



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,

It has been a very positive time at Old Palace Seniors. At the start of last week we welcomed the new Year 7 students and their families to the school for their Induction Day as they start their journey at

Old Palace. By the weekend, we were welcoming former students and members of the Old Palace Association back to the school for a reunion lunch after a break of three years due to Covid. I am pleased to feedback that all these visitors, whether 11 or 81, shared the Old Palace spirit!

The very same spirit was in full force at the Sports Day on Monday. This was the first time we had held an all-day event at the Old Whitgiftians Sports Club and what a success it was, apart from some heavy rain as the event ended which led to some creative use of trees and waterproofs!

Sports Day at Seniors



The students approached the day with incredible enthusiasm and their level of engagement was so impressive. We were treated to some fantastic displays of athleticism alongside many examples of girls 'giving their all' to earn points for their houses.

The staff were equally enthused and fielded an impressive number of relay teams, but it would be fair to say that the students were more successful overall in the races.

Thank you to Mrs Alison Smith, our Director of Sport, and the rest of the PE staff for organising such a memorable day. Well done and thank you to all the students who took part.

Please enjoy the rest of this bulletin and remember that we have another bumper edition out next week to mark the end of term.

Jane Burton, Head

PTA Summer Fair is **CANCELLED**

The PTA is sorry to announce that the Summer Fair, which was scheduled for this Saturday, 2 July, has been cancelled.

Sports Day at Seniors

What a great day we had on Monday at Seniors Sports Day! It was so good to be able to hold an event involving the whole of the Senior School including some Year 13 students who just couldn't stay away!

The weather was good to us - until 3pm - so we were able to complete all the activities.

The morning session was the more formal side of athletics. Every student in each year group competed in the heats of either 100m or 200m, one of the throwing events, one of the jumping events and in all the activities in the Quadrathon. The sprint heats led to the sprint finals - all of which were closely contested, putting the track officials under pressure. The end of the morning session saw a number of athletes compete in the challenging 800m and again, we witnessed some really good, paced running and excellent times.

After a much needed lunchbreak (with cheerleading included), the afternoon of novelty events started. This included a water race, sack race, hula hoop chain challenge and tennis ball challenge. Everyone was involved in all of these activities where participation and enjoyment were the main focus! Year 12 had their own water race as well. In fact, Year 12 were fantastic throughout the day - helping run events (Sports Leaders and others), as well as marshalling and cheering on the students lower down the school. A huge thank you to them

As with most athletics events, the afternoon culminated in the Relay events. Each year group produced two relay teams per form and so lots of students were involved. It was a 4 x 50m relay around the 200m track. They really were fiercely fought, competitive races with the rest of the school cheering on! The final few relays involved Year 12, 13 and staff competing against each other. Year 12 have missed out on Sports Days during the pandemic and so were keen to show what they were capable of! The staff teams put on a fine performance but overall, it has to be said, Year 12 won the most relays! I'm sure staff will get their own back in the Staff v Year 13 Benchball next year!

The Old Palace staff were amazing all day - each one playing their part

in making the day run smoothly and enjoyable for all. Without them, this event would not have taken place so a huge THANK YOU to all the staff - and to the ground staff at Old Whits Sports Ground.

Field event winners were presented with their certificates and medals throughout the day. The sudden heavy downpour stopped the presentation of the track certificates and medals, and the announcement of the overall winning house! This will be done in school before the end of term.

Well done to all students who took part so enthusiastically, to the Sixth Form who helped out so well and to the staff for coping with the roles they had and the noise levels throughout the day!

Mrs Smith, Director of Sport



Sports Day at Seniors *continued*



Sports Day at Seniors *continued*



Physics Olympiad Success



Year 10 students performed commendably in this year's Physics Olympiad Junior Challenge.

The Challenge is a national competition designed to engage and challenge Year 10 students of all abilities by offering them a range of problems to solve. Although most of the questions were based around the current GCSE curriculum, students were able to gain more marks with a general knowledge in physics as well as a keen interest in practical work from their lessons. Some general knowledge and everyday interest in physics was also an advantage in tackling the two papers making up the task.

Cecily and Celeste excelled, both achieving the Gold award. Six students - Rebecca, Clodagh, Rinii, Flora, Neha, Feran, Aliya and Jeevikkaa secured the Silver award and a further 51 attained the Bronze.

Congratulations to Year 10 for their impressive individual and collective achievements.



Winchester Evensong

On Wednesday, 15th June, Polyphonic Choir enjoyed a trip to Winchester Cathedral to sing an Evensong there. Upon arrival, the students were given a tour of the Medieval Cathedral, looking at its architecture and fascinating history over the past 900 years.

Accompanied by Miss Orr on the organ, the choir sang Jack Oades *Preces and Responses*, Psalm 111, Malcolm Archer *The Berkshire Service Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis* and Long Since in *Egypt's Plenteous Lands* by Hubert Parry.

