

17th September 2021

Dear all,

We have truly felt some of the benefits of a little more flexibility in school this week, with the excitement of our first school trip and workshop of the academic year. Year 11 drama students had the opportunity to go to an actual real theatre and enjoy a performance of 'The Woman in Black', leaving a little jealously amongst the rest of us! Year 9 had the extraordinary privilege of attending a workshop with Laura Bates, founder of Everyday Sexism, as she explored her new novel 'The Trial' with them. Both of these occasions have enabled real opportunities for the everyday to be enriched for our students, as they explore their learning in different contexts. I was struck by the power and impact of Laura's presentation, it is so incredibly important that our students have the opportunity to explore the significance of sexism and sexual harassment in society – I do hope students in Year 9 and above will devour her novel.

Thank you to all parents for attending our Online Welcome Meetings across this week, providing the opportunity to meet with your child's tutor and receive important information about the year ahead. These meetings were recorded and are available to view here:

Year 7 <https://youtu.be/KHWqkJqfkWU>

Year 8 <https://youtu.be/CFvv6JFAvWA>

Year 9 <https://youtu.be/4xa7DJoXuIM>

Year 10 <https://youtu.be/arVIduvTckI>

Year 11 https://youtu.be/ITv_KcCeiq8

We have experienced a number of cases of COVID in the school community this week. A reminder that as part of our risk management, we are continuing to identify potential close contacts of a person who has tested positive. We are conducting this exercise simply to provide advisory guidance to parents and to enable us to adapt our risk management appropriately in school, increasing protection. If your child is identified as a close contact you will be contacted by the office team. We would advise any identified close contacts to be monitored carefully for symptoms by parents, to take regular Lateral Flow Tests and to book a PCR Test if you are concerned. If you book a PCR Test for your child they will need to self-isolate until they get the result. We will not instruct your child to self-isolate as we did last academic year, however, we feel that by conducting this internal exercise we are increasing the protective factors for all members of our community. The role of twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests for all staff and students is so important in this work and they have clearly reduced virus transmission this week. Please do take every step to ensure your child completes and logs their Lateral Flow Tests on Monday and Friday mornings.

Thank you for your continued support as we take every careful step to protect our community and enable your child to realise their potential.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it.'* – Marianne Williamson

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY:

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

September

Mon 20th – after school clubs start, see timetable below

Weds 22nd – Fri 24th - year 7 baseline testing/year 9 reading assessment

Mon 27th – flu vaccinations, years 7 – 11

Weds 29th – settling in evening, year 7, 4.30 – 8pm

October

Weds 6th – Open Evening, school closes midday
Thurs 7th – late start to school, students arrive 10.30am
Fri 8th – INSET day, school closed
Thurs 21st – Prize Giving, by invitation from 7pm
Fri 22nd – school closes for half term at 1.30pm, after lunch
Mon 25th – Fri 29th – half term holiday

November

Mon 1st – school starts, 8.30am
Weds 3rd – year 11 core subjects evening, 6.30 – 7.30pm
Weds 3rd – Fri 5th – Kingswood residential trip, year 7

KEY INFORMATION:

Covid testing: All students should test on Mondays and Fridays to keep our community safe. [Upload your lateral flow result](#) before your child comes to school.

Parentpay

Please ensure your child's ParentPay account has a positive balance.

Timings of the school day

Lower	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Upper	Year 10	Year 11
Arrival	Grass	Playground	Astro	Arrival	Car Park	Car Park
Lesson 1	08:20	08:20	08:25	Lesson 1	08:20	08:30
Dismissal	Green gate	Schools +	Green gate	Dismissal	Causeway	Causeway
Mon/Weds	15:30	15:35	15:40	Mon/Weds	15:30	15:40
Tues/Thurs	15:00	15:05	15:10	Tues/Thurs	15:00	15:10
Tues/Thurs Enrichment	16:05	16:10	16:15	Tues/Thurs Enrichment	16:00	16:10
Fri	15:00	15:05	15:10	Friday	15:00	15:10

Homework club: Homework club will run in the IT suites for 1 hour after the school day finishes on the following days:

Lower

Monday, Thursday, Friday

Upper

Wednesday, Friday

The library is also open daily for Upper School students after school.

Religious holidays: 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.

SPORTS CLUBS – Mr Clark

Extra-curricular clubs start from Monday 20th September, please see the clubs available in the timetable below. Clubs will run, where possible, on the days each year group has PE.

- KS3 Girls Football will become KS3 Netball after Christmas.

- KS4 Netball will become KS4 Girls Football after Christmas

20 th September – 15 th December						
		MONDAY YEAR 10	TUESDAY YEAR 9	WEDNESDAY YEAR 11	THURSDAY YEAR 7	FRIDAY YEAR 8
Before school 7.30 – 8.10	ASTRO			BOYS Football Year 11 JMC		BOYS Football Year 8 MCO
After school	ASTRO	BOYS Football Year 10 KCL	BOYS Football Year 9 IME		ALL Football Year 7 SLE & JRA	GIRLS Football Year 8 SLE
	MUGA					
	SPORTSHALL	GIRLS Netball Year 10 & 11 KAL				

EVERYDAY SEXISM – Ms Appelquist

This Thursday Year 9 had the opportunity to meet the author and journalist Laura Bates, founder of the Everyday Sexism Project. Ms Bates spoke about her newest YA novel, *The Trial*, which explores issues around consent and casual misogyny, and signed copies of her book.



ANNA FREUD CENTRE FREE WORKSHOPS – Mrs Mahoney

The school is delighted to be working with the Anna Freud Centre for children and families once again this academic year. The organisation are offering our parent body a range of free online workshops and webinars focused on wellbeing and mental health, alongside broader parenting support. On Monday a programme will be published to parents. If you would like any further information about joining the workshops, please contact me by email: MsJMahoney@Theacheracademy.org.uk. If you would like to join any of the webinars, please sign up via the links below.

EQUINE THERAPY – Mrs Mahoney



This term we are excited to be offering equine therapy again to students. Sessions will run on Friday mornings.

Mabel our therapy pony is very excited and chomping at the bit to get started.

CANINE THERAPY – Mrs Mahoney

Walks with Rufus and Nadine start again this term. Students will have the opportunity to walk Rufus around the school garden and in the community.

DEPTH ASSESSMENT FORTNIGHT – Mrs Gillham

Key dates - Monday 11th October to Friday 22nd October

Our first depth assessment fortnight will be taking place from Monday 11th to Friday 22nd October. The purpose of this is to provide students with the opportunity to sit summative, in class assessments, that allow them to demonstrate the progress that they have made across a range of