to decide if it's appropriate. The ratings don't include communication features, so a game with a low age rating may let children speak to people they don't know.

Some games may appear age appropriate, but are probably not.

## Project Makeover

Official age rating 4+



Project Makeover is a puzzle game where you're set different tasks to makeover a client's physical appearance and home. To complete the makeover, you must play a candy crush style game and win gems to gain access to beauty tools, clothes and interior choices.

The game has in app purchases where players can buy access to new features and tools to help them complete the makeover quicker. The game also promotes specific beauty ideals and the idea that there is a correlation between what you look like and being happy.

## Hello Neighbour

Official age rating 12+

Hello Neighbour is a horror game where you break into a neighbour's house to investigate their suspicious behaviour. You must perform various tasks and gain access to the basement without being caught.



## Gacha Life

Official age rating 9+



Life is a role play game where you can create and dress anime style characters. You can also join scenes and chat with other players and play games as your character.

The game is rated 9+ on the Apple App and Google Play store. You should be aware that it has an in app chat feature and in game purchases are available. Be careful about sharing information on the app and who you are talking to. You shouldn't share any personal information.

## Change the Game's Settings



It can be difficult to keep up with the privacy and security settings of the latest games, but some games let players turn off communications features, mute voice chat and report other plays who behave inappropriately.

## Talk to your Parents or a Trusted Adult

Talk to your parent or a trusted adult about any concerns you have about playing games online. Tell your parent about the games you are playing and see if you can play them together and agree which ones are appropriate.

The Year 7 Digital Leaders Team

## Safer Internet Week £50 Note Design Competition

To celebrate the launch of the new £50 note design based on celebrating the genius of master code breaker, computer legend and LGBTQ+ icon Alan Turing.

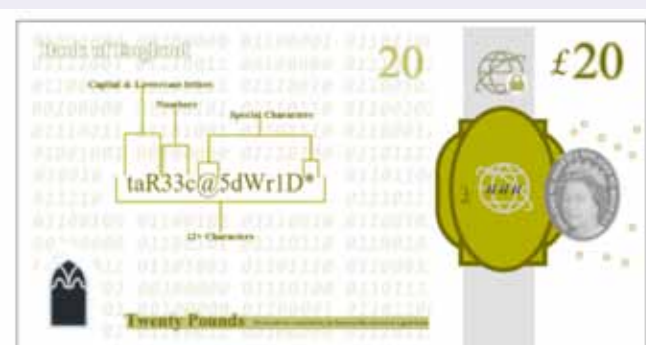
Turing's work has a direct effect on our online safety. To help celebrate this we ran a competition for all senior students to design a new bank note to help promote being safe online. The design could be hand drawn or made on a computer, ideally the design should feature both sides of the note and communicate clearly that it relates to online safety in some way. The design could also refer to Turing or not, it was up to you! It was for any value of money.



**First Prize Winner** (a £20 Amazon Voucher)  
**Imogen** in Year 13



**Second Prize** of a £10 Amazon Voucher went to **Benetta** in Year 11.



There was a Commendation for **Nicole** in Year 9

## Using Google's Interland



Interland is an online game which teaches children how to be safe online. No signing in or making an account is required, it is a fun educational experience to learn how to be safer online. With the joy of learning and playing at the same time it is an enjoyable experience.

If you play online games it is a good website to visit. Rewards after completing each level will make you want to continue, plus there are achievement certificates. The best part of the game in my opinion is the feature that lets you retry each level, until you are truly safe on the internet!

**Olivia, Year 8**



## Safer Internet Week @ Prep



The girls are (left to right)

- Lydia (was Year 5; Year 6 from Sept)
- Grace (was Year 4; Year 5 from Sept)
- Chloe (was Year 4; Year 5 from Sept)

Along with Year 9 Digital Leaders remotely teaching a lesson about internet safety to Prep students, they also set a competition for Prep students to create a rap or poem about e-safety. Here are photos of the lucky winners who worked very hard on their imaginative entries.



They were all awarded Google trophies. Well done!

**The Computer Science Dept & Mrs Elliott**



## Beat Band Boogie! Year 2 Polyphonic Experience

Year 2 girls were invited to watch Polyphonic, the senior school chapel choir, rehearse prior to their evensong service on Monday. In Music lessons they have been learning about polyphonic, conductors and reading music.

On Thursday they listened to some hymns, a psalm, a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis setting and a serene choral anthem titled *A Prayer*. Kezia and Isabella practised conducting during the rehearsal and Amelie told us that her "favourite song was *Halleluiah*".

The girls were very excited to learn that Polyphonic will be visiting Winchester Cathedral, to sing, later this year.



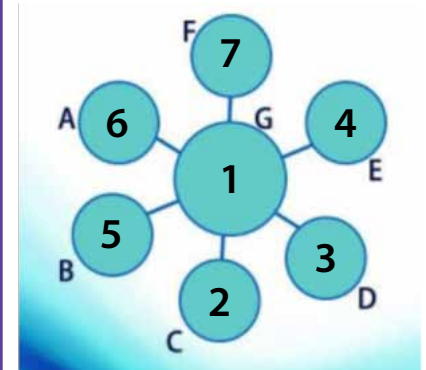
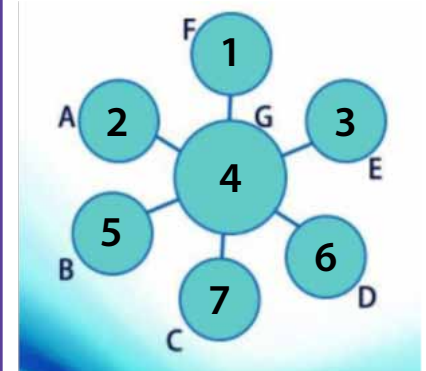
**THIS WEEK  
IN  
HISTORY...  
SPUTNIK 1  
BEGINS  
THE SPACE  
AGE, 4  
OCTOBER,  
1957**



On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union shocked the world by putting the first ever satellite, Sputnik 1 into orbit around the Earth. Sputnik gave the Soviet Union an early lead in the Cold War 'space race' against the United States.

## Maths Puzzle Fun page 8 Answers

Two answers...



Last week's winner was Jaswiny in Year 7

## National Poetry Day

Yesterday, we encouraged our students to take part in National Poetry Day 2021.