

20th October 2023

Dear all,

Somehow it is already half term! The past seven weeks have certainly flown by and it seems incredible to believe that so much has been achieved. Students and staff have so much to be proud of and I so look forward to the adventures ahead.

It was a great privilege to host our Prize Giving Ceremony on Thursday evening. We were delighted to be joined by author Joyce Efi Harmer, as our guest of honour. Joyce spoke of the power and importance of education, the significant power of encouragement and ensuring that we (the adults) always recognise the wonder of the 'sparkling gems' (the young people) we have the joy to spend time with, and enable to grow. Joyce asked us to always remember that dreams do come true, with hard work and plenty of grit. A very timely and powerful reminder for us all.

This morning, we were able to come together as a whole school to mark Black History Month, with Joyce Efi Harmer joining us once again. The assembly provided the opportunity to celebrate the many different opportunities that staff and students have taken part in across this month; alongside the opportunity to explore different experiences and histories. It was a moment of celebration and recognition. Alongside this, students have supported the London Black Women's Project and their work focused on supporting women and girls who have experienced domestic or sexual violence or abuse.

I am incredibly grateful to all Archer families who have got involved with our '10 Day Donation Challenge' to unlock wider funding – it simply means so much. Our Parent Contribution Scheme provides such valuable additional resources to our school, ensuring that our students get the very best. Simply thank you for enabling such an increase in our regular income, the difference that this will make will be significant and has never been more important.

I wish all Archer families a restful Half Term.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *"You have the power to change perception, to inspire and empower, and to show people how to embrace their complications, and see the flaws, and the true beauty and strength that's inside all of us" – Beyoncé.*

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

Key dates over the next two months:

October

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

December

1st – Occasional Day
1st-15th Year 11 mock examinations
7th – Lower school disco, 6-8pm
13th – Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening, 4.30-8pm
18th-20th – The Big Draw Week
19th – Winter Concert, 6.30pm
20th – Last day of term. Midday finish

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

10 DAY DONATION CHALLENGE – Miss Harrison

FINAL CHANCE!



10 DAY DONATION CHALLENGE

Sunday 22nd October is the last day of our 10 Day Donation Challenge.

Can you set up a monthly donation to our Parent Contribution Scheme before Sunday?

All you need to do to set up your monthly donation is click here:

<https://form.jotform.com/231283813454354>

One of our donors is giving £10 to the Archer Academy for every new monthly donation, or increased existing donation, that is set up before Sunday.

The money you donate allows us to maintain our high aspirations for every Archer student, providing enrichment courses, counselling sessions, DT, science, IT equipment, PE resources and more.

Thank you to all Archer parents who have already supported the 10 Day Donation Challenge so far. If you haven't yet got round to it, please sign up today! The average amount that parents donate ranges from £10 - £150 per month, per child. Your support is more crucial than ever, and any amount, big or small, makes a difference. Thank you so much for your support.

PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY – Miss Harrison

It was wonderful to celebrate the many successes of Archer students at our annual Prize Giving ceremony on Thursday evening, and to recognise those students who have exceeded our expectations, both in their academic pursuits and in their contributions to wider school life. It was a particular pleasure to welcome alumni students back to celebrate their achievements.

We were thrilled to be joined by our guest speaker, author Joyce Efia Harmer, who spoke about the power of self-belief and the impact of teachers who have faith in their student's abilities, support their goals and celebrate their achievements. We also enjoyed some beautiful dance and musical performances from our CPA students.



Congratulations to all students who won awards at this year's Prize Giving Ceremony. Here are some of the special awards that were presented:

Winner of the Honour Roll Darcey B
Runner Up of the Honer Roll Hugo P
Creative Performer of the year Zarah O
Creative Performer of the year Alfie P
Young Musician of the year Robin S
Sportsperson of the year Samson G
Sportsperson of the year Shaan J-M
Artist of the year Matilda S
Designer of the year Jason N
English Scholar Evie R
Maths Scholar Riya C
Science Scholar Alexander B
Endeavour Award Jack F
Founder's Award for Creativity Csenge T
Founder's Award for Community Engagement Isabella F

Founder's Award for Achievement Mujtaba C
Bishop's Park Award for Outstanding Code of Conduct Jude D

FOODIE GROUPS – Ms M Harrison

On Wednesday we were delighted to welcome into school two visitors from our catering company, Olive Dining, to meet with our Foodie Groups.

