

11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear all,

It seems incredible that we find ourselves at Half Term already. We have most certainly experienced some challenges across the past 7 weeks but regardless we have so much to celebrate. Our maintenance of high levels of risk management in relation to COVID has paid dividends and we are now best placed to reduce some of these controls following the holiday. Currently, I intend to remove the requirements for mask wearing in classrooms and communal areas from the 21<sup>st</sup> February (staff and students may of course choose to wear a mask). We will loosely continue to maintain our bubble system and wider structural routines. To enable this, it is essential that all students and staff take a LFD test on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February to protect the return to school. We will continue with twice weekly testing in the short term. Please upload the test result here [Upload your lateral flow result](#).

This week has seen a focus on teaching and learning, with our spring term monitoring and observations in the classroom. It has been wonderful to spend so much time in classrooms, seeing such consistent high standards and rich curriculum provision. For me, the highlights have been the use of teacher questioning, the provision for stretch and challenge and the variety of activities being explored by students. The role of evaluation and review of our core business is so important, ensuring that our teachers then have the very best professional development opportunities and our students the very best learning experiences.

Beyond the classroom, this week has also seen our Archer Adventures in Numberland and annual House Music Concert. These opportunities provided students with rich learning beyond the curriculum and their engagement was superb. To see Ignatius crowned as House Music winners was very special, I think the roof was nearly lifted off the Sports Hall!

I wish all Archer families a wonderful Half Term and look forward hopefully to more stable times on our return. We very much hope that the coming months will enable greater flexibility and more opportunities for you as parents to spend time at the school.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison  
Headteacher

**Thought for the week:** *"There are no words to express the abyss between isolation and having one ally. It may be conceded to the mathematician that four is twice two. But two is not twice one; two is two thousand times one."* **G. K. Chesterton**

## KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Term dates for 2021 2022: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/term-dates-2021-2022/>

Term dates for 2022 2023: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/term-dates-2022-2023/>

### February

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> – Fri 18<sup>th</sup> – half term holiday

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> – Weds 16<sup>th</sup> – Archer Accelerate Programme

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> – School starts 8.30am

Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> – Year 9 & 10 HPV immunisations, letter sent out by email

Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> – Learning Review Day 2/year 11 study sessions available

w/c 28<sup>th</sup> Anna Freud parental workshops, see email for full details

### March

Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> – Year 8 Options Evening

Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> – PA Student Social years 7-9, lower school 6 – 8pm, see details below

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> – Archer Café 7REV  
w/c 7<sup>th</sup> – Year 10 Work Experience  
w/c 14<sup>th</sup> – Science Week  
Weds 16<sup>th</sup> – INSET day (students off school)  
Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> – Cultural Society trip to see & Juliet, applications now closed  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup> – Parent coffee morning with Miss Harrison and guest speaker, Dr Hugh Selsick, Consultant in sleep medicine and psychiatry, on the topic of teenage sleep, 9.15am – 10.15am  
Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> – Spring Concert  
Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> – Parents Association Quiz Night, details below  
Mon 28<sup>th</sup> –Upper school parent workshop with Sophia Davison, **revised date**

### KEY INFORMATION:

**Job opportunity:** Have you ever thought about becoming part of the Archer community and joining our friendly staff team? If so we are currently looking to recruit a lunchtime supervisor to cover the maternity leave of the current jobholder. The role is for 9 hours a week and involves supporting our students during lunchtime. If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity please have a look at the job description on our website <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/support-staff-opportunities-vacancy/> and reach out to Jessica Scott, HR Manager and Headteacher's PA [JScott@Thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:JScott@Thearcheracademy.org.uk) if you require further information.

**Covid testing:** All students should test on Mondays and Fridays to keep our community safe. [Upload your lateral flow result](#) before your child comes to school.

**Parentpay:** Please ensure your child has a positive balance on their account.



**We're back!!** The new committee are working hard to offer in person events to students and parents. We are pleased to confirm some dates for the diary:

HAVE YOU HEARD.... IT'S TIME FOR THE

# ARCHER SOCIAL

3RD MARCH - LOWER SCHOOL - 6.00PM - 8.00PM

BUY YOUR TICKETS ON PARENT PAY OR ON THE DOOR

BRING SOME CASH FOR SNACKS



CHOOSE A TUNE WHEN YOU BOOK  
- FREE DRINK AND A SNACK WITH EVERY TICKET !



