

6th October 2023

Dear all,

It has been wonderful to begin our enrichment curriculum across the school this week. Students have clearly thoroughly enjoyed a rich range of new activities, ranging from Mandarin to Debating, football to Mad Science. I am so pleased to see students throwing themselves into this important area of school life and look forward to celebrating their different accomplishments with them.

This week has seen a range of reviews of our core business, that of teaching, learning and assessment. We were joined on Monday by external reviewer, Glynis Bradley Peat, and she returns next week to support our wider self evaluation and curriculum analysis. Across the week, lesson observations and reviews of student work have taken place. This is such an important point in the academic year to assess where we are and to check that our systems and processes are enabling excellent progress for our students. I have been thrilled to spend so much time in classrooms and to enjoy so many different lessons with my staff and students, real highlights have been the quality of classroom based discussion, range of teacher questioning, the use of marking and feedback to accelerate progress and the excellent behaviour and relationships. However, above all it was wonderful just to see how much students are enjoying their learning, the richness of their different subject disciplines and their relationships with their teachers.

A reminder that Monday is an INSET Day and that the school is closed to students. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday.

Depth Assessment Fortnight begins for all students on Tuesday and I would like to take this opportunity to wish every young person the very best of luck, hoping that they take the time and opportunity to shine across their subjects.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'I truly believe that the privilege of a lifetime is being who you are. Your ability to adapt to failure, and navigate your way out of it, absolutely 100 percent makes you who you are. There's got to be a voice deep within you that is untouched by definitions. And it is there that you become divinely who you are.'*
Viola Davis

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 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

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>

All students should be checking MS Teams daily to ensure that they are clear of homework being set for each subject as well as key year group information.

If any students are still unsure of their login details or need help with MS Teams, they should speak to their form tutor. There is also an IT guide on how to use MS Teams on the school website:

<https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/digital-school/>

PARENTS ASSOCIATION SOCIAL – Jess Curtis and Chris Kurt-Gabel

Monday 16th October



Join us for drinks and nibbles, hosted by the Archer Parents Association, on **Monday 16th October**, from 6-7.30pm at lower school.

This is the first of many parent social events throughout the year. Come along, meet other parents, and hear about our upcoming plans for the year. All parents across all year groups are welcome, and we especially welcome new families to our Archer community!

DEPTH ASSESSMENT FORTNIGHT – Mrs Gillham

A reminder that our first depth assessment fortnight will be taking place from **Tuesday 10th to Friday 20th October**. The purpose of this is to provide students with the opportunity to sit summative, in class assessments, that allow them to demonstrate the progress that they have made across a range of topics in their subject areas so far this term.

Students will have an assessment in each subject. Each assessment will take place during normal lesson time. Please refer to the timetable distributed by Heads of Year to ensure your child is fully prepared and aware of the schedule.

FLU IMMUNISATION – Ms Rodis

Flu immunisations are taking place at Lower and Upper school sites on the afternoon of **Monday 27th November 2023** for the whole school (Year 7 to 11). This involves a nasal spray only (i.e. no needles).

If your child has ever had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to egg in the past, or asthma that's being treated with steroid tablets, or has required intensive care treatment in hospital, then please seek advice first by contacting the Barnet immunisation team on 020 8447 3622.

This vaccine contains porcine gelatine, so if you prefer to avoid pork products, please contact the team above to discuss possible alternatives.

The nurse team will only provide the vaccine if prior online permission has been given by parents. To provide consent, please click on the link below by **23rd November**. The school code is: CL139594

[Immunisation Consent \(clchschoollimmunisations.co.uk\)](https://clchschoollimmunisations.co.uk)

Please tell your child when you've submitted your permission, and remind them nearer the time, as this will help us manage on the day.

We will also be administering the following immunisations which we will write about nearer the time:

- HPV for Year 8 on 27th March 2024
- DTP/Men ACWY for Year 9 on 15th May 2024

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY – Ms Mahoney



We want to thank our students for the excellent start they have made in terms of attendance this academic year. Our whole school attendance figure is currently 96.2% and we hope to maintain this figure. Our data confirms that students with good attendance to the Archer Academy have 20% more chance of meeting or exceeding their academic targets at GCSE.

To celebrate good attendance we award students who have 100% attendance termly with certificates and weekly with golden tickets which allow students to jump the lunch queue.