These groups comprise 5 students from each year who meet termly to help us shape our catering offer by reviewing our menus, pricing and service and providing feedback from other students. They engage in active communication with Olive Dining and ensure that the student voice is heard. Olive Dining commented on how articulate our students were and how helpful their feedback was. We are pleased they liked the snacks offered and will make sure to include some of them in the menus next term, particularly the smoothies which were very popular.

Well done to the Foodie groups, we look forward to seeing some of their ideas shaping our catering offering.

A reminder that the Olive Dining menus and pricing can be found here:

<https://theacheracademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Lunch-autum-23-24.pdf>

<https://theacheracademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/CateringPrices.pdf>



HOW TO HAVE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS – Sophia Davison Wednesday 8th November, 6.15-7.30pm



Our excellent child and adolescent psychotherapist Sophia Davison will be running a session on **Wednesday 8th November** from 6.15-7.30pm at lower school entitled '**How to have difficult conversations with your teen**'. This is open to all parents throughout the school and will address some of the topics parents and adolescents describe as being difficult to talk about with one another. Sophia will also share practical techniques, many of which she uses in clinical practice, which can help to start and sustain meaningful conversations.

Please see below parent feedback from some of Sophia's talks earlier this year:

'Sophia is just amazing. What an asset to the school! Her mix of practical strategies, personal and professional experience and science behind it all was outstanding'.

'Sophia was completely brilliant. Such a useful talk, straight forward, sensible advice. I want her to come and live with me!'

Sophia leads our school counselling team, supporting students and their families across all year groups. Please see below the programme of talks for parents run by Sophia during the year ahead:

8th November 6.15-7.30pm – How to have difficult conversations with your teen.
For parents and carers of children in Years 7-11

17th November 9-10.30am – Coffee morning with a Q&A about mental health matters.
For parents and carers with children in Year 7

31st January 6.15pm-7.30pm – Managing Exam Stress: how to support your child.
For parents and carers with children in Years 10-11

9th February 9-10.30am – Coffee morning with a Q&A about mental health matters.

Open to all parents and carers

17th April 6.15-7.30pm – Permission to feel: helping sensitive children thrive.
For parents and carers with children in Years 7-11

15th May 6.15-7.30pm – Understanding the power and purpose of the teenage brain.
For parents and carers with children in Years 7-11

BLACK HISTORY MONTH ASSEMBLY – Mr Carter

Today we welcomed author, Joyce Efi Harmer to our whole school assembly, as part of our Black History Month activities which have taken place across October. Joyce spoke about her critically-acclaimed book *How Far We've Come* and her journey towards writing her debut novel.

We asked students what Black History Month at Archer meant to them:

Isabella Year 10: *'It's a month to me on which we celebrate and look back at the cultures and generations of many well-known black people.'*

Vera Year 8: *'Celebrating the inspirational achievements that black people have done to change the world to make it a better place for everyone. Understanding that we are all the same. Also accepting others for who they are and teaching us about strong and brave people from black communities'.*



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES EVENT AT KING ALFRED SCHOOL – Mrs Clarke

Nine Archer students, past and present, attended a 'Careers in the Arts' event at King Alfred School last week. King Alfred had some incredibly successful speakers from a diverse range of artistic backgrounds. Our students asked thoughtful questions and networked with great flair.



HEADTEACHER LUNCHES – Miss Harrison

This week it has been Miss Harrison's great pleasure to hold several Headteacher Lunches across Upper and Lower School to celebrate the superb achievements of students.





PE UPDATE – Mr Clark

It's been a busy half term of fixtures here at The Archer. We've seen some great matches being played and some positive results over the past few weeks. Here's the round up:

Week of 2nd October

Y10 boys football v Hendon: **Lost 3-1**
 Y7 girls football v Wren: **Won 3-0**
 Y11 boys football v Bishop Douglas: **Won 1-0**
 Y8/9 girls football v St Michaels: **Won 4-3**
 Y7 netball v Compton: **Won 14-6**

Week of 9th October

Y8 boys football v Saracens: **Drew 3-3**
 Y7 netball v Bishop Douglas: **Won 17-1**
 Y9 netball v Bishop Douglas: **Won 10-3**