**Student Social – years 7 – 9, lower school, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

**Tickets £5 each – includes drink and snack, available to buy now on ParentPay, bring spending money for SWAG.**

All lower school students are invited for a Student Social at lower school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March from

6 – 8pm. Come and hang out with your friends, show us your moves on the dance floor or chill in the garden area and toast some marshmallows over the fire pit.

Students are encouraged to submit their 3 favourite songs to be played on the night by our DJ here:

<https://form.jotform.com/mha47/student-social-evening>

**Parents Quiz Night – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

**Tickets £22 each – on sale after half term on ParentPay, includes dinner**

We are so excited that the Archer Quiz Night is back! This event is the parent highlight of the year and is always a sell out, so please buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

The event will be hosted by Avis Johns, Founder of the Archer Academy and general all-round superstar and local legend, MOBO award winning DJ Pat 'Have Mercy' Leacock.



You can either purchase individual tickets or a table of 8. Please choose a meat or vegetarian meal when you select your ticket. If you wish to buy a table, please email

[parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk)

and let us know the names of all the people in your group. Tickets are limited for this event.

**Sponsorship Opportunities:**

**Table Sponsorship**

If you would like to promote your business, this year we will be offering parents/local businesses the opportunity to sponsor a table where your company name will be displayed on the night. Please email [parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk) to arrange.

**Event Sponsorship**

If you know of a company that would like to sponsor the event, please get in touch and let our treasurers Sara or Ella know: [parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk)

**We need YOU!!**

Volunteers needed for both events, please email [parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk) if you can lend a hand, either in the run up to the event or on the night itself.

Looking further ahead, please save the date for **Archella International** on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July**. If you would like to get involved in organising this year's festival. Please get in touch!

## **HEADTEACHER'S EXEMPLARY EFFORT AWARD – Miss Harrison**

Each week Heads of Year review the merits and achievements of each student and I then have the pleasure of celebrating this hard work. Each month, students are awarded the Headteacher Exemplary Effort based on their merits. Significant congratulations go to the winners for January, such an impressive achievement and students deserve to be very proud of themselves. Who might it be in February?

Headteacher lunches will take place after half term to mark and celebrate the accomplishments of these students.

### **January 2022 winners:**

<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>
Luca K Rowan F Hugo P Nicola CA Erin R	Zeb F Laila CE Cassidy C Dylan M Azzam M	Layna S Anouk M Sonny R Zarah S Csenge T	Olive HD Amelia G Rina P Parsa S Ash W	Kanya H Zohar AK Tuoya E Matthew B Hannah E

## **LEARNING REVIEW DAY – Mrs Mahoney**

You will have received invites to book your learning review day appointments on the 24th February, the Thursday after half term. Please book your appointment quickly to get a time slot that suits you.

We are delighted to announce that we will be running our Archer Cafes and uniform sale again on both sites. Families will be directed to sign in in the dining room at lower and the foyer at upper site where our cafes will be held.

### **Volunteers and bakers needed**

We are looking for parent volunteers to help out at the cafes and uniform shop, so if you can spare an hour or if you would like to bring in a (nut free) cake to be sold at the café, please email: Ines Santos-Garcia: [ISantos-Garcia@Thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:ISantos-Garcia@Thearcheracademy.org.uk)

There will also be some displays about key subject information. We will accept cash but will also have card readers available to take payments. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you so much for your support.

## **ARCHER ADVENTURES IN NUMBERLAND – Mrs Williams**



We have had a fantastic week at school exploring all things mathematical. Highlights of the week include making our giant Sierpinski triangle and creating Pascal's triangle. It was also wonderful to welcome our guest speaker Rob Eastaway to school. Rob led years 7 & 8 in the Curious Maths Quiz and year 9 learnt all about the maths of money games, including how to outthink their opponents.