As you may be aware, attendance to school post the pandemic has been an issue nationally across schools. Whilst the Archer Academy has maintained some of the highest attendance figures in Barnet our attendance figure has dipped. We have also identified higher numbers of students who are persistently absent. This is when a student's attendance is 90% or below.

We are very aware that there are individual circumstances that do impact on student attendance, but that students should be in school wherever possible. We know that post pandemic with more families working from home it is easier for students to remain at home if they feel unwell. However, we have seen, in line with the national picture, the direct impact of lower attendance on our student's academic grades. Students with attendance of 90% or below only have a 50% chance of achieving their academic target grades, if attendance dips below 85% students only have 40% chance of meeting their target grades.

If you have concerns regarding getting your child into school, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year. The NHS has also provided some helpful guidance on when to send your child to school. We also work closely with the Barnet Education Welfare Team and can refer you to them for support with attendance if needed. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

ENRICHMENT UPDATE – Miss Galliver

Enrichment is well underway across all year groups with students getting stuck into a range of new and exciting activities. There is so much on offer from Mandarin, to scouts, woodwork, orchestra, yoga, sign language, Duke of Edinburgh, rock climbing, current affairs, garage band, table tennis and more. Enrichment runs every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-4pm. Please remember, if you are doing a PE enrichment, you are required to bring your kit and will need to get changed at 2.45pm. For CPA enrichments, you should remain in your kit for the entire school day.

If you have any questions regarding enrichment, please contact Ms Galliver at MsJGalliver@thearcheracademy.org.uk



BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Mr Carter

October is Black History Month where we recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions of black people to British society. This year, the theme is 'Celebrating Black Women' which pays homage to the contributions, achievements, and ideas of black women from different spheres across literature, music, fashion, sport, business, politics and more.

As a school we are running workshops and sessions throughout October through dance, music, reading, drama, film and discussion to learn about the diverse experiences, struggles and triumphs of black people, and particularly to celebrate the crucial role that black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities.



All students are welcome to come along to the next Empower Society meet up which will be held on **Friday 3rd November** and refreshments will be provided.

To get involved in diversity and inclusion at Archer, please email empowersociety@thearcheracademy.org.uk

HOUSE NEWS – Mr Carter

All Archer students belongs to one of our three houses: Ignatius, Lovelace and Seacole. This creates opportunities for them to mix with others outside their classes, across all year groups, and to take on leadership roles such as House Captains. The competition between the three houses can be fierce, especially during House Music Day, House Dodgeball, and other sporting and academic events. Students strive to earn merits throughout the year to try and win the House Cup at the end of the year. We encourage students to read the weekly House Newsletters via email and MS Teams.

Please look out for details of House Day, and competitions such as House football, music, dodgeball and netball.



CULTURAL SOCIETY – Miss Fleckney

The Cultural Society is open to all students at the school and Miss Harrison takes great delight in leading trips to the theatre, ballet and opera once a term.

Cultural Society trip opportunities are advertised through the school newsletter and tickets are offered on a first come first served basis. Trips usually consist of around 30 students from Years 7-11.

This term we are running a trip to see *SIX The Musical*. Tickets have already all been snapped up for this show, but watch this space for details of upcoming outings to Matthew Bourne's magical dance production of *Edward Scissorhands*, and the coming-of-age musical *Everybody's Talking About Jamie*.

We always benefit from school group reduced rates. If your child is eligible for free school meals, you will also be offered a discounted rate through ParentPay. We do have limited financial assistance available to support families, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Chase, Finance Director.



ART UPDATE – Ms Clarke

The East Finchley Open Artists Group have collaborated with the Archer Academy art department since the school began. They are now showcasing Archer students' artwork in a dedicated gallery on their new website. This will be an evolving gallery showing students' project work. Please do take a look at the gallery page to see some of our recent Year 11 GCSE cohort's final pieces. The group achieved sensational grades with their incredible sketchbooks this year.



GIRLS FOOTBALL AND NETBALL SUCCESS – Miss Le and Mr Cifci



This week, the Year 8 and Year 9 girls football team played a match against St Michael's. Edie M scored the first goal and gave us a 1-0 lead. She then dribbled up the pitch and scored again - a brilliant goal in the top right corner. The game was very tense. St Michael's had a great team and scored the next goal, taking the game to 2-1. Charlotte edged us forward by scoring another goal for Archer, making it 3-1. Our two-goal lead took a turn very quickly and suddenly it was 3-3. We had lost the lead after working tirelessly, but luckily Aliza finished the match off by scoring a goal within the dying minutes of the game. At this point, we had to defend with our lives to take the game home.

