

25th March 2022

Dear all,

It has been wonderful to have so many rich and varied opportunities for our students to shine across this week; whether that be in specialist Dance Workshops, the Year 7 Spelling Bee, the Year 8 'Tenner Challenge', or more broadly, through our 'Being Brilliant' focus. The energy created by these events and the language of empowerment and excellence has been palpable and I feel very proud of my students.

However, it is with disappointment that I must also remind students and parents about our expectations surrounding mobile phones. Amidst all of the achievements this week we have unfortunately also experienced a number of violations of our mobile phone policy. Our rules surrounding mobile phones are very simple and part of our Home School Agreement. Smartphones are simply not allowed, or any personal device that can access the internet or has a camera. This rule is in place as a protective factor for our students and our community and is expected to be respected. A number of students will find themselves in Saturday detention tomorrow and bag searches will be a regular part of next week, as we support our students in ensuring the right choices are being made by all. I would ask that all parents revisit expectations with their young person to ensure that we are all best placed to work together and focus on our students' learning, wellbeing and academic success.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *"But there's a story behind everything. How a picture got on a wall. How a scar got on your face. Sometimes the stories are simple, and sometimes they are hard and heart breaking. But behind all your stories is always your mother's story, because hers is where yours begin."* Mitch Albom

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

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

Mon 28th – Shakespeare

April

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

Fri 1st – Green Day, students should wear green and bring in £1 donation for green causes

Mon 4th – Mon 18th – Easter holidays

Tues 19th – Summer term starts 8.30am

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

May

Weds 4th – Year 10 one year to go exams start

Mon 16th – GCSE exams start

June

Weds 8th – Year 10 parents' consultation evening 4.30pm – 8pm

w/c 13th & w/c 20th – Year 7 – 9 summer exam weeks

Weds 22nd – GCSE exams finish
w/c 27th – Year 10 summer exam week (Core Subjects only)

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.



Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who attended Quiz Night this week and congratulations to the winners! We had an amazing team of parent volunteers who put on the most fabulous night. Thanks also goes to our brilliant hosts, Pat 'Have Mercy' Leacock and Avis Johns and the wonderful Nikki Townley and alumni student Julia B who kept score and to Olive Dining who catered the event with a delicious curry.

We sold a record 136 tickets and our auction on the evening included some superb items such as:

- Signed scripts, photos and DVDs from Inside No. 9
- Afternoon tea with Miss Harrison
- Front row Summer Showcase tickets
- First choice enrichment

We will update you with the total amount raised for the school next week.



Looking ahead to Archella Summer Festival – Saturday 16th July

We are now recruiting for a team to lead on Archella Festival. If you would like to get involved please email parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk

Our events are run by parent volunteers and we need parents to come forward in order for them to go ahead.

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.

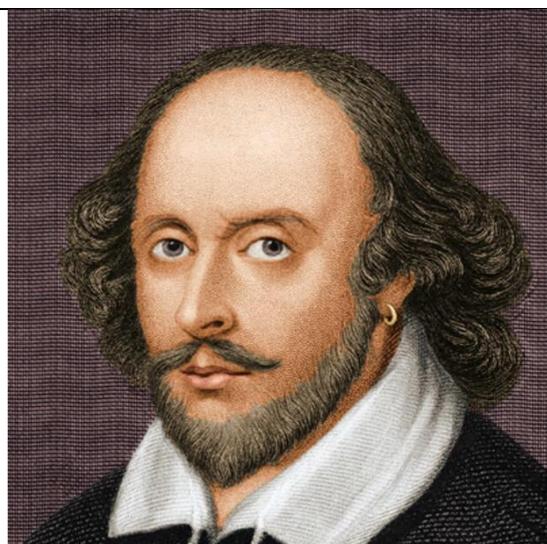
During the talk Sophia will share her thoughts about the ongoing conversation she feels teenagers need around screen use and will encourage you to think about how to support your children when it comes to acquiring social media skills. Additionally, she will help you better understand, from a developmental 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

SHAKESPEARE IS COMING TO SCHOOL – Ms Bailey



During their English lessons on Monday, years 7, 10 and 11 will be treated to performances by The Globe Players, a travelling theatre company specialising in performing Shakespeare for secondary school audiences.