Thank you to parents and students who joined for the talk with mathematician, Alex Bellos. He answered questions such as could robots or AI ever have a favourite number? We also learnt that 7 is the preferred number of most humans!

Special shout out to Nathan H in 7SMU for learning his Fibonacci numbers up to 6567!

## **LGBTQ+ MONTH – Ms Humphrey and Ms Gunn**



As part of LGBTQ History month the year 10s were given an hour to transform a peer. The students absolutely loved this and worked creatively and collaboratively throughout. Well done to Lily W and Lola M for their joint win!

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February, our lower school students held a bake sale as part of our LGBTQ+ history month celebrations. Our fantastic volunteers sold out of rainbow cookies, cupcakes, blondies and more, raising £67.66 for The Albert Kennedy Trust, a charity who support LGBTQ+ people facing homelessness or living in a hostile environment. Well done team and thank you to everyone who supported!



## STUDIO GHIBLI WATER GARDEN – Green Arrows



Welcome to a very special project at Archer Upper School.

The green arrows are so privileged to be working alongside Miss Harrison to build a Studio Ghibli inspired water garden. The special garden will be created by the children and parents in memory of the student we tragically lost last summer. This garden will celebrate her love of natural ponds and the Japanese Animations of Studio Ghibli.

Our vision is to create a magical place where students can take time out to have their own space and quietness.

If you would like to join the project, even if you can only donate an hour of your time please contact Rachael at [greenarrows@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:greenarrows@thearcheracademy.org.uk) . No experience necessary just enthusiasm and comradery.

First session will be after the half term break 26/27 February advertised through the Green Arrows WhatsApp group.

## HOUSE MUSIC – Ms Humphrey and Mr Carter

This week our annual House Improvisation Music Concert took place. We had three wonderful guest judges: Pat Leacock, Mark Warman and Jarna Carpenter who lent a professional ear to the proceedings. It was also wonderful to have our year 7 audience there too.

Students were given carnival themed images, linking to our upcoming International Day. Using this as inspiration, they created original pieces of music and we were treated to improvised performances. The judges were truly blown away by the amazing compositions that the students produced in such a short space of time. It was out of this festival!

Well done to Ignatius, who were crowned this year's winners.

### *House League table update*

**Ignatius: 27,300**

**Lovelace: 23,341**

**Seacole: 21,511**



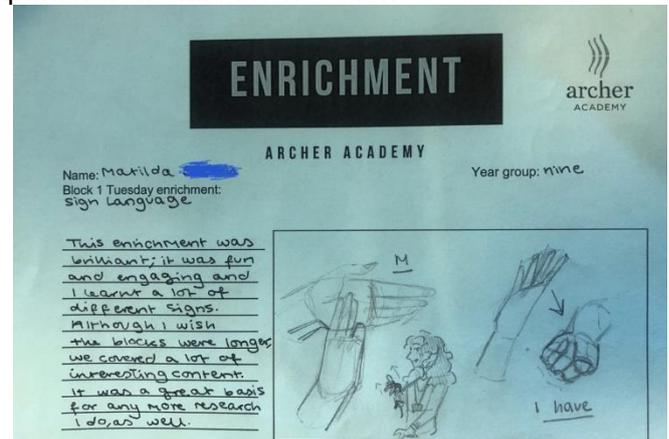
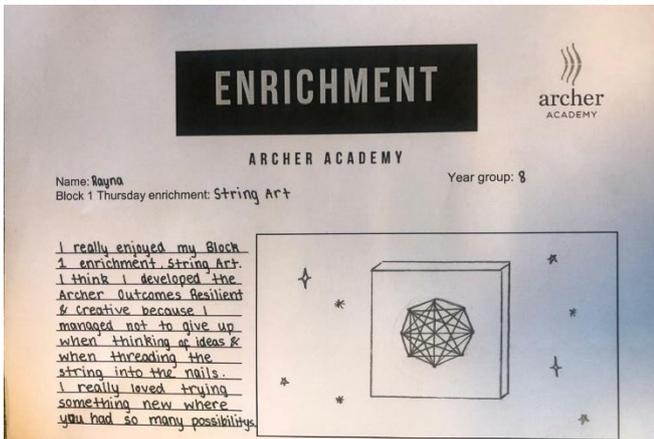
## EXTENDED CURRICULUM – Miss Le

As we bring this term to a close, I wanted to congratulate our 65 Archer Arrow Award winners one more time. They have embodied the Archer spirit throughout this year.

