



Realising potential Inspiring creativity Engaging with our community



24th November 2023

Dear all.

Thank you to all parents for your support of Learning Review Day yesterday. Learning Review Day is a core aspect of our personalised provision for students, ensuring a rich opportunity to collaboratively review progress across the first term. It is the holistic nature of the review that is key, looking at academic reports in detail, to identify strengths and gains alongside areas for development. I look forward to reviewing the targets agreed in the Independent Learning Plans for students and using these as a platform to enable even greater success in the coming term and beyond.

This week has seen a host of wider opportunities with House Dodgeball enjoyed by all year groups (the winning House is set to be announced on Monday), alongside drama workshops and First Aid Training for Year 7. For Year 11 students, their Pathways Evening on Wednesday provided the space to explore post 16 opportunities at our partner colleges of Woodhouse and Barnet & Southgate alongside a host of other incredible institutions. Well done to every young person who has seized one of these opportunities and got involved this week, I have seen some excellent examples of student leadership alongside a real commitment to excelling in the curriculum.

It was a pleasure to take students to see 'Six the Musical' last night. Thank you for your company, it was wonderful to enjoy such a super show together.

Next Friday will be our Occasional Day and there will be no newsletter. I wish you all an enjoyable long weekend.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison Headteacher

Thought for the week: "Once we give up searching for approval we often find it easier to earn respect." Steinem

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:

November

Mon 27th – Flu vaccination for Years 7-11

Wed 29th – Parents Association AGM, 7pm, lower school

December

Fri 1st – School closed for Occasional Day

Mon 4th - Fri 15th - Year 11 mock examinations

Wed 6th - Lower school disco, 6-8pm

Wed 13th – Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening, 4.30-8pm

Fri 15th – Parent coffee morning and talk, 9.15-10.30am

Mon 18th- Wed 20th – The Big Draw Week

Tues 19th – Winter Concert, 6.30pm

Wed 20th – Last day of term. Midday finish. Bring in £1 and donations for the Food Bank

January

Mon 8th – Inset Day

Tues 9th - First day of term

Wed 10th-Fri 19th – Depth Assessment Fortnight

Thurs 11th – Cultural Society trip to see Edward Scissorhands [booked up]

Wed 17th - Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening, 4.30-8pm

Mon 22nd – Fri 26th – FREE Week (no homework or assessments)

Mon 29th - Year 9 Careers Fair

Wed 31st – UK Maths Challenge for Y10 and 11, and 'Managing Exam Stress' Sophia Davison workshop for Year 10-11 parents

COMMUNICATION









To see photos and follow school news: Facebook @TheArcherAcademy Instagram @archeracademy LinkedIn @archeracademy

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

THE BIG GIVE CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE – Mrs Ruback 28th November – 5th December

We are taking part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge again this year to raise money to increase our mental health provision at school. This campaign lasts for one week, between <u>Tuesday 28th November – Tuesday 5th December</u>. We are hoping to raise £5,000 in donations which will be matched by the Big Give, giving us a total of £10,000 to spend on vital mental health services for our students, including:



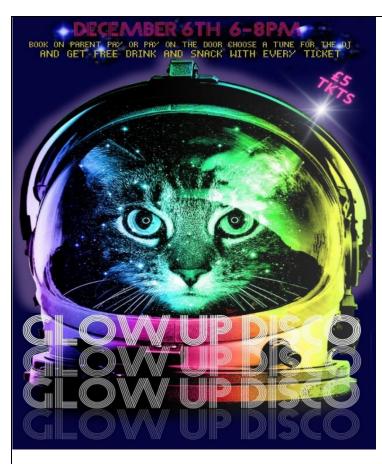
- Greater access to regular counselling services
- Mental health peer mentoring training
- Drama, Art and Music therapy
- A programme for parents/carers focusing on teen mental health

This Tuesday, you will receive an email asking you to make a donation before midday on Tuesday 5th December. Please support this campaign and help us hit our target, and if you feel able, please forward to family and friends who may be able to help too.

Thank you, as always, for all the support you give to our school.

LOWER SCHOOL WINTER DISCO – The Parents Association Wednesday 6th December, 6-8pm





The annual Archer Winter Lower School Disco will be held on **Wednesday 6th December** from 6-8pm and is open to all students in Years 7, 8 and 9.

This event is organised by the Archer Parents Association and is always a lovely opportunity for students to hang out with friends, enjoy music from our fabulous DJ, show their moves on the dancefloor, and toast marshmallows on the firepit.

Tickets are £5 each which includes a free drink and a snack. Please book in advance on ParentPay. Students who are eligible for Free School Meals will be offered a discounted ticket.

