



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



As ever, lots of content in this week's Bulletin and so I hope you enjoy reading about all the successes of Old Palace students across the school.

I would like to take this opportunity as well to publicly thank the Old Palace PTA for funding the Old Palace Coronation badge for students at Prep and in Years 7 and 8. They are being worn with pride across the school!

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Jane Burton, Head

OPA Summer Reunion – UPDATE

Tickets for the OPA Summer Reunion on Saturday, 17 June are selling fast, so if you are planning to buy one then we suggest you do so ASAP, as we do have to limit numbers.

Just email your details and how many tickets you require to Nicola Berry (nberry@oldpalace.croydon.sch.uk) and we will get back to you with all the details.

Time to say Goodbye to our Wonderful Year 13 Students!



Introducing our new Senior Deputy Head – Mr Christie



At the start of the summer term, we were delighted to welcome our new Senior Deputy Head, Mr Andrew Christie, to Old Palace.

Senior Deputy Head is a new and wide-ranging role within the School; as well as deputising for Mrs Burton when required, Mr Christie will be responsible for curriculum development, the implementation of the new IT infrastructure, assisting with the formation and implementation of school strategy and overseeing certain whole-school projects. He also has a great interest in co-curricular - he is a Sub-Lieutenant in the CCF (Royal Navy) and hopes to be involved with our successful CCF.

Mr Christie grew up in Aberdeen (his father is from Scotland, his mother from Finland). He studied Classics at Oxford and did his teacher training

at Cambridge. His first post was at Norwich School, followed by five years at Rugby, where he was a Deputy Housemaster. More recently he was Head of Classics and Assistant Head (Co-Curricular and Partnerships) at Streatham & Clapham High School (part of the GDST).

Mr Christie has enjoyed a distinguished teaching career. He has taught Classics at both primary and senior school level, and was awarded the Classical Association Teaching Award in 2021 for making classics more inclusive. He was also a finalist in the 2020 national i25 Awards which recognises the 25 leading influencers and innovators in the independent sector. (Mr Christie says that sadly these were all during the pandemic so instead of going to some swish awards ceremonies in London, he had to make do with a Zoom call in his kitchen!).

On a personal level, Mr Christie is married to an American who is a vicar in the Diocese of Southwark. They have a young son called Walker (on the day we interviewed Mr Christie, Walker had chosen to wake his Dad up at 4.30am – something many an Old Palace parent will sympathise with!).

Classics is dear to Mr Christie's heart; he loves exploring archaeological sites in the holidays including trips to Libya and Syria (now sadly out of bounds) and is delighted to see how Classics is flourishing at Old Palace (over 40 students went on the Classics

trip to Italy at Easter). He feels the subject provides students with a valuable opportunity to contrast the ancient and modern world and to talk about issues ranging from slavery to colonialism, helping to develop a deeper understanding of these issues as well as critical thinking skills, which is what makes A Level Classical Civilisation such a valued subject by universities.

We wanted to ask Mr Christie two questions:

'Why did you want to join Old Palace?'

I strongly believe in the importance of an all-girls education. Equality is important for everyone and I want to play a role in educating the change-makers of tomorrow. (Mr Christie points out that in his home life he technically fulfils the role of the Vicar's wife – making tea and the odd floral arrangement).

'What are your hobbies/interests?'

(here Mr Christie had to remember back to his pre-toddler life, as being Senior Deputy Head and a father of a toddler doesn't allow for much free time at the moment!). I love travelling and have been lucky enough to visit many countries in my life – in fact my last school trip was to China. I've also been learning Finnish, as we will go to Finland every summer. Other than that, I like to read, go to the theatre and do the occasional Park Run.

Year 10: Croydon Schools Athletics Tournament

The Year 10s competed in Croydon Athletics last Thursday. They were competing in a variety of events which included; hurdles, 100m, 200m, 800m, shot put, long jump, high jump and javelin.

The students did well, putting their best efforts into each of the events they went into. It was a competitive day and there was some good competition.

The B string students Natalie, Harini, Madinah and Fatima all came away with a medal.

Well done to all the students that took part in the event!



Time to say Goodbye to our Wonderful Year 13 Students!

