

18th March 2022

Dear all,

This week has reflected a rich range of opportunities for our young people, and our staff, both within and beyond the classroom. With Year 7 heading into the world of work with 'Take My Child To Work Day' on Monday and the awe and wonder generated by Science Week, curiosity in our learning has certainly been front and centre. Moreover, for staff their training on Wednesday was focused on curriculum development and we were honoured to be joined by author and expert, Mary Myatt, to work with us to explore the power of our curriculum. I feel that staff, and as a result our students, have a great deal to look forward to across their curriculum as a result of this work.

We were thrilled on Saturday evening to learn of our victory in the Welwyn Youth Drama Festival where our Junior Archer Players took first place, alongside the winning of the Directors Award for Mr Carter. Monday evening saw our dancers complete in the Great Big Dance Off and as a result our junior team will go through to the national finals. I am simply so proud of the young people and my staff involved here.

It has been very special to focus on raising awareness and important funds for the British Red Cross today and I have been struck by the compassion and leadership of students.

As we approach the end of term, please may I ask parents to do a quick stationery review of their child's pencil case? It is important that every young person is fully equipped and ready to learn. It would be incredibly helpful if glue sticks, whiteboard pens and red/purple pens could be replaced where needed.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'Everything is theoretically impossible, until it is done.'* Robert A Heinlein

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/>

March

Weds 23rd – Spring Concert, by invitation, tickets on Parentpay

Thurs 24th – Parents Association Quiz Night – SOLD OUT

Mon 28th – Managing your child's digital diet, year 10&11 parent talk with Sophia Davison, see details below

April

Fri 1st – Last day of term, student finish 12pm midday

Mon 4th – Mon 18th – Easter holidays

Tues 19th – Summer term starts 8.30am

Weds 27th – Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening, 4.30 – 8pm

KEY 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 need YOU!!

Our events are run by parent volunteers and we need parents to come forward in order for them to go ahead. Please email parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk if you can lend a hand, either in the run up to the event or on the night itself. We are currently recruiting for:

Parents' Quiz Night – Thursday 24th March 7.00 – 10.30pm
Archella International Festival – Saturday 16th July

Parents' Quiz Night – Thursday 24th March, 7 – 10.30pm, lower school – SOLD OUT

Thank you to all the volunteers and for prompt payment for tickets.



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.

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 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

HEADTEACHER EXEMPLARY EFFORT AWARDS – 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 February, such an impressive achievement and students deserve to be very proud of themselves. Who might it be in March?

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

February Honour Roll Winners 2022 winners:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Lyn K James V Tess P Kai K	Thaman F Eddy Z Ruslan N Emily A	Donya K Gaby C Lauren B Phoebe M	Seren LJ Megan M Lucy H Samuel R	Gunner G Radia M Alberto K Ahmad B

Toby G	Sezen U	Jason N	Rudy H	Mabel C	
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SCIENCE WEEK – Miss Keen



It has been great to have Science Week back at the Archer this year with students able to take part in a plethora of activities across the week. Many students have been able to think around the meaning of this year's theme- 'growth'. We had a talk from an engineer at the forefront of innovation, cress growing competitions, making rocket cars, growing buildings and rat dissections, among plenty of other activities.

A highlight was Year 8s working with the Army to learn about rocket cars, land speed records and the fundamental principles of STEM. They then moved on to the challenge of working in teams to design, build and launch their own rocket cars! The record speed of any school was 86kmh (on a windy day) and one of our teams matched that record!! Well done to all involved, the soldiers were very impressed with your enthusiasm and teamwork.

The science learning continues next week, when Year 9 will have the pleasure of watching Dr Syzdlo's amazing science show on Friday 25th March during session 1 and 2!

We have extended to deadline for the lab coat design competition to next Friday (25th March) and the Science Fiction writing competition until Wednesday (23rd March). All details are on the Satchel website, please submit entries to any science teacher for a chance to win a KiwiCo STEM box!

'Amazingly fun variety of science themed activities, I have never done before' Asher Year 10 student.

'It has been a memorable science week' Kaelyn Year 11 student

WELWYN WINNERS – Mr Carter



The Archer Players have once again taken gold at this year's Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Festival. The competition, now in its 78th year, took place between the 7-12th March at the Barn Theatre. This is the fourth time we have won the coveted trophy. Drama teacher Mr Carter won Director's Award for most creative and imaginative director and the actors were also recognised for technical skill and exceptional teamwork.

