



# AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



As we approach the half-term break I know many of the students at Seniors are looking forward to some rest and I know that it is the same at Prep.

Our A level and GCSE students have been hard at work sitting their all-important exams and other year groups have exams after the break and so have been preparing for these.

Therefore, this Bulletin has been a joy to read as it demonstrates all the other things happening around the school even when the pressure is on.

This is our last Bulletin for a few weeks as we will save up all the news for a 'bumper' edition towards the end of term.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend.

**Jane Burton, Head**

## Croydon Stands Tall *(see page 6)*





## Dimanthi Collects Gold DofE Award at Buckingham Palace



Many congratulations to Year 13 student Dimanthi, who was invited to Buckingham Palace last week to collect her Gold DofE award from The Duke of Edinburgh .

Dimanthi started her Gold DofE just before the pandemic. Dimanthi explained that the Gold DofE is divided into three sections: physical, volunteering and skills. Although she managed to complete the physical (fitness) and skills (piano playing) sections at home, Dimanthi was unable to undertake any volunteering (working in a charity shop for a year) until restrictions lifted, so it did take her longer than usual.

We asked Dimanthi why she would recommend DofE to others, and she said: *"You learn so many skills that will help in the future; for example, when applying for university or a job. I also made lots of friends and overall it was just great fun."*

Dimanthi is currently studying Physics, Maths and Chemistry for A Level and hopes to go to Queen Mary University to study Astrophysics. We wish her all the best in her forthcoming exams.





## Music Award Holder's Workshop and Masterclass Programme

On 10 May, Mr Adam Pettigrew, a member of the BRIT school alumni, and a professional West End performer, actor and teacher, ran a masterclass on musical theatre performance for the final session of this year's Music Award Holders' Workshop and Masterclass programme.

It was a very enjoyable and interesting session as he took us through different vocal exercises using different tones and areas of our voice. Three of us were even given the opportunity to work alongside Mr Pettigrew on a song that we had prepared, and it was amazing how he took certain phrases to another level through just a few simple exercises. It was a great masterclass overall and we all enjoyed it very much.

Chitleen, Year 12



## Year 10 Athletics

Well done to a small team of Year 10 students who travelled to Nonsuch to take part in an individual athletics meet. This was to have some practice in a competition situation but also to collate footage for GCSE PE students.

The sprinters did really well, putting the Nonsuch students slightly on edge as we won a number of heats! Natalie did well in the middle distance event and Leilani smashed the 300m! Well done to the shot putters and to those who competed in the Long Jump – results of those have not come through as yet – and neither have the times for the track events.

Athletes: Leilani, Aimee, Natalie, London, Harmony, Neeha, Madinah, Grace, Harini, Zara-Eden and Nikki.





## U13 Cricket v Nonsuch

The U13 Cricket Squad travelled to Nonsuch on Tuesday to play 8-a-side pairs format cricket.

The A team did really well but came up just 10 runs short – despite taking 5 wickets! Some great bowling and fielding – we just needed a bit more power hitting to challenge for a win.

In the B team everyone had a go at bowling which was good experience but quite costly. Despite this the team took a number of stumpings and run outs but just fell short of a high enough runs total to challenge for a win.

Great experience all round though playing on a much bigger space than normal. Inaaya K and Zara were named Player of the Match by the opposition. Well done!



Squads: Inaaya K, Inaaya H, Mahnoor, Bella, Minal, Emma, Tia-Amelie and Andrea. Zara, Dhisha, Sarra, Shankavi, Arputha, Reya and Evangeline.

On Tuesday 23rd May, Old Palace Year 8 A and B teams went to Nonsuch High School to play two cricket matches. The matches were a great way to improve our bowling and batting skills as well as fielding! There were some excellent shots hit, some game-changing wickets and some nail-biting moments for both schools.

Also, I was awarded Player of the Match from the Nonsuch team, and this has been one of my proudest moments in playing cricket for Old Palace. Even though we lost it was great fun playing the matches and getting some realistic match experience!

