

29th September 2023

Dear all,

I was so incredibly proud to welcome over 1300 visitors to our school for Open Evening on Wednesday. However, what I was most proud of was our students who readily gave up their time to showcase their school and welcome prospective families. To see our students so confidently and articulately talk about their experiences but also simply demonstrate such pride in their school was humbling and I feel says a great deal about our community. As one visitor said, *'I have been so impressed by the maturity and enthusiasm of every student that I met – they are an asset to your school.'* Particular congratulations must go to Head Student, Alex B and Yamana from Year 7 who spoke so articulately and passionately in the central speeches – well done.

We came together, as a complete school, for assembly this morning. The first of the new academic year, where we had the space to formally welcome our new Year 7 to our community, and to reflect on what it means 'To be an Archer'. I do believe it is our strong sense of community and shared values that enables our young people to feel so confident and happy at school; therefore, making the excellent progress that they do. I specifically asked each student to ensure that they are seizing every opportunity that can school can afford them, to always opt in and not out. Please do ask your child which opportunities they have signed up, giving them a good nudge to expand their horizons.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."* Nelson Mandela

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY – Mrs Ruback

Term dates for 2023-2024 can be found here: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/calendar/>

Key dates over the next two months:

October

Mon 2nd – Year 7 Settling In Evening, 4.30 – 8pm

Tues 3rd – Enrichment begins for Year 7, 8 and 9

Mon 9th – INSET day, school closed for students

Tues 10th-Fri 20th – Depth Assessment Fortnight

Fri 13th – Microsoft Teams Parent Workshop, 10am, lower school

Mon 16th – Year 7 Kingswood parent meeting, 5-6pm. All Years Parent Social 6-7.30pm, lower school

Thurs 19th – Prize Giving Evening (by invitation), 7-8.30pm, lower school

Fri 20th – School finishes early at 1pm for half term

Mon 23rd-Fri 27th – Half term

Mon 30th – School starts 10.45am for students

November

Wed 1st – Year 11 Core Subjects Evening, 6-8pm

Wed 1st – Fri 3rd – Year 7 Kingswood Trip
 Wed 8th Nov – Difficult Conversations talk with Sophia Davison, 6.15-7.30pm, Year 7-11 parents
 Mon 13th – Fri 17th Nov – FREE Week (no homework or assessments)
 Fri 17th – Year 7 parent coffee morning, 9-10.30am
 Thurs 23rd – Learning Review Day (timetable suspended for 1-1 meetings with tutors)
 Mon 27th – Flu vaccination Years 7-11
 Wed 29th – Parents Association AGM, 7pm, lower school

COMMUNICATION



To see photos and follow school news:

Facebook @TheArcherAcademy

Instagram @archeracademy

LinkedIn @archeracademy

To join your tutor group's parent WhatsApp group, please email kruback@thearcheracademy.org.uk

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR – Sophia Davison



My name is Sophia Davison and I am a child and adolescent psychotherapist. Together with my colleagues Phaedra and Tracy, we make up the school's counselling team supporting students therapeutically across all year groups. At the Archer Academy, we have a comprehensive programme aimed at promoting the mental wellbeing of those in our community. This includes 'Wellbeing Week', individual counselling sessions, group work and specialist interventions from external providers such as equine therapy.

This year, we are expanding our programme of events for parents and carers and I am delighted to share the following dates with you which I will be leading. I hope you will come along and find them useful:

8th November 6.15pm – 7.30pm *for parents and carers with children in Years 7-11*

Navigating tricky conversations with Teens: topics to address and tips to make conversations more meaningful.

17th November 9am – 10.30am *for parents and carers with children in Year 7*

Coffee morning with a Q&A about mental health matters.

31st January 6.15pm – 7.30pm *for parents and carers with children in Years 10 and 11*

Managing Exam Stress: how to support your child and feel supported yourself.

9th February 9am – 10.30am

Coffee morning with a Q&A about mental health matters.

17th April 6.15pm – 7.30pm *for parents and carers with children in Years 7-11*

Permission to feel: helping sensitive children thrive.

15th May 6.15pm – 7.30pm *for parents and carers with children in Years 7-11*

A mystery of the adolescence: understanding the power and purpose of the teenage brain.

MS TEAMS PARENT WORKSHOP – Mrs Gillham

Friday 13th October



We will be holding a MS Teams parent training session on Friday 13th October in the Lower School Dining Room from 10-10.45am. This will provide an opportunity to show you how to use the basic functions of MS Teams to support your child. If you would like to join, please click here to confirm your attendance at this event:

<https://form.jotform.com/mha47/ms-teams-parent-training-session>

DEPTH ASSESSMENT FORTNIGHT – Mrs Gillham

Timetables for depth assessment fortnight will be shared with students next week during assemblies and on the MS Teams year group channel. Please speak to the relevant Head of Year if you have any questions about this.