Finally, the full-time whistle went, and the score ended Archer 4 - 3 St Michael's. Overall, it was a challenging match for both teams and the best standard of football Miss Le and the St Michael's teacher had seen to date.

Match report from Elizabeth (Captain of Year 8 and 9 game against St Michaels)



In addition, a huge well done to the Year 7 girls football team who won their first Archer game against Wren Academy. A 3-0 win is a great way to start their season off!



And finally, hearty congratulations to the Year 7 girls netball team who won their match against Compton school this week! The score was 14-6 and Jessica C was awarded 'player of the match'.

RECRUITMENT – Ms Yates

join us

We are currently recruiting for three exceptional teachers:

- Director of Design and Technology
- Director of Science
- Teacher of Maths

Application details: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/join-our-team/> The deadline is 9th October.

We are also looking for a part-time mealtime supervisor (9 hours/week) to help ensure that lunchtime runs efficiently and smoothly. To find out more: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/join-our-team/>

YEAR 7 SUMMER CHALLENGE WINNERS – Miss Harrison



Well done to the Year 7 students who were the top performers of the summer challenge work that was completed as part of their transition to Archer Academy.

16 students enjoyed a special elevenses treat with Miss Harrison last week to celebrate their success. Congratulations!

SIXTH FORM OPEN DAYS – Mrs Ruback

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

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist and Mrs Horwitz

Year 7 BookBuzz

Year 7 were reminded in assembly this week that the deadline is approaching for choosing their FREE book. Make sure to log onto **Teams** and check out the Year 7 Team for instructions! If you need any advice, ask Ms Appelquist.



New in the library:

'You're not supposed to die tonight' - Charity Curtis has the summer job of her dreams, playing the "final girl" at Camp Mirror Lake. But Charity's co-workers begin disappearing, and Charity's role as the final girl suddenly becomes all too real.



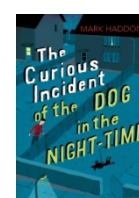
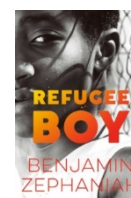
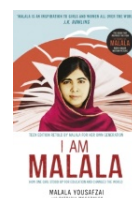
Pick up a Banned Book from the LS Library—did you know **James and the Giant Peach** was once banned for 'advocating communism?' See our displays in the LS Library about banned books, pick a great read to celebrate **Black History Month**, and watch this space for spooky Halloween reads!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

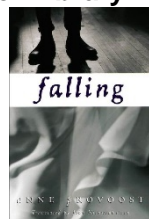
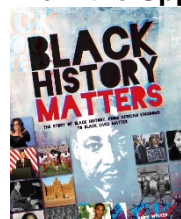
Pastoral Reading Books:

Each year group will have the opportunity to 'Build the Archer Bookcase' by reading a book together as part of their form time. Letters are going out this week to provide you with more information and an opportunity to order your child's *required* reading book through **ParentPay**.



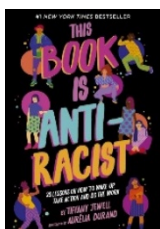
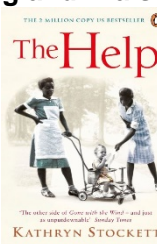
Welcome to Ms Gibson, who is reading with lower school students in the library on Fridays.

From the Upper Library.. Celebrating Black History - Acknowledging and Praising Black Women:



JOIN US!
GET INVOLVED
COME & SHARE 'TRUE' LIFE STORIES...

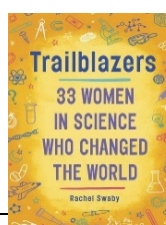
EXCERPTS FROM:
Rosa Parks: My Story
The Women's 1955 anti-pass campaign and March – South Africa
19th century Activist Sarah Parker Remond (USA & UK)
5 Black Women who made history and why we should know their stories



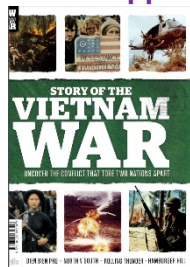
THE READING PROJECT

UPPER CAMPUS LIBRARY
LUNCH TIME

Tuesday: 10 October Year 10
Wednesday: 11 October Year 11



New @ Upper



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

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

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 – Mr Constantinou

Next week sees the start of the depth assessment fortnight, the timetable was sent out with the bulletin last week and is on Microsoft Teams. Hopefully your child has started revising well in advance but if not please do encourage them to prepare for these over the weekend.

