

9th July 2021

Dear all,

This has been a week of wonderful highs and some challenging lows.

Unfortunately, we have experienced a number of positive COVID cases in Year 9 and this has led to a large number of staff and students being required to self isolate. This has been incredibly difficult for everyone and I am so grateful for the level of parental support at this complex time. Careful plans are in place to best support students in ensuring their curriculum remains on track and that they do not miss out on important transition and PSHE opportunities. If your child is self isolating you should expect to receive additional communication today to best support your family.

More broadly we have had some concerns for the safety and well being of our students outside of school. This week we have worked very closely with the police surrounding concerns about adults unknown to our students approaching them. No child has been hurt, but this has caused understandable anxiety. We have been very well supported by the police and all students have received support and additional guidance from their Heads of Year, in assemblies this week, about personal safety. I would urge that all parents spend time revisiting key safety messages at home, chiefly that students should walk to/from school in groups and that if they are worried, they should enter the nearest shop, business or return to school to ask for help. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any concerns. Senior staff will be extending the parameters of their patrols at the end of the school day to better support our students.

However, amidst these challenges we were thrilled on Monday to be informed of our national success in the UK Great Big Dance Off competition. 57 schools from across the UK took part in this prestigious competition and.....WE WON! Our Year 9 students submitted an incredible piece of work and it clearly made an impression. We are so proud of the students, our first national competition win, and I very much look forward to hosting a special Headteachers' Lunch with them next week. Coupled with this was a stunning Year 8 Showcase on Thursday afternoon, where the privilege of experiencing live performance was a joy to behold.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."* Robert Swan

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Term dates for 2020 2021: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/term-dates-2020-2021/>

Term dates for 2021 2022: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/term-dates-2021-2022/>

July

Weds 14th – Learning Review Day, please book your online appointment

Sat 17th – Archella Auction collection of items/2nd hand uniform sale, 12 – 2pm, lower school

Weds 21st – Archer Adventure

Thurs 22nd – End of summer term, students dismissed at 12 midday

September

Weds 1st – INSET day

Thurs 2nd – INSET day

Fri – 3rd – INSET day

Mon 6th – School starts for years 7, 10 & 11

Tues 7th – School for all year groups

REMINDERS:

Covid testing: Please continue to test on Mondays and Fridays to keep our community safe.

KEY INFORMATION:

Religious holidays: There are a number of religious holidays early next term. The school needs to know in advance if your child will be absent from school to observe any religious festivals. Please could you email: office@thearcheracademy.org.uk and mark the subject of the email 'Religious Observance Absence Request'. Please detail each day your child will be absent from school and for which festival. Days of absence will be authorised for students to attend religious events in a place of worship in accordance with Barnet guidelines. Please assume your request for absence has been authorised unless you hear from the school.

ARCHER RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITY:

Are you looking for a term time, support staff opportunity? We are recruiting for a student services officer. Application deadline is midday on Friday 16th July. For more details and to apply, please visit our website: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/support-staff-opportunities-vacancy/>

PARENTS ASSOCIATION – Mrs Csaky



Archer Auction 2021

Bidding starts: 8th July at 9pm

www.jumblebee.co.uk/archerauction2021

Bidding ends: 15th July at 9pm

- HEALTH AND FITNESS
- HAIR AND BEAUTY
- CLUBS AND CAMPS
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- FASHION
- ACCESSORIES
- HOME AND GARDEN
- ENTERTAINMENT
- EXPERIENCES
- SERVICES
- TOYS
- BOOKS
- MAGAZINES
- FOOD AND DRINK



ARCHELLA AUCTION

Auction link:

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/archerauction2021>

Whilst we are not able to hold the Archella Festival this year, we have instead asked every member of the Archer community to contribute an item to our online auction.

There are 100s of items to choose from, please do take a look and bid on anything from a signed collector's edition script book from BBC show "Inside No 9" to a weekend in a holiday cottage or perhaps a French conversation class. All prizes or vouchers will be available to collect on Saturday 17th July from 12pm – 2pm at lower school. We would like every Archer family to support the school by purchasing something.



SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

We will be hosting a second hand uniform sale on Saturday 17th July from 12pm – 2pm at lower school.