As we reached the last week for our Year 13 students, we faced many emotions: relief to have finished the A-Level courses, anxiety about the fast approaching examinations, joy at reminiscing about past memories and sadness at the prospect of leaving "this old and stately building".

As always, Year 13 were able to entertain the school community with their imaginative outfits during the "dress-up week": Decades, Pyjama Day, Dress-up as your favourite TV/film character or celebrity, Dress up as the first letter of your name, and finally, School Uniform Day. It was strange seeing them back in school uniform again!

May I take this opportunity to wish Year 13 the very best of luck in all of their examinations.

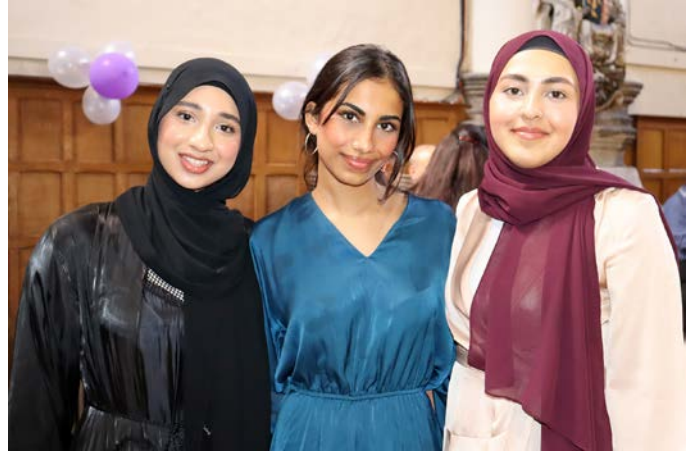
We will be thinking of you and willing you to do well.

Mr Stéphane Talleux
Head of Sixth Form,
Head of Modern Languages





Goodbye Year 13 *continued*



CanSat Students Awarded Cadet Silver Awards



Congratulations to the Year 12 EngPrep students for their amazing achievement. They have each earned

an Industrial Cadet Silver Award for successfully launching their satellites at the CanSat UK regional launch events.

The UK CanSat project is now being accredited by the Engineering Development Trust as part of their Industrial Cadets programme.

The Industrial Cadet Award is a prestigious industry-recognised award which evidences the wide skills set acquired through this project.

"For me, what stands out is not only the incredible work put in by those students, but more so the creativity, collaboration and teamwork which have helped to bring this project to new heights. The growth mindset of these students has really inspired me, as their teacher! So very well done to Team AstroOPS and team OPSonomy!"

Mrs Aubeeluck

Year 7 & 8: Cricket v Nonsuch

On Wednesday, two teams comprising of a combination of Year 7 and 8 students travelled to Nonsuch to play a friendly cricket fixture (pairs format). For some students this was their first ever match – so well done in particular to them!

While Nonsuch won, there were some great performances from members of the team. Inaaya K was commended by the teacher at Nonsuch for being a great leader! There were a number of fours and sixes hit, boundaries saved and wickets taken as well as catches. It was good to play on a larger area to give our players more insight into how cricket is played.

Ada and Inaaya K were awarded Player of the Match in their matches.



Squad 1: Akshita, Rishita, Mythli, Inaaya K, Mahnoor, Minal and Tia-Amelie

Squad 2: Ada, Evangeline, Liana, Lola, Harmony, Amanah, Riya and Emma

Year 11: Bethany



As my footballing season comes to an end with an away game against Southampton, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to my form tutors and the school for their unwavering support enabling me to juggle my hectic football schedule and academics in preparation for my fourth coming GCSE exams.

Footballing wise, I would like to share that I have been called up by England to attend an England U16's football camp on the 30th May 2023. It is every player's dream to play at the highest level and represent your country.

I am very excited and cannot wait to grasp this opportunity in my footballing journey and fly the Old Palace banner. To the young aspiring footballers out there, through hard work and commitment, you can achieve such a milestone.

Please keep going and make yourself, parents, relatives, friends, as well as the school proud.

Bethany, Year 11

Year 13 Sports Leaders

This is the first complete course of the Level 3 Sports Leaders Award. Candidates are just finishing the final details to their course. They have worked really hard to complete this (still a couple of outstanding parts) and kept their energy levels high. The leaders have been involved in:

- Helping with Pre Prep swimming
- Organising House events
- Helping and umpiring at a primary schools tennis tournament
- Open Day Activities
- Sports Day

To name but a few.

