



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



Happy New Year to all Old Palace families if it is not too far into January to say that! The new term has started with a great deal of purposefulness and enthusiasm. Years 11, 12 and 13s have been doing their all-important mock exams and have been working very hard.

As the Bulletin illustrates, alongside this there has been the usual positive engagement with extra-curricular activities (including the famous Old Palace Bake Off) by students across all

age ranges. I hope that you enjoy reading the various reports.

You will also see that we have the school production of *Jane Eyre* the week after next. Please do come along and enjoy an evening of superb drama. Tickets are available via WisePay.

Jane Burton, Head

Winners of the House Bake Off - Year 9 Anselm



Year 10: GCSE Science Live!



Last December, a group of Year 10 students attended the GCSE Science Live! lectures, where we heard scientists talk about their various areas of interest:

Talks included: Space travel and Supernovas (by Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock), ancient burial sites, and how to tell age, causes of injuries, sex and height from looking at a skeleton (Professor Alice Roberts) and Time travel (with Professor Jim Al-Khalili). It was interesting to learn that both Time travel into the future and the past are possible but restricted by technology. The Chief Examiner taught us how to

answer GCSE examination questions and focused on command words, which was very helpful. Professor Andrea Sella answered the question 'how did the zebra get its stripes?' and did many demonstrations, which was very exciting. Many of us found Professor Lord Robert Winston's talk the most interesting. He explored IVF, and we got to watch the first cells of now-adults multiply, which was amazing!

We loved visiting Science Live! It was a very academic and exceptional tour of Science which we felt extremely lucky to have experienced. All the speakers caught our attention as we discovered the different aspects of Science.

Here are what some of our fellow students said:

"Professor Alice Roberts was my favourite speaker as I loved finding out about the numerous and various bones in the human body"

"The trip was really fun especially because Science was portrayed and explained to us with such enthusiasm"

"I really enjoyed listening to the first speaker - especially about astronomy"

"Science Live was one of the most beneficial and fascinating trips I've ever been on"

Overall, it was a fun day out and we all learnt something new!

Dana and Natalie, Year 10

Years 8-10: House Bake Off

Last week saw the return of the annual House Bake Off competition in which teams representing the four Old Palace Houses from Years 8, 9, and 10 donned their aprons, rolled up their sleeves, and put their baking skills to the test. Up for grabs were the three Best in Year honours and the much-coveted Overall Winner award.

This year's theme was school subjects and the three teams of bakers and decorators did not disappoint. There were mathematical equations, splashes of paint on palettes, swimmers in a cake-sized fondant pool, and even a volcano eruption rendered in icing and sponge.

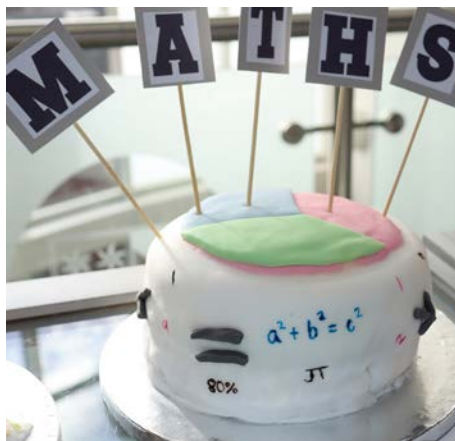
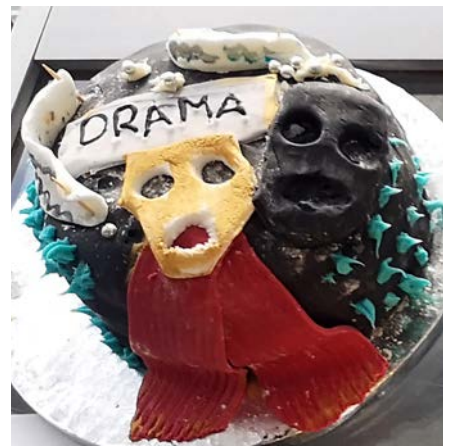
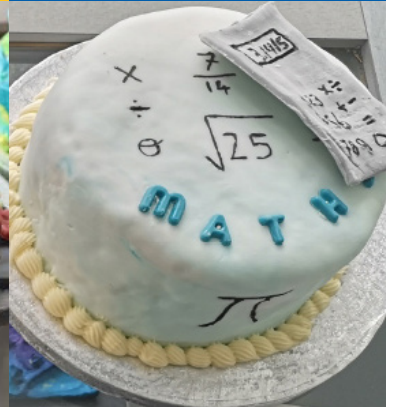
pictures on next page



Best in Year 8
Hatton

Best in Year 9 Anselm
Best Cake Overall Winner

Best in Year 10
Stafford



Prep: Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr Day

I have a dream...