Block 2 of enrichment will begin straight after half term and students have already locked in their choices after having virtual enrichment fairs last week, which were simply so wonderful to see the enthusiasm for our Extended Curriculum.

The final allocations will be shared via Show my Homework, so please remind your child to check it in advance of the first Tuesday back. Tutors will support students on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February to find the correct enrichment lines.

Here are some reflections from students on their experience of enrichment so far:



I hope you all have a great half-term and I can't wait to welcome you all back to restart enrichment. There is so much to look forward to!

## THEMATIC LEARNING YEAR 7 – Ms Vandervelde



The year 7s have been working hard over the past few weeks in Thematic Learning finding out about Chinese New Year. They devised their own Chinese legends and converted these into puppet shows which they then performed for their assessment. Working in groups the students modelled their collaboration and creativity skills with aplomb!

## YEAR 9 CAREERS FAIR – Ms Brami



Year 9 enjoyed a superb Careers Day at school last Friday. We were fortunate to be joined by professionals from many different fields at our Careers Fair who spoke with students and opened their minds to different career options.

Year 9 also listened to a motivating talk by Tom Toumazis, MBE who really demonstrated how with hard work and determination, anything is possible.

Thank you so much to all our volunteers for visiting us and inspiring the next generation.

## YEAR 10 SCHOLARS PROGRAMME – Mr Ruffles

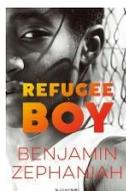
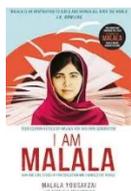
The Year 10 Scholar Sessions have been exploring a unit called "Strength of Mind" this term, focussing on the concept of the mind and topics relating to Cartesian dualism:

- **Can we control our emotional reactions?**
- **Can we think ourselves happier?**
- **Can we overcome pain?**
- **Can we "think" ourselves ill?**
- 

Students have so far been really engaged in these topics and have displayed an impressive degree of intellectual curiosity and maturity: the discussions have been thoughtful and, at times, controversial but they have always been conducted with respect and civility. They are working towards a final project, which will take any form they like (e.g. podcast, video, speech, essay), which will engage more deeply with one of the questions raised in our sessions. I am very much looking forward to seeing what they can produce.

## LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Hiya Cats, and welcome to **Library Corner!**



### Half term assignment:

What was Malala's terrible misdeed? Who was Alem's nemesis? What was Lenny's favourite animal? Years 7,8, and 9 should check **Show My Homework** for a mandatory quiz on your pastoral reading book! Each person to score 100% will earn 5 merits and be entered into an Amazon voucher prize draw!

Remember, it's your last chance to enter the **Pastoral Reading** competition! Send your alternative book cover designs to [Msaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:Msaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk), or bring them in person to the Lower School (Y7,8,9) or Upper School (Y10) Library. Last submissions accepted **Monday 21 February**. **Prizewinners will be announced after half term!**



Some of your favourite young adult writers are in an online conversation this **Valentine's Day** to celebrate **Serendipity**, their new collection of romantic stories-see [here](#) for more details.



### Reviews:

**Ineza** on **Making Friends**: *I recommend to anyone who likes graphic novels.*

**Joey** on **Floodland**: *My favourite part was **SPOILER ALERT!** because it is a huge twist and I like those!*

**Niv** on **Gone**: *Sam finds out that everyone over the age of fifteen disappeared and they are trapped in a giant dome.*

### Call for volunteers:

We have many children who will benefit from working with a Parent Reading Mentor, and so far only three volunteers! If you can give one hour, one morning a week, or know of someone who can, please consider listening to a Year 7,8, or 9 student read to give them confidence and improve their learning in every sphere. Please contact Ms Appelquist at [Msaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:Msaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk) if you are able to spare some time.



