



AROUND THE PALACE

Dear all,



The final half term of the year is now upon us, even if the weather feels far from what we usually expect in June! At Seniors, the Year 11 and 13 students are still undertaking their public exams and working very hard.

This bulletin showcases all that has been going on in the past half term at Old Palace and as ever, the achievements of our students and their enthusiasm for getting involved in school life shines through.

Across both sites, this will be the last few weeks at Old Palace for many

students and so we have a range of events and activities planned for all the students to ensure they have a positive, final few weeks - whether leaving or staying next year. Look out for the reports of these in the next bulletin.

Jane Burton, Head

New Student Leadership Team 2024-25





Head Girl: Faith



Head Girl: Grace



Senior Prefect: Steph



Senior Prefect: Nuwaylah



Community Leader: Zoé



Community Leader: Skye



Community Leader: Mia



Community Leader: Rinii



Anselm



Laud



Stafford



Hatton



Be Inspired!

International Award-winning Young Adult Authors Visit

Last Friday, Year 9+ students had the chance to meet not just one, but two international award-winning Young Adult authors.

Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé is the author of the New York Times international bestselling young adult novels *Ace of Spades* and *Where Sleeping Girls Lie* and Adiba Jaigirdar is the YA Book Prize-winning author of *The Henna Wars* and *Hani & Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating*. Both authors were on a whistle-stop tour of the UK to promote their new co-authored book, *Four Eids and a Funeral*, and took time during their busy schedule to visit us at Old Palace to talk about getting into writing, the process of getting a book published and their love of video games, creating characters that are diverse and realistic, drinking tea and TV shows.

After their talk, both authors took time to answer all students' questions, remaining at Old Palace long after the end of the day to talk to students and sign books.

We are very grateful to both Faridah and Adiba for their passion, humour, enthusiasm and generosity in taking the time to meet and talk to our older students.

"It was really interesting to hear about the process of getting a book published. Many authors speak about the difficulties

of this process, and they didn't shy away from this; but they made publishing a book seem possible with their passion. Faridah published her first book, Ace of Spades, at only a year older than me, and this inspires me to believe that anything I want to do is achievable too"

Lizzie, Year 13



Year 10: Biology Field Trip to Wakehurst Place

Year 10 went to Wakehurst Place to collect the data for their Core Practical in Loder Valley Nature Reserve.

They worked in groups to investigate the relationship between two plant species and their environment using field-work techniques, including quadrats and belt transects. They counted the plants and recorded the soil moisture and light intensity from the top of the Hanging Meadow down towards the waterline. The students were incredibly resilient as it rained the entire trip.



Trinity Schools Book Awards

From October 2023 to February 2024, the library has promoted reading and reviewing the shortlisted books that make up the Trinity Schools Book Award (TSBA).

The TSBA was originally developed by and for librarians in the Trinity Group of schools (a loose association of independent schools in London and the South East), but any interested secondary school can join in.

The TSBA aims to celebrate quality writing in both new and older fiction on a different theme each year. The theme for 2024 was Elemental, with shortlisted books containing the theme of earth, air, fire and water. Students read the shortlisted books during the Autumn and Spring terms and cast their votes early in the new year to determine the winner of two awards.

The Trinity Award is awarded to those shortlisted books suitable for Years 6, 7 & 8 and The Trinity Plus Award, shortlisted books for the older Year 9+/YA book category.

Both awards are judged by students casting online votes for their favourite book.

This year, the awards ceremony took place at Latymer Upper School in Hammersmith, who were celebrating their 400th anniversary. Thirty schools from across the south-east attended the awards ceremony in their theatre, with the awards ceremony also being live-streamed for those that could not attend in person.

Five short-listed authors attended the ceremony including Chloe Daykin, Frances Hardinge, Ann Sei Lin, Natasha Bowen and Teri Terry. After the awards ceremony, we were invited to stay for some 'Elemental' themed snacks and to meet the authors for a book signing.