This Monday, the 16th January, was Martin Luther King Jr Day - a national holiday in America. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion prefects, Michaela, Jovien and Jessica, created and delivered an interactive presentation to the whole school. Dressed as the

Civil Rights Leader, Jessica delivered part of King's well-known speech, 'I have a dream'. The prefects helped the students to imagine how unfair it was for many black people in 1960s America by asking everyone in PE kit to stand and enjoy imaginary treats whilst those in school uniform were excluded from privileges.

Everyone stood up and marched as the whole school re-enacted the 1963 march on Washington DC.

The prefects closed the assembly with a song by Elvis Presley, 'If I can Dream'.



Year 7: Art & DT Workshop for Whitgift House

Art and DT ran a workshop for Year 7 to create their own Christmas cards. In the Art studio they created foam prints with a bauble design on, while in DT they painted laser cut baubles and decorated them with patterns. Mrs Evangeli took the outcomes to Whitgift House to give to their residents for Christmas. Thank you to everyone who took part!



A Letter from Mrs Panteli



Dear all,

What a wonderful week at Prep this has been! We've taken a trip back to 1963 and marched on Washington, we've been inventors at lunch time and so much more!

It was so lovely to wave the Year 5 and 6 girls off to their big night at the O2 arena this morning and we can't wait to hear all about it.

This week has also seen the launch of this term's character development focus of bravery; Mrs Coster led an excellent assembly and helped the girls to understand what it truly means to be brave.

The staff now all have their detective hats on and will be looking out for acts of bravery amongst the girls, which will later be rewarded with the bravery lapel badge.

Mrs Jodene Panteli
Head of Preparatory

Years 3-6: UK Power Networks Workshops

On Tuesday, pupils in Years 3-6 took part in two extremely valuable and potentially life-saving workshops on how to stay safe around electricity.

Safety advisors from UK Power Networks, which distributes electricity across the South East, visited Prep to highlight the importance of the power network and the dangers of high voltage electricity. Ros Forbes, the safety advisor who visited Old Palace, said: "Our safety sessions open children's eyes to the wonders of electricity, while alerting them to the potential hazards to help them stay safe around electricity throughout their lives. We discuss why electricity is so important and how it gets to our schools and homes through overhead and underground cables.

We talk about the risks that come with electricity and the kind of hazards they might encounter during recreational activities.

We also show children how to identify our equipment, discuss what the yellow Danger of Death sign means and why they should ring us on 105 if they ever spot a hazard on the electricity network, such as a power line brought down in a storm. We also get them to make an electrical circuit to show how electricity works and we take along our safety clothing, to try on and talk about the different jobs in the industry, which might interest them in the future."

Thank you so much, UK Power Networks, for these really interesting workshops.



Old Palace Cheerleaders



Old Palace girls performed at their first Cheerleading Competition for the year on Saturday 14th January.

They came 4th in the Future Cheerleading Competition.

Congratulations to Aashita, Elise, Keyala, Isabella and Sienna.

Inventors' Day

To recognise Inventors' Day at Prep, on Tuesday 17th January we set the pupils in Years 1 – 6 the challenge of inventing the most creative and exciting pudding possible.

The girls did not disappoint and used a variety of component ingredients to create really spectacular desserts for themselves.

Mrs Coster, Mrs Panteli, Mrs Elliott and Miss Gallagher took the role of chief inventors and supervised the spectacular lunchtime 'Invention Station'.

Many thanks to the Holroyd Howe team for putting on such a great event for the girls and for including so many ingredients for them to invent with.



Community News

Class of 2022 Reunion

We were delighted to welcome back many of our Class of 2022 on 5th January, for a mini reunion and to celebrate their A level results.

It was fantastic to hear what new adventures the students have embarked upon over the last six months, including travel, starting new jobs, gaining work experience and embarking on university courses (including the challenges of moving away from home). We wish them all the very best this year!



Charity Thanks

Thank you to everyone across the Old Palace community who donated to our 'Twelve Days of Christmas' charity campaign.