Year 11 and year 10 will both enjoy performances of *Macbeth*, and this will be an excellent opportunity for them to experience their GCSE set text as the bard intended it. There will also be an opportunity for Q&A with the actors, so students should come armed with any questions they have about the text.

In the afternoon, year 7 will enjoy *What You Will*, a special performance designed by The Globe Players to introduce young people to Shakespeare's work, ahead of their study of *The Tempest* after the holidays.

Year 11 and year 10 students should arrive at upper school as normal on Monday morning. Year 11 students should be prompt to ensure they are ready for registration before commuting across to lower school for the performance. Year 10 students will commute to lower school during the school day.

BEING BRILLIANT – Ms Mahoney

Being Brilliant Week

21-25 MARCH 2022



This week as part of our positive behaviour drive staff have been celebrating all students who have been modelling the Archer Way by just being brilliant. We very much wanted to celebrate our students who do the right thing all the time. Staff have been handing out slips and treats to students across the week. Well done to all students who have been nominated.

Here are some examples:

Zena A (9SCL, Seacole) nominated by Ms Randall, Ms Keen, and Ms Denden for brilliant engagement in lessons!

Zahra S (9KSA, Ignatius) nominated by Mr Clark for brilliant classwork and 'for amazing javelin throwing', as well as Ms Randall for excellent effort.

Charlotte B (8CSU, Seacole) nominated by Ms Harris for brilliant punctuality and 'for consistent dedication to her dance piece'

Samuel R (9RAH, Ignatius) nominated by Ms Vandervelde for brilliant engagement in his lesson.

Rina P (10NAL, Seacole) nominated by Ms Alcock for brilliant behaviour in tutor time

Joseph R (11JEI, Lovelace) nominated by Ms Jouhal for brilliant classwork in geography

NEW STAFF MEMBER – Katie Ruback



Katie Ruback

Position at school

Head of Development and Alumni

What does that mean?

I am responsible for generating extra funding for our school, via donors, charitable trusts, and businesses, so we can provide lots of amazing new opportunities for our students.

I will also be developing the school's Alumni strategy, now that we have our first few years of Archer leavers, so we can keep them connected with each other and the school.

Other facts about me:

I am a mum of three, including to Erin in year 7 at the Archer. We recently returned from living in California for a few years. We just missed the British weather too much!

And finally...

If you have any fundraising ideas, or want to get involved in supporting the school, please get in touch: kruback@thearcheracademy.org.uk

PI DAY – Ms Gunn



To celebrate Pi Day, 8SGU held a Pi Day competition. Students across years 7-9 competed to memorise the most digits of Pi. It was a close call, Mikaaail in year 7 came in third with an impressive 59 digits. Robert in year 8 was a close second with 72 but our overall winner with 79 digits was Sophia in year 8. As well as her chocolates and postcard, Sophia got an extra, rather unusual prize (pictured above).

Special shout out to year 8 for being a fantastic audience to the year 8 competition, and well done to all who took part. We raised over £40 for our chosen charity 'Children With Cancer UK' which is a charity our tutor group care so much about.

GREEN DAY – Ms Clarke

Our Year 7 **Global Ambassadors** have organised a **non school uniform day** next week, on the last day of term. Please try to **wear something that is green** to show your support for green issues. It will be our Archer: **GREEN DAY.**

We want to continue our fight to stop climate change.