When you book your ticket, you will have the option to enter your child's two favourite song choices for the DJ to play.

Don't forget to buy your ticket on ParentPay today. Every student who books a ticket will be entered into a free prize draw to win a £30 voucher for Creams Dessert Parlour!

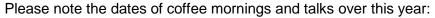
PARENT COFFEE MORNING AND TALK WITH JO KAYE – Mrs Ruback Friday 15th December

We are delighted to invite all parents to a coffee morning and talk at Lower School on <u>Friday 15th December</u> at 9.15am. We will be joined by Jo Kaye, Mindfulness Coach, who will talk to parents about how to understand and support anxious teens, as well as how to manage the stresses, fears and emotions for parents in taking care of an anxious child.

Jo is an accredited mindfulness coach with many years of experience. For more information, please visit her website: www.thebreatheacademy.co.uk

Please click here to let us know you'll be attending the coffee morning on 15th December https://form.jotform.com/233173748617362

There will also be pre-loved uniform for sale before the talk at 9am.



- Friday 15th December
- Friday 26th January
- Friday 15th March
- Friday 10th May
- Friday 14th June



FESTIVE WREATHS SALE AND WORKSHOPS – The Green Arrows 9th and 10th December

The GREEN ARROWS are selling their beautiful HANDMADE FESTIVE WREATHS. All proceeds go towards growing our Archer gardens. Order through **ParentPay**, limited stock! Small £10 or Large £15

PLUS... Why not come along to our FREE & FUN **SEASONAL WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP** with the GREEN ARROW team in the lower school garden? Dates: SATURDAY 9th (limited spaces left) and SUNDAY 10th December

Time: 10.30 - 2.30

To book a workshop: Text Rachael 07887 504 522



LEARNING REVIEW DAY – Ms Mahoney



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS - Mr McSherry



CAN YOU OFFER A WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT TO AN ARCHER STUDENT?

Work experience is an opportunity for young people to:

- gain a valuable insight into the world of work
 - find out what inspires and motivates them
 - explore their skills and interests
- meet new people and build a network of contacts
- communicate with professionals in the real world

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP



Year 10 students will take part in work experience during the week of Monday 4th – Friday 8th March 2024.

Could you, or someone you know, help an Archer student gain a valuable insight into the world of work by offering an aspirational placement which brings their studies to life, and opens up a path to future employment?

Please let us know if you can help by filling in this quick form

https://form.jotform.com/mha47/year-10-work-experience-placement

For any queries, please email mrimcsherry@thearcheracademy.org.uk

ARCHER CAFES – Mr Raghuveer

Each Year 7 form will host an ever-popular Archer Café on a designated Friday after school. Students from that form will provide cakes, biscuits and other baked treats and sell them to the rest of lower school at 3pm. The sales raise money for the school and give the Year 7s a chance to run and manage their own project.

Here are the dates of the Archer Cafés coming up:

- 8th December 7SGR
- 12th January 7MDV
- 23rd February 7JRW
- 22nd March 7FJO
- 26th April 7HCI
- 17th May 7JAB



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY AND WINTER DONATION – Mrs Ruback Wednesday 20th December

On the last day of term, Wednesday 20th December, we are holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day, supporting two fantastic charities – Save The Children and the Finchley Food Bank.

All students should remember to wear their favourite festive jumper or accessories, bring in £1 for Save The Children, and nonperishable food items for the Finchley Food Bank. Please refer to the list of items that the food bank is currently most in need of.

There will be collection buckets outside both Lower and Upper School on Wednesday 20th December.

Thank you for your support.



WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

- WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE FESTIVE JUMPER
- BRING IN £1 FOR SAVE THE CHILDREN
- BRING IN FOODBANK DONATIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW:

TINNED FISH, SHAMPOO, BABY NAPPIES, TEA AND COFFEE, BABY FORMULA, DEODORANT, TINNED PULSES, LONG LIFE MILK, WASHING MACHINE CAPSULES





BRIGHT IDEAS LECTURES - Miss Jouhal



Bright Ideas for Students are coming back!

Bright Ideas for Students will kick off in January and will provide an opportunity for students to be inspired about future career paths and to explore subjects and issues in the wider world, beyond the taught curriculum.

Students will be able to attend a free talk once a half term from a specialist about an inspiring career or topic. Previously we've had fascinating talks from experts on climate change in Antarctica, cybersecurity, mechanical engineering, veterinary surgery, the UK prison and criminal justice system, and international charities, all of which led Archer students to pursue these interests.