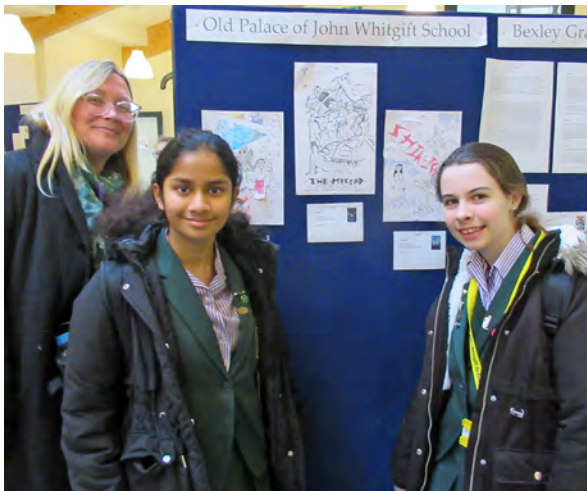
The competition gives students the opportunity to enter competitions either creative responses or book reviews to win prizes. Luella entered the creative response competition, and it was lovely to see her artwork on display at the awards ceremony.

The winner of the Trinity Award was *Rebel Skies* by Ann Sei Lin and the winner of the Trinity Plus Award was *Lies Like Wildfire* by Jennifer Lynn Alvarez.

"I really enjoyed the TSBA as they introduced me to many new authors and I liked all of the books in the competition. The award ceremony itself was really good and fun as well, and I enjoyed meeting the authors, my favourite author was Frances Hardinge" **Luella**

"My favourite part of the TSBA is when we got to find out who won the award for the Trinity Award. I was happy to find out that my favourite book, Rebel Skies by Ann Sei Lin won, but well done to the other books too!"

"I also liked meeting the authors and getting books signed too" **Liana**



Year 8: Croydon Athletics Championships

Year 8 took part in the annual Croydon Athletics Championships this year and were represented by Ellie, Kemafo, Chloe, Tianna, Mya-Rose, Gracie-Mae, Lola, Akshita, Rishita, Elise and Liana.

Some highlights from the event: Tianna made it to the 100m final and narrowly missed out on a medal, Akshita won Bronze in the B string Javelin, Chloe won Bronze in the B String Discus. Kemafo was placed an impressive first in the A String Discus and Ellie took the silver medal in the 300m.

As a result, Ellie and Kemafo were both selected to represent North Croydon at the Surrey Schools Athletics Championships at Kingsmeadow Stadium. This is a huge achievement! Ellie produced a personal best performance of 46.25s in the 300m. Kemafo came 6th we think in the discus although we are still waiting for the official result. Well done to them both!

We have just had notification that Old Palace came SIXTH overall which is really impressive considering we only had a small team! This is Sixth out of all the schools entering a girls team in Croydon. Well done!



Maths Puzzle Fun

Right-angled request

The figure shows a rectangle $PRSU$ with a line QT which divides the rectangle into two squares.

How many right-angled triangles can be drawn using any three points P, Q, R, S, T, U as corners?

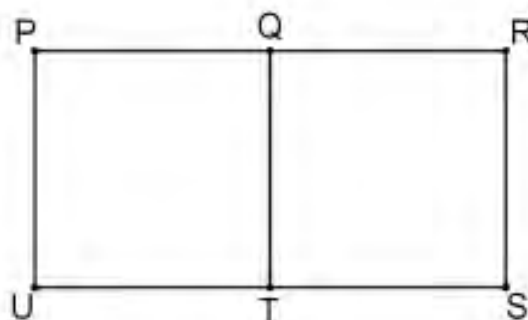


Diagram is not drawn to scale.

Answer on page 32



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

Old Palace Dance Showcase

Unity



Wednesday
26th June
2024

7pm
Banqueting Hall

Tickets via WisePay **£6** adult | **£3** concessions

Science Week: Flashes and Bangs

During Science Week, the Chemistry Department once again put on a show of some exciting demonstrations that go beyond the curriculum for Years 8 and 9. The chemical reactions were based around the themes of combustion and redox.

