



Old Palace Newsletter

April 2017



COMIC RELIEF 2017

During the build up to Comic Relief, the children participated in a number of competitions and activities! Penalty shootout proved very popular across the school and the children had lots of fun along the way! Lots of children got creative with 'Design a Red Nose' and the comic strip competition.

Meanwhile the parents made over 700 biscuits and we managed to sell every single one! This year we had our first ever- 'Old Palace has got Talent Show' which was led by the School Council. The



children selected an act to represent their year group and then voted for the winners in the afternoon. Well done to all the children that took part in the talent show. Congratulations to Reception's dance act-'Boyband' who won for KS1

and Binyamin, in 5K, who completed a rubik cube in under a minute for KS2. We had many laughs during comic relief, in particular when the children were shown a video of staff and parents in a lip sync video to Taylor Swift's 'Shake it off.' In



total, we raised a whopping **£1161.50** so thank you very much for all your kind donations and support throughout the week!

YEAR 1 VISIT THE QUEEN

This half term, Year 1 have been learning all about London and the Queen. Lucky for them, they visited the Royal Mews and got to see the Queen's horses and royal carriages. The children were very excited to find out that the Queen's state coach is over 300 years old and she doesn't like using it because it makes her feel sea sick. After the Royal Mews visit, we had a walk through London, spotting the sights as we went along. We managed to see Buckingham Palace, the London Eye, Big Ben, Nelson's Column and Trafalgar Square. The children were sur-



prised the lions didn't turn gold like in the story they had been reading, but none the less, made their way back to school happily. It was a great day out for everyone.

IMPORTANT DATES



END OF SPRING TERM (EASTER HOLIDAY)

School finishes Friday 7th April at 2PM
Return to school Tuesday 25th April 2017

MAY DAY

School Closed Monday 1st May 2017

SUMMER HALF TERM

School finishes Friday 26th May at 3.30pm
Return to school Monday 5th June 2017

EID UL FITR

Possible Eid closure Mon 26th June 2017

END OF SUMMER TERM

School finishes Friday 21st July at 2pm
Return to school Tuesday 5th September 2017

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

On Wednesday Year 5 performed the Easter Festival assembly. To prepare the children visited St Mary's Church where they learnt all about its features such as the altar, the pulpit and the font and listened to the Easter story, read out by Reverent Frazer. They then used what they had found out to completely retell the events from different points of view during their newspaper day. Finally during the festival assembly they did a great job at sharing all the information they had learned, as well as impressing the audience with their fantastic singing and acting. Well done!



Meanwhile as part of their learning about celebrations our Reception children took part in a Easter Egg hunt in Bobs Park arranged by the Bromley By Bow Centre. The children had great fun hiding and finding the eggs and at



the end were rewarded with chocolate eggs to take home. Then back at school they got to take part in their own Easter parade, wearing the bonnets they had made.

In addition the school has been holding an Easter Egg raffle, giving the children a chance to win one of the many Easter Eggs kindly donated by staff. In total this raised £110 For the school. We wish all those celebrating a very happy Easter.



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

COFFEE MORNINGS

Since the last newsletter we had an Offsite Coffee Morning for parents at the Giraffe, Westfield Shopping Centre. We also trialled a cook & share breakfast event, where parents brought in raw ingredients, which they then cooked in the food lab. As this was such a success we aim to repeat it half termly.