Please bring £1 plus money to spend at our **green cake sale!**



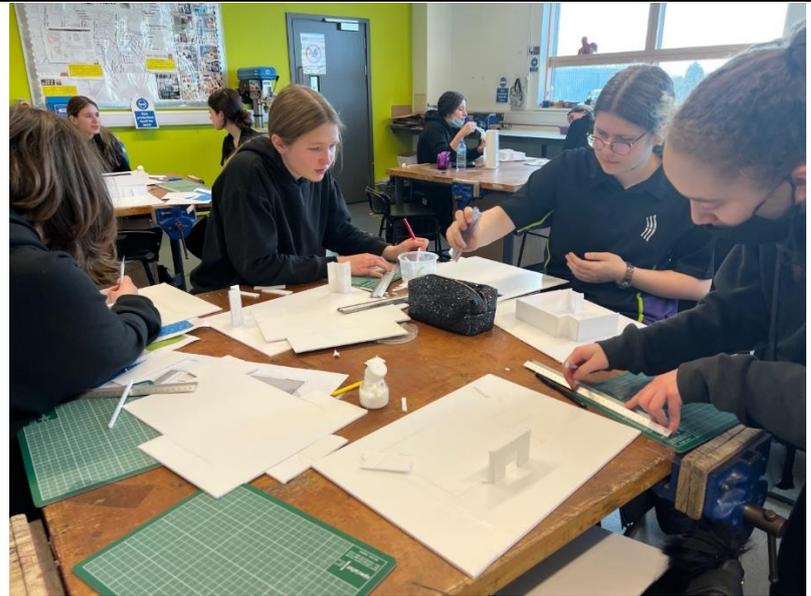
The funds collected will go to the **World Land Trust**. A small amount will go toward developing the school garden.

**Friday
1st April**



ARCHER GREEN DAY 2022

ENRICHMENT – Miss Le



It is great to see how much progress is being made by all students in their enrichments. The creativity shown by students in architectural modelling in particular has been outstanding. You can already see the designs taking shape and they look amazing. We can't wait to see the finished projects. With only three weeks of enrichment remaining, I have no doubt enrichment teachers will be starting to think carefully about who they will select as their Archer Arrow award winners.

YEAR 8 10X CHALLENGE – Ms Thornley



Year 8 had the opportunity to sell goods and services to other members of the Archer community this week. This was all set up to boost sales for £10 Challenge Business Enterprise Project they were taking part in as part of thematic learning. For the project, students were put into groups and given an investment of £10 to start a business. They had a limited number of weeks to design and create a viable business in order to pay back their loan along with making as much profit as possible. The challenge has been a huge success for the students with a whole range of ingenious business ideas created and lots of profits made. Some of the businesses included: home-made candles, baked goods, jewellery, artwork, car washing and bubble tea. Additionally, many of the groups decided to donate some, if not all, of their profits to extremely worthwhile charities and causes.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP – Ms Gunn

It has been a very busy time for our student leaders. Last week on Thursday, we held our very first revision skills sessions with year 8 tutor groups. Year 11 leaders were able to share their tips on how to revise effectively, and year 8 were able to learn from their peers in a relaxed setting. A special shout out to Selin, who worked with 8CBA. The group were very impressed with you!



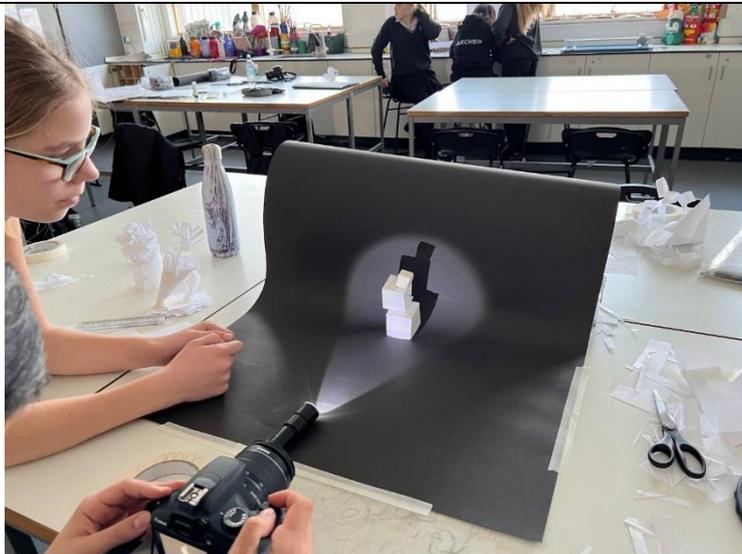
Our lower school prefects created the debut edition of our student newsletter, which was shared with all students on 'Show My Homework'. Please take a look if you haven't already, and watch out for our next edition, coming soon!