**Zara A**

On Tuesday, some Year 8s went to play a match at Nonsuch. On the A team there was some great bowling and we got 4 wickets, meanwhile Nonsuch only got 2. There were some good catches and lots of runs made.

Unfortunately, we lost 59-49 runs, but we have improved a lot since we started in Year 7 and hopefully, we'll win next time.

Well done to Inaaya K who got Player of the Match.

**Mahnoor**

## CCF Annual General Inspection

Here are some more photos from the Annual Inspection at Whitgift.





# Community News

## House Swimming

The exciting annual House swimming event took place this week. It was an amazing show of talent by swimmers in all Houses. The atmosphere was electric on poolside, with swimmers and supporters alike cheering on their Houses. Laud Captain Eavie, Year 10, swam a fantastic race, breaking her own existing Year 9 and 10 Breaststroke record by .34 of a second.

Hatton Captain, Harmony, also broke a record. She swam an impressively commanding race in the Year 7 Butterfly, winning by half a length, breaking the previous record set last year, by just .26 of a second. Several of the races had extremely close finishes, especially the Year 8 Freestyle relay between Laud and Stafford, both finishing a fingernail's distance apart.

Hatton were triumphant, finishing very worthy overall winners with 50 points. Stafford and Laud were joint runners up with 43 points, closely followed by Anselm with 40 points.

Miss Richard was tremendously impressed by everyone's swimming ability! Well done to all those who took part and helpers too!



Winners - Hatton



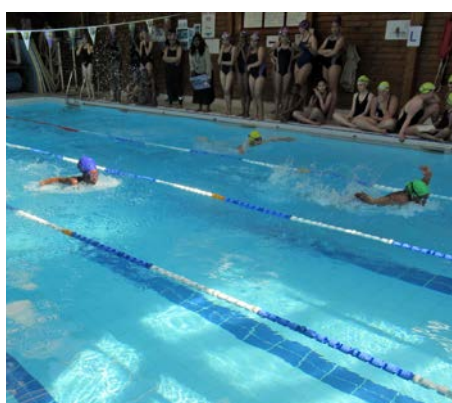
Stafford



Anselm



Laud





## Aadya & Lilla: Croydon Tennis Champions!

Huge congratulations to Aadya and Lilla in Year 4 who combined forces with Elmhurst to battle it out to become Croydon Tennis Champions. Well done girls and boys!



## Croydon Stands Tall



We are taking part in Croydon Stands Tall, one of the largest art trails seen in Croydon in recent years. Old Palace is one of 30 schools taking part and we will be decorating a four-foot tall baby giraffe sculpture which will be displayed across Croydon town centre along with 30 eight-foot tall individually designed sculptures.

After half-term every girl from Pre School to Year 6 will take part in decorating our giraffe. We will also be asking the girls to come up with suggestions for a name for our giraffe, so start thinking now!



Find out more at [www.croydonstandstall.co.uk](http://www.croydonstandstall.co.uk)

Croydon Stands Tall is supporting the work of Crisis Croydon Skylight, who offer vital help with housing, jobs, health and wellbeing to help people facing homelessness. We have set up a just giving page for families if they would like to donate:

[www.justgiving.com/page/old-palace-prep-school](http://www.justgiving.com/page/old-palace-prep-school)



# Preparatory House Music Competition 2023 FINALS

On Thursday, the Preparatory House Music Competition Finals were held in the Assembly Hall after school. 28 finalist performances were chosen across the four categories - Vocal, Piano, Wind and Strings (see full list below). Family and friends came to watch and there were some very accomplished and musical performances throughout.

We welcomed back a familiar face, Miss Pauline Stone, as guest adjudicator this year. She gave a detailed adjudication to each student and girls were rewarded with praise, encouragement and advice.