Well done to all. The PE department would like to wish them the very best of luck with their exams



Please note that this photo was taken during the week where each day had a costume theme!

Year 8: Croydon Schools Athletics Tournament

A huge congratulations to the Year 8 Athletics team who took part in the Croydon Schools Athletics Tournament.

A special mention must go to Yumayu, who won the 100m sprint – a fantastic achievement being the fastest sprinter in Croydon for Year 8.

Zainab and Shaniyah also picked up medals in the high jump and hurdles respectively.

There was a great team spirit present with some students volunteering to fill relay positions at the last minute – well done!



Community News

Welcome to our new team of House Leaders

Congratulations to our new team of House Leaders who are already busy getting stuck into leading their Houses with enthusiasm at this week's House Waterpolo competition.



Anselm - Sarah and Hannah



Stafford - Kayla and Tia



Hatton - Ruby and Megan



Laud - Caitlin and Nishita

CCF Annual General Inspection

Old Palace was very proud to take part in the CCF Annual General Inspection at Whitgift School at the end of April. Four Year 10 students were also given the honour of being a part of the Cadet Guard of Honour, which is an enormous achievement. Zara, Alyssa, Maheli and Sahana did a fantastic job and had to work hard practicing ahead of the big day, before parading in front of Old Whitgiftian, Brigadier Matthew Birch, Head of Joint Fires and Influence, NATO Allied Rapid Reaction Corps. The formal inspection was followed by demonstration events and some fun activities for all the Year 9 and 10 cadets. A fun afternoon was had by all.



House Water Polo

Wednesday saw the return of the exciting annual House Water Polo event. Stafford and Laud both sported strong full teams, with Hatton and Anselm joining forces to become Hattselm for the day!

The games were fiercely competitive and fast moving. In the first game, Hattselm against Laud, Laud romped into an early lead in the first half with magnificent play by older players Beatrice (Captain), Feran, Imogen and Inaaya H. With the change of ends at half time, Hattselms Captain Bella was denied the chance of scoring on several occasions by strong defending and goalkeeping by the Laud players. Laud continued scoring, winning an impressive 8-0.

Laud then had a very strongly

contested game against Stafford. Stafford Captain Anastasia played exceptional well, supported by a very young team of players, many from Year 7. Kemafo played courageously in goal for Stafford, saving some extremely hard hitting Laud shots. Tianna and Ellie appeared in the mix all over the pool covering lots of distance. Laud just scraped through with a last minute goal winning 3-2.

The final game was Stafford against the newly amalgamated Hattselm, who somehow had persuaded Year 11 Feran to change her purple loyalties to green and yellow! This game was also very closely contested with Hattselm squeezing a third goal in the dying seconds of the game to win 3-2.

Laud finished on top of the podium overall; triumphant winners having won both their games.

Well done to everyone who took part! Thank you to Mrs Fowler for scoring, Miss Richards, House Leaders and supporters for cheering their Houses on.

Mrs Tamplin



On Wednesday afternoon, we gathered to watch the House Waterpolo. As House Leaders, our role was to cheer from poolside as the younger years battled it out for the trophy. First it was Laud vs Anselm-Hatton (who formed an alliance), then Laud vs Stafford, and finally Stafford vs Anselm-Hatton. Each team fought hard to win and displayed admirable effort, but eventually a winner was decided. Stafford came third, Anselm-Hatton came second, and drum roll please... Laud came first! Nishita and I are very proud of our victorious team, just as the other house leaders are of their teams, and a hearty well done to all!

Caitlin, Year 12L



Year 11: PE

Core PE in Year 11 has been quite an adventure involving some very competitive members as well as those who prefer a more gentle activity. They have all experienced yoga as well as the more traditional activities. Sports Leaders have also worked hard in a difficult year to complete the requirements for their course.

The PE department would like to wish them all the very best and hope they remember that exercise during a stressful period of time is REALLY important! Good luck!