Week of 16th October

Y8 netball v Compton: **Lost 7-6**
 Y9 netball v Compton: **Won 19-12**
 Y7 boys football v Friern Barnet: **Won 14:0**
 Y11 boys football v Ashmole: **Won 4-1**
 Y8 boys football v Christ's College: **Drew 3-3**
 Y10/11 girls football v Wren: **Lost 4-0**



Superb finishes for the Cross-Country competition at StoneX:

Oli (Y7) **4th**

Amber (Y9) **2nd**

Elizabeth (Y9) **3rd**

Phoebe (Y11) **10th**

Congratulations to all the teams and students putting in the hard work at training and performing in the matches and competitions.

Our rugby lessons are well underway here at Archer. In order to teach tackling and contact rugby safely, please ensure your child has a gum shield/mouth guard.

Also, please be aware that metal studs are not permitted on the Astro turf. Moulds, plastic studs or Astro turf trainers are required to avoid slipping in the wet weather.



PARENTS ASSOCIATION AGM – Chris Kurt-Gabel and Jess Curtis Wednesday 29th November, 7-9pm



It was lovely to see so many parents on Monday evening at our first social event of the year.

**Our next Parents Association event is the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) on
WEDNESDAY 29th NOVEMBER at 7pm at lower school.**

All parents are invited to come along to our AGM, where we discuss plans for the year ahead and will be looking for more people to join the PA team and get involved. It is a great way to feel part of the Archer community and get to know other parents, teachers, and of course Miss Harrison. We also put on fun events for students and parents throughout the year, fundraise and support the school. Please email parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk if you would like to get involved.



IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON MATHS SCHOOL EVENT – Mrs Sampson Thursday 9th November, 5-7pm

STEM Adventures

Join our outstanding female and non-binary speakers and students on 9 November for an exploration to the outer limits of STEM!



Sophie the Mathmo

Sophie Maclean is a mathematics student and communicator who has previously spoken at Maths in Action and Maths Inspiration as well as leading Royal Institution Masterclasses.

Sophie's talk is called 'Putting the Colour into Maths', and will include topics such as the Four Colour Theorem and the mathematics of tiling.

Dr Caroline Shenton-Taylor

Dr Shenton-Taylor is an Applied Nuclear Physics Lecturer at the University of Surrey with research interests in AI and smart data analytics.

During her talk, Dr Shenton-Taylor will tell us about the pioneering work of Auguste Piccard, as well as her own adventures chasing a space balloon!



Student ambassadors from Imperial College London will take part in a special panel Q&A session, and will also be available to chat with ahead of the talks.



Registration is free, and guarantees one child and one adult ticket. We particularly welcome registration from female and non-binary students. To register, please follow [this link](https://tktp.as/ERWIVJ) or scan the QR code.

5 - 7pm, 9 November, Woodhouse College, N12 9EY.

On Thursday 9th November from 5-7pm, Imperial College London Mathematics School will be running a "STEM Adventures" event at Woodhouse College, focusing on women and non-binary individuals in STEM, and would love to see some Archer students there!

The event is completely free and will comprise of two fun and engaging half-hour talks by mathematician Sophie Maclean and nuclear physicist Dr Caroline Shenton-Taylor, followed by a panel with both speakers and student ambassadors from Imperial College London. There will be a chance to network with stalls and refreshments available at the start of the event.

If you would like to attend, please click here: <https://tktp.as/ERWIVJ>

RAISE THE ROOF CAMPAIGN UPDATE – Miss Harrison



A superb group of students have been busy working on a special project to increase our fundraising for our Raise The Roof campaign, to build a new performing arts studio at lower school. They have been writing beautiful handwritten letters to celebrities in the performing arts world to see if they would be interested in supporting our campaign.

If you have any suggestions or ideas to help us reach our target – please reach out to Miss Harrison.



Relaxed performance of The Nutcracker, 9th December



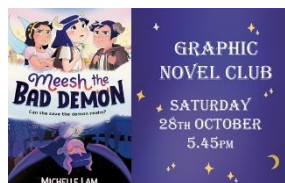
The Royal Opera House is hosting its first-ever relaxed performance on the main stage, with the classic ballet *The Nutcracker*, on Saturday 9th December. A relaxed performance means that sensory adaptations will be made, designed to support audiences who are neurodiverse. If you need to make noise, move around, or take a break, that's okay, and quiet areas will be available for you to relax in.