As depth assessment fortnight approaches, students should continue to make time each week to consolidate their learning or revise their work. This will help to retain new knowledge and skills, and allows them to build confidence for their lessons the following week. Mind maps and flash cards are a great way of condensing ideas and summarising the key ideas and concepts that have been learnt during the week, here are some tips on how to do this well:

Mind Maps:

Mind maps or spider diagrams:

- Put your key question, exam question or a key topic in the centre;
- Use subtopics or subheadings;
- Add key pieces of information;
- Develop some of your points;
- Add symbols or images;
- Use different coloured pens or highlight different points;
- Use different sized pieces of paper.

Revision Cards:

Revision cards:

- A5 or A6 size;
- Key questions, headings or subheadings on each one and key information;
- Lots of cards with different information, answering one question;
- Move them around or **stick** them down on larger pieces of paper or around your room with blue tack.

ENRICHMENT REMINDER – Miss Galliver

ENRICHMENT



STARTS NEXT WEEK

A reminder that Enrichment starts next week, on Tuesday 3rd October. It will take place every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-4pm for Year 7-9 students, and Thursdays at 3-4pm for Year 10 students.

PARENT ASSOCIATION SOCIAL – Jess Curtis and Chris Kurt-Gabel Monday 16th October



Our first Parents Association social event of the year will be held on Monday 16th October, from 6-7.30pm at lower school. All parents welcome!

Join us for drinks and nibbles, meet other parents, and hear about our upcoming events this year.

STUDENT EXERCISE BOOKS – Mrs Gillham

Following feedback from students in Upper school, we will now allow exercise books to be taken home by students in Years 10 and 11. This is a move to support independent study and provide upper school students with the flexibility to review and revisit work on a daily basis to support their learning and memory retention.



In order for this to be effective, Year 10 and 11 students should make sure they are well organised, bringing their books into lessons every day and taking good care to keep them in excellent condition. Exercise books are an essential and formal record of learning, the presentation and quality of work should always reflect the highest standards with the best work and effort.

Where students forget to bring books into school, this may be followed up with an appropriate consequence based on professional judgement from the teacher and where this becomes a repeated concern, it may be appropriate to keep the books of certain students in school to avoid poor organisation or quality written work.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students will continue to keep books in school, to ensure the quality, presentation and organisation of work maintains a high standard. Students may take books home to support assessment preparations prior to depth assessment fortnight.

OPEN EVENING – Miss Harrison



It was wonderful to welcome over 1,300 prospective parents and children into our school on Wednesday evening to show them what life at Archer Academy is all about.

Thank you to our superb student guides and helpers who did a fabulous job showcasing our school.

Our open events continue across this month with taster lessons and small group tours. Further details at www.thearcheracademy.org.uk/admissions

NEW STAFF – Miss Yates

Welcome to our new Archer teachers:

- Ms Dabrowska – Teacher of Maths
- Ms Kovacs – Teacher of Maths
- Mr Hilton – Teacher of History and Head of Year 8
- Ms Hursay – Teacher of History
- Mr Hussion – Teacher of Humanities
- Miss Abida – Teacher of English
- Miss Flores-Medrano – Teacher of English
- Mr Cifci – Teacher of PE



Please click here to view the full list of Archer staff: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/staff/>

THEMATIC LEARNING VISITORS – Mrs Vandervelde

Our Thematic Learning programme benefits enormously from having experts visit our classrooms - it really helps to bring the subjects to life and enables so rich learning opportunities. Are you able (or do you know someone else) who might be able to support our curriculum in this way? Please email mrsjvandervelde@thearcheracademy.org.uk with your suggestions and/or offers of help. Topics are:

- **Diseases** - looking for people who work in medicine and/or research.
- **Sport and Society** - looking for people who work in sport (not really sports people) eg referees, grounds supervisors, personal trainers, coaches, physios etc.
- **Local Community Work** - looking for people who work/volunteer in the local area eg foodbanks, religious communities, local newspapers, local councillors etc.
- **Writing for Young Children** - working as a writer, reviewer, bookseller, publisher in the field of childrens' books.



MATHS UPDATE – Mrs Sampson



This academic year the Maths department will be working with the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM). This will give us the opportunity to work with like-minded colleagues and share good practice.