I am delighted to confirm that the school collected another huge pile of food items for the local food Salvation Army food bank, in addition to £770 from our fun activities and Christmas Jumper Day donations.

We added an additional £500 to this, using half of the money originally saved from the (sadly cancelled due to Covid) Minster Meal campaign last Christmas.

This meant that our four Croydon charities: Crisis, Salvation Army, Nightwatch and Croydon Refugee centre each received a £320 donation in December, to support the Croydon community.



CCF Training

Year 10 CCF cadets began their NCO training this weekend, participating in a course at Whitgift School.

Becoming an NCO (non-commissioned officer) is a rigorous challenge. Not only do the cadets have to demonstrate their own skills in navigation, drill and weapons handling, but they also learn how to lead a platoon of younger cadets, and how to teach new cadets these skills.



La Fête des Rois

Last week, Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a cultural lesson on La Fête des Rois (Epiphany). After learning how this day is celebrated on the 6th of January in France, they created and coloured their own "couronne".

Jaycee, in Year 4 wrote...



Year 7: Cross Country



Well done to Ellie in Year 7 who is an athlete competing for Croydon Harriers. Ellie has competed in a number of distance events for Croydon Harriers including a meet at Lloyd Park where she ran a great time in very difficult conditions.

Ellie says: *I was selected to participate in the Surrey County Cross Country at Lloyd Park on behalf of Croydon Harriers. It was a very wet and muddy course. I enjoyed the event and I look forward to other events during the month.*

Ellie came 3rd in the Croydon Schools Cross Country back in October. As a result, she has been selected to run for North Croydon at the Surrey Schools Cross Country at Reigate Park on Saturday 21st January. Good luck Ellie!

We always like to hear of how students are doing outside school in their chosen physical activity so please keep us updated.

Open Mornings

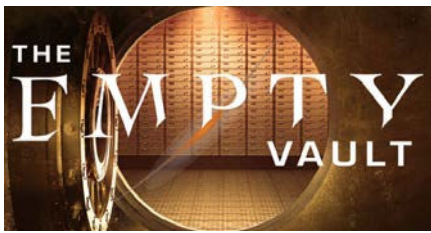


Pre School & Preparatory (4+)

Thursday 2 February: 9.00am-10.30am
Thursday 23 March: 9.00am-10.30am

Meet the Head + tour of the school

To book, go to:
www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days



Year 10

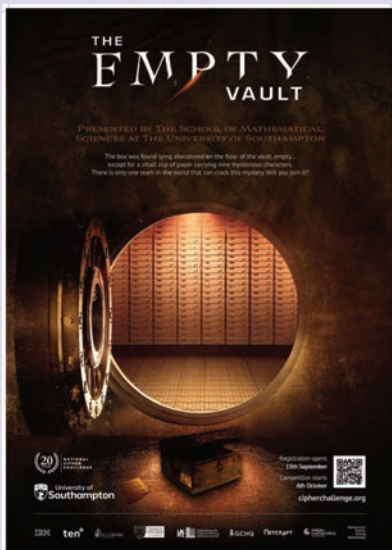
Recently in lessons, we have been doing The National Cipher Challenge. This competition involves a lot of schools from around the world. You have to solve a code in order to figure out the original messages that were sent.

Part A is always slightly easier than Part B in order to warm us up for the true challenge. We use a range of different techniques to assist us in solving the encoded message.

Year 10 and Year 12 have been taking part, and we have all been enjoying it thoroughly, and have been very engaged in the competition. So far we have been challenged with figuring out how to solve the codes. Several people, including ourselves, have been encouraged to research other paths into cyber safety and cryptography due to these complex encryptions.

Currently, we are joint first. We are excited to get started on the next challenge and to see how we are placed overall. Most of all, we are looking forward to the final challenge, and the difficulties that will come with it.

Zara and Arabella, Year 10



LEADERBOARD

Total Overall Leaderboard A	Old Palace of John Whitgift School (Cro...	Filter by Team
FINAL PLACINGS		
POSITION	TEAM	SCHOOL
1	Bakugo	Old Palace of John Whitgift School (Croydon)
-1	TGL (TheGreenLadies)	Old Palace of John Whitgift School (Croydon)
-1	The Pumpkins	Old Palace of John Whitgift School (Croydon)

Year 12

During our A Level Computer Science lessons we have been working on The Cipher Challenge. This is a national Cryptography competition, held by Southampton University. This year's theme is called 'The Empty Vault'. It allows you to compete against different schools, and people working independently. The competition is split up into challenges A and B, with there being 10 challenges in total. It starts with simple encrypted messages to crack, making you believe that the entire competition will be a smooth ride. Although the difficulty does increase, apart from the unique storyline it follows, this is part of what makes the competition worth it.