We are currently looking for more speakers. Do you have any contacts? Please get in touch with Miss Jouhal or Ms Galliver.

MsJGalliver@Thearcheracademy.org.uk / MissSjouhal@thearcheracademy.org.uk

WINTER CONCERT – Mr Woodward Tuesday 19th December

The annual Winter Concert will take place on the evening of <u>Tuesday 19th December</u> in lower school.

We invite all parents, students and everyone from our school community to come along and enjoy this special evening, which will include performances from the Upper and Lower School Choirs, Orchestra, Jazz Band, Staff Band, Archer Community Choir, Martin Primary School Choir and more.

The evening will run as follows:

6pm - Drinks reception and festive treats hosted by the Archer Parents Association and Green Arrows

6.15-8pm – Winter concert

Book your tickets on ParentPay - £6 (£3 concessions)

If you would like to get involved in the Winter Concert, please contact Mr Woodward

MrMWoodward@Thearcheracademy.org.uk



SIXTH FORM PATHWAYS EVENT - Ms Brami



Thank you to Year 11 parents and students who joined our Sixth Form choices evening on Wednesday to find out more about options after Archer Academy.

PE UPDATE - Mr Clark

The Year 7 and Year 8 boys football teams are through to the next round of the cup competition after beating their Hendon counterparts this week. Year 8s played excellent team football, sharing the goals amongst the team.

Year 7's managed to get through after a close and hard-fought game. Harry scoring a number of long-range goals helped to relieve the pressure from the Hendon team.

An unlucky week for the netball teams as they lost in their double header away at St Michael's. Both teams worked really well together showing a great team spirit. They came away looking forward to their next games with a desire to improve and get a win.

Week of 6th November

Y10 boys basketball v Hendon: Win 27-26

Week of 13th November

Y8 boys football v Hendon: **Win 11-1** Y9 Netball v St Michaels: **Loss 8-6** Y10 Netball v St Michaels: **Loss 15-5** Y10 boys football v Wren: **Loss 6-0** Y7 boys football v Hendon: **Win 7-5**

Week of 20th November

Y8 Netball v Wren Academy: Loss 8-1 Y9 Netball v Wren Academy: Win 9-1 Y7 Girls football v St Michaels: Win 2-0



Year 9 PE students practiced their skills on the driving range at Metro Golf this week.



CULTURAL SOCIETY TRIP, SIX THE MUSICAL - Miss Fleckney



The Cultural Society enjoyed a fun outing to the Vaudeville Theatre to hear Henry VIII's six wives tell their tales at the fabulous musical, SIX.

Please keep an eye out for news of upcoming theatre trips with the Cultural Society.

EMPOWER SOCIETY MEETING DATES – Mr Carter

The Empower Society meets several times during the year to discuss diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in our school. Please take a note of meeting dates below. Meetings take place from 8-9am at the Lower School library. All are welcome to join and should email EmpowerSociety@thearcheracademy.org.uk to express interest.



8th December

12th January

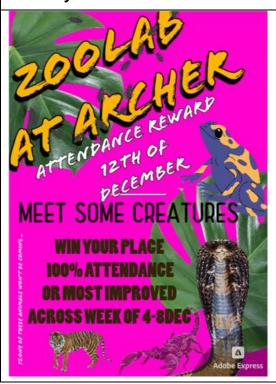
1st March

3rd May

7th June

5th July

ATTENDENCE REWARD EVENT – Ms Mahoney Tuesday 12th December



On <u>Tuesday 12th December.</u> Zoolab will be running a Biodiversity animal encounters workshop at Archer with 5-6 groups of 20 students across the day.

Students who have 100% attendance across the week of the 4^{th} - 8^{th} December, or who show significant improvement in attendance across the week, will be selected to take part in the workshop from a prize draw.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION AGM - Chris Kurt-Gabel and Jess Curtis

Wednesday 29th November, 7-9pm



ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN US

AT

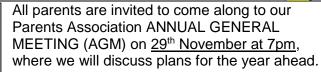
7.00PM

ON

WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

ARCHER LOWER SCHOOL

HELP US PLAN FOR THE YEAR AHEAD



Please let us know if you will be joining us here: https://form.jotform.com/233104123125337

We welcome parents who would like to join the Archer Parents Association. The PA is a great way to feel part of the Archer community and get to know other parents and teachers. We put on fun events for students and parents throughout the year to fundraise and support the school.

If you would like to get involved, please email parentsassociation@thearcheracademy.org.uk

HANSEL AND GRETEL OPERA OUTING - Mr Woodward



The music department enjoyed a trip to Jacksons Lane Theatre to watch one of our very own Year 11 music students, Robin S, sing in a magical production of the fairy tale opera Hansel and Gretel.