We invited the students to write about their favourite reactions. Here's what they said:

I enjoyed all the demonstrations of 'Flashes and Bangs' a lot. My favourites were 'the methane rocket' where a rocket (plastic bottle) was filled with a methane oxygen mix and then lit on fire. It flew really fast across the room and hit the wall. My other favourite was where icing sugar was blown into a flame and created a fire ball. That was my favourite because it was an everyday item that can very quickly start a fire, teaching us to be careful with what we keep close to them!

Nailah-Belle, Year 9

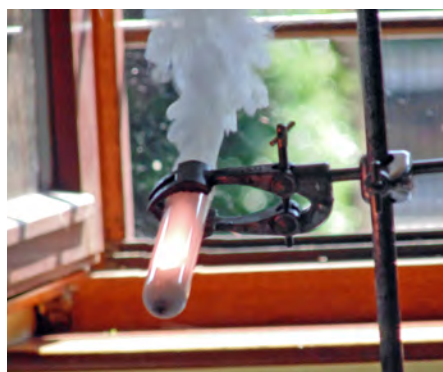
I liked all the experiments, but my favourites would have to have been the whoosh bottle and the elephant toothpaste. The elephant toothpaste was a very rapid reaction as the iodide acts as a catalyst for the reaction. The whoosh bottle had propan-2-ol which caused it to combust and create a big flame and when it ignited it created the whoosh noise. They were both very interesting to watch.

Zainab, Year 9

My favourite experiment was the whoosh bottle. In this experiment, a small volume of alcohol was shaken inside an empty water cooler bottle. Most of the alcohol vapourised and the excess liquid was poured out. I held a splint at arm's length and ignited the vapour. A huge flame was to be seen alongside a whoosh sound.

Another experiment I enjoyed was the methane rocket launch. I found the rocket flying across the room to be really exciting, even though it made me jump! If it wasn't for the door it could have gone even further. The bottle consisted of a methane and oxygen mixture and the force that propelled the rocket came from the gases expanding - the reaction gave out energy which heated it. From these experiments, I learnt that methane and oxygen, or alcohol, can combust, releasing huge amounts of energy.

Shreya, Year 9

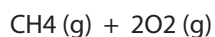


Four of the Year 8 students chose the Methane Rocket as their favourite.

Lola-Marie wrote:

The methane rocket was my favourite as it was very exciting and memorable.

The equation for the reaction is



The Canon Fire reaction also received four votes.

Senvri described the reaction:

My favourite experiment was the Canon Fire. It was a redox reaction where hydrogen peroxide was poured into an evaporating basin. Then some ethanol was poured on top and ignited. It burned quietly. Finally, some potassium manganate VII powder was sprinkled onto the burning mixture. It created loud popping sounds.



Five chose Dangerous Sugar.

Gracie-Mae explains why this was her favourite:

One of the best demonstrations I've seen by far! I never knew sugar could do that! The luminous colours that it made were really astonishing! A great experiment to watch. Thank you to all the Science team who prepared everything.

The demonstration that received the most votes, the favourite of eight of the students, was the Screaming Jelly Baby. Luella explains why she chose this one:

My favourite experiment was the Screaming Jelly Baby because I liked the light that it produced and the sound it made. It was very smoky, but it smelt like jam!

We loved this opportunity to demonstrate some awesome chemical reactions to our students and it was a delight to see their reactions.

