



# AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



As we approach the end of this half term; my first six weeks as Head of Prep, we do so with smiles on our faces at all we have achieved in such a short space of time. Prep is

always buzzing with excitement and the last week has been no exception. We have all enjoyed lunch time feasts from other cultures, where I have been able to try foods I have never had before, including plantain and jollof rice. The kitchen team make such an incredible effort with their menus, particularly our themed days, and we are all grateful for the shared experiences this provides.

The whole of Prep also enjoyed a beautifully calm start to the day on Wednesday, with the Diwali assembly, organised by Mrs Bhatt.

Finally, our brilliant Year 6 girls have enjoyed their residential at PGL this week and returned full of stories of fun from the adventure. With huge thanks to the team that

accompanied them and kept them safe and well, in particular Miss Jenkins for all her hard work with planning and executing such an amazing residential adventure.

My highlight of the week was without doubt the soloists' concert on Wednesday evening; I had absolutely no idea Old Palace Prep has so many talented musicians and I spent the whole concert absolutely bursting with pride and struggling not to stand up and join in!

We wish all our families a lovely half term break, whatever their plans, and we look forward to seeing you all return on Monday 31st October.

**Mrs Jodene Panteli**  
Head of Preparatory

## London Fire Brigade and Metropolitan Police Visit



## London Fire Brigade and Metropolitan Police Visit *continued*

Reception and Pre School enjoyed a very exciting week learning about our wider community and the people who help us. The girls were thrilled to receive visits from the London Fire Brigade and the Metropolitan Police.

Red Watch from Croydon Fire station arrived on the school field with sirens blazing and flashing lights. All the girls had a chance to climb into the fire engine and have a go with the hose.

The firefighters explained their job demonstrating some of the equipment they use including a very large pair of scissors that they use to cut people out of crashed cars!



PCSO Nelson and PC Mia came the following day, they showed the class the heavy vest they have to wear and the items they carry including hand cuffs and baton, girls tried on the hats that were different styles for women and men.

Reception had some interesting questions for our visitors including; How do you catch criminals? Why is fire orange? How do you put fires out?



## Black History Month: Author's online visit to Reception



Author Sharnette Donacien, read her colourful picture book, 'Ada's Wash Day', in an online visit.

She told us all about her journey to becoming an author and how her daughter inspired her to write this story about a girl who learns to love her afro hair.



## Year 12 Sports Leaders: A visit to Year 1

Year 12 Sports Leaders visited Year 1 at the Prep site to practice their leadership skills!

Year 1 had a great time doing the activities planned and delivered by the Year 12 students and particularly enjoyed the banana game! You can see them in the photo doing their banana impressions!

Well done to Megan and Ria who led the session and thanks to Mrs Coster and Year 1 for letting us be involved!



## Year 6: Black History Month - African Drumming

Last Monday, the whole of Prep participated in an energetic, musically themed assembly led by Mrs Wellington.

The students learnt about the African roots of music genres such as rock and roll and rhythm and blues.

Special guest, musician Mawuli (noeldrum.wixsite.com) led a call and response and movement session which brought smiles to everyone's faces.

Years 1 – 6 enjoyed class workshops where they experienced the thrill of traditional djembe drumming.



## Prep: European Day of Languages

It has been a busy day in Prep for European Language Day. All year groups were involved in different activities. Year 6 had a Tongue Twister Contest, and Aayana in 6W and Jovian in 6S won the contest reading fluently three tongue twisters in Italian, Spanish and French in 12 seconds!



Karlie, Year 6J

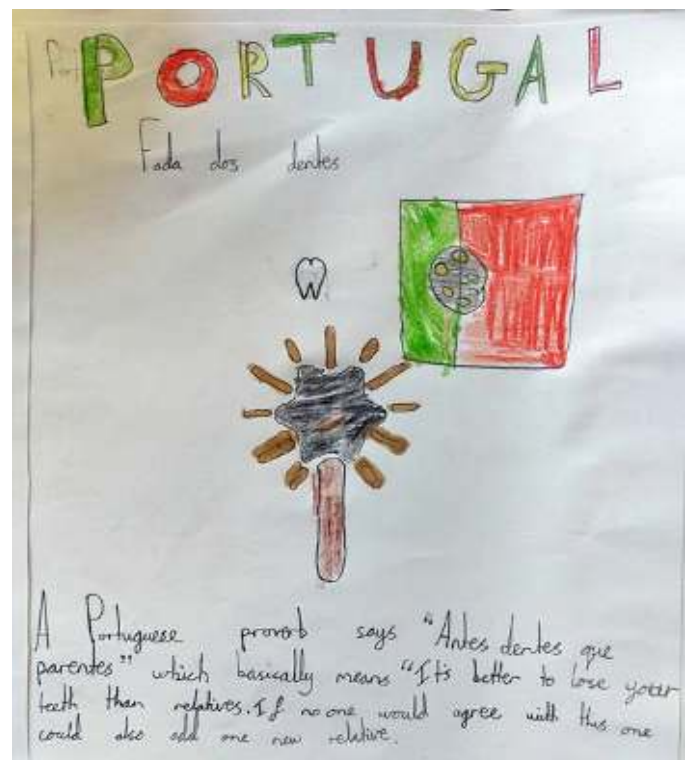
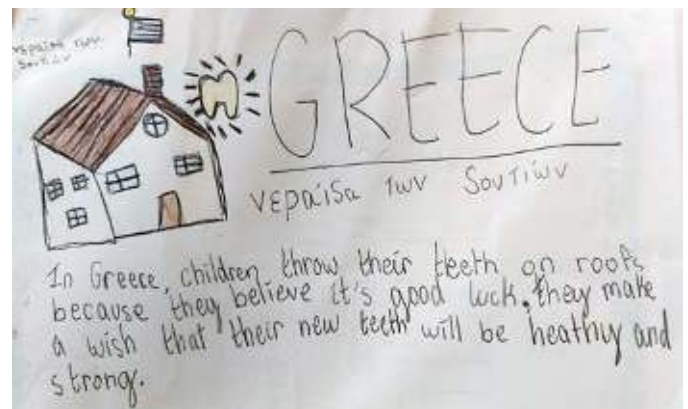


