

16th July 2021

Dear all,

We seem to be hurtling towards the end of term and I cannot quite believe that by this time next week we will have broken up for the summer. It has certainly been the most eventful of years, but we look forward to hopefully a more settled future.

Following Sunday's football match, the response by our students to the horrific racism incurred by England football players, has been deep and powerful. Today, students took part in year group debates across the campus to explore the issue of racism in football, the importance of standing up to racism and showing their support to the footballers involved. These debates will lead into a display next week, organised by student leaders, to capture their thoughts and feelings on this complex issue and how our school community can work together to promote positivity, understanding and respect for all. I am so proud of my students and the many staff involved in this important work, in ensuring that the school is not only a safe space to talk, but also to listen.

Across this week students in Years 9 and 10 have taken part in specialist workshops on the themes of healthy relationships and consent. These workshops form an essential part of our PSHE programme, but are even more important in the wake of the national Peer On Peer Abuse scandal. Thank you to all parents who took part in the webinars this week to explore how we are developing our PSHE programme from September. We look forward to the next steps in developing this important work for our students.

We are very much looking forward to our Archer Adventure next Wednesday. Please do ensure that you have reviewed the information about the day for your child, noting that the day is different for each year group. Students will bring their sponsorship forms home today and we hope that each child will make every effort to raise £10 towards our Raise the Roof campaign. Students should bring their sponsorship money to school next Thursday.

You will be aware that there is a national change in COVID restrictions from Monday 19th July. However, at school we will be maintaining all COVID risk management strategies until the end of term. We wish to take every step to keep everyone safe next week and ensure a good start to the holiday. I shall write to all parents next week with details about how we will be responding to government guidance for the new academic year.

This will be the final newsletter of the current academic year, however, I shall send out a short review next Thursday, following our whole school assembly.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'The starting point of all achievement is desire'*. Napoleon Hil

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY:

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

July

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.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION – Mrs Csaky



ARCHELLA AUCTION COLLECTION – SATURDAY 17TH JULY



Thank you to everyone who has donated and bid on all the fantastic items in this year's auction. We have raised over £7,531 for the school which is a new record!

Please come and collect your items/vouchers on Saturday 17th July from 12 – 2pm at lower school. As you can see, they are all beautifully arranged and ready to go!

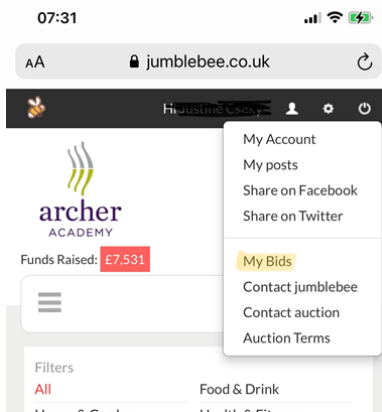
Please transfer the money you owe to the Friends of the Archer Academy account. Here are the bank details for you to make a bank transfer:

The Friends of the Archer Academy

Sort code: 50-21-08

Account number: 26866919

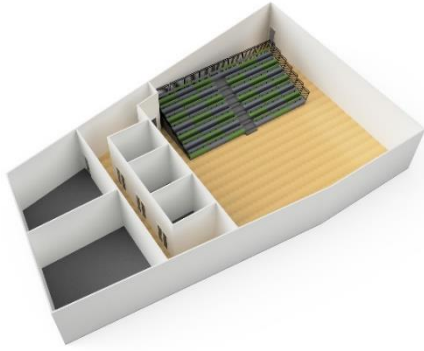
You can find out the total you owe by clicking on My Bids, as per the picture. Payment must be made within 24 hours of the auction closing.



SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

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

ARCHER ADVENTURE 2021 – Mr Morrison



The big day is getting closer (Wednesday 21st of July) and the final touches are being put together for the event. As a reminder, students will be walking with their year groups (accompanied by Archer staff) across a variety of routes through North London parkland. Students will start and finish in school, will be walking in their own clothes and need a packed lunch.

This year's adventure will be raising money to Raise the Roof! We are asking each Archer family to raise a minimum of £10. Prizes to be won for the form which raises the most money and the top individual fundraiser.

The performing arts are a huge part of Archer Academy life, but we don't have a proper space for our talented young people to rehearse or perform. So we've launched Raise the Roof, a new campaign to build a bespoke dance, drama and music studio and performance space.

Please note we are sending a paper sponsorship form home with your child today as this allows us to claim gift aid where appropriate. Thank you for your support.