Cat Milk

"I really enjoyed this experiment and finding out how to make cat milk. My favourite part was watching the clear balls form as they resembled orbeez. From this experiment, I learnt that lactase, which is an enzyme, breaks lactose into 2 sugars, glucose and galactose. I am curious to find out how we can make sure there is 0% lactose in the milk and what other methods we can use." **Shreya**, Year 9

"I learnt from the 'cat milk' practical that you can break down words like 'lactose' in order to find what they contain. Through this I learnt that when an item has an ending of '-ose' it contains sugar!" **Nailah-Belle**, Year 9



Ice Cream

"Making ice cream with liquid nitrogen was a really amazing experience. We added our own toppings too and in the end, the ice cream tasted amazing, as always!" **Safa**



Bubbles



Connecting Wall

This is a connections wall where you have to find the connections between four words. There are four different connections. Solution on page 32

jewel	puncture	cut	germ
pest	nick	vaults	cop
titan	irritate	burn	spy
go	what	graze	hurts

SATRO

Science Week began with a Practical Problem-Solving challenge for everyone in Year 8. In the competition students worked in teams of four to solve an engineering task under a strict time limit.

All students participated well, collaborating effectively to design and construct structures that fulfilled the requirements. It was a close-run contest.



Liquid Nitrogen

Year 10 students witnessed a series of demonstrations with liquid nitrogen. As well as learning key facts, they were treated to the sight of a supercooled superconductor causing a magnet to levitate and spin, a Pringles can leaping into the air, materials change structure and size. A lucky few made ice-cream using liquid nitrogen in a separate session.

Some students commented:

"I liked watching how the light bulb without its casing was able to stay alight under liquid nitrogen. I found it interesting how something we use in our daily lives needs safety precautions to work at all (i.e. the inert gas in the normal bulb)." Rosie

"I enjoyed watching how the liquid nitrogen changed a banana from soft to so hard that it was solid enough to bang a nail like a hammer." Amber

"An amazing experience, which I thoroughly enjoyed. It was surprising how cold the liquid nitrogen was. The experiments were really interesting, especially the ones with different materials including food." Jana



BAFTA Young Game Designer Competition 2024 Finalists



Here is some breaking news! Both Liana and Ayesha in Year 8 have got through to the final of the BAFTA Young Game Designers Competition 2024. This is particularly impressive, because every year thousands of students nationally enter this very rigorous and challenging competition, where the standards are incredibly high.

This now makes a grand total of 11 students who have got through to the BAFTA final from OP (for either games design or games making) in the last eight years - since we started

submitting entries. Both Liana and Ayesha got through to the final ten students for games design. Their game is called "Sunny Side" about a helpful duck. The graphics and design work for this are particularly impressive for their age range, and are very polished

looking, as well as having real retro feel to them. The final is at BAFTA HQ in Piccadilly, is in early July.

A full article about this exciting achievement will follow soon.

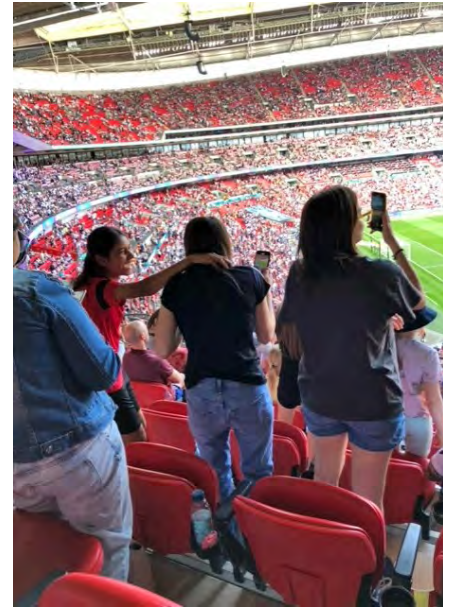
The Computer Science Dept.



Women's FA Cup Final

On the 12th May, the Women's FA Cup Final took place between Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur. Kiyah, Faith, Kara, Grace, Isobel, Lola, Noor and Ayesha were in attendance (escorted by Mr Simpson and Mr Griffith).

The match was rather one-sided, with the final score being 4-0 to Manchester United, who won the trophy for the first time in their history. A great time was had by all, except maybe Mr Griffith, who is a lifelong Tottenham fan!



Year 8: Athletics Fixture at Sydenham

A small team of Year 8 travelled to Sydenham on Thursday for an Open Meet. This gave them the opportunity to try a number of athletics events.