The Archer players won with their edgy adaptation of Sophocles' Oedipus, mixing traditional Greek theatre techniques with an

interlude of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's powerful speech on equality for all, set to Beyoncé's Flawless which was commended by the adjudicator.

DANCE CHAMPIONS – Miss Harris



The CPA department continued their winning streak with the junior dancers taking silver at this year's Great Big Dance Off. This means the team will now compete in the nationals. Well done to Miss Harris and the dance team.

CULTURAL SOCIETY TRIP & JULIET – Mrs Csaky



Miss Harrison was delighted to lead the Cultural Society outing to see & Juliet on Thursday evening. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for information about the next trip

PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE TALK – Ms Mahoney

Monday 28th March, 6.30-7.45pm, upper school dining room

For Parents and Carers with Children in years 10 & 11

Following successful presentations in school and online to lower school parents we are delighted that Sophia Davison, a Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, will be delivering an in school presentation for parents with children in years 10 and 11 which considers some of the issues older adolescents face living in the digital age.

During the talk Sophia will share her thoughts about the ongoing conversation she feels teenagers need around screen use and will encourage you to think about how to support your children when it comes to acquiring social media skills. Additionally, she will help you better understand, from a developmental perspective, why teenagers behave as they do when it comes to their devices and she will share her experiences of the downsides to adolescent wellbeing and relationships that she feels have been compounded by our reliance on digital devices. Finally, she will speak about some of the most troubling aspects of digital technology in order that you feel more confident to help your child feel emotionally and digitally resilient.



How the digital age shapes relationships:
helping your child navigate today's complex world

Sophia Davison
Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist
The Archer Academy

YEAR 7 ENGLISH SUCCESS – Ms Appelquist



Miss Harrison was proud to present the year 7 Lexia group with certificates of achievement for their hard work last term. The group have been taking part in an accelerated literacy programme. Well done everyone.

ENRICHING YOGA SESSIONS – Ms Le

We have been fortunate to work closely with Charm D this year. She's a local yoga teacher who has provided Archer students with exclusive yoga sessions on site. She provides year 11s with weekly lunchtime yoga sessions, year 6 weekly enrichment sessions, and year 7-10 with weekly Tuesday/Thursday enrichment sessions.

Last week during Wellbeing Week she also gave staff an exclusive yoga session too! We cannot recommend her enough. Outside of school she offers a teen class which is online Wednesdays at 6-7pm. Her website is: www.yogacharmd.com if you are interested in finding out more.

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower School

New in Library:



An exciting time travel adventure that explores what Elizabethan theatre was really like. If you are reading, have read, or are planning to read any Shakespeare at all this imaginative glimpse into the past is for you!

Book Reviews:

Noélie on *The Mystery of Me*: *The book was very good however the ending was extremely unrealistic.*

Hugo on *The Wolf Wilder*: *I recommend this book to people who could speak up more.*

Maleha on *All the Bright Places*: *Very hard to put down!*

Science Week at the Archer:

Science Week sees the launch of the Science Fiction writing competition--here's a selection of books to spark your imagination!



These and more are available in the Lower School Library!

National Literacy Trust Reading Championship Quiz:



Ms Appelquist had the pleasure of hosting two teams in the Lower School library to take part in the National Reading Championship Quiz. Our Year 7 and Year 8 teams acquitted themselves admirably in what was a truly difficult quiz, competing against at least 15 other schools. Well done Y7s and Y8s!

Year 7 Team thinking hard!

Events:

On Saturday the 26th of March, The Children's Bookshop in Muswell Hill is hosting Dougie Poynter, bassist for the band McFly, to sign his middle grade book *Dinosaurs Rock!* See [here](#) for more information and to book tickets.



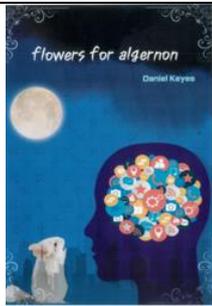
On March 30th, Waterstone's Piccadilly are hosting the authors of the **Carnegie Shortlist** for older readers to discuss their books and take questions from the audience. [Book](#) early!