Unused Lego Request - Mrs Gillham



We are looking for donations of unused lego or duplo, to support teaching and learning activities in the next academic year. If you have any at home that you'd like to get rid of, please drop off your donations to either the upper or lower school reception by Wednesday 21st July.

PARENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME – Miss Harrison

The Parent Contribution Scheme is set up to help the school pay for resources, equipment and experiences that are necessary to keep the Archer Academy running smoothly, allowing us to continue to offer our broad curriculum and range of opportunities to students. If you are able to support the school by giving a monthly contribution to the PCS, please find more information on our website: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/parent-contribution-scheme/> or contact our Finance Director, Leanne Chase to set this up: finance@thearcheracademy.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who already contributes to the PCS. Families typically give between £10 - £100 a month but any amount will be welcome. All contributions are treated in confidence and all students are treated equally, regardless of whether their parents contribute.

This year we have used the fund help pay for the following:

- Science, PE and DT equipment
- Minibus hire
- Lunchtime football coaching sessions
- Finchley Youth Theatre hire for teaching and performance space
- Barnet Partnership for School Sport
- Enrichment providers
- Wonder Week external providers
- I pads for EAL provision and other IT equipment
- Student counselling services
- Outdoor furniture

SCHOOL GOVERNOR UPDATE – Claire Straus

We are delighted to have welcomed 8 new governors to the Governing Board in recent months and would like to introduce them to the school community. We are also sad to say goodbye to 5 departing governors this year: Toby Blume, Louise Dobrin, Cathy Halstead, Simran Jouhal and Grace Palazzolo. Toby was one of the founders of the school and chaired our fundraising and audit committee, and remains a member of the Archer Trust. Louise was a vice chair of governors and also coordinated our link governors. Cathy was also a founding governor and was the safeguarding link governor and supported our communications, as well as staff and student wellbeing, she will continue to support school communications. Simran was a staff governor and was on our education and standards committee. Grace was a parent governor who was on the fundraising and business development committee and was the link governor for science. We are extremely grateful for their years of service to the school, making significant contributions and leaving big shoes to fill.



Catherine Winter is joining us as a community governor. She has two daughters, one has been through the Archer, and the other is currently in year 10 at the Archer. Catherine worked in commercial brand management for 20 years before returning to university to take a postgraduate certificate in education. She worked as a subject lead and secondary school teacher for six years before moving over to work for a qualifications awarding body – The London Institute of Finance and Banking (LIBF). She is currently the Managing Director at LIBF who are an educational charity providing financial education programmes and qualifications to schools, colleges and charities. Catherine is keen to use her skills, experience and insights to support the Archer in its continuous journey to

educate, develop and support its young people and the broader community in being an outstanding school.



Lauren Higginson has recently joined the school governing body as a community governor. Originally from the West Midlands, she has lived in London for seven years and is excited to be able to make a positive contribution to the community which she now calls home. Lauren works for a large financial services organisation, focussing on technology and digital services. As someone who has always loved to learn, she hopes to use her skills and experience, combined with a deep-seated passion for inclusive, quality education, to support the strategic direction of the school.



Natalia Cid is a community governor and member of the fundraising and business development committee. She is a parent with a son in year 8 and a daughter starting year 7 in September. Natalia's background is in the arts and community outreach and she is currently Head of Creative Learning at Jacksons Lane. She is an experienced governor, having been a governor at a local primary school for the past five and a half years. Natalia is very excited to be joining our governing body and hopes to use her background and experience to support the strategic direction of the school, with a particular interest in fundraising and building stronger connections in our local community.



Karen Gubbay is a former Head of School for pupils with learning and emotional difficulties, and is now a special education consultant. She has over 20 years' experience of working in schools across 5 London boroughs and is passionate about empowering all children to thrive and feel positive about themselves and their learning. She has children in years 9 and 11 at Archer and is excited to have the opportunity to contribute to the school's positive outcomes, both for its students and in the local community.



Melinda Athinodorou is a community governor, a member of the education & standards committee, and chair of the communications working group. As one of the founders of the school, she is passionate about continuing her support and commitment to the strategic direction of the school. She is parent to one child in the school and has two children who have already been through the school. She also draws on experience from her work in the advertising and communications industry for over 20 years and running her own business as a coach. In her coaching practice she uses a series of questioning techniques to get people to think about their goals and how best to achieve them. Similarly, as a governor, she looks forward to providing support and challenge to achieve the best outcomes.