**Banned Books Club:** See [this article](#) about a brave band of American teens reading books that are banned in their area! (*Most are available in the Archer Lower School or Upper School Library!*)

As we enter the half-term holiday, here are some ways to read online for **free**: [Libby](#), the free online reading platform enables you to check out thousands of library books from Barnet and other councils to read on your phone, computer, or tablet. No library card? You can apply for one [online](#)!



[Here](#) is a list of free online reading sites.



The team at [Riveted](#) continue to provide full **YA** books and extracts to read online for free.

Have a great break, everyone, and *keep reading!*

### Upper School

**YEAR 11 Pastoral Reading Book**

***All My Sons by Arthur Miller (9780141189970)***

# REMINDER



- Compulsory to have by Friday 25 February 2022, during Form Time.
- Letters went home to parents to order through ParentPay by 1 February 2022.
- If not, please source the book outside of school at a supplier of your choice or try [here](#) and/or [here](#)

For some half term holiday fun, why not enter our competition?



## Attention all Year 10 students:

**Building the Archer Bookcase** is hosting a competition to choose the best alternative book cover for each year group's Pastoral Reading Book! Draw upon what you've read in tutor time so far to create a cover that evokes the mood of the book and gives a hint of what's inside.  
Can you beat this?



Send your contributions to [Mrsrhorwitz@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:Mrsrhorwitz@thearcheracademy.org.uk)  
or bring them in person to the Upper School Library.  
Last submissions accepted **Monday 21 February**.

***There will be prizes.***

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Barnet Youth activities – half term

Book your child's Holiday Activity Today! Positive Activities Feb Half Term Activities are now live and available to book on the Barnet website: <https://barnetyouth.uk/Events?CalendarID=44>

### BELS (Barnet Education and Learning Service)

BELS is offering a free language and communication training course for parents / carers.

Aim: To provide useful and practical strategies to help support communication development in the home environment following the Covid pandemic.

There are 3 courses on offer 1) Early Years 2) Primary 3) Secondary

Trainer: Kate Beare: Kate is a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist and Director of Wave Speech and Language Therapy. She has experience working with children in the early years, primary schools and secondary schools for the NHS and for a national charity. Kate supports children with a wide range of communication needs and her passion is inspiring and empowering those around the child to support communication.

The training will be free for attendees and will be delivered via ZOOM.

To book a place click on the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/W9yfKn1PEE>  
For booking enquiries, please email [bels.trp@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:bels.trp@barnet.gov.uk)

## HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

### Year 11 - Mr McSherry

Statement of Entry. Your child was issued with perhaps "The most important piece of paper of their lives so far...." (Mr Oakley, 2022) this week. They were asked to confirm that the exams they have been entered for are all correct and there is nothing missing. These entries are to be signed by them, and returned to Mr Murray (our exams officer) here at the upper school. The deadline for this was Thursday. Please check that your child has returned their slip to Mr Murray via upper school reception.

More information has been sent out regarding the Archer Accelerate Programme taking place over half-term. Have you seen it? What has your child signed up for? Will they be maximising this opportunity? Monday 14th to Wed 17th February. Upper School .

We also have study sessions for English, science, dance and citizenship on offer on Learning Review Day, 24<sup>th</sup> February, please see the bulletin for all the details.

Have a lovely half term.



Reiss RM and Aiko – brilliant sports and netball skills and representing the school in a way that is well above and beyond our expectations. Well done.

### Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It has been a great last week of this half term. Students have been getting involved in all the different opportunities available to them. Students have taken part in events to support LGBTQ+ history month, Chinese New Year, House Music and more!

In lifelong learning we finished the term looking at resources to support children's mental health week.

Students all selected their enrichment choices this week and will start their new Thursday choice after half term. I am also excited that next half term we will be starting the upper school garden project, where a group of year 10 have been working with the Green Arrows to start putting plans in place to transform the area behind the art studio.

Please do use the half term to get organised, refreshing any stationery required or uniform/ PE kit.

Have a lovely half term and I look forward to seeing the year group return refreshed and ready for another action packed half term.