Both our upper school and lower school leaders continue to support with homework club at lower school which has really benefitted our year 7 students. Year 8 receptionists continue to support staff at lower school with their daily tasks.

Finally, our most recent student council meeting took place on Thursday. Updates will be shared with you soon, but there is a lot to look forward to.

Well done, team.

YEAR 9 PHOTOGRAPHY – Ms Clarke



Our Year 9 photographers enjoyed two hours of paper sculpture studio photography on Monday. Some students found very inventive ways to construct a studio setting out of found objects, to set their work off imaginatively. They experimented with light and managed to produce some exciting, abstract outcomes.

ROYAL ACADEMY ART COMPETITION – Ms Clarke



I would like to express my admiration for the students who entered the Royal Academy Young Artists Show this year.

There were some spectacular pieces of work, like this complex sculpture by Olive in year 10. We will keep our fingers crossed!

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

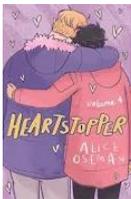
Lower School

Parents:

The Lower School Library needs reading volunteers! Do you have an hour or half hour on a weekday morning to help a Y7, 8, or 9 child build reading confidence? Please contact [Ms Appelquist](#). This opportunity is also open to alumni!

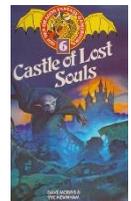


Book Reviews:



Nina on *Heartstopper 4*: *It's a really good book...I can't wait to read more from Alice Oseman!*

Hugo on *The Castle of Lost Souls*: *I recommend this book to people who love fantasy and can stand depressing endings.*



Sienna on *The Knife of Never Letting Go*: *...it was really fascinating.*

Remember, each review earns you 10 merits!

New in Library:



This dystopian thriller featuring the crème de la crème of New York's elite private schools keeps you hooked from the first page!

After School Carnegie Shadowers:

THE CARNEGIE MEDAL SHORTLIST 2022

Are you an avid reader? Do you want to join with students all over the country in celebrating some of this year's best books for young adults? Contact Ms Appelquist about the Carnegie Shadowing Group.

JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION...

The shortlist has been announced and soon the Wednesday after-school **Carnegie Shadowing Group** will begin. We'll read one or two of the shortlisted books and join the Barnet Shadowers' Event. Contact [Ms Appelquist](#) to register your interest!

Long read:

This [article](#) includes input from Art Spiegelman, Margaret Atwood, and Hamid Ismailov, discussing a recent book-banning trend in the US that mirrors those in China and Nazi Germany. Could it happen here?

Book Tokens Reminder:

This is the last weekend you can use your £1 book token at any major book retailer or supermarket, including Sainsbury's, Asda, Morrisons, Tesco and WH Smith!



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

Upper School

Just in time for the Holidays...the Library Monitor Book Buy books have arrived – Here are the choices made by the Students for the Students!



COMMUNITY NEWS

LANGUAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

BELS (Barnet Education and Learning Service) is offering a free language and communication training course for parents / carers of all children. 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

EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB BOOKINGS NOW LIVE TO BOOK!

What is on offer? Barnet Youth provide two main Holiday projects throughout the for children in the Borough of Barnet that you can access today!

Barnet Active Creative and Engaging Holidays (BACE Holidays) Easter, Summer and Winter Holidays and funded by the Department of Education. **The project is to support children aged 5-16 who are eligible and in receipt of Free School Meals.**

Book here: <https://barnetyouth.uk/Events?CalendarID=48>

Over the Holidays these children can access 4 days of provision will be offered with a minimum of 4 hours of activities per day. These children will have the opportunity to take part in physical, creative and enriching activities and each will be provided a healthy hot meal.

Monday 04 April - Friday 08 April & Monday 11 - Thursday 14 April

Not on Free School Meals? You can access Positive Holiday Activities instead!

Book here: <https://barnetyouth.uk/Events?CalendarID=49>

With only a few weeks of the spring term left that means our 2022 Easter Positive Activities provision are just around the corner for 4-16 year olds! Any child who lives or schools in the Borough of Barnet can access this project. Positive Activities will run between: Monday 11 April – Thursday 14 April 2022

Here are some examples of what's on offer: Book your child onto one of our fantastic activities: Digital Photography, Horse Experience Day, Paint in Watercolour, Yoga, Squash and Creative Media.