Entering this competition was a steep learning curve. This is because we had learnt a multitude of ciphers so we could participate, such as the Vigenère cipher, Hill cipher, and different variations of a Transposition cipher. I will be explaining the Vigenère cipher, a type of substitution cipher. Encrypting text can be done with a Vigenère square, or Vigenère table. This could be a table of different alphabets written out twenty-six

times, shifted to the left, above or beside the previous alphabet. This may sound complicated, but to make this simpler, you could create a program to do this for you. Up until halfway through the challenge, we had little knowledge of how much of this could help in terms of possible career choices. This includes working in military, national, and cybersecurity systems, and more.

For every challenge that we've completed, we have managed to place 1st on the individual leader boards. The scoring system uses accuracy and speed to determine where people will be placed on them. The system will then take these results, and use them to create the final leader board for the overall challenge. Our fast progress was good news for us because it meant that we were making tremendous progress, even though we were relatively new to this concept. I would definitely recommend entering this competition, especially if you take an interest in solving complicated problems, maths, or computer science. So far, we are placed joint first out of hundreds of teams nationally.

Benetta, Year 12

University of Southampton Faculty of Mathematical Studies

Challenge 1

Challenge 2

Challenge 3

Challenge 4

Challenge 5

Challenge 6

Challenge 7

Challenge 8

Challenge 9

Challenge 10

Challenge 11

Challenge 12

Challenge 13

Challenge 14

Challenge 15

Challenge 16

Challenge 17

Challenge 18

Challenge 19

Challenge 20

Challenge 21

Challenge 22

Challenge 23

Challenge 24

Challenge 25

Challenge 26

Challenge 27

Challenge 28

Challenge 29

Challenge 30

Challenge 31

Challenge 32

Challenge 33

Challenge 34

Challenge 35

Challenge 36

Challenge 37

Challenge 38

Challenge 39

Challenge 40

Challenge 41

Challenge 42

Challenge 43

Challenge 44

Challenge 45

Challenge 46

Challenge 47

Challenge 48

Challenge 49

Challenge 50

Challenge 51

Challenge 52

Challenge 53

Challenge 54

Challenge 55

Challenge 56

Challenge 57

Challenge 58

Challenge 59

Challenge 60

Challenge 61

Challenge 62

Challenge 63

Challenge 64

Challenge 65

Challenge 66

Challenge 67

Challenge 68

Challenge 69

Challenge 70

Challenge 71

Challenge 72

Challenge 73

Challenge 74

Challenge 75

Challenge 76

Challenge 77

Challenge 78

Challenge 79

Challenge 80

Challenge 81

Challenge 82

Challenge 83

Challenge 84

Challenge 85

Challenge 86

Challenge 87

Challenge 88

Challenge 89

Challenge 90

Challenge 91

Challenge 92

Challenge 93

Challenge 94

Challenge 95

Challenge 96

Challenge 97

Challenge 98

Challenge 99

Challenge 100

ABRSM Music Exam Results

First name	Form	Instrument	Grade	Overall Result
Paavana	5J	Violin	Initial grade	Merit
Amira	9L	Piano	1	Pass
Lana	3J	Piano	Initial grade	Distinction
Tamalia	6J	Clarinet	3	Pass
Aarna	9H	Singing	5	Merit
Eleanor	4J	Violin	4	Distinction
Lola-Marie	7S	Singing	3	Distinction
Sarah	12A	Flute	7	Merit
Afua Serwa	8H	Violin	3	Pass
Tiffany	11S	Singing	5	Merit
Tia-Amelie	8S	Singing	3	Merit
Riya	9H	Piano	1	Merit
Prisha	10H	Violin	5	Pass
Tusara	10H	Violin	5	Pass



Year 7: What is L'Épiphanie?

L'Épiphanie is a celebration within the French culture that is celebrated on the 6th of January (12 days after Christmas). This is also when the Three Wise Men arrived in Bethlehem guided by the star, bearing gifts for the infant known as baby Jesus.