The NCETM run a series of Maths hubs across the country. They seek to harness all the maths leadership and expertise within an area, to develop and spread excellent practice, for the benefit of all pupils and students. Every hub runs several projects each year which enable teachers and teaching assistants to work collaboratively with the support of local leaders of maths education (LLMEs). I look forward to sharing more information about the work of the NCETM in future editions of this newsletter.

RECRUITMENT – Ms Yates

join us

We are currently recruiting for three exceptional teachers and leaders - Director of Design and Technology, Director of Science, and Teacher of Maths. Please direct anyone who may be interested in applying to:

<https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/join-our-team/>

We are also looking for a part-time mealtime supervisor (9 hours/week) to help ensure that lunchtime runs efficiently and smoothly. If you know anyone who may be interested, please refer them to our website for more information and application details: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/join-our-team/>

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS – Claire Straus

Three candidates have been nominated for the vacancy of parent governor on the Archer Academy Board of Governors – Chris Kurt-Gabel, Leanne Lawrence and Greg Ruback. There is an election to appoint the position and all parents and carers at the Archer Academy are eligible to vote.

You can read the personal statements of the three candidates here and vote on the link below:

<https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/ParentGovernorPersonalStatements.pdf>

Voting link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B3F2MB7>

Voting closes at 17.00 on Thursday 5th October.

HOMEWORK CLUB – Mrs Horwitz



Homework/Revision Club

Upper Campus Library

Monday to Friday

Monday and Wednesday 15h45 – 17h00

Tuesday and Thursday 16h00 – 17h00

Friday 15h00-16h00

- ✓ Students are **voluntarily** able to come and do **homework** and/or **revision** after school.
- ✓ **Homework Tutorial sessions** will be on offer where students are able to approach a subject teacher for assistance. An afternoon will be allocated to a subject. Look out for the subject roster in upcoming newsletters.
- ✓ Students requiring any **additional support** will be asked to attend to either **catch-up** or **consolidate** their work.

THE GREEN ARROWS – Rachael Harvey

GREEN ARROWS GARDEN ASSOCIATION

~ SINCE 2021 ~

GAGA

Introducing a very special resource here at the Archer Academy; the **Archer Gardens**. Built and shaped by parent volunteers.

To help keep this amazing school resource looking good, we need new friends to **come and join us** in maintaining the school gardens, cabin and pond.

The Green Arrows are a very friendly bunch of people, who like a bit of fresh air and garden adventures.

All you need is a good sense of humour and a willingness to help make the gardens a beautiful resource supporting nature and the children's wellbeing.

- No regular commitment expected
- No knowledge of gardening required
- People from all communities and walks of life welcome

You can take on as much or as little gardening or DIY tasks as you like. Sessions in the last weekend of every month, and a few additional ones where we can.

Hope to see you soon!
The Green Arrows

FIND US ONLINE:

[instagram.com/thearchergarden](https://www.instagram.com/thearchergarden)

thearcheracademy.org.uk/archer-garden

archersunflowers.wixsite.com/competition

<https://youtu.be/uSteJ5ZiRRU>



JOIN OUR WHATSAPP GROUP

07887 504522

...and find out about our bulb planting weekend, X-Mas wreath workshops and other special events.

ALSO HAPPENING IN THE GARDEN...

- Yoga in the cabin: natashalotusyoga@gmail.com
- Monthly mindful drawing and painting sessions with Laura Fox: <https://tinyurl.com/3kxuc5ac>
- Looking for a natural environment for your own community event?
[@thearcheracademy.org.uk](https://www.greenarrows.org.uk)

PE UPDATE – Miss Le



On Thursday, the Archer Year 8 and 9 girls football team played against Wren Academy. It was a brilliant first half where we really fought for the ball and persevered. Our defence did a great job at bringing the ball up into play and our formation stayed strong.

Unfortunately, we didn't manage to score any goals. In the second half we had a great start but sadly, just let 2 goals slide past us. It was a fantastic first game and well done to everyone who played and contributed. Also, a special mention to the Year 7s who helped us play!

Match Report by Aliza C (Captain)

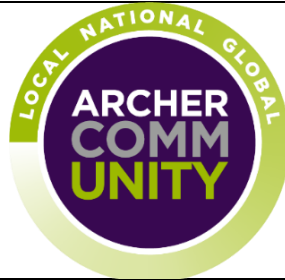
SIXTH FORM OPEN DAYS – Mrs Ruback

Woodhouse College and Barnet and Southgate College have their open days coming up:

WOODHOUSE
COLLEGE

14th October

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/woodhouse-college-open-day-2023-tickets-719235040367?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1



Deep in the Urban Garden

Explore natural colour, shape and texture Deep in the Urban Garden in mindful drawing and painting sessions in a beautiful Urban Garden in north London.