Aayana, Year 6S

Year 5 researched fun facts on different countries and shared in class.



Year 4 researched which countries subscribe to the myth of the tooth fairy and which have other traditions (for example, in France, it is a mouse who takes the tooth away).



Year 3 learned how to say hello in 22 languages

## Prep Cross Country

The conditions were perfect last week for the Years 1-4 Cross Country at Lloyd Park.

The sun was shining in the morning when the Year 1 and 2 pupils took on the 100m challenge.

Well done to all the competitors but a special mention to Amelia in Year 2 who came 6th

By the afternoon the weather was windy but that did not stop the girls in Year 3 and 4 working hard.

A super effort by all runners but special congratulations to Lana in Year 3 who came 2nd and Ellie in Year 4 who came 5th.

Super work girls.



## Year 4: Viking Shields

Year 4 pupils have been making Viking Shields for their Invasion topic.



## Trinity Orchestra Day

On Sunday 9th October, five Old Palace Prep students joined an orchestra of over eighty junior school students from across London for the Trinity School Junior Orchestral day. Hiru, Tamalia, Ellie, Abigail, and Victoria joined a throng of like-minded musicians to learn three pieces in just one day!

They played *Finlandia*, a piece about Sweden by Sibelius; a super fun medley of Ghostbusters theme tune and the *Monster Mash*; and finished on a high with Offenbach's *Can-Can*.

There were so many instruments to hear including, double bass, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, French horn and the viola. The whole day culminated in a fun concert to family and friends.

Thank you to Trinity School and staff for putting on such a great day!



## Black History Month: Food

The Catering team at Prep is a proud mix of nationalities from all corners of the world. During Black History Month, staff were able to celebrate their heritage by making authentic West African and West Indian dishes. The team introduced the spices of Jamaican jerk chicken and plantain together with West African jollof rice, black bean stew and spiced banana cake for dessert.

Pictured: Margaret (Ghanaian) Alma (Lithuanian) Georgina (Ghanaian) Paul (Jamaican)



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## Year 2: Baking Bread for Harvest Festival

In DT, Year 2 learnt about the tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival and enjoyed making individual loaves of bread. With a helping hand from 'Chef', the girls moulded their dough into plaits, faces and other interesting shapes.

**Michaela:** *I shared my loaf with my family after we warmed it up. Delicious. Now I know how to make bread, I would like the recipe so that I can make it at home.*

**Katherine:** *The yeast really made the bread rise!*

**Sienna:** *My mum enjoyed the bread too. I spread marmalade on my slice...Yummy!*



## Prep Soloists Concert

On Wednesday after school, twenty-two students in Years 3, 4 and 5 delighted their families with very detailed and polished performances in the first Prep Soloists Concert of the year. With composers ranging from Bach, Vivaldi and Beethoven to a jazz piece by Bill Holcombe, Peter Jenkyns and 'Maybe' from the show 'Annie' there was something for everyone with such an eclectic mix of pieces in the programme. It was fantastic to see and hear the progress the students are

making. Congratulations to everyone who took part!



## Year 5: Netball v Seaton House

Pupils in Year 5 enjoyed a lovely afternoon of netball development with a series of matches against Seaton House.

It was great to see everyone enjoying the experience of a full game of netball.



## Year 5 & 6: Football Tournament



Year 5 and 6 girls enjoyed a super afternoon at the Royal Russell football tournament on Thursday.

The girls improved so much as the afternoon went on and there were plenty of wins all round for both the A and B Teams. The B Team were overall tournament winners. Congratulations everyone.

A massive thank you to all the parents for their support on the side lines!



## Prep: Photography Club

Pupils in the Prep Photography Club have been working with colour cube designs to explore different viewpoints.

They also used the exercise to practise focusing the camera, ensuring that only essential elements filled the frame.