Everyone did well and enjoyed the experience as outline in some of the comments

Particular mentions:

The 4 x 100m relay team won their event. The team was Elise, Ellie, Liana and Tianna.

Tianna won the long jump with a jump of 4.02m

Tianna won her 200m heat (31.03s)

Gracie-Mae came 4th in the shot put

Ellie won the 800m with a time of 2 minutes 56s

Elise came second in her 100m heat with 15.31s

Mya-Rose came second in the javelin with a throw of 15.06m



Comments from students:

"I did the relay and the 200m! I am really proud of myself for taking up the challenge. I had a lot of fun! Well done everyone." **Liana**

"I did the Javelin and Shot Put. I did quite well and was surprised. I had a lot of fun." **Chloe**

"I did the High Jump and did well because I'd not done it before." **Jessica**

"I did the javelin and shot put. It was fine and a great experience." **Mya**

"I did the 100m and High Jump. I was second in my track event. It was fun." **Elise**

"I did the 800m in 2 ins 56 seconds. I also did the Relay and we came first. It was a good experience and I would like to do it again." **Ellie**

"I did Javelin and Shot Put. I think I did well though I'm not sure of my distances." **Akshi**

"I think I did Ok in the High Jump. It was fun and a good chance to have a go." **Rishi**

"I did Shot Put and Javelin. It was fun – however the wind was strong while I was doing Javelin so I didn't do as well. I really liked Shot Put. It was an amazing experience and I'd love to do it again." **Sadhana**

Year 8: Cricket Trip to Beckenham

On Friday 24 May a small number of Year 8 students travelled to Kent Cricket Ground in Beckenham to watch South East Stars play Lancashire Thunder. This was a professional women's T20 Cricket Match.

South East Stars fielded first and the OPS students were able to see the way a match works: change of overs, different types of bowling, quality fielding, long throws in from the boundary, field placements, run outs, the use of Power Play etc. Lancashire scored 139 which was a good score to chase.

South East Stars didn't have the best start to the batting innings with the opening batters being out for 1 and 11. However Paige Scholfield came in at 3 and scored an impressive 73 not out, supported by Alice Davidson-Richards (43)

Afterwards, the South East Stars players were available to sign autographs and answer questions which was great. A local prep school was also at the match and were part of the photos. The singing of the winning song from the changing rooms could also be heard later!

Watching live sport is one of the best ways to understand sport and pick up tips!





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

Performing Arts Showcase 2024

27th June

Banqueting Hall at **7pm**



Tickets via WisePay
£6 adult | £3 concessions



Dear all,

With the summer term drawing to a close, some might think that we are taking a breather and slowing down, but that simply couldn't be further from the truth!

We continue to be so busy, our calendar bursting with trips and events, and this bulletin highlights just that. I do hope you enjoy looking at the photos and reading the short snippets of all that has been happening at Prep.

Thank you to all our parents, friends and family members who have supported our recent events, not least the tug-of-war showdown at the end of the two sports days! Such wonderful memories for us all.

Mrs Jodene Panteli
Head of Preparatory

EYFS Sports Day

Last week was a poignant time for Old Palace Prep as the girls took part in the School's last ever sports days. Thanks to the hard work of Mrs Coster, they were a resounding success, bringing the school community together for two days of spirited competition and camaraderie.

First to enjoy their day in the June sunshine were Pre School & Reception.

Parents enjoyed the chance for one last get-together as they watched their daughters compete in their teams for their chosen Olympic countries. The field was a sea of magical colours and the girls looked spectacular with their hair ribbons and face paints glittering in the sunlight.

After the carousel of activities, the girls competed individually in the obstacle

and sprint events. The parents then had a chance to showcase their talents in the tug of war.