In France, to celebrate this special occasion, they will eat a dessert known as 'la Galette des Rois' and within the dessert will be a mini figure symbolising an element of the Three Wise Men. If found within the cake you will wear a crown making you king or queen for the day. We made these crowns a day prior to the event and it was a nice experience and we all enjoyed learning about this new festive holiday.

Mya-Rose, Year 7



I really enjoyed learning about L'Épiphanie. I loved learning about the galettes and how you could win a little miniature toy! I loved making the crowns because it taught me more about Epiphany! I would like to thank Madame Poirier; I really enjoyed learning about it. Tahlia

In French, we have been learning about a holiday called L'Épiphanie. The lesson inspired me to bake my own galette and to teach my family about French culture. It was really fun, and I think I was successful with it. Learning about this festival has been so exciting and inspiring for me. Ruby



U13 Indoor Cricket Competition



On Tuesday, an U13 Team from Old Palace went to the Bank of England Sports Centre in Roehampton to play in an Indoor Cricket Competition organised by Surrey Cricket Development.

The teams taking part all had a lot of experience and a number of club players – but we did really well and enjoyed it. The Sports Hall was freezing (Mrs Smith added this!). We all did a fantastic job in fielding and bowling. Many wickets were taken, and there was amazing batting from Mahnoor and Inaaya K.

Well done to Mahnoor who scored at least two fours. Although we were against teams that were stronger than us we applied the skills that we learnt from The Cricket Club and had a good time working together.

Inaaya H, Year 8

Well done to the team – Inaaya H, Inaaya K, Mahnoor, Minal, Dhisha (all in Year 8) and to Mythli, Aksita and Rishita in Year 7.

Inaaya H was named by the umpires as the Old Palace Player of the Team – well done!

Mrs Smith

BudoKyokushinkai.com



KARATE CROYDON



1 Month Free Trial



Fun
Friendship
Self Respect
Discipline
Courage
Confidence
Self Control
Fitness
Self Defence
Flexibility

Strength
Focus
Enjoyment
Coordination
Stress Relief
Energise
Vitalise



Training Times are: Tuesdays - Juniors 6.30pm - Adults 7.30pm Sundays - 10am
1 Month Free Trial to all new beginners. All ages and abilities welcome.
Contact: Darren 077625256417 or email: stringerd1@hotmail.co.uk



**Old Palace of
John Whitgift School**
Independent Girls' School

Charlotte Brontë's
JANE EYRE

ADAPTED BY ROBERT JOHANSON

1st | 2nd | 3rd **February**

Banqueting Hall at 7pm

Tickets via WisePay

£10 adult | **£7.50** concessions



U14 Hockey



The U14 team played in a friendly training match against Croydon High on Monday 9th January. It was the first time some of the students had played in an 11 aside game.

We talked a lot about maintaining our formation and how to set a press on a 16 yard hit out. Old Palace scored two goals which was fantastic. The students have come on tremendously; they have improved their stick skills and spatial awareness on the pitch and it's great to see good team cohesion. Well done Old Palace!

DofE



On 7th January, the Silver and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh candidates took part in a training Day in readiness for their expeditions later this year. They covered First Aid, Equipment needs and how much to carry(!), clothing requirements, the countryside code and expectations

when walking on Private and public pathways and roads, cooking in the outdoors, route mapping and various other essential aspects of going on expedition.

While the training was indoors, the lighting of trangias to practice cooking outside was challenging but realistic in light of the weather.

Well done to all those who completed the training

Maths Puzzle Fun

AB

Each of A, B and C stand for a different number.

AB

What are they?

AB

Answer on page 15

+AB

CA

Year 7: Netball v Caterham



Two Year 7 teams travelled to Caterham to play netball. The weather was wet and drizzly but the players worked well and coped with the conditions. We are still working on combinations and teams and so some players played in both matches.

The students who played in the A team met some determined opponents and it was a very close game. Old Palace worked the ball well into the circle but we need to practice converting opportunities into goals. As a team we also need to work on changing direction and not hiding behind our opponent. The defence players worked really hard. The final score in a low scoring match was 2 – 3 to Caterham. Tianna was named as Player of the Match.

Players who played in the B Team game got off to a steady start – they were 3-2 ahead at the end of the first quarter. There was some excellent shooting in the rest of the game and good movement all down the court. The ball got into the attacking circle a lot due to good interceptions in defence and good attacking moves down the court.