BEHAVIOUR

Should your child come home and say something has happened to them in school, please make sure that you pass this information onto their teacher or the Assistant Head, the next day so that the school can investigate what happened and if necessary follow our behaviour policy. Please trust us to deal with the matter rather than approaching the child or their parents directly, as this is likely to cause upset and may not model the behaviour we wish to see from the children

PARENT COUNCIL

Thank you to all our Parent Councillors for meeting with Mr Palmer over the past few weeks. Below is a summary of the issues discussed:

SCHOOL TRIPS AND PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank all the parents who have supported our school trips so far this year—without your support we would not be able to provide these experiences for the children. At the coffee morning on Wed 26th April, Mrs. Rahman will discuss the role & responsibilities of parent volunteers on trips and share information on how we plan our visits, so please come along. If you are able to help on a trip please see Shelly or Florida, who will be happy to take down your details. Once you have said you will attend, it is important that you arrive on time ready to be briefed before the class leaves school. Where parents let us down and don't come on the day, the trip will have to be cancelled if we cannot find another adult to go. This would be a great disappointment for the children, so please help us to make sure it doesn't happen.



PARENTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On 22nd March, 3 dads from Old Palace attended the 11th Annual Parent Conference in South Quay. Hosted by the Parental Engagement Team, the conference provided an important opportunity for parents and Parent Support Workers from across Tower Hamlets to network and share experiences.

	Issues raised	Action agreed to support parents/children
FS	N/A	Councillors had no items for the agenda, meeting was cancelled.
Y1	Homework not marked/collected	Assistant Headteacher (AHT) to check class teachers are following procedure.
	Collecting Money	Next year collect DT money on the day of Comic Relief day. Teacher to take children in classroom, Support staff to collect money outside.
	Carpet not big enough for the children in 1L	Carpets in both classes are the same size. AHT to look at the seating plan with the class teachers.
	Privacy when pupils are changing for PE	Discussed whether blinds should be closed while pupils are changing. It was decided that this was not needed as the pupils would be wearing under garments
	Reminder text message for Book Fair sent too late & some parents not receiving the newsletter	Agreed that it would have been useful to send the text message early. This had been an oversight as the office had been short staffed. Parents to be texted the web link following the next newsletter going on to help them find where newsletters are saved on the school website.
	Staff changes: parents would like more notice so the can meet the new teacher	It was discussed how children can not be told too soon as this may effect behaviour by undermining the teacher. In future the school will send letters 5 working days before the change.
Y2	N/A	Councillors had no items for the agenda, meeting was cancelled
Y3	Event to be timetabled to avoid swimming sessions	Examples were given were events had been placed on non-swimming days, such as DT days. National Days like Children in Need & Comic Relief were on a Friday. The children still had the opportunity to dress up and attend assembly and do not miss out on events, as these took place all week.
	Same parents going on trips	Note to be included in the newsletter about how parents can volunteering and the importance of not cancelling after offering to help.
	Biscuits in school trip packed lunches	Biscuits can be included as part of a school trip packed lunch if parents are providing this, but they can not be given separately as this may delay events and would leave other children feeling left out.
	Head lice reoccurring as some families are not treating them effectively	Note to be included in the newsletter about how parents can treat head lice.
Y4	School lunches: Parents would like lunch portion to be increased	Parents can arrange with Shelly to come in and see the meals provided. 12.10pm is a good time. Up to 3 parents can visit on any one day.
	Support for pupils with behavior needs	Mr Palmer explained the stages of the schools behaviour policy (which is on the website) and how we use behaviour support and pastoral plans to support the needs of individual pupils. He explained that these were in place and additional support from a range of external agencies is also being used were appropriate. It is important that parents pass on any concerns to Miss Millwall, so these can be investigated and action taken if required
Y5	N/A	Councillors had no items for the agenda, meeting was cancelled
Y6	N/A	Mr Palmer asked to meet with the parents to check that they were happy with the support pupils were receiving for SATs. He also consulted with them about offering the Paris trip this year.