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

I hope you have not felt overwhelmed by the volume of information coming home for your child at present. Please do understand that all communications are important at this point and we are doing our very best to keep you in the loop.

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

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

Reinforcement, not repetition.

The Leavers' Ball letter will reach you on Monday. Please pay attention the payment deadline as well as all the other logistical information.

You will already be aware of the deadline to make payments for the hoodies and yearbooks, please do contact the finance team if you are having any trouble at all. That deadline is a hard one, this will enable us to make the order and have what we need delivered before results day, ready for your child to collect.

Have a lovely weekend.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Zara L and Eve F - for always demonstrating the Archer Way, being kind and working hard

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It has been a busy week for year 10. In SPPEC students have been presenting to their peers about their work experience and it has been lovely to see and hear what the students got up to.

Across the course of this week it has been lovely to see so many of the year group being nominated for being brilliant. Well done to all those who were nominated.

I have also had the pleasure of hearing lots of feedback from the sports enrichment providers and how impressed the internal and external teachers have been with the effort and behaviour of year 10.

Next Monday all year 10 parents are invited to join our first Digital Diet workshop at upper school on Monday at 6.30-7.45pm.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Ibty and Rina for being brilliant!

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou



Following on from last week's newsletter, I am delighted to share that our year 9 students raised £784.93 for the Red Cross to support in Ukraine. I am so proud of the effort they put in and know that both the money and the notes of encouragement and support will be so appreciated.

You should have received your child's GCSE choices letter this week - a reminder this is just to confirm the choices they have made - not confirmation of the subjects they will be taking next year. Please get in contact as soon as possible if there are any issues.

Next week sees the end of the spring term, and our last one entirely at lower school. Our transition programme kicks off in the summer term and I am looking forward to taking the year group on the next step of their Archer journey.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Riya - for amazing and consistent effort in science
James G - for his kindness and engagement in SPPEC

Year 8 – Mr Wick

Monday morning boasted an impressive 10x Challenge Fair, where the year 8 students all gathered on the playground to buy and sell each other's wares. Candles, bubble teas, and bracelets were all on offer in this market extravaganza. I heard that some students have made over £100 on their entrepreneurial journeys.

This week saw interviews for prospective teachers, with year 8 taking an integral role in the interviewing process, demonstrating exceptional maturity. It is clear how many future student leaders there are in the year group and this has made me more excited than ever to launch the prefect process for next year.



During form time, students discussed the concept of gangs and gang affiliations. We discussed the impact that gangs have on the community, why someone may want to be in a gang, and what result being in a gang can have on the individual.

On Friday 8KCL had their charity bake sale, as well as the incredible Tomas B putting himself forward to be sponged in the face for charity. What an excellent team effort. I'm excited to hear how much they managed to raise.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Tomas B in 8KCL for being such an excellent sport in raising money for the form
Luca O 8KCL for his excellent number of merits gained this week. Well done!

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase



It seems as though year 7 are continuing to go from strength to strength. This week saw the introduction of our first ever House Spelling Bee. The competition was fierce with Ignatius and Lovelace giving Seacole a run for their money. However, a huge well done must go to Seacole who secured the win Well done to all involved! It was wonderful seeing students volunteer, actively engage and cheering on their teammates. A particular well done must go to Ruth, James L and Luca K – you pulled together a stellar performance.

Another highlight this week was 7REV's assembly on our Archer outcome - reflective. Taking on the challenge, it was lovely to have students share their top tips such as keeping a journal, talking to others and actively reflecting on decisions you've made. Well done to all members of 7REV, however, a particular well done must go to Alex M, Zac B, William, Seth, Omar and Zena.

Next week sees the end of our second term. Time is certainly flying. I look forward to reflecting on our shared successes then.

Have a lovely weekend.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Isaac M in 7SRA for an excellent performance in the year 8(!) football match
Alex R in 7NAS for continued excellence in science. Keep it up!