Congratulations to the winning teams:

1st Place	Aruba
2nd Place	Costa Rica
3rd Place	Bulgaria



Class Photos



Pre School



Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4 & 5



Year 6J



Year 6W

Years 1-6 Sports Day

Following on from the success of EYFS's sports day, Friday saw Years 1-6 compete in three rounds of competitions to earn points for their countries.

The day began with an opening ceremony which featured a parade of teams, colourful banners, and enthusiastic cheers. Pupils then showcased their athletic prowess across various team challenge events, including forward rolls, shuttle relays and beat the teacher. As if that wasn't enough, pupils then competed in three rounds of fitness challenges with more skipping and burpees.

The finale included an intense 100-meter, pupil sprint that saw record-

breaking performances, followed by a thrilling tug-o-war match between teams of enthusiastic parents. The highlight was surely the mighty showdown between the two teacher-led teams of Pumas and Bob Cats that kept spectators on the edge of their seats! Congratulations to the Pumas on their triumphant win!

Parents, teachers, and pupils thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the competitions and relay races, which emphasised the spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship that Old Palace stands for. The day concluded with an awards ceremony, where top performers were awarded medals and trophies, acknowledging their hard work and dedication. A family picnic on the field

where we were all able to toast the success of a fabulous day seemed a fitting end. Girls, parents and staff you were amazing and I can honestly say that in my 20 years of sports days at Old Palace - Sports day 2024 was the best ever! Thank you.

Mrs Coster

1st Place	Bulgaria
2nd Place	Aruba
3rd Place	Grenada
4th Place	Venezuela
5th Place	Serbia
6th Place	Costa Rica
7th Place	Latvia



1st Bulgaria



2nd Aruba



3rd Grenada



Pumas

Years 1-6 Sports Day *continued*

Sprint	Years 1, 2 and 3
1st Place	Anaya
2nd Place	Sion
3rd Place	Arielle

Sprint	Years 4 and 5
1st Sprint	Nia
2nd Sprint	Charlotte M
3rd Sprint	Margot

Sprint	Year 6
1st Sprint	Olivia A
2nd Sprint	Paavana
3rd Sprint	Maya







Prep Music Competition

41 girls entered our final Prep Music Competition and around half of these girls entered two or three categories so there were over 60 entries in total.

Heats were held in Singing (Beginner and Advanced) Instrumental (Beginner and Advanced) and Piano (Beginner and Advanced) and Miss Tosh and Miss Fitzgerald had the pleasure of listening to all the performances and selecting girls to be 'Commended'.

Our Beginner Singers performed in a new class for this year, a set song 'I've got no strings' from Pinocchio.

Our Piano Heat featured these girls playing pieces ranging from pre-Grade 1 right up to Grade 5.





Congratulations to all 41 girls who entered the final Prep Music Competition. There were some wonderful performances from girls in Reception – Year 6.

Here are the results:

Singing

Winners	Year
Olivia B	6W
Ophelia	1J
Commended	Year
Holly	6W
Aadhya	6J
Aanya	6W
Autumn	RJ
Olivia	RJ
Gaia	RJ
Crystalla	RJ

Instrumental

Winners	Year
Harriet	5J
Aashna	6J
Amelie	4J
Commended	Year
Elissia	6J
Aideen	5J
Kezia	6W
Paavana	6W
Safah	5J



Piano

Winners	Year
Holly	6W
Aria	2J
Eliza	2J
Commended	Year
Paavana	6W
Arya	6W
Aideen	5J
Amelia	6W
Amani	RJ

Congratulations to everyone who took part and Laud which was the overall winning house.



All the girls listed above have been invited to take part in a 'Celebration of the Music Competition' Concert on Wednesday 26 June at 4.30pm in the Assembly Hall. All welcome!

Year 4 and 5 Residential Trip to Flatford Mill

Year 4 and 5 enjoyed a fabulous residential trip to Flatford Mill in Suffolk. Flatford Mill and Willy Lott's house are world famous buildings, both featuring in some of John Constable's paintings. Our dormitories were in the old Mill House which we had all to ourselves during the evenings.