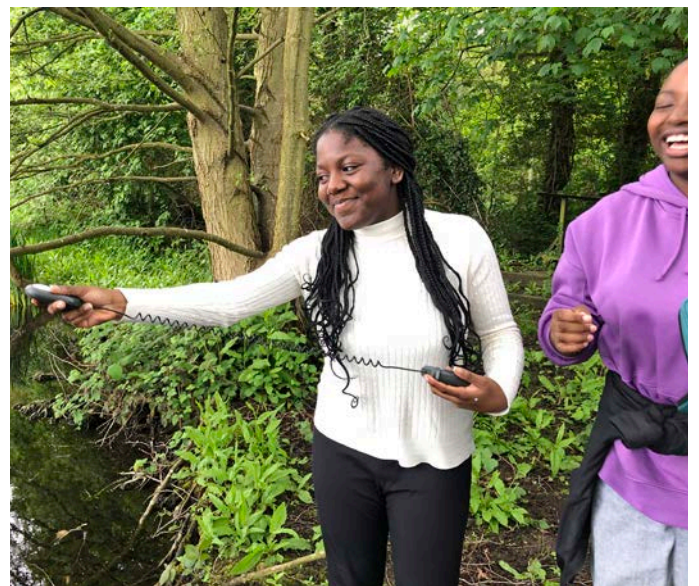
Year 12 Biology

The Year 12 Biology students spent the day at Bushy Park collecting data for their practical endorsement. The students compared two freshwater habitats and made a drawing of one of the insect larvae that they caught. In the afternoon they revised their fieldwork skills from GCSE using tape measures, quadrats and keys to identify meadow species. The students packed for the forecast hail storm, which fortunately never arrived.

'It was loads of fun learning new skills in a gorgeously scenic environment.' **Christina**

'We developed scientific drawing skills from live microscope observations.' **Zaynah**

'It was a real taste of fieldwork, an experience that was valuable and uni-level.' **Janice**



Year 7: Swimming



This term Year 7 took part in a strenuous T20 swim during their swimming lesson. This is a timed twenty minute continuous swim.

The results were amazing! In reverse order the distances swum by each House were Anselm 5825 metres, Stafford 6450 metres, Laud 7050 metres and run away furthest swimmers Hatton swimming a massive 8700 metres. For those of you who are old school that converts to 3.6 miles for Anselm, 4 miles for Stafford, 4.3 miles for Laud and a massive 5.4 miles swum by Hatton.

All added together Year 7 swam an astonishing 17.4 miles. That is the distance from Old Palace to the London Aquatic Centre in the Olympic Park, Stratford!

Harmony, Hatton swam the greatest distance covering 1525 metres, a whole mile, on her own. Erin, Anselm, swam 1025 metres leading the way for Anselm. Ellie, Giannina and Tianna, all Stafford, each swam 850 metres with Sabrina swimming furthest for Laud, 800 metres. Well done everyone!

Islamic Society

Islamic Society has been meeting throughout the year every Tuesday, week 1. It is a club that encourages all students to participate in fun activities and learn about Islam. This year, students have participated in calligraphy workshops, made keyrings, painted their names in Arabic on canvases, and many more fun activities.

We also had a movie night to raise money for the Pakistan floods earlier this year. During Ramadan, Zaynah and I distributed some Ramadan favours. This included a date, a bookmark, and a few other small gifts from the Islamic Society.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, the holy month is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community spirit. We spoke about the

importance of charity and giving back to our community. We also considered how to continue these good actions not only during Ramadan but also in our everyday lives. We are very thankful for the teachers who have helped make ISOC a success this year.

Kulsoom, Year 12



Year 10: Biology Poem

In Biology, the Year 10 students have been studying the effect of humans on biodiversity as part of the Ecosystem unit.

During a recent lesson, the students wrote poems on conservation and Abigail performed hers to loud applause from the class. We thought this excellent work deserved a larger audience, so here it is.

Conservation Poem

Conservation conservation,
It means so much to me
From the lions and the tigers,
The butterflies, birds and bees.