It was a beautifully sung Evensong and a fantastic experience for the choir to sing in such a historically rich place.

The service was livestreamed and is available to listen to on www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aSauAAIHMs



Alumnae Enjoy the Summer Reunion

Despite the train strike, we were delighted that so many alumnae were able to join us at the OPA Summer Reunion last Saturday.

The Head of Old Palace, Jane Burton, and the Chair of the OPA, Katherine Homatas, welcomed alumnae and their friends and family to a delicious summer buffet in the Banqueting Hall; evoking memories for many of the time it was used as a gym.

Old Palace has changed greatly in the last 30 years, and so our guests really enjoyed a guided tour led by some of our current Sixth Form students (who also learnt much from our alumnae about what it was like to be at Old Palace in the 60s, 70s & 80s).

We finished the afternoon with a rousing rendition of the School song!





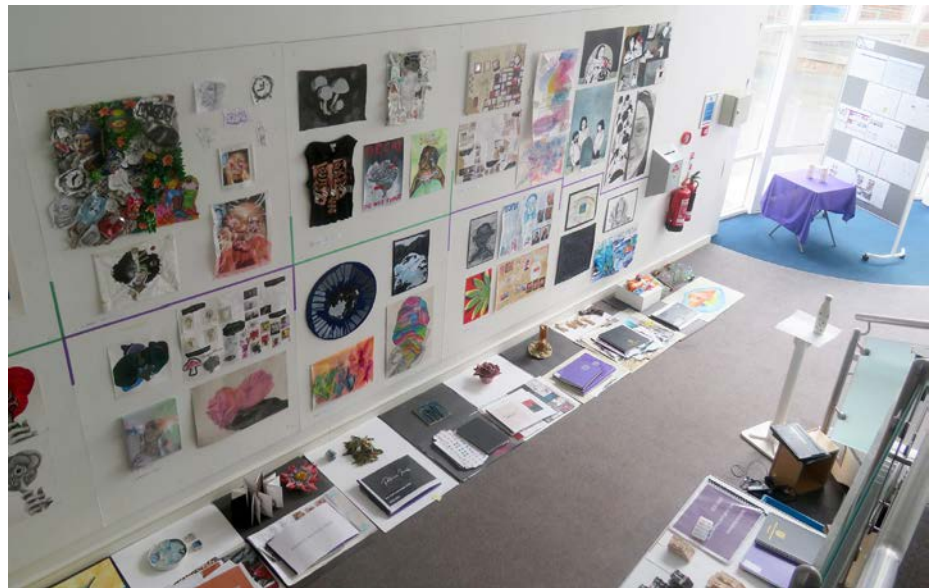
The 2022 Art GCSE and A Level show took place on Thursday 23 June. It was wonderful to show case the talents of all involved and celebrate their artistic and photographic achievements from the past two years.

What really struck me was the diversity of the individuals work and how that even with lockdowns and remote learning at times they have developed in skills and achieved so much to be proud of. The ceramics and darkroom; wet photography

work were particularly exciting with hands suspended by snakes and films projected through origami gulls hung in a human form complete with vocal soundtrack.

Congratulations to all the students who were part of this years show for such impressive work and I look forward to seeing where your creativity takes you next!

Mrs Broad



Starburst Cricket Festival



Students took part in a Starburst Cricket Festival at Beddington Cricket Club on Thursday. 18 schools took part from all over Surrey.

On arrival it was raining! Having not had any rain for a few days – this was quite unusual. But it soon cleared and play got underway.

For the morning session, schools were in a group of three and played an 8 over innings pairs match with each.

Old Palace v Surbiton High was a win

Old Palace v Guildford High A Team was a loss – BUT Guildford High then went on to win the whole event.

During the lunch break Eva Gray – a Hundred Player from the Oval Invincibles answered questions from players about her playing career and women's cricket.

In the afternoon, schools were grouped together with schools who had had similar outcomes in the morning session. This meant we were playing Croydon High, Howard of Effingham and Kingsdale.

Old Palace v Croydon High was a WIN!

Old Palace v Howard was a WIN!

Old Palace v Kingsdale was a loss – but a good match.

We are waiting to hear our overall placing. Players learned a great deal through the experience; they learnt about teamwork and communication, about getting over making mistakes and about risk taking. The team were a credit to the school and worked really hard together!

Well done to:

Tahlia, Arabella, Hannah, Sanvi, Meera, Iqra, Zara, Sahana and Isobel.



In the cricket tournament today our first match was against Surbiton High and we won. We then played Guildford but sadly lost. We then had a lunch break where we had a Q&A with Eva Gray, a Surrey Cricket bowler. After this we played Croydon High and were very happy to get a win. This was a huge achievement for us. After this match we had two left, the first against Howard. This resulted in another win. To our disappointment our last match against Kingsdale was a loss but we enjoyed every second of the day.