BELS Autism Parent/Carer programme (0-6yrs)



Professionals and parents will deliver modules designed to increase your knowledge and skills with understanding Autism and using practical strategies to support your child.

The criteria for accessing the programme:

- Barnet Resident
- Child has a diagnosis of Autism
- Child is 0-6 years old

To book <u>Click here</u> or scan QR code:



Location:

Morning sessions 10:00-11:30 in person at Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

please note no in-person sessions 28th February or 6th March

Afternoon sessions 13:00-14:30 on ZOOM (link to be sent before sessions)



Programme Content

1. Introduction to Autism

- · What is autism?
- Autism and early education.
- Autistic voice.
- Strategies for support.

Professionals: BEAM

Wednesday 17th January 2024

In-person session- 10:00am-11:30am Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30pm





2. Understanding Sensory Processing

- Understanding of our 5 senses and 3 hidden senses.
- Practical strategies to promote alertness and calm.

Professionals: Occupational Therapist

Wednesday 31st January 2024

In-person session- 10:00am-11:30am

Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30pm





3. Promoting Communication

- Development of speech, language, and communication.
- Strategies for promoting this in the home.

Professionals: Speech Therapist

Wednesday 7th February 2024 In-person session- 10:00am-11:30am

Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30pm





4. Eating and Drinking Difficulties

- Understanding of development of eating and drinking skills.
- Practical strategies to use at home.
 Professionals: Occupational Therapist

& Speech Therapist

Wednesday 21st February 2024 In-person session- 10:00am-11:30am Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30pm







5. Emotional Regulation and Promoting Predictability

- Use of visuals and other strategies for setting up routines in the home, managing changes and transitions.
- Enhancing predictability as a way to support emotional regulation.
 Professionals: BEAM & parent

Wednesday 28th February 2024

ZOOM (not in-person this week) -

10:00am-11:30am Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30p





6. Toileting

- Understanding of development of toileting skills.
- Strategies for promoting using the toilet at home.

Professionals: BEAM & parent

Wednesday 6th March 2024

ZOOM (not in-person this week) -10:00am-11:30am

Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30pm





7. Sleep

- Understanding how to improve sleep.
- Practical strategies to promote good bedtime routines.

Professionals: BEAM & parent

Wednesday 13th March 2024 In-person session- 10:00am-11:30am Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2,30pm





8. Understanding Education Health and Care Plans

- · What is an EHCP?
- · How can an EHCP help my child?
- . How long this process takes?
- Who can help?

Professionals: SENDIASS

Wednesday 20th March 2024

In-person session- 10:00am-11:30am Live ZOOM session- 1pm-2.30pm

BARNET

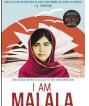
LIBRARY CORNER - Ms Appelquist

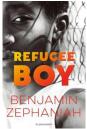


Katherine Rundell fans will want to reserve their <u>tickets</u> early as she talks about her first foray into fantasy at Waterstones Piccadilly on Tuesday 5th December. *Impossible Creatures* features the Archipelago, a secret place in our world where creatures of myth still live and thrive, and Chris and Mal's efforts to save them from extinction.

Nominations have been published for the **Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing**, awarded to a book written in English for children and young people that 'sparks an outstanding reading experience'. See here if you're looking for your next good read!

Reminder Year 8 – Please return your Disease books to the Lower School Library!







Pastoral Reading has begun in form time. Although ParentPay has now closed and the books have been distributed, they are easily found at:

https://www.waterstones.com/book/i-am-malala/malala-yousafzai/patricia-mccormick/9781780622163 https://www.waterstones.com/book/refugee-boy/benjamin-zephaniah/9781408894996

https://www.waterstones.com/book/the-curious-incident-of-

the-dog-in-the-night-time/mark-haddon/9780099572831 or any local bookshop.

Now is the time to look for overdue books! Please return any as soon as possible!

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr Constantinou

As we approach the end of the term, a crucial milestone awaits our students – the December mock exams. With just one week left, I wanted to update you on how you can support your child during this pivotal time.

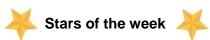
Here are some suggestions to ensure a smooth and successful preparation:

- Encourage a Balanced Study Schedule: Help your child create a well-organized study plan that covers all subjects. A balanced approach will prevent them from feeling overwhelmed and ensure effective learning.
- Identify and Address Weak Areas: Discuss with your child the topics or subjects they find challenging. Offering encouragement and assistance can make a significant difference in their confidence and understanding.
- Active Revision Techniques: Encourage your child to use active learning methods such as flashcards, mind maps, or teaching the material to a sibling. This not only reinforces their knowledge but also makes the study process more engaging.
- Prioritize Healthy Habits: Remind your child of the importance of proper sleep, hydration, and nutrition. A healthy lifestyle contributes to better concentration and overall well-being.
- Prepare the exam equipment: Ensure your child has a complete set of equipment (with spares) in a clear pencil case for their exams.