All materials provided. For all abilities.



This is an opportunity to connect with nature in a creative way, in an urban garden environment where we can closely observe and witness nature as the seasons change throughout the year.

Monthly sessions allow participants to work at their own level and pace, experimenting with art materials and mediums, in a supportive group facilitated by experienced artist and educator Laura Fox.

Sessions are held on the second Sunday of every month, 10:00am-12.00pm, at the Archer lower school garden. For more information and booking, please visit <https://www.laurafoxartist.com/>



STOP AND SEARCH CHARTER

 **Monday 9th
October 2023**

 **17:00-19:00**

 **UNITAS
76 Montrose Ave,
Edgware, HA8 0DT**

 Please scan the QR code to get your ticket!

SCAN ME **Free to attend**  **METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

**This event is for members of
the Barnet community to
share their views on how Stop
and Search should be
conducted in London.**

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist and Mrs Horwitz

Y7 BookBuzz:

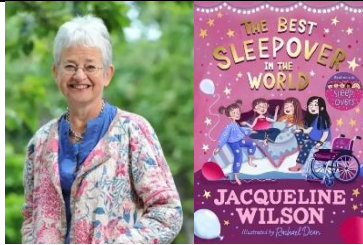


Check on Teams for a message from Ms Appelquist as Year 7 are now able to make their **BookBuzz** choice! There are two links to more information about the books, and a link to the form to make your choice. Come into the lower school library to have a look at the options so you can choose your **free** book! Deadline is 16th October.

Events:



YA authors ranging from veterans Holly Bourne and Sara Barnard to debut novelist Ella McCleod are talking about feminism in Young Adult fiction at [YA Feminists Unite at Waterstones Piccadilly](#) on 4th October. This is a ticketed event.



Jacqueline Wilson fans will want to book **NOW** for tickets to see the bestselling author in person as she reads from her long-awaited sequel to *Sleepovers*—*The Best Sleepover in the World*. Find tickets [here](#) for the event at the Southbank Centre on 26th October.

The Lower School Library welcomed prospective students this week at Open Evening. Loads of young readers and their parents asked Ms Appelquist and Ms Horwitz questions about libraries and got book recommendations, while recent graduate Stan was on hand to explain the Pastoral Reading programme. We're looking forward to meeting them again next year!



If you needed an excuse to read for pleasure, [here](#) it is: A recent study published in the journal *Psychological Medicine* in June 2023 examined the benefits of reading for pleasure. Spoiler: it suggests that reading for pleasure is associated with increased IQ and improved well-being.

From Upper Library...

New @ Upper – Bespoke by the students!

	<p>Prequel to the TikTok phenomenon <i>We Were Liars</i>. Return to the story of another summer, another generation, and the secrets that will haunt them for decades to come. A windswept private island off the coast of Massachusetts.</p>
	<p>Elaine Risley, a painter, returns to Toronto to find herself overwhelmed by her past. Memories of childhood - unbearable betrayals and cruelties - surface relentlessly, forcing her to confront the spectre of Cordelia, once her best friend and tormentor, who has haunted her for forty years.</p>
	<p>Bryce Quinlan and Hunt Athalar are trying to get back to normal--they may have saved Crescent City, but with so much upheaval in their lives lately, they mostly want a chance to relax. Slow down. Figure out what the future holds. The Asteri have kept their word so far, leaving Bryce and Hunt alone. But with the rebels chipping away at the Asteri's power, the threat the rulers pose is growing. As Bryce, Hunt, and their friends get pulled into the rebels' plans, the choice becomes clear: stay silent while others are oppressed, or fight for what's right. And they've never been very good at staying silent.</p>

Reminder: We have a policy of NO Eating and/or Drinking in the Library!

Looking so forward to hearing from you via email mrsrhorwitz@thearcheracademy.org.uk or come in and visit!

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 – Mr Constantinou

Wednesday saw an exceptionally well attended open evening. I would like to thank all those Year 11's who helped make the night run so smoothly, touring people round the school or as subject specialists - they all showed just how brilliant Archer students are. A special shoutout must go to Alex B for completing four spectacular speeches during the headteacher talks.

This week you should have received your second weekly bulletin. Can I please ask that if you do one thing each week it is reading the bulletin and facilitating conversation with your child around it, a particular focus each week may be the countdown in the top corner! It has all the useful information you

and they need to know. You also should have received the timetable for their first exam period in October, this is also on your child's Microsoft Teams.

Can I remind you that students should be completing approximately 14 hours of work at home, a mixture of homework and independent study. Please reach out to your child's form tutor if you need further clarity or support with this.