Are you a book lover? Read this [article](#) about the latest in literary London—including a bookshop that *bans mobile phones!*

Have a great weekend everybody, and *keep reading!*

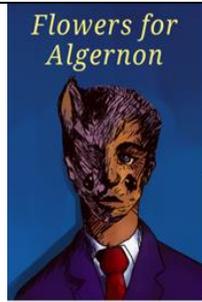
Upper School

And.... the **Winners** of Building the Archer Bookcase alternative book cover for the Year 10 pastoral reading book *Flowers for Algernon* are:



Hyojun Kim

and



Ortega

Congratulations

CELEBRATING SCIENCE WEEK – Write a Science Fiction Short Story...open to all Archer Students

WHAT IS SCIENCE FICTION?

The Encyclopaedia Britannica defines sci-fi as "a form of fiction that deals principally with the impact of actual or imagined science upon society or individuals."

The Oxford English Dictionary describes it as "fiction in which the setting and story feature hypothetical scientific or technological advances, the existence of alien life, space or time travel, etc., esp. such fiction set in the future, or an imagined alternative universe."

PUT PEN TO PAPER - WRITE YOUR OWN SCIENCE FICTION SHORT STORY and HAVE IT ACCESSIONED INTO THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

FREYTAG'S PYRAMID

Writing a Science Fiction Story Guidelines, Examples and Prompts:

- What is the **MAIN IDEA** in your story
- Who are your writing it for? Know your readers and what they want.
- Make **SCIENCE** an essential part of your story, but it must not be overwhelming. It has to be there for the **Science Fiction** story to work - **Examples/Prompts**
- *CRISPR is a technique which allows to edit DNA, this means we can change a person's genetic code this could be used to eradicate some genetic disorders or it could be used to enhance features of the human specie... Where could this lead in the future and do you think there will be a positive outcome*
- *James Webb's telescope recently launched into space, has the ability to look even further into deep space, which means we can look further back in time. What do you imagine scientists may find out about the origins of our universe? How might this be an opening for your story...?*
- *Climate change is altering our planet more than any other human activity, perhaps your sci fi story could incorporate this into the story line, will humans find a way to work together to allow us to continue to inhabit the planet or will we fail to do so?*
- Create believable characters.
- Follow Freytag's Pyramid: BEGINNING - RISING ACTION – CLIMAX - FALLING ACTION - END

INSTRUCTIONS

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- ❖ Familiarise yourself with the **GENRE Science Fiction** by reading **WHAT IS SCIENCE FICTION?** and **WRITING A SCIENCE FICTION STORY – Guidelines, Examples and Prompts (on this page)**
- ❖ Now, enjoy writing your own Science Fiction Short Story
- ❖ Maximum 500 words
- ❖ Closing Date is 21 March 2022
- ❖ **SUBMIT** your story to your **SCIENCE TEACHER** and/or **Mrs Horwitz - Upper Campus Library** or **Mrs Appelquist – Lower Campus Library**
- ❖ MrsRhorwitz@theacheracademy.org.uk
- ❖ mrsappelquist@theacheracademy.org.uk

ENJOY

Something of interest: Booker Prize 2022
The Booker Prize longlist has been announced read all about it [here](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS

Autistic children and Young People aged 6-19 for Jewish Families.

Tuesday 22nd March 2022, 12.00 – 13.30 (online course)

A comprehensive training and support program for parents/ carers of **Autistic children and Young People aged 6-19 for Jewish Families**. This course is available free of charge to **families living in Barnet**. The session will include

- An overview of autism including Communication, Sensory needs and understanding behavior/ emotions
- Discussions and ideas of how to support children through Chagim, larger family functions and simcha's and attending to some mitzvot.

This course also gives parents/carers an opportunity to meet to meet each other and share their experiences.

The course is free, but it is essential that parents/carers register

Please use this link to register <https://forms.office.com/r/QJ6QwvBwys>

For any enquiries please email: autism.team@barnet.gov.uk

Or scan the QR code:



HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

Your child has settled back into school as normal this week really well. There seems to be a renewed focus in classrooms with students maximising opportunities to feel prepared and secure in what they know, and where they need to put their energies.

Do continue to pay attention to the year 11 bulletin with regards to how much time remains until the final summer GCSE exams and also contains all lots of other information you need. I'll ask again, does your child know how much longer they have until their exams?

I am aware this was in last week's newsletter, but it's reinforcement not repetition:

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Thursday 23rd of June
Highgate Golf Club
7pm - 10.30pm

I will be writing to you at the beginning of next week with all the information with regards to purchasing tickets for the event. You will also have received information with regards to year books and leavers' hoodies.