Alec for his application of language and challenging himself in his French lessons  
Matis for taking ownership of his learning and showing great initiative in English and maths

### Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

A quieter week for year 9 after all the exciting events that have taken place over the last few weeks. Conversations are still focussed on their GCSE choices, there seems to be a real sense of anticipation, mixed in with a little apprehension, as it dawns on them that we will be starting our transition to upper school soon.

We have been celebrating LGBTQ+ history month in form time this week, the year 9 form tutors have been so impressed with the thoughtful conversations the students have been having. We are also

drawing to a close on the SRE curriculum in lifelong learning, don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

A reminder that Learning Review Day is the Thursday after half term - it is so important that you book your appointments as this is the final opportunity to discuss the GCSE option process before the deadline of the 25<sup>th</sup>. If you are having difficulty booking please get in contact with the member of staff you are due to see ASAP.

### ★ Stars of the Week ★

Rosemary B and Gabriella C - for consistently exceeding expectations and working so hard. They are brilliant members of year 9 and I am delighted to have them.

#### Year 8 – Mr Wick

What a final week for Year 8!

Students have had the opportunity to engage with their year 9 curriculum with a launch assembly on Thursday with Miss Harrison. It is so exciting to see year 8 thinking about their GCSE futures.

We also had a celebration event with students who have shown incredible work ethic over this term. See the photo of our lovely morning tea celebration!



Over half term we want students to have a brilliant rest and enjoy their time off. I wanted to take a moment to suggest some activities that you and your children may want to engage with to support their emotional, social, and physical wellbeing:

#### Emotional

- “Headspace” 10 session trial – an app to download for students to learn about meditation
- Mindful colouring – <https://st-thomas-more.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Child-and-Adult-mindfulness-colouring-sheets-bumper-pack-.pdf>
- Going to the Wellcome Collections new exhibit on Joy – [https://wellcomecollection.org/exhibitions/YLi\\_BhAAACEAebzp](https://wellcomecollection.org/exhibitions/YLi_BhAAACEAebzp)

#### Social

- Engaging with volunteer work at local shelters - <http://mhbc.org.uk/soup-kitchen>
- Suggesting your children to reach out to old friends, perhaps not at Archer
- Watching a film as a family

#### Physical

- Trying a new sport
  - <https://www.castle-climbing.co.uk/>
  - <https://www.aquarius-archers.org.uk/>
  - <https://www.barnetcombat.com/>

- Going for a family walk and boat around Alexandra Palace <https://www.alexandrapalace.com/things-to-do/boating-lake/>
- Trying a yoga course <https://www.youtube.com/c/yogawithadriene>

Have a wonderful half term and I hope we come back refreshed and excited for the final half to this term.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Ayan and Dylan who have shown consistent and constant excellent effort throughout the term.

**Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase**

It is hard to think the half-term has already come to an end. As ever, I continue to be impressed by the diligence demonstrated by year 7. This week, a personal highlight was Thematic Learning during which students performed their own puppet show. It has been wonderful seeing the excitement amongst students and enjoying their creativity in full gear.

In light of LGBTQ+ History month students have spent time over the past few weeks learning about the importance of inclusivity. There has been an array of events taking place and pupils have truly thrown themselves into additional opportunities. Well done to all for taking the time to mark such an important month in our calendar. We all know that it is only by being active participants we can achieve a society that goes beyond 'tolerance' by instead, embracing and celebrating diversity.

Next half term, year 7 will be kept equally busy with the following events scheduled:

1. Safer Schools Day – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Here, students will experience a drop-down PSHE day where they will learn about First Aid, the criminal system and consider the importance of making the right decision
2. Learning Review Day Two – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Please do ensure you have booked in to see your child's form tutor. I will also be available on the day should you wish to see me.
3. Take My Child to Work Day – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Have you responded to the letter we sent out last week? If so, thank you. If not, please do complete this over the holidays

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me directly. Have a fantastic half term holiday!

 **Stars of the Week** 

Isabella B for demonstrating excellent creativity in thematic learning  
Musadiq for supporting Mr McSherry in officiating the year 9 basketball match.  
Well done to you both!