We need to protect our Earth,
The time is running out
Rhinos being lost to poachers
And elephants from drought

Our rainforests are going
We need those too
Canopies and snakes
And all the exotic fruit

The polar bear and her cubs
With melting glaciers making sea
levels rise
Find it hard to find their food
Struggling to survive

Deforestation and forest fires
All because of climate change
If we don't act right now
All animals will be in their graves

Acid rain, plastic pollution
Making oceans toxic
Sharks turtles and the reefs
Will all be subtracted

From our earth too we need to
protect
Or else we'll feel the negative effects

Conservation conservation,
It means so much to me
From the lions and the tigers,
The butterflies, birds and bees.



Year 7 Cricket v Wallington



This was our first match as a team playing against another school. For some of the girls this was also their first cricket match ever, so we were very excited.

When we got to the playing field it was nice and sunny so the perfect weather for a match. We started off with batting. We hit a good number of runs including some 4's and 6's but unfortunately we got caught and stumped out a couple of times, ultimately costing us a lot of runs.

When it was our turn to bowl most of the team had a go at bowling. We did do quite few no balls and wides, but we also stumped people out and took wickets. The fielding was decent, but we could have had more energy in the field and so unluckily that caused the opposing team to score a lot of 4's.

As I mentioned before, the weather was great when we first started but unfortunately for us it started to pour down on us towards the last over. But overall, the match was a fun and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Akashi, Year 7

When we first arrived, we were the first to bat, we had already previously sorted the batting pairs and were now ready for the match. We were all quite scared but as the first pair were batting, we all cheered them on and practiced.

We managed to hit many 4s as well as run a lot. Soon it was our turn to bowl, our team bowled very well and managed to get many outs such as stumping and hitting the wicket while bowling.

I think one thing Old Palace and I could improve upon is our fielding. The main reason we lost this match was due to us letting the ball roll through the boundaries. As the last bowler started to bowl it started to pour down! None of us could see anything and we were getting cold and wet. It was very heavy rain. Luckily, we managed to finish the match just before the weather got worse. Despite what happened I think we did very well, tried our best and worked hard.

Mythili K, 7L

On Wednesday we went to Wallington to play a friendly match. As it was our first match of the season, we were all quite nervous. There were some great catches, one of the best from Bella, there were also a few wickets. Unfortunately, during our last 2 overs in batting it started raining heavily and we all got soaked. We ended up finishing the game inside a sports hall. Although we lost, we played exceptionally well as a team.

Inaaya H and Inaaya K

Year 7 DT: Healthy Lunch Box

Year 7 pupils have been getting very creative in the Food room this week, cooking their Healthy Lunch Box suggestions which they have planned and cooked independently with just a little assistance from Miss Solari. We think you will agree they look both delicious and nutritious!

Well done Year 7 (and their washing up and tidying skills were equally fabulous!)



Follow up Year 10 Athletics

Following the article last week we now have confirmation of some of the results.

Bear in mind this is from all the Croydon Secondary Schools – these are great results!

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Grace P | 6th in the 200m |
| Zara T | 5th in the 800m |
| Neeha N | 6th in the long jump |
| Madinah O | 3rd in the B String 200m |
| Natalie E | 2nd in the B String 800m |
| Aimee C | 6th in the B String shot put |
| Fatima K | 4th in the B String javelin |
| Harini R | 1st in the B String high jump |
| Zara-Eden | 4th in the B String long jump |

Well done to everyone who took part.

RIP Liz Hayward

The Old Palace community is extremely saddened by the news that Liz Hayward, who worked at Old Palace for 16 years, passed away unexpectedly on Friday.

Liz joined Old Palace in 2004 and was with us for 16 years, leaving in summer 2020. She was a valued colleague and caring teacher, who taught across a whole range of subjects at Seniors and Prep, including RS (as head of department), History, Maths and Expanding Horizons. Liz will be fondly remembered by many across the school community.

We have set up an electronic Book of Condolence for Liz and if you would like to contribute to this then please use this link:

<https://rememberancebook.net/book/elizabeth-hayward/>

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

Coronation Badges



Thank you to the PTA for the Coronation badges they kindly gave to Year 7, Year 8 and Prep.

Year 9: Croydon Schools Athletics Tournament



Eleven students from Year 9 travelled to Croydon Arena to take part in the Croydon Athletics Tournament on Wednesday. There was some excellent racing on the track and competitive moments on the field. Well done to all those who took part.