Stars of the week



Vanessa, Gersia, Erza and Denisa – for taking their studies so seriously and working so hard after school

Year 10 – Mr McSherry

Thank you so much for your attention to detail regarding uniform. We have seen a noticeable shift at the Upper School, and this has made for more conversations about learning and progress. This really does make for a great atmosphere around the building. Earrings – I would say this is still an area of focus. I currently have a collection of hooped earrings in my office, safely stored of course. I am beginning to confiscate such items and am reminding young people that only a single stud, in each ear, will suffice.

I thoroughly enjoyed our time in assembly this week, focusing on expectations once again to clear up any misunderstandings or misconceptions, ensuring your child is well placed for success. Next week however I do want to focus on the wonderful start the year group have made and have asked all staff to contribute. Something to look forward to I think.

A reminder that block enrichments start on Thursday. So dismissal time will be 4pm. They have all been made aware, and it is written into their handbook - have you seen it?

Stars of the week



Emilia K - showing great commitment to her homework and doing a great job at open evening

Shauna O'M - for making a great and settled to year 10

Year 9 – Ms Le

This week, we were deeply impressed by Year 9's unwavering commitment and passion in their classes. Their dedication set an inspiring tone as they continue on their GCSE journey.

During our recent Open Evening, the Year 9 cohort stood out with their outstanding support, demonstrating a deep connection to their subjects and our school community. Their engagement and passion were truly commendable, reflecting their dedication to not only their education but also their desire to contribute positively to the school environment.

In Lifelong Learning, students engaged in thought-provoking discussions on the essence of their identity, sparking reflections on what matters most to them. These dialogues prompted careful contemplation, allowing students to delve into their personal sense of self.

Stars of the Week



Nalia B (9L-JHA) and Amber J (9S-SMU) – for being so welcoming to all students who came along to Open evening. Every child who was taught how to trampoline left with a smile because of your efforts. Thank you and well done.

Year 8 – Mr Hilton

Many of our students this week showed fantastic ability and commitment during our Open evening. It was an absolute pleasure to witness our Archer students interact and support our prospective Year 6

pupils. I mentioned how proud I was to the year group this morning. I could nominate at least 30 students for Star of the week!

Assessment fortnight is approaching. You child will receive more information on this next week but please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Enrichment will also be starting next week. It's been lovely to hear how excited all the students are about their choices.

Our Year 8 boys' football team showed excellent resolve and resilience in their fixture last week. I'm about to go and watch our girls' football team for the first time, looking forward to seeing how they get on.

Stars of Week



Muco M – for representing the Archer Academy. She engaged with students all evening, excitedly showing our History Department
Darcy B – for her excellent presentation in Art and her 'worksheet of facts' to support it

Year 7 – Mr Raghuveer

It was a pleasure to see so many of our Year 7 students be guides for Open Evening this Wednesday and I was thrilled to see Yamana's speech with Miss Harrison and Alex. Year 7 are truly wonderful ambassadors for the school. I have been very proud to be Head of Year 7 this week.

Notices

- **Year 7 Settling In Evening on Monday 2nd October 4:30pm-8pm:** Please use the following link <https://thearcheracademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book appointments with your child's tutor. If there are any issues setting up, please do email for support to book an appointment. If you cannot attend for whatever reason, please may I ask that you email me on mriraghuveer@thearcheracademy.org.uk.
- **Kingswood parent meeting Monday 16th October 5-6pm:** I will talk you through all you need to know about our residential. Please note that the first payment instalment is due today. There will also be welcome drinks and nibbles hosted by our Parents Association on 16th October from 6-7.30pm. All parents are welcome to join and it's a great opportunity to meet other parents.
- Enrichment begins next week - students will find out their choices soon! A reminder that the school day will end at 4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays from next week.

Finally, with homework beginning this week in core subjects, there are important things to note regarding logins:

Has your child written down their email address and password in their planner?
Have they tried to log on at home using the Microsoft Teams website?
Have they sought support in school?

If there are any concerns, please do email your child's form tutor or class teacher in the first instance - all email addresses are available on the school website.

Finally, on Kingswood, please do ensure you have secured your deposit in the next week. If you have any questions about the trip, do reach out to me on: mriraghuveer@thearcheracademy.org.uk.

Stars of the week



Aviva S – for her confidence of the benefits of our transition programme as an Open Evening Guide
Johnny PR – for his excellent map work in Geography

Our data protection policies are available on our website including our Privacy Notice for Students and Parents which explains how we hold and process your personal information. Please contact Michele Harrison dpo@Theacheracademy.org.uk if you have any questions in relation to these policies.