OLD PALACE GIRLS VICTORIOUS

On 23rd March Old Palace participated in a Comic Relief Football Tournament at the Powerleague centre in Shoreditch. Cheered on by parents and staff the children played brilliantly, showing great sportsmanship. Although



the boys were knocked out in the group stages they beat the eventual tournament winners. However, the girls surged towards the final. Having gone down to 1-0 they showed great self belief and team work, to roar back to draw level and were very unlucky not to score again. The game went to sudden death penalties. Each team had 2 penalties saved but Zarah stepped up to score the third. Everyone had their fingers crossed that Ameira would once again make a save, which is exactly what she did to great cheers from the crowd. As a result the Old Palace Girls Team was once again crowned champions and to top it all, Ameira has received the player of the match award. Congratulations to both teams. (Amira, Zarah M, Safia, Aya & Aneeka and Sulaiman, Mohammad, Zaid, Ryan & Bashir) and to Gareth and Miss Blackburn for their excellent coaching skills. Finally, a big thank you to the many parents that came to cheer us on!

TREATING HEAD LICE

Parent Councillors have asked us to mention head lice. If we notice a child has headlice we will inform the child's parents and also send a letter home to all the children in the class. If your child receives a letter it is important that they are treated to make sure all the lice and their eggs are destroyed.



Shampoo Treatments such as Lyclear and Full Marks can be bought from the chemist. Supermarket own brands are often cheaper and are available at the pharmacy counter. These have been clinically tested to make sure that they are safe for children to use as long as you follow the directions on the packaging. Often these have to be applied a

second time after 7 days to make sure any newly hatched lice are killed.

Another option is to use **Wet combing**, which involves using a fine toothed lice removal comb, available from chemists, to remove the lice. If using this method, first wash the child's hair with ordinary shampoo and apply plenty of conditioner. Use an ordinary comb to straighten and untangle the hair and then use the lice removal comb, making sure that the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots, with the edge of the teeth lightly touching the scalp. Draw the comb down from the roots to the ends of the hair and check the comb after each stroke for lice, removing them by wiping the comb with tissue paper or rinsing it. Work through the hair, section by section, so that the whole head of hair is combed through at least twice to make sure you haven't missed any areas. This then needs to be repeated on day five and again on day nine. Please help us to keep all our pupils head lice free!



STAR CITIZENS - SPRING B 2017

We would like to congratulate the following pupils for achieving the star citizen award for last half term. Well Done and keep up the good work.

Reception	Yameen RD & Mabur RM
Year One	Arman 1B & Yusha 1L
Year Two	& Adyan 2M Hafeeza 2M
Year Three	Samina 3B & Irum 3G
Year Four	Abdullahi 4C & Sadiya 4H
Year Five	Hiba 5L & Habibur 5K
Year Six	Zaydul 6B & Arifuz 6M

Y6 JUNIOR CITIZEN WORKSHOP

Each year, the school pays for our year 6 pupils to attend the Junior Citizen Training. This year at the workshop held in Mile End the children developed their life skills, by finding out how to use public transport safely. They also met housing officers and members of the Police and Fire Service, to learn what they can do if they ever found themselves or someone else in danger. Then to finish the day, they visited the trade stall to find out what to look out for when buying and selling products to keep themselves safe and prevent crime. The children learned a lot of information and practical tips which should help to keep them safe over the years to come.



YEAR 4 NATURE WALK

This half term Year 4 have been learning more about the Nature Around Us. The children went on a wildlife trail walk at the Soanes Centre, where they first learnt how to spot the wildlife living within the park. They then had the opportunity to become nature detectives and use their senses to observe, smell and listen for what was around them. The children worked in pairs to collect evidence and record what they had found. They even got to use a microscope to take a closer look at the specimens they had found.



FOUNDATION STAGE: TIME TO ENGAGE PROJECT



On Saturday 1st April, as part of the Time to Engage project, Shelly & Mrs Rahman took 20 families to the Owls Soft Play Centre in Barkingside. As soon as the children had taken off their shoes, they leapt into action, having hours of fun and laughter in the soft play area.

All this activity helped to develop their gross motor skills through jumping, ducking, diving, crawling and sliding! A big thank you to all the parents who attended and to Shelly & Mrs Rahman for giving up their Saturday.