These mock exams serve as valuable assessments, allowing your child to showcase their growth and providing a roadmap for improvement. Your support plays a crucial role in helping them navigate this period successfully.

I have requested that students are taking the occasional day off from studying where possible, (this will of course depend on the amount of revision they have done so far!), I think it is exceptionally important that we are building breaks into your child's schedule, I fear some may be at risk of burn out if we do not, please do encourage them to utilise the day to rest and recuperate before the exam period starts.

Wishing your child the very best during this exam period. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to reach out.



Roshni J – for taking her studies so seriously, especially in Geography Shaan JM – for her maturity in looking towards next steps

Year 10 - Mr McSherry

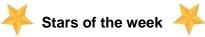
I do hope you all now have access to ClassCharts and therefore are able to see all of the achievement and behaviour data for your child. I have heard from some of you, requesting additional copies or other such queries, please do continue to reach out if this is not yet secure.

You'll be aware that this week on Thursday marked the first Learning Review Day of Year 10. Your child would have prepared targets in advance to discuss with yourself and their tutor during the meeting. This is an important and understandably new opportunity for your child at the beginning of their GCSE journey. Our aim is to ensure that your child was able to lead the discussion and therefore take full ownership of their progress, grades, targets and actions.

Please can I encourage you to work with them to ensure that they are able to transfer their targets from page 126 in their handbook onto the link on MS Teams, via the Year 10 channel. The deadline for submission of their independent learning plan, online, is Sunday.

On Monday, tutors will complete a check, and any student that hasn't sufficiently engaged in this process will be set a 30-minute detention for the same day. I sincerely hope this can be avoided with your support.

Have a great weekend, with lots of discussion about LRD and target setting for the coming term.



Lucy W and Maeve K – for embracing our school motto of working hard and being nice to people.

Year 9 - Ms Le

What a fantastic week it has been for Year 9! The energy and enthusiasm were palpable as our students engaged in thrilling House events, showcasing their dodgeball skills and team spirit. Congratulations to Mr Harris's form for winning the House competition.

Learning Review Day was a resounding success, providing an opportunity for you to meet our dedicated tutors and celebrate the achievement of your child's first set of GCSE foundation grades. Your engagement is crucial as we work together to ensure our students not only meet but exceed their academic targets.

In addition to the festivities, we've launched our Careers Lifelong Learning unit, aiming to broaden horizons and explore diverse future career paths. It's an exciting venture to help our students envision the multitude of possibilities awaiting them.



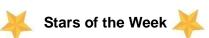
Omar G (9JHA) and Patrisia N (9JHA) – for being articulate and reflective during their LRD meeting. Well done.

Year 8 - Mr Hilton

On behalf of my pastoral team, it has been a real joy to see you all during our first Learning Review Day of the year. I've been particularly impressed by our year groups' determination to improve on their results. I know you'll join me in celebrating their successes so far. Do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor should you require any further follow up.

Thank you for those who have paid the deposit for our residential trip. Could I please ask those that haven't to make payment promptly.

I'd like to finish by highlighting our Year 8 Drama students. I'm already excited for March, to see what they have created. I know how hard you are all rehearsing right now.



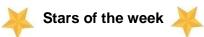
Manami M and Muneeb A – for their outstanding teaching of difficult content during History

Year 7 - Mr Raghuveer

Year 7 have had another strong week in the classroom, impressing their teachers with their diligence and aptitude in lessons. Discussions on Learning Review Day were purposeful, and it was lovely to hear students take ownership of their learning, and also take some time to celebrate so many wonderful successes in their first term.

There will be actions for students following LRD and I hope that this day has given them the tools that they need to achieve their lofty aspirations. Parents will be written to next week regarding academic setting in core subjects. Once again, do let me know if you have any further questions once you have received that communication.

Furthermore, sporting teams have gone from strength to strength, with the Year 7 girls football team putting in an imperious performance on Tuesday, and comfortably winning 2-0. I look forward to further successes for the boys and in netball fixtures. Finally, House Dodgeball was a huge success on Monday, with Year 7 setting the bar for the rest of lower school with their conduct. A proud moment for me.



Aby T – for displaying creativity in Thematic Learning Toby H – for producing consistently good work in History

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.