Sally Hill is a staff governor and has been teaching mathematics at the Archer Academy since September 2017. Prior to that, she worked in the City as a corporate finance adviser. She moved to north London with her family in 2015 and have never looked back! As a fully converted north Londoner, she looks forward to getting to know the wonderful community that has enabled and supported the continued success of the Archer Academy and Sally is particularly look forward to playing her part in supporting the school, its students, its parents, and the wider community.



Srikanth Ragvani is a parent governor: Thank you to everyone for electing me as one of the parent governors. It is a pleasure and honour to be part of the Archer Academy which my daughter describes as a dynamic, vibrant and outstanding school.

I am fortunate to be working in the education sector for almost twenty years and I am constantly learning from these young minds and colleagues alike. I am currently working as an Assistant Headteacher looking after curriculum, examinations and safeguarding. Prior to this I have been working as a Head of Science for over ten years in a high achieving independent school.

It gives me great joy to be able to offer something in return to the school which has given my daughter a firm foundation and a promising start to her education journey. Under the guidance of the robust governing team and staff body of the Archer Academy, I would like to offer my assistance to the best of my ability and look forward to some more uplifting and progressive years ahead.



Clare Raff is an East Finchley resident who previously served on the education board of a local college. She is an experienced careers adviser having worked in secondary education for over 20 years. Having set up the careers offer at another Barnet school from scratch she is currently working there as Head of Careers. She says "I am delighted to have joined the governing body and I'm excited to support the strategic direction of the school in this next stage of its development, building on the vision and dedication of the founding members". With experience of working in a variety of schools across London she plans to bring her experience of careers information advice and guidance to the school community and use her expertise to support students, parents, and teachers. She hopes to bring her skills and experience to the pastoral and wellbeing committee, in particular.

LEARNING REVIEW DAY SURVEY TO COMPLETE – Mrs Mahoney

Thank you to all families for attending LRD on Wednesday. The Archer staff certainly enjoyed reflecting on all the achievements of our students. Thank you also to the parents who attended the RSE webinar and completed the RSE survey, I hope you found this informative. Your feedback will support the shape and delivery of the curriculum.

If you have not yet been able to, please complete our survey using this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GLBVQ6Y>

We will be asking students to complete the RSE survey next week.

STUDYING DISEASES – Ms Vandervelde



Last week Thematic Learning welcomed visiting experts to our year 8 unit on diseases. The line-up was impressive and included Professor Rubinstein who shared some of his insights on drug development; Professor Edmunds shared his experiences on SAGE and Covid as well as other diseases including Cholera and Polio; brain surgeon Mr Morris inspired students with his tales from the operating table and a real brain skull and Dr Griggs expanded on our prior knowledge of Malaria and took some great questions about the day to day life of a GP.

All in all, a chance to learn something new and, I think for some students, sowing the seeds for a future in medicine! We are hugely indebted to our speakers for giving up their time and our students for posing such good questions.

THE FUTURE OF MEAT – Mr Wick

On Wednesday 14th the Archer had our second Science Hub. This week we had the opportunity to watch together a short documentary on "The Future of Meat." It opened our minds to the concept of meat being considered more of a product than having come from a living animal. We discussed the importance of humans reducing their animal product intake and whether it's an important facet to include in society; and we shared our thoughts on why humans have such a strong emotional connection to the meat they do ingest.

This hub we were also joined by the Archer Alumnus Emily McCarthy who is completing an Extended Project Qualification on the matter of meat consumption. She shared her project idea of how societies engage with the food they eat and how important our emotional connection is to the types of meat we consume. She is completing her EPQ with the help of a survey and she would love it if more people could complete it. Please email mriwick@thearcheracademy.org.uk for details.

A brilliant evening, very much looking forward for the next one in our next academic year.

Stay Scientific!

EQUINE THERAPY – Mrs Mahoney

We had our final session of equine therapy on Tuesday. All students involved thoroughly enjoyed the experience and benefitted from this unique and very special opportunity. Quotes from students included:

"It was a great experience, even though I was quite scared I'd love to do it again."

"It was so fun! I loved all the horses, they should definitely come back again"

"Mabel is so cute I enjoyed to ride her and I love to play with Fen"

We are so pleased to have been featured in Horse and Hound magazine and the Ham&High newspaper. We hope to secure funding to be able to continue with this next academic year.

ART THERAPY – BIG GIVE UPDATE – Mrs Mahoney

We have now completed our art therapy pilot, delivered by Sophia Davison and funded by the Big Give. Students have had the opportunity to work in a wide range of materials including paint, clay and collage, to make beautiful art works. The students have clearly benefitted from these sessions:

What do you like about the art therapy sessions?