****** OLD PALACE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK ******

On 16th & 17th March the school held its first Design & Technology days. The 2014 curriculum placed a large focus on English and Maths, but as a school we value the creative skills offered by subjects such as Art & DT. Therefore to promote these we decided to trial D&T days, where the whole school work on the same topic together. The first D&T days focused on using wood. It was an enjoyable day for the children, bringing out their creative side, as well as allowing them to apply their maths skills such as measuring, calculating angles and looking for geometric patterns. They produced items of a high quality and were commended for their excellent behaviour by David Baker, head of Design Education, who worked along side us. Thank you for all the donations which have been given to Comic Relief. Here is a brief description of the outcome of our DT days for each year group.



Reception made wooden blocks with numbers on them; they sanded the edges to make them smooth using abranet and then decorated them.

Year 1 made mirrors and decorated them using staining techniques to give them a really decorative finish.

Year 2 designed and made wooden picture frames; these were decorated using Mod Podge and Masai patterns to coincide with their topic on Life in Africa.

Year 3 made tangram trays and decorated them using geometric patterns.

Year 4 made desk tidies and were set the challenge of splitting these into nine pieces.

Year 5 made Memento boxes from MDF using washer tapes to secure the joints.

Year 6 made acoustic speakers out of Bamboo; they measured the width and depth of their smartphones before using a drill to create a space. They then filled the space to make it smooth and used washer tape and stains to create a colourful finish.



IT'S A CELEBRATION

**Congratulations to all the following children
for Achieving 100% Attendance
Spring Term 2017
(4th January to 31st March 2017)**

Reception: Maliha, Asma, Maryam, Isma'il, Iffah & Aanisah.

Year One: Isa, Jhuma, Musa, Yasmeenah, Jardel, Amaturahman, Sahla, Zaim, Ibrahim, Prohor, Faheemah, Liyana, Habibah, Nathan, Sama, Yusha & Safiyah.

Year Two: Wassim, Kaif, Fhahad, Majid, Liyana, Muntaz, Fayeezah, Mansoor, Tamanna, Ayo, Opor-na, Hibbah, Aaisha, Maksudul, Hafsa, Yusuf, Muna, Farhan, Ismail & Hafeezah.

Year Three: Samina, Taaiba, Akifah, Zohirul, Zahir, Mohammed I, Saima, Jamie, Jilanoor, Tamim, Gbolahan, Uthman, Zahrah, Abdullah, Mysha, Maniha, Maryam & Usman.

Year Four: Ishaq, Younis, Jayed, Abdillahi, Sofia, Sadeka, Abidur, Bianca, Sajida, Zainab, Sadiyah, Amaanul, Tahir, Adeeb, Sami, Francesca, Aaron & Summer.

Year Five: Aisha, Arifa, Nayeem, Ikran, Binyamin, Maisha, Maliha, Sumaya, Zaynab, Rayan, Mayam, Khadiija & Tawsif.

Year Six: Mahfooz, Zunairah, Imtiaj, Sulieman, Misha, Zaara I, Maryam, Mahir, Muad, Aneekah, Shakibur, Safiyah, Zakwan, Ekram, Fariha, Nahid, Marjama, Umar-Anwar, Sumaya, Aya, Aiyub, Amran & Hannah.



Reception have been learning all about celebrations. First they learned about Mothers' Day holding a special morning on 22nd March, when mums were invited to join in fun activities such as heart card weaving, biscuit dec-

orating and flower petal card making. The children even wrote poems for their mums before treating them to tea and cakes. There was a great turn out and we look forward to seeing just as many dads for Fathers Day next term. Then the children got ready for their first ever festival assembly by visited a Gurdwara Temple, where they were excited to see how Sikhs worship and to learn about the 5Ks. The children learnt so much that they could not wait to get on stage to deliver their very first performance on 29th March. They captured the audience



with an amazing performance, demonstrating a multiple of talents including, singing, dancing and role play as they told the story of how the Kalsa Army was founded by Guru Gobind Singh.