You can find out more about the performance [here](#). Tickets are available from £5. [CLICK HERE](#) to book

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist and Mrs Horwitz

Lower library:

Events:

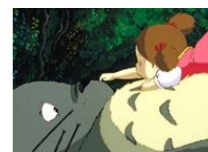


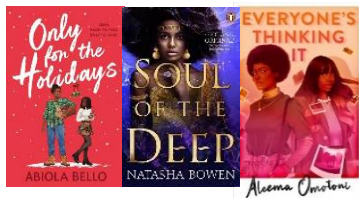
Are you a **graphic novel** fan? You may want to explore The Children's Bookshop's monthly graphic novel club. This month they're reading ***Meesh, the Bad Demon***: *Skandar and the Unicorn Thief meets Bunny vs Monkey in this epic fantasy where twelve-year-old Meesh and her band of outcasts must save the underworld.* See [here](#) to book your ticket.

Manga fans might want to take an exciting and atmospheric trip through Japanese history – and explore how landscape and folklore have influenced Japan's culture, technology and design. At the V&A Museum from 16th October. See here for tickets:

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/japan-myths-to-mangas>

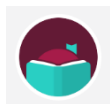
25th October is also [Manga Day](#) at Waterstone's Piccadilly.





Waterstones also celebrates **Black History Month** on 24th October with a YA Panel featuring best-selling Nigerian-British authors Abiola Bello, Natasha Bowen, and Aleema Omotoni. They'll discuss their latest YA books, from a Christmas romance to elite boarding schools, mermaids to winning romance tropes. See [here](#) for tickets.

Are you looking for something to read this half-term, and forgot to visit the Archer library? See [here](#) to find a public library near you. Or see below for ways to read online!



[Libby](#), the free online reading platform enables you to check out thousands of library books from Barnet and other councils to read on your phone, computer, or tablet. No library card? [Here's](#) how to apply for one.

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

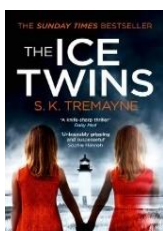
The team at [Riveted](#) continue to provide full **YA** books and extracts to read online for free.

Overdue Library Books:

Please check under the bed, in your bookshelves at home, and in your schoolbags - we are trying to recover all our books! Some books have also gone missing without being officially "borrowed". If you've picked up a book from the library in a silent reading emergency, please bring it back!

Have a great half-term holiday and **keep reading!!**

Upper Library:



New@Upper

A year after one of their identical twin daughters, Lydia, dies in an accident, Angus and Sarah move to the tiny Scottish island Angus inherited from his grandmother, hoping to put together the pieces of their shattered lives. But when their surviving daughter, Kirstie, claims they have mistaken her identity - that she, in fact, is Lydia - their world comes crashing down. A terrifying psychological thriller that will chill you to the bone.



Year 11 Pastoral Reading

This week we have launched the PASTORAL READING programme for Year 11 with the book *All My Sons* by Arthur Miller. Every student will read this book during tutor time on Fridays, to endorse a culture of habitual reading across the school and to just enjoy reading and discussing a book together. We would appreciate your support in this initiative to encourage wider reading, by asking, discussing and finding out more from your child about their reading experience of *All My Sons* during tutor time!

Happy Half-Term!

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 – Mr Constantinou

Just like that, the depth assessment fortnight is done, meaning the next exam period is the December mocks starting on the 4th December. The students deserve a couple of days off after working so hard over the last two weeks. However it is important that we realise that we need to keep up the momentum during half term in preparation.

Lots of opportunities coming up next half term in the build up to the mock exams, a reminder if you haven't already to please engage with the bulletin each week to keep up-to-date with all these opportunities.

The student leadership team have been brilliant this week, delivering assemblies to the younger years. The feedback I got from the heads of year was exceptional. They should be extremely proud of themselves for being such great role models to our younger students.

Enjoy the half term, but remember an hour or two of work each day to keep them ticking over is highly recommended.

Stars of the week



Lucas BV – for an outstanding performance in the 4-1 victory over Ashmole Academy
Tommy G – for brilliant application in his maths lessons

Year 10 – Mr McSherry

What a half-term! How quickly has it passed?