"I've enjoyed going at my own pace. It has felt restful to focus on creating something"

"It is quiet and that makes me feel happy and calm. I like that it has just been me and Sophia because she is nice. She's always kind"

"I find some lessons stressful, coming to art therapy has helped me relax and it has been fun"

"I don't always want to come to school, in fact this morning I thought I really don't want to go in but then I thought I have art therapy and I want to do that"

"Usually I find Monday the most stressful day of the week. Knowing that after a whole day I have a session of art therapy to relax in helps"

"I never fully relax in lessons because a part of me worries that I will be put on the spot and won't know what to do. That hasn't happened here"

"I've had the chance to meet people in my year I didn't necessarily know very well"

MINI DANCE AND DRAMA SHOWCASE YEAR 8 – Miss Hacking



Last week, year 8 students put together an impressive mini showcase for their peers of dance and drama pieces. Although the day was not quite the large scale sharing the CPA department were hoping for, it was so lovely to see the students up on stage and performing live once again! Well done to all involved.

Should anyone wish for videos of the dance performances, please email Miss Hacking: msshacking@thearcheracademy.org.uk

RAISE THE ROOF – Mrs Csaky



We are delighted to be featured in this week's edition of the Ham&High newspaper, who covered the story of our national dance win and the fundraising launch of Raise the Roof.

You can read all about it here:

<https://www.hamhigh.co.uk/news/archer-academy-in-east-finchley-wins-dance-competition-8144990>

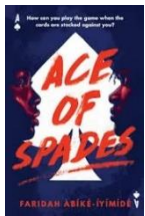
If you have any contacts in the performing arts world, please get in touch with Angela Haye fundraising@thearcheracademy.org.uk thank you.

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower school library:

Hello Cats, and welcome to the last edition of Library Corner for the year!

There's plenty of bookish things to keep you occupied this summer:



Love mysteries? This [event](#) on July 22 features debut author Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé, seasoned thriller writers Holly Jackson and Maureen Johnson in conversation about their summer blockbuster reads!

The Hay Festival's [Programmes for Schools](#) is still available **free** on their website. Featuring talks by authors such as Robert Muchamore, Onjali Q Rauf, Muhammad Khan and Cressida Cowell, the short films will give you an insight into the minds of your favourite writers.



Fans of Robin Stevens will enjoy her [conversation](#) with Elle McNicoll about neurodivergent protagonists and the fantastic new Waterstone's Book Prize Winner, ***A Kind of Spark***.

If you run out of books to read this Summer, here some ways to read online for free:



[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? You can apply for one [online](#)!

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



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

If you prefer to listen to your books, [Lit2Go](#) has a range of titles **absolutely free**—or you can sign up to [Audible](#) for a free trial—but *don't forget to cancel before the end of the month!*

Reminder!! 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?](#)

Book Amnesty:

Please, please, please bring any overdue Archer library books from home to campus next week—it doesn't matter which one, Ms Horwitz and Ms Appelquist will sort it out. Just bring them back (this excludes any you've got out to read over the summer)!

Have an amazing summer everyone, and *keep reading!*

Upper school library:

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

DIP INTO A BOOK THIS HOLIDAY

Some Recommendations!

Aveyard, Victoria	Red Queen (series)
Baldacci, David	The Finisher/The Keeper
Bardugo, Leigh	Shadow and Bone (series)
Bayron, Kalynn	Cinderella is Dead
Boume, Holly	We are all lemmings & Snowflakes
Cummins, Jeanine	American Dirt
Chang, Jeff	Can't Stop Won't Stop (Hip-Hop)
Dalcher, Christina	Vox
Dashner, James	The Maze Runner
Davis, Charlotte N	The Good Luck Girls
Duyvis, Corinne	On the Edge of Gone
Emmich, Val	Dear Evan Hansen
Green, John	Paper Towns
Han, Jenny	Always And Forever, Lara Jean
Kalanithi, Paul	When Breath Becomes Air
Kay, Adam	This is Going to Hurt
King, Stephen	Pet Sematary
Lapena, Shari	The Couple next Door
Lee, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird
Mafi, Tahereh	Ignite Me (Series)
Mckenzie, Sophie	Girl Missing
Niven, Jennifer	All the Bright Places
Pullman, Philip	Book of Dust (Series)
Ryan, Chris	Special Forces Cadets (Series)
Simsion, Graeme	The Rosie Project
Steinbeck, John	Travels with Charley
Sutcliffe, Lucy	Girl Hearts Girl
Tolkien, JRR	The Hobbit
Tevis, Walter	The Queen's Gambit
Zweig, Stefan	Chess (Essential Read)

I am so pleased to welcome students 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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Year 9 - Miss Alcock

I was so proud of the year 9 dance squad being crowned champions last week. Their dancing skills are phenomenal and the hard work and effort they put into all their rehearsals was a testament to their teamwork.