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD EXEMPLARY EFFORT AWARD – Miss Harrison

Each week heads of year review and celebrate the merits and achievements of each student. The Headteacher Exemplary Effort Award is then awarded at the end of each month to the students who have received the most merits in their year group. Significant congratulations go to the winners for June, such an impressive achievement and students deserve to be very proud of themselves.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Yashi T Leron B Melania S Joaninha M-M Dylan McC	Jack F Aaqil K Pola McD Safia A Keith R	Stan H Leon M Harry G Amelia G Zara S	Kurt U Zack W Reiss R-M Kanya H Karo K

Vision 2030: How brilliant could we be? Miss Harrison

This week we have been hosting workshops with students to explore the future of our school, with the central question – '**How brilliant could we be?**' As staff and governors, over the past few months, we have been developing a strategy document entitled Vision 2030, to enable us to secure a bold and ambitious narrative to guide the further evolution of our school. What do we want our school to look and feel like in 2030? It is a big question but one which staff, and students have thoroughly enjoyed exploring.

This work remains in its early stages, but it feels so important to afford ourselves the opportunity to engage in 'big picture' work, when so much has been interrupted by COVID. In so many ways it is important and timely to rest. Next week, we will be hosting four opportunities for parents to come into school to take part in open forum discussions with senior staff. These sessions will take place at the following times:

Wednesday 14th July at 9.15am at Lower School

Wednesday 14th July at 6.00pm at Lower School

Thursday 15th July at 9.15am at Lower School

Friday 16th July at 9.15am Upper School

<https://form.jotform.com/211894246301048>

To ensure COVID security we will need to limit these sessions to 10 parents, but it feels so important to try and do this in person. However, please know that there will be further opportunities across the

autumn term to share your thoughts with us. I do hope you will be able to join us, in starting this important and special conversation.

LRD – Mrs Mahoney

We are very much looking forward to meeting with all our families on Wednesday as part of Learning Review Day. Please make sure you have booked your appointments and do contact us if you are having any difficulties doing this. We will also be using the day to consult with families about our Lifelong Learning curriculum, which includes the new statutory requirements for the teaching of Relationships and Health Education, RSE. Mrs Mahoney will be leading some briefings on the new policy and sharing a survey with you to complete next week.

You will be invited to join a session at 9am or 3pm on Wednesday 14th July, by email correspondence early next week.

Vision 2030 Student Meetings – Miss Martin

On Thursday, Ms Martin led a Vision 2030 meeting with a group of year 7 students. Ms Martin was incredibly impressed with the ideas that came through in the session. Peter and Romily made the following comment:

"In our meeting, we talked about the future and what could be hiding around the corner. 2030 may seem a while away, but it will come around in a flash. We hope to achieve many goals and discussed many topics in the session. For example, anti-bullying, new ideas for our curriculum, how to help people with mental and physical health, as well as new sport activities for during and after school. Some of our other discussions were around how to secure more wider learning opportunities, chill out zones for students and wider wellbeing opportunities, ensuring that we are all happy and safe at our school. We hope that we can achieve the goals set by 2030 and keep the Archer Spirit alive."

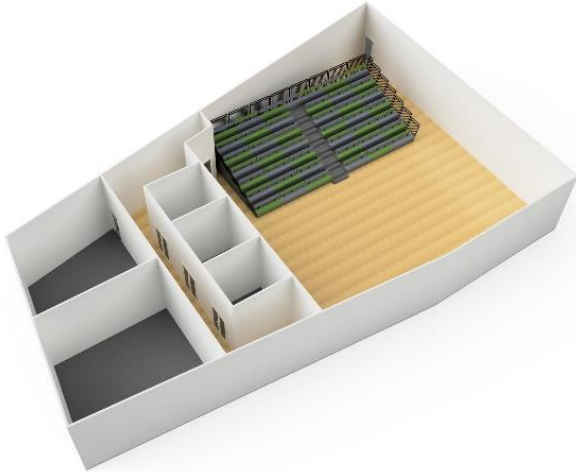
GREAT BIG DANCE OFF – NATIONAL WINNERS – Miss Hacking



Miss Hacking has been working with a year 9 dance squad who were entered for a national dance competition (virtually!) this year. The students worked incredibly hard on their Peaky Blinders inspired choreography, and showed total dedication and professionalism in spite of all the challenges this year has brought. After a nail biting few weeks waiting, we finally received the results on Monday. The students were up against 57 other secondary schools from across the whole of the UK, and the competition was tough. I am so delighted to tell you that the students came in first place, taking home the trophy! I am so proud of the students- they are officially national champions. Well done all!

Celebrations took place via Teams due to students needing to isolate - I look forward to celebrating properly when the students return.