We had a very busy schedule of fieldwork, including orienteering, setting mammal traps, investigating disappearing animals, identifying animal droppings, pond dipping, bug catching, shelter building and team

games, ephemeral art and a night walk.

When we weren't in the classroom or taking part in our fieldwork, we took some time to sketch Willy Lott's cottage, enjoyed delicious meals and the girls took part in their own talent show. We were treated to magic tricks, jokes, singing and a special mind reading act from Madam La Tonga, later revealed to be Mrs Best!

I have been lucky enough to go to Flatford Mill on three previous visits with Old Palace and I'd like to thank Mrs Best and Mrs Anderson for coming with me and the girls for my last one.

I hope you enjoy reading a selection of the girls' favourite moments on the trip which I hope they will remember for a long time to come.

Mrs Wallis







Year 4 and 5 Residential Trip to Flatford Mill *continued*



A selection of the girls' favourite moments on the trip

"My favourite bits were when we went into our rooms for the first time and unpacked, the talent show and hot chocolate." **Charlotte M**

"I liked the orienteering because it was fun to explore the grounds. I also liked Madam La Tonga because she was funny and Mrs Wallis was over exaggerating." **Margot**

"I enjoyed Madam La Tonga when Mrs Best was under a blanket and mammal trapping when we got to see a mouse! I loved ephemeral art. My group made a Cottercorn, a cross between an otter, cat and unicorn." **Amelie**

"The memory that I will remember for generations is probably when we were in our dorms and we kept thinking there were ghosts because Mrs Wallis was knocking on our doors telling us to go to sleep". **Elahe**

"My favourite bit was in the dorm at night and in the morning and getting ready for dinner and the hot chocolate. I loved just being in the dorm with my friends."

Maya

"Our favourite moments were when Safah got toothpaste on her PJ's, hairbrush and then her hair! We also enjoyed when Charlotte K and Nia found Mickey Mouse and Harriet and Elahe found Donald Mouse, they were very cute. Madam La Tonga was very funny especially when Mrs Wallis cheered very quickly when Madam La Tonga had struck the pan the correct number of times." **Nia and Harriet**

"During the night walk obstacle course, I was blindfolded and Elahe was guiding me and she made me cry, but looking back it was funny. In the bedrooms we thought Mrs Wallis was a ghost because she was knocking on the door telling us when to sleep". **Charlotte K**

"One of the funniest moments was Mrs Wallis and Madam La Tonga. Mrs Best was under a white blanket and Mrs Wallis pretended that Madam La Tonga could

read our minds. We will also remember that we were all talking late at night because Amelie was scaring us. Mrs Wallis knocked on the door to get us to sleep, because we were still chatting."

Lilla and Sophia

"My happy memories are of Nia 'snoring' and I kept asking, "Nia are you awake?" Then Harriet started laughing and it was like a siren. My other happy memories are on the night walk when Nia was guiding me through the track when I was blindfolded and she was laughing, and Madam La Tonga because it was very funny." **Safah**

"On the night walk, Amelie blindfolded me, let me walk into a tree and fall in some mud!" **Sophia**

"My favourite memory was when we went to get ice-cream! At first, we didn't know what was happening but then Mrs Wallis started taking us up in groups to the counter. We each got to choose an ice-cream to have in the sun. Most of us, including me chose a chocolate cornetto which was really tasty!" **Aideen**



Years 4 and 5: Chessington World of Adventure

On Tuesday 4th June, Year 4 and 5 kicked off their new topic 'Scream Machine' with a visit to Chessington World of Adventures. We took part in a workshop on forces where we learnt some of the ways that forces are used in the operation of theme park rides at Chessington. We learnt that unsupported objects fall towards the earth because of the force of gravity acting between the earth and the falling object. It is the force of gravity which some of us experienced on the drop tower 'Croc Drop'!