The final score was 14 – 4 to Old Palace! Well done.

Savannah was named as Player of the Match by the opposition.

Match Report

Despite going up against a very powerful school, we did exceptionally well.

During the game I played in the B team, and we won 14-3 -it was amazing! I believe that was one of the best games we have played yet. I was super proud of everyone and I'm sure everybody else could agree with me.

Gracie-Mae, Year 7

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY...

ROE V. WADE

On **January 22, 1973**, the United States Supreme Court announced its decision in the case of *Roe v. Wade*. The ruling made abortion a legal right everywhere in the US. The decision stood until 2022, when it was overturned by the Supreme Court, allowing individual states to choose to ban abortion.



Young Voices

This Thursday, saw the long-awaited return of Young Voices at the O2 Arena.

The pupils in Years 5 & 6 were SO excited at the prospect of a train journey from East Croydon to London.

We look forward to a full report in the next bulletin.



U15 Indoor Cricket

Our U15 team was drawn against Kingston Grammar in our first game of 8-a-side indoor cricket.

They were a strong team with very fast paced bowlers. However, we bowled first and did really well; working hard to cut down their score. Batting was tricky with a tumble of early wickets.

Sahana did well scoring a number of runs including a four. After a break we played Charterhouse North Dulwich. Again we fielded really well and wickets were taken. Sahana took a wicket on her first ball. Batting is our weak area at the moment so we didn't manage to win the game but gained some good experience and highlighted things to work on.

Well done to Arabella, Iqra, Fatima, Zara T, Sahana, Zara T (Year 9), Harini, Ava and Maryam.



Year 9: Netball v Croydon High

On Thursday, two Year 9 teams travelled to Croydon High to play some tough opponents at Netball. The weather was terrible and so the matches were held indoors. The A Team played first and held their own initially. Adjustments had to be made to the team due to absence and injury so everyone did well in the positions they were asked to play. It's a cliché to say the score line does not reflect the game (CHS won 11 - 3) but it doesn't!

CHS made more of the opportunities afforded to them in the attacking end. Our defence worked incredibly hard to restrict the score line to this amount. Well done for persevering. Isobel was named as Player of the Match by the opposition.

The B Team made an equally strong start going ahead at the start of the first quarter and some good movement down the court into the attacking end. We then struggled to get the ball out of defence into the attacking end

and, despite some positional changes, our opponents took greater control and went on to win the game 3 - 1. It was a close match though and a good experience. Amira was named as Player of the Match by the opposition.

Well done to: Emilia, Isobel, Zara, Tejaska, Tori, Tejaska, Rhianna, Sapphy, Rosie, Amber, Keona, Ainesis, Olivia, Amira and Tahlyah.



Maths Puzzle Fun page 13 Answer

A = 2 B = 3 C = 9

The winner last time was **Savannah** in Year 7.



Old Palace
PTA

PTA Second-hand School Uniform Sale

At the Prep School in Melville Avenue

Friday, 27th January 2023 | 2.00pm-3.30pm

The PTA is looking for donations of any second-hand, good-quality uniform, books and fancy/dressing-up clothes.

Please bring donations to the Prep School office.





February 2023 Half Term at Old Palace Holiday Club



<p>Monday 13.02.23</p>	<p>Making new friendships and getting to know each other –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and crafts • Mindful yoga • Mindful colouring • Jiggling in the gym • Outside games (weather pending) • Inside board games 	
<p>Tuesday 14.02.23</p>	<p>Valentine's Day –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing your loved ones how much they mean to us. • Writing/learning poems • Singing songs- Old Palace has talent. • Arts and crafts • Cooking • Storytime 	
<p>Wednesday 15.02.23</p>	<p>Join us for a 3-day Swash-Buckling Pirate Adventure -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasure hunt- Will you find the Whitgift Treasure? <i>(Costume optional)</i> • Flag painting • Make your very own telescope • Face painting • Pirate puppet making • Movie afternoon (pirate popcorn available) • Singing sea shanties 	
<p>Thursday 16.02.23</p>		
<p>Friday 17.02.23</p>		

Ahoy Me Hearties! Love what you see?

Then jump aboard ship mates and get on deck!

Be quick to book a place at Holiday Club as places are going faster than the crow flies!

Booking closes on Thursday 9.02.23 PStearn@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk

Bookings after this date are subject to availability, book early to avoid disappointment.