RAISE THE ROOF – Miss Harrison



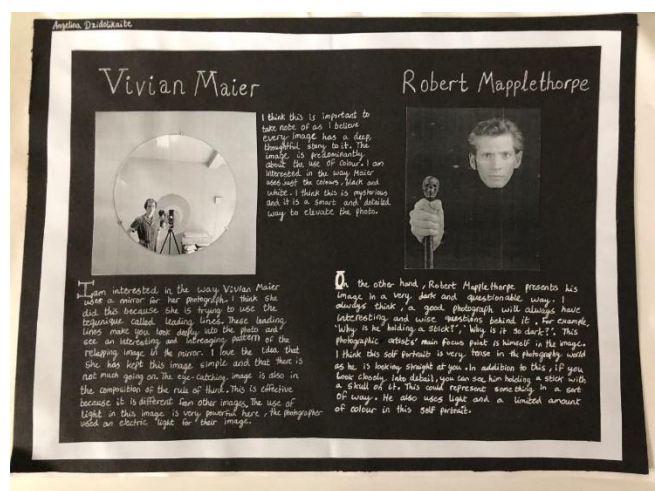
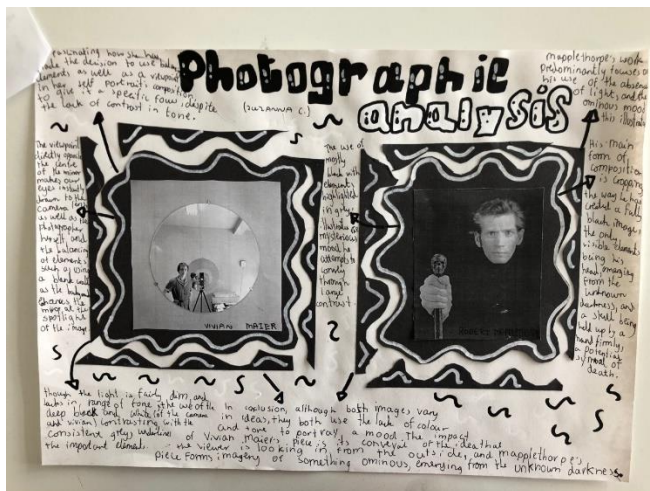
I wanted to thank all of you for the wonderful response to our piece about the launch of the Raise the Roof Campaign. The offers of help from the parent body have been so meaningful and very much appreciated. I wanted to add that we have already started applying to grant givers but know, from previous experience, that for a project like this we are going to need help from the business world to ensure the building becomes everything we want it to be, both for our current students and those that follow them.

Any ideas you have of companies large and small that you know or work for would be immensely appreciated. There will be opportunities to sponsor a theatre seat, lighting etc up to and including the whole building. Please do let our fundraiser, Angela Hay know if you feel you can help.

ahay@thearcheracademy.org.uk

YEAR 9 PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM – Ms Clarke

I am proud to say that the year 9 photography exams reached a very high standard this term. Work was all generally analytical, articulate and very appropriately and creatively presented!



WELLCOME COLLECTION FOCUS GROUP – Ms Clarke



Students from both Upper and Lower School gathered in their separate libraries in order to take part in a virtual meeting with Wellcome Collection staff on Tuesday. They acted as a student focus group and voiced their opinions on a range of The Wellcome's educational ideas. The Archer students were articulate and insightful.

Thank you to: Erin M., Amelie M., Amelie C., Stan H., Arjan A. and Alex B. Two libraries were used to keep bubbles separate; one student logged on from his isolation at home!

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM – Rachael Harvey

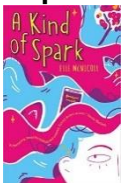


The garden gang are getting ready to show off the fruits of their labour to the community. If you would like to get involved in this project, please email: volunteer@thearcheracademy.org.uk

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower school library:

Representation/Own Voices



Debut author Elle McNicoll has won the [Waterstones Prize](#). Published by Knights Of, a small company dedicated to representation in children's literature, ***A Kind of Spark*** details an autistic girl's struggle to gain recognition for the women who were reviled as witches in her hometown. *Available in the Lower School Library.*

Building the Archer Bookcase – Summer Reading

Have you got your summer reading book yet?

The ParentPay for these books has closed, but you can purchase them [here](#) or [here](#). Many are available as audiobooks or available to read online:

Y7-8 [A Monster Calls](#)

Y8-9 [The Goose Road](#)

Y9-10 [Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?](#)

Building the Archer Bookcase – Summer Reading



Looking for even more of a challenge this summer? **The Week Junior** is offering a chance to win £200 worth of books for participating in their [Summer of Reading](#). See around school for more information and loads of suggestions!