The year group have begun Year 10 in fine style and I do hope this continues. I look forward to them coming back after half-term well rested and ready to go again.

Please can you ensure your child is fully equipped for the colder weather, that is with a suitable warm coat (should be plain and dark in colour). Please know that hoodies are prohibited in school and students are not allowed to wear them. The only exception to this is if they are wearing PE kit (in lessons) and/or CPA kit (on designated days for GCSE Drama/Dance students).

I maintain my objective to protect your child from negative conversations about our basic expectations of uniform and jewellery, this way we can focus on the important thing - learning! I have a wonderful collection of hooped earrings currently from the year group, and I have no desire to add to it.

Have a restful break and please do ensure students are suitably prepared for their return to school at 10.45am (last start) on Monday 30th October.

Stars of the week



Amy M, Lucy G, Luca DR and Erin H – for ably supporting our new student this year, doing a great job in welcoming her to the Archer Academy and to the year group.

Year 9 – Ms Le

What a wonderful term Year Nine have had. It has flown by so fast, and I have only been impressed by how hard they have worked this term. As we come to the end of assessment fortnight, Year 9 deserve a well needed break and I hope they spend half-term winding down.

Throughout this week, students were presented with numerous fantastic occasions to commemorate Black History Month. Witnessing their enjoyment of these fresh opportunities, engagement with guest speakers, and exploration of new foods was truly gratifying. The week culminated with a whole-school assembly and Prize Giving ceremony, leaving me intrigued about who may distinguish themselves this year and potentially be nominated for an award in next year's Prize Giving event.

Clear highlights from this half term:

- Winning countless sports fixtures
- Active engagement in leadership opportunities
- And engagement with the many different life-long learning topics

Hope you all have wonderful half-term.

Stars of the Week



Amelia Fr (9SMU) and Ahmedzaki (9TDY) – for having such a positive end to the half term.
Well done on all your hard work.

Year 8 – Mr Hilton

Well done to all the Year 8's on their first half term. I know how hard they've been working on their assessments with History concluding their assessment fortnight.

This week, our year group heard from Year 11's and Mr Carter regarding leadership opportunities within school. I'm looking forward to seeing lots of applications over the coming days.

You might be aware of the Form Group Competition I've been running since the start of term. It was very close with form groups moving up and down the merit table but congratulations to 8ATH who just pipped 8RKE. I have high hopes for next term when the Form Group competition starts again.

Our netball team just lost out in a hard fought 9-8 loss and our Year 8 boys managed another excellent 3-3 draw away from home. I hope you all have a restful and relaxing ½ term break.

Stars of the Week



Kaitlyn G and Aryan B – for receiving the most merits this half term. Well done!

Year 7 – Mr Raghuveer

As we near the end of the first half term, a massive congratulations to Year 7 who have adapted so seamlessly into the Archer Community. Whilst there are some minor issues with lining up, equipment and punctuality, engagement in lessons has been excellent. I know from my own Thematic and Humanities classes that students are being inquisitive and diligent with work.

After Half Term we are straight back into the thick of things as we embark on our first residential trip to Kingswood. You will have all been sent the kit list and contact numbers for the trip. Please do ensure you have paid the full amount for the trip this week so that we can avoid a rush after the holiday. My presentation from Monday's Kingswood meeting has also been emailed to you.

At this time, it is important to take stock from your child's first foray into secondary school life and discuss how they feel they have gotten on. Many students in the year group deserve to celebrate their progress with so many positives, ranging from postcards in English, to representing the school in sporting events or performing in the soloist concert. Some students may find their period of adaptation is a little bit longer and some may have found this half term a lot of hard work. Having those honest and open dialogues is so important. The Tutor Team has been pleased with the engagement in form time discussions as well, with Tutors enjoying spending time with their forms each day.

May I take opportunity for a reminder of our central school rule: Work Hard and Be Nice. If there have been instances where this may not have been the case with your child, please talk through with them what they are in control of and what they might need support with, so that we can hit the ground running after the break.

Thank you for all your continued support with Year 7.

Stars of the week



Katie C and Maddalena M – for topping the leaderboard in Year 7 Achievement points with 122 and 70 points respectively. Well done!

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.