It was lovely to meet with so many parents on Thursday for LRD, please can any parents who didn't manage to attend their appointment contact the child's form tutor to arrange a time to discuss their child's progress and targets for September.

Year 9 had their first full week at upper school this week as part of their transition programme. It was lovely to see the year group embrace the new building and the start of their upper school life. There will be lots of information shared next week to support students' preparation for September with recommendations for books to read and activities to complete. Please ask students to check SMH and MS teams for information.

A reminder that Gradfest takes place on Tuesday 20th and tickets are available on Parentpay. It will be a great opportunity for the year group to celebrate all their achievements from year 7-9 and is set to be an evening to remember!

It has been an incredible year for year 9. I have thoroughly enjoyed taking over as head of year and getting the opportunity to get to know so many more of the year group. I am incredibly proud of what the year group have achieved and can't wait to see how they continue to develop as they move to year 10. I wish every student the very best for the summer and look forward to seeing the students return upper school ready in the autumn.



Nimrod H and Natalia for fully embracing becoming Archer students

Year 8 - Mr Constantinou

The final newsletter of the year, I can't believe it is already here! This year has had its challenges but I think we need to recognise how fantastic year 8 have been. They have truly embraced both their times at school and at home and have demonstrated how ready they are to be the senior students of lower school. I have been delighted that they have still managed to experience so many different opportunities throughout the year - below are some of the students' highlights.

Toby D - My highlight of the year was the trip to Margate - I loved it - I had so much fun and it was a great opportunity to get closer with my friends.

Anna M - I loved taking part in the Showcase, I love dance and drama and it gave me the opportunity to improve and perform for my peers.

Jonah BR - Having started Archer this year, I have made lots of new friends and really enjoyed getting involved in school life - my favourite subject has been PE and I joined the football team which I am looking forward to continuing next year.

Riya C - Taking part in the scholars' programme gave me an opportunity to expand my knowledge on topics I was interested in and presenting in front of senior staff at the school was both nerve wracking but also made me feel extremely proud!

Reading just a few of the wonderful things our students have been able to take part in makes me excited for next year when our enrichment programme returns and the students can explore more of these brilliant extra curricular activities.

Let's encourage year 8 to finish the term well, please do help them to raise as much money as they can for their first Archer Adventure and our new CPA studio. This is one of my favourite events of the year and I am delighted that the year group are able to take part properly this time around!

I hope you all have a restful break and I am already looking forward to welcoming year 9 back in to school come September.



Javeria A - for her excellent participation with the horses on Tuesday.
Kuba O - for demonstrating a determination to finish the year on a positive note - especially in PE

Year 7 – Mr Wick

Our penultimate week has given us a chance to reflect on our year so far. Students have been filling in surveys and forms to think deeply about how their time at Archer has been. I have had the opportunity to speak with students and am amazed at their level of introspection. Quotes such as:

"Archer has been so kind to me, I've always felt included."

"I'm learning so much and the teachers make it so fun."

"After such a hard year it's just nice to be back with my friends."

This week students presented their final pitches to the dragons in thematic lessons. Incredible and wild theme parks had students inventing beautiful and dangerous roller coasters in adventure parks - fun for all the family. Many students (and adults!) find presenting in front of others tricky to navigate however I have been so impressed with students' resilience to push forward and face this with bravery.

Learning Review Day is an essential part of the Archer genealogy where students can have an overview of their most recent Archer experience. Form tutors and students have shared their reflections of the year and it's clear that students are looking forward to year 8 - my real hope is that students are able to get the full Archer experience of a year in school and all of the incredible opportunities involved.

Speaking of opportunities, students will be preparing for their Archer Adventure next Wednesday 21st of July. We will be raising money for "Raise the Roof" which will embellish the school with an incredible new CPA space for performances. Please help your child to raise as much sponsorship for this project as possible.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Ilgaz, Yildiz and to Ayan M for their outstanding end of year assessment results - well done!