Have you met Fen and Half-Pint? Many students have had the pleasure of grooming and training our equine visitors this week. If this has sparked your interest in horses, here are a few suggestions from the Lower School Library:



After months of being utilised as a classroom, the Lower School Library is transforming back to its former glory! Non-fiction is making its way back onto the shelves. Many thanks to our Woodhouse work experience students and Archer graduates for their help this week!

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

Upper school library:

Holiday reading – book your summer reads now! Visit the library and check out:



I am so pleased to welcome students back to the library at upper school.

Library opening times are:

Monday 8.30am – 5pm
 Tuesday 9.30am – 5pm

Wednesday 9.30am – 5pm

Thursday 9.30am – 5pm

Friday 8.30am – 4pm

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 10 - Mr McSherry

It has been great to have the year group back together this week. You can feel a sense of relief around the upper school. As we move into next week we are looking forward to GradFest on Monday!

We would like to take this opportunity to celebrate together, after some challenging times for all. Your child is asked to dress to impress, smart casual will do. There will be several food and drink options with a barbeque style spread for all to enjoy! The music is chosen by the students, for the students. The event will take place outside and starts at 6.30pm. Food will be served from 7.30pm. The evening will finish at 9pm. Please do email if you are planning to collect your child from the Lower School at 9pm.

Tickets are available on ParentPay for a price of £10. If your child is eligible for free school meals, the school will subsidise the cost of their ticket and you should pay the discounted cost of £5.00.

Please do encourage them to get their tickets and take part in this event! All tickets will need to be paid for before Friday 9th July at 6pm.

Also, well done to all the students who applied for Senior Student Leadership positions last week. Applications are being reviewed and interviews will take place shortly.

Have a lovely weekend.



Anja N-L - for supporting her friends in their self care strategies
Joseph R - for completing a thorough student leadership application

Year 9 - Miss Alcock

It has been a challenging week for year 9 due to a large number of students being asked to self-isolate, the year group has responded to these requests with great maturity and I have been incredibly proud. For any students isolating, they will be added to the remote learning team, where they will find work published for students to complete. I would also ask students to keep an eye out in their emails for any event invitations, these will be live streamed lessons.

Next week students will be taking part in their second drop down day covering RSE topics on Tuesday, followed by LRD on Wednesday - please do make sure you have booked your appointment.

Gradfest planning is well underway, with Mr Carter being booked in to be our school DJ! To confirm the date is Tuesday 20th July from 6.30pm with a dress code of smart casual. Tickets are available to purchase on parent pay.

Students received their end of year exams results slips today, for any student not in school results will have been emailed home to parents. All results slip will be available for collect next week from my office for those students wanting their paper copy.

I look forward to welcoming the year group back at different points next week and hopefully will have the year group back together for their final year group transition day at Upper School on Thursday 15th July.



Tino and Emily for being creative and exceptional in the year 9 transition drama workshop

Year 8 - Mr Constantino

This week has been fantastic. It was so lovely for the year group to be able to watch the fantastic performances that their peers had put together for the Showcase. The students have worked so hard in putting these together and it was so important that they were able to share it with the rest of their year group. All performers were fantastic, their enthusiasm and dedication was evident throughout. I also must acknowledge the audience, who despite not having opportunities to be an audience this year, were excellent and engaged for the entire duration.

A few reminders to enable us to see out the year with our usual style.

- Face masks remain an important part of our Covid prevention strategy, can you please ensure your child has at least one with them each day.
- There have been a few incidents in the local community, please encourage your children to go straight home and walk with a friend if possible.
- The Archer Adventure is taking place this year. One of my highlights of the year and the first time the year group gets to properly take part. All money raised will go to Raise the Roof!

Stars of the Week

Maleeha M - for learning all parts of America in music.
Alex B - for quietly and consistently bring a star in English

Year 7 – Mr Wick

What a week! After students enjoyed their Wonder Week last week, we have returned to normal timetabled lessons to reignite their learning curiosity once again.

Students have been reflecting on their year at Archer to prepare themselves for the upcoming Learning Review Day and reports. It has been lovely to see students thinking so deeply about the difficult year we have experienced.

From Kingswood at Home to Science Week, drama and dance workshops, a beach trip and exciting lessons - students have been afforded so many opportunities despite all the challenges.

In form time students have been thinking about Plastic Free July. Discussing and reflecting on their own plastic usage as well as strategies to reduce their single plastic use. It is lovely to hear student input here as it is heartening to know our present and futures are in the hands of these thoughtful young people!

Stars of the Week

Gabriel and Katayoon - massive shining stars, who have just joined the Archer this week