Players: Hannah (Year 10), Sanvi (Year 10), Meera (Year 10), Tahlia (Year 10), Iqra (Year 9), Zara (Year 9), Arabella (Year 9), Sahana (Year 9) and Isobel (Year 8)

Hannah, Year 10

Year 7: Croydon Athletics

Some of the Year 7 Students were invited to come to Croydon Athletics. The students competed in a variety of different races and did extremely well.

Natalya came 2nd in the 200m. Annie and Bella both came second in the 800m race bringing back two silver medals. Kara came 2nd in the high jump and Bella came 2nd in the Discus - also winning a silver medal.

The students should be extremely proud of themselves. Fantastic results overall!



Year 10: Success in the Biology Challenge

Year 10 took part in an external competition, the Biology Challenge, this term.

They answered questions from their school Biology knowledge but the competition also rewards those students whose knowledge of the subject has been increased by reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes, taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest and generally being aware of the plants and animals around them.

Pictured are all of our certificate winners but a special mention must go to Rebecca C-I, Jevi and Neha who gained silver medals, placing them in the top 15% in the UK.

Well done Year 10.

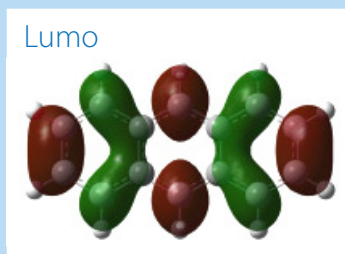
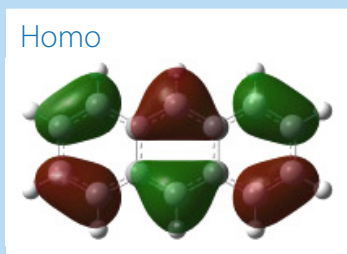




Kenichi Fukui



Kenichi Fukui was born October the 4th 1918 and was a Japanese chemist. He is known as the first Asian person to be awarded a Nobel Prize in Chemistry. He was born in Nara, Japan. In his student years, his interest stemmed from quantum mechanics and Erwin Scrodinger's famous equation. He was a professor of physical chemistry at Kyoto University. As well as that, he was the President of the Chemical Society of Japan from 1983-84.¹



At that time, the main electronic theory was by Robert Robinson and Christopher Ingold. Fukui's professor, Haruo Shingu showed Fukui that there were some flaws in the theories.² Fukui then tested naphthalene, which is the simplest polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon.³ He realised that this hydrocarbon did not support the Robinson-Ingold electronic theory. By using Hückle's molecular orbital method, he calculated the electron density of a naphthalene molecule and realised that the area of highest electron density of the molecule was where the chemical reaction took place. Fukui calculated the electron density of other hydrocarbon molecules such as anthracene, pyrene and perylene and noticed that his results matched his theory.²

Fukui was the co-recipient of the 1981 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Ronald Hoffman, for their investigation into the mechanisms of chemical reactions. He also received multiple awards aside from his Nobel Prize such as Japan Academy Prize in 1962, Person of Cultural Merit in 1981, Imperial Honour of Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun in 1988 and many others.¹

In 1952, Fukui wrote a paper explaining his theory. He said that the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) of one reactant and the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) of another reactant are crucial in chemical reactions. These two orbitals were the frontier orbitals and the reaction depended on the geometry and relative energies of the frontier orbitals.²

1 The Nobel Prize, <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/1981/fukui/facts/>. (accessed May 2022)

2 International Workshop on the History of Chemistry.

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/1981/fukui/facts/>. (accessed May 2022)

3 Wikipedia, Naphthalene - Wikipedia, (accessed May 2022)

4 Britannia, <https://schooleb.co.uk/levels/advanced/article/Fukui-Kenichi/35605>. (accessed May 2022)

<https://ars.els-cdn.com/content/image/1-s2.0-B9780128188064000024-f05-09-9780128188064.jpg> (accessed June 2022)



Dance Leadership

A huge well done to the 15 students in Year 11 who have been awarded their Level 1 Dance Leadership.

Over the two year programme the dancers have developed their dance technique and choreographic skills, as well as participating in range of performances. They have learnt how to plan and lead effective and enjoyable dance sessions and have demonstrated this through practice on many different occasions (including online on Teams during lockdown!).

The students have shown a great increase in their leadership skills and self-confidence. We wish them all the best in future and hope that many continue on with their leadership journey next year, with the Gold Arts Award qualification offered at Sixth Form.



Explore and Bronze Arts Award



This year we had a total of 98 students who were entered for the Arts Award moderation, Year 6 completing Explore and Year 9 completing the Bronze award. We are proud to announce that all 98 students were successful and passed their courses with great praise and feedback from the moderator!