We were very fortunate to squeeze in so many rides on the day. We all loved the log ride 'Tiger Rock' and battling the Curse of the Mummy in 'Tomb Blaster'. A skilled archer, as she made her way through the Egyptian labyrinth armed with a laser gun, Mrs Wallis racked up an impressive 74,000 points. Which was significantly more than Miss Jenkins' 14,000 points! Riding the 'Vampire' roller coaster through the Wild Woods, over the roof restaurants, was awesome. Some of us even experienced our first upside-down

roller coaster as we braved 'Mandrill Mayhem'. The day was made all the more special with lunch sat beside sea lion enclosure.

Year 4 and 5 would highly recommend a visit to Chessington World of Adventures.



Years 1 & 2: Morden Hall Park

To support our learning in the Cornerstones topics, 'The Scented Garden' and 'Splendid Skies,' Years 1 and 2 enjoyed an exciting day at the National Trust site, Morden Hall Park.

After a fantastic two-hour workshop where the girls explored different habitats for wild plants, we enjoyed a

picnic in the sunshine. We all learned some new plant names, such as plantain and oxeye daisies, and even sang and danced around a mulberry tree.

Upon entering the garden centre, we were approached by the manager, who commented on how well-behaved and

smart the classes were. He proceeded to tell us about ways we could be more sustainable, such as being careful not to pick too many wildflowers and ensuring that we buy peat-free soil. We were all surprised and delighted when the manager offered to donate a plant of our choice!



Years 3-6 Learn to Inline Skate Through the Power of Growth Mindset

Last month, Year 6 pupils harnessed the power of growth mindset to learn how to inline skate. They discovered skills they didn't even know they possessed and had great fun in the process.

Big shout out to Danny Aldridge!



Year 6: Mexican Workshop - A Day of Cultural Celebration

The Year 6 children were abuzz with excitement as they arrived in vibrant Mexican costumes for the Mexican Dance Workshop. Olivia from Zest Workshop kicked off the event, giving a brief talk about the history of Mexico and the Mayan peoples.

After warm-up movements, Olivia taught the children a series of dance steps. They picked up the choreography quickly and were soon dancing in unison. She then divided them into groups, encouraging them to choreograph their own steps to traditional Mexican music.

The workshop concluded with a performance combining Olivia's routine and the children's original steps. The day was a resounding success, leaving the children with a deeper appreciation for Mexican culture and a sense of accomplishment.



Palace Singers Collect Chairman's Cup

On Saturday 27 April, some of the Year 3-6 Palace Singers performed at the Coulsdon & Purley Prizewinners Concert held at Wilsons School in Wallington.

It was the 80th anniversary of the Festival and we were thrilled to be nominated and receive the Chairman's Cup. The Chairman spoke about how choirs and musicians from Old Palace had entered the Festival since 1978 and then said 'this award recognises years of sustained musical excellence at the school'.

Congratulations to all the girls who sang and a big thank you to Mr Randall our brilliant piano accompanist and Miss Tosh for all her support.



Restless Development Knight Frank Schools Triathlon

Congratulations to the girls in Years 3, 4 & 5 who competed in the Restless Development Knight Frank Schools Triathlon on Sunday, 19 May at Royal Russell. The Triathlon involved the girls taking part in swimming, running and cycling – all in a good cause, raising money for charity.





Summer Party on the Green

Saturday 22 June 2 - 5pm

Join us for a fun-filled event with food, drinks, games and activities.

Bring your friends and family!

Old Palace Prep School, Melville Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 7YN

Science Week - Connecting Wall page 9 Solution

cut	puncture	graze	burn	Possible injuries in the laboratory
jewel	vaults	what	hurts	Homophones of physics units
pest	spy	irritate	germ	Synonyms for the word bug
cop	nick	go	titan	Start of metallic elements

Maths Puzzle Fun page 5 Answer

Right-angled request

Four right-angled triangles can be drawn in each of the squares, plus four formed from two adjacent sides of the rectangle - that makes 12.

Then there are two right-angled triangles formed by joining the points *UQS* and *PTR*.

This makes a total of 14 triangles.