I am conscious of bombarding you. However what I have explained to your child in assembly this week is that it is crucial we stay on top of these things, make our choices and meet those payments to ensure we give them the send off they deserve.

On 28th March - year 11 parents are invited to attend a parenting in the digital age talk, details above.

Have a lovely weekend.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Nathan M and Aiko A - for taking responsibility for all Core Subject Exams with no hesitation or fuss

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It has been lovely to welcome year 10 back to school. It sounds like the majority of the year group had an incredible week and learned a lot about the world of work. The feedback from companies has been excellent and staff visiting placements could not have spoken more highly about the students and how well they were getting on. The students have spent tutor time this week reflecting on their experience and today have written thank you letters to their employers.



One year to go exams - over the next couple of weeks students will start to spend tutor time looking at revision techniques to help prepare them for their one year to go exams. The dates are: Tuesday 3rd May - Friday 13th May, most of the students will sit these at lower school in the sports hall. There will be some however based at upper school - I will update all students with this information. Across the course of the 2 weeks students must attend school in their full school uniform and make sure they are sitting their exams in the correct uniform.

On 28th March - year 10 parents are invited to attend a parenting in the digital age talk, details above.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Sude - for her excellent work experience booklet
Leo S - for giving the very best first impression while on work experience at the Guildhall School of Music

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

A brilliant week for year 9. Starting with the news that the Junior Archer Players finished 1st in the Welwyn Youth Drama competition and ending with a non-school uniform day raising funds for the Red Cross to support with the Ukraine conflict, with many more in between. I could not be prouder of all that the year group have achieved. This week also saw the students celebrating Science Week, a highlight of mine (minus the smell) of the dissection of rats in their additional science lesson on Monday.

In lifelong learning, the students finished off the final part of our wellbeing week videos, hopefully the students understand their wellbeing better and feel confident in expressing their thoughts here. Please reach out if you would like further information or have any worries.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Shakhed and Nelly - for making such a strong start to their new school.
The girls have both fitted in so seamlessly. Well done!

Year 8 – Mr Wick

What a lovely Science Week this has been! Marking the annual celebration of all things Science Technology Engineering and Maths, year 8 students have been afforded excellent opportunities to dissect rats, build rocket cars, and GROW plants from seeds. The word "grow" there is capitalised as that is the theme of this year's Science Week. It links nicely to how year 8 are growing. From their wide-eyed year 7 selves to more studious and conscientious young adults. Thinking more about others and the world around them.

This week, in tutor time, year 8 have been writing letters to those suffering in Ukraine. These letters will be given to the Red Cross to deliver. Reading some of these letters is heart warming; clearly our year 8 collective are thinking deeply about this awful situation.

On Thursday, year 8 were visited by year 11 to discuss the progress of school life with relation to exams, revision, and the upper school. Year 8 were allowed to ask questions and chat with the year 11s about life and from speaking with them it felt very meaningful all round. Thank you Ms Gunn for organising this.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Maisie W and Nittai L H from 8SGU - from designing posters to spreading the word these two have worked tirelessly to spread the word for all to donate to Children with Cancer UK.

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase

It was a little bizarre being a Head of Year on Monday but the smile on our students' faces as they returned from their day of work with parents / grandparents / family friends was all worth it. And what a whizzy day they had! Here's what a few of our students got up to:

- 'I presented on Magic FM which was pretty cool' - Louis
- 'I made an advert with my granddad, which was fun and creative' – Solomon
- 'I helped year 3 students at Brooklands with their spellings' – Sami
- 'I went to UCL and saw the MRI machine. We got to see how brains worked' - Alex R
- 'I learnt how to use a drill; it was fun!' – DeNero
- 'I went to QE boys, got to meet the headteacher and play some instruments' – Isaac M
- 'I sat in on a few meetings with my mum and got to meet loads of interesting people' – Nora
- 'I enjoyed making PowerPoints and learning how to present' - Ahmed

I have no doubt parents the day was equally special for you. A reminder to send in your photos so that we can collate these. You can send them to me directly or to your child's tutor.

We look forward to hosting our first year 7 House Spelling Bee Competition next week. The competition is looking fierce; although I feel Seacole may have it in the bag. Not that I'm biased at all...

Have a lovely weekend!

 **Stars of the Week** 

Liam in 7NAS and Ketevan in 7JRA for demonstrating excellence in all you do. Well done!