Overall winning house - **Anselm**  
Tamalia pictured here with the cup

- Winner
- Runner Up

## Vocal Finalists

(in order of performance):

Arabella	6J	Laud
Olivia B	5J	Stafford
Karlie	6W	Laud
Tamalia	6J	Anselm
Holly	5J	Anselm
Ellie	4J	Laud
Aadhya	5J	Laud
Aideen	4J	Anselm

## Piano Finalists

Alice	3J	Hatton
Tamalia	6J	Anselm
Arya	5J	Hatton
Jovien	6J	Hatton
Victoria	3J	Stafford
Ellie	4J	Laud
Holly	5J	Anselm
Abigail	4J	Stafford

Victoria also won a medal for outstanding musicianship.

## Wind Finalists

Tamalia	6J	Clarinet	Anselm
Harriet	4J	Flute	Anselm
Lottie	5J	Trumpet	Laud
Aashna	5J	Flute	Stafford
Sofia	5J	Oboe	Anselm
Avika	6W	Flute	Hatton

## String Finalists

Ellie	4J	Viola	Laud
Victoria	3J	Violin	Stafford
Alice	3J	Harp	Hatton
Abigail	4J	Violin	Stafford
Ariel	5J	Cello	Anselm
Ellie	4J	Violin	Laud

... and from the above list you will probably be able to work out that the overall winning house this year is... ANSELM!

Congratulations to everyone who performed in the finals and a BIG 'Thank You' to Mrs Newlands and Miss Lucas for accompanying the students brilliantly on the piano. All students received a special certificate and prize for making it through to the finals.

Miss Fitzgerald





## Music Festival Success

Four of our very talented Prep musicians have recently competed in local music festivals...



Alice would like to share photographs of her at the recent Reigate and Redhill Music Festival. She was awarded this year's Sidonie Goossens Award for Harp (the shield in the picture). Alice was also awarded medals for the piano and harp classes she entered). Well done!



Holly and Olivia B recently performed at the Coulsdon & Purley Music Festival Prizewinners Concert.

Holly was one of a few singers chosen to perform *The girl I mean to be*, the song she sang and won her musical theatre class with last month.

Olivia B was awarded the The Ballad Cup for the highest mark for junior folk song in the Festival.

A wonderful achievement for both girls!



Victoria performed in the Redhill and Reigate Music Festival and was awarded this 'Music Counts' trophy for her beautiful piano playing in the age 7 and under class



Victoria was also awarded a cup for her violin playing in the Junior Recital class. Well done!



## Photography Club

Girls in the Prep Photography Club have been experimenting with light sensitive paint and trying some cameraless photography. The results are very impressive.





## Pre School Gardening

Pre School pupils enjoyed a busy afternoon on Wednesday as they filled their watering cans and made sure the newly planted courgettes received a good watering (did you know that courgettes are very thirsty vegetables?). They also planted seed potatoes in black bags and covered them with plenty of compost.

Mrs Anderson has promised to water them while we are on half term and we are looking forward to seeing them grow and hopefully produce lots of delicious vegetables.







# WRITE A SONG WIN STUDIO TIME

## FREE ENTRY

**Songwriting competition for Croydon's music makers**

CHOOSE ONE OF OUR FOLK SONGS, CREATE YOUR OWN  
RAP; HIP-HOP; DUB; GRIME; AFROBEAT OR OTHER STYLE  
SAMPLED VERSION AND UPLOAD IT

**Recording time and songwriting mentoring sessions at  
White Hut Studios can be won by winners and runner-ups**

## Closing Date: End of June

To enter, visit  
[www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/from-pub-to-pulpit](http://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/from-pub-to-pulpit)  
or scan the QR code below.

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ENGLAND**







Old Palace  
PTA

SAVE THE DATE



# Summer Fair



Saturday

24 June

11am - 2pm

# Open Morning

Meet the Head  
+ tour of the school



## Pre School to Year 6

Thursday 15 June: 9.00am-10.30am

To book, go to: [www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days](http://www.oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk/admissions/open-days)

## Join us at the OPA Summer Reunion



Saturday, 17 June 2023  
at 12noon | £25.00 per head

- Welcome Drink: 12 noon
- Lunch: 12.45pm
- Tour of Old Palace: 2.00pm
- Tea: 3.00pm
- Finish: 3.30pm



Tickets/further information, email: [nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk)



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