All groups completed their qualifications during the academic year and participated in many different research, choreography, performance and leadership opportunities. The students worked extremely hard to complete a written portfolio logbook alongside their practical work and included a range of sophisticated and mature reflective tasks, evaluations and arts reviews.

Feedback from the Arts Award moderator:

"It is evident from the student responses that they have thoroughly enjoyed this experience with good levels of articulate responses around what they enjoyed/learnt throughout the various sections."

Certificates will be given out or sent home at the beginning of next term.

A huge well done to the students and the Dance department!



Induction Day: A Warm Welcome to our New Year 7s



Year 9: Cultural Dishes

Year 9 have been making an assortment of cultural dishes in their Food Nutrition lessons. They look delicious!



English Schools' Football Association County Girls Champions Cup Plate Final



I was selected to represent Surrey county in the English Schools' Football Association U16 County Girls champions Cup Plate Final . The match was played at the Sixways Stadium - Worcester, which is the home of Worcester Warriors rugby club. Surrey faced off with a very strong and well drilled Hampshire county team. The match was even but Surrey came out on top - thanks to a neatly taken penalty in the second half. Final score was 1-0 to Surrey.

This was a great opportunity to represent Surrey county at the national level in a football game, given the fact that I turned down the opportunity to represent Surrey county in the inter-county athletics competition due to a clash in schedule. There is no regret on my part, as my team won the game and I can proudly say that 'I am now an English schools national champion and proud of my medal'

Bethany, Year 10

Meet our Head Girls

One of the duties of our Head Girls is to give a talk at Open Morning about their personal experience of life at Old Palace.

On Thursday, Alison and Suraiya did just that to a room full of prospective parents at our first Open Event of the new season.

They received a huge round of applause from parents, which was very well deserved.



This week in History...
Section 28 repealed in Scotland

On 21 June, 2000, the new Scottish government repealed the law passed by Margaret Thatcher in 1988 that had banned the teaching of LGBT relationships in schools. England would repeal the law 3 years later in 2003.

Maths Puzzle Fun

To open this safe, you have to replace the question marks with the correct figures. You can find each figure by determining the pattern behind the numbers shown.



Answer on page 14

Summer Concert



On Monday the 20th of July, the Music department put on the final concert of the academic year – the Summer Concert at Croydon Minster. This included sparkling performances from a number of department ensembles and three fantastic solo items from students. The concert started with two orchestral numbers from Training Orchestra who performed Holst's Mars from his Planets Suite, and Senior Orchestra who performed the first movement from Mozart's *Symphony No. 40 in G minor*. These well known pieces are challenging and both ensembles played with real flair. It was clear that lots of rehearsal and practice had gone in to these performances and it was also great to see the progression of the young musicians as they grow throughout their time in the school.

There were three wonderful choir performances throughout the concert, including Year 7 – 8 Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir. Year 7 – 8 Choir performed *Speechless* from the new Aladdin live-action film



and Senior Choir performed a lively arrangement of *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. Chamber Choir Performed Eric Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Lovesongs* and were joined Jessica Morgenstern in Year 13 who played the virtuosic violin accompaniment and Amira Blake in Year 8 who played the tambourine and performed a spoken passage in Hebrew in the fourth movement.

The department's smaller ensembles included the Clarinet Trio and the Brass Ensemble. The Brass Ensemble performed a lively rendition of ABBA's hit *Mama Mia*, directed and arranged by Ms Duncan. The Clarinet Trio directed by Miss Orr produced a very impressive performance of the challenging *Woodwind Revels* by Endresen.

The soloists in the concert each performed with confidence and poise. Catherine in Year 7 sang *Linden Lea* by Vaughan Williams beautifully; Ines in Year 8 played Mollenhauer's challenging *The Boy Paganini, Fantasia* on the violin with verve and energy;



Anna in Year 12 played Debussy's *La Plus Que Lente* on the piano with subtlety and musicality and Ria in Year 12 sang *Roxie* from the musical *Chicago* with star quality.

The concert ended with a summer festival spirit, with the fabulous Steel Pans Ensemble performing lively arrangements of *Mash Up* by Blaxx and *Get Lucky* by Daft Punk.

This year's Summer Concert was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their solo and ensemble work over the past term, and left performers and audience members with smiles on their faces.

Congratulations to the Music Department staff and peripatetic teachers who helped prepare the musical items, and thank you to the teaching staff, SLT, Caretaking Team and administrative staff who continue to support the department, and without whom these concerts would not be possible.

Maths Puzzle Fun page 13 Answer

1 and 2. Every number on the bottom row is the number above it minus 3.

The winner last time was Onaisa in Year 7.

Don't Forget...

...term finishes next Thursday, 7 July.

Students will be dismissed at 12 noon.

Have a lovely holiday, everyone.