The boys football team played arguably the best match I've seen them play yet. They worked as a team, dominated the entire match and didn't let the other school trouble them at all. It may have only been a 1-0 victory, but if they had put away their chances it would have been a comfortable (and deserved) 5-0 victory. Man of the match - Alfie Hindmarsh - an outstanding performance in midfield.

Stars of the week



Aaliyah M – for having a brilliant week across the board
Nelly B – for making a real effort in improving her punctuality

Year 10 – Mr McSherry

Have your children talked about Tuesday's assembly? Are they beaming with pride, or have they not mentioned it?! On Tuesday it was my great pleasure to share all the positive feedback from staff for the year group so far this year! It included whole-class shoutouts, groups and individuals. A wide range of staff, across our school, took the time to share their thoughts on some wonderful achievements by Year 10. It really was enjoyable to share that time.

We started our visits to Cherry Tree Woods on Thursday this week. We are hoping to move towards a model of at least twice a week from next week. Watch this space and keep talking to your children about school life, no matter how forced it might feel.

Stars of the week



Tariq A-R and Gabriel S – for making an excellent contribution in the Year 10 football match this week

Year 9 – Ms Le

What a great week it has been. It has truly been an exceptional time, with the commencement of enrichment activities marking a significant highlight. The students' enthusiasm and engagement have left me most impressed. It is evident that Year 9 students have eagerly embraced enrichment opportunities, exploring various extracurricular activities. From DofE to chess and beyond, their willingness to step out of their comfort zones and try new ventures is commendable. This not only contributes to their personal growth but also fosters a vibrant and dynamic school community.

As we approach Monday's INSET day, we see a valuable opportunity for Year 9 students to dedicate extra time to revise for their upcoming assessments. The timetable has been shared on MS Teams. Please do go through the timetable with your child over the weekend to ensure they are best placed for their assessments.

Stars of the Week



Hailey A – outstanding contribution in History
Kulsoom K – for modelling the Archer uniform consistently well

Year 8 – Mr Hilton

Our first assessment week is upon us. The timetable for assessments has been uploaded to the Year 8 MS Teams. We've looked to spread the assessments out so that students have ample time to revise. Should you have any questions about the timetable, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I've had the joy this week of dropping into a number of lessons including Drama, Spanish and Science. I've been particularly impressed by the student's dedication and focus in relation to their upcoming assessments.

4-3! Delighted to say our girls showed outstanding resilience in their football match. Some fantastic play at both ends of the pitch to ensure victory. I could nominate the whole team for Star of the Week!

Stars of the Week



Wiktorina B and Aliza C – for their outstanding performance in the girls football match this week

Year 7 – Mr Raghuveer

It was so lovely this week to see parents and students at Settling In Evening, as well as watching students begin their enrichment programme. Students in Year 7 have impressed me with their continued adaptation to secondary school life. As well as this, the Year 7 girls football team began their Archer careers with a resounding 3-0 win over Wren Academy! From basketball and netball try outs to the Year 7 Soloist Concert, there are so many extra-curricular activities for Year 7 to throw themselves into; I look forward to their growth over the coming weeks and months.

Depth Assessment Fortnight begins next week with English on Wednesday and DT/Art and Spanish on Friday. The full timetable is on "AA Year 7" Microsoft Teams, to enable proper planning and organisation for revision. Class teachers will provide revision resources in person or on MS Teams, so please do support your child in accessing this invaluable resource. As communicated with students this week, Homework Club is available for all year groups to complete work or access some support in LF13 for an hour at the end of every school day. Perhaps this could be useful as revision support.

Key dates:

Monday 9th October - Inset Day (no school for students)

Thursday 12th October - Year 7 Soloist Concert.

Monday 16th October - Parent Kingswood Information Evening. Please confirm your attendance using this link: <https://form.jotform.com/232552522865357>

Stars of the week



Jessica C – for her wonderful drive and determination in the girls football game
Sam L – for his brilliant start to life at the Archer!

DATA PROTECTION – Michele Harrison

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@Thearcheracademy.org.uk if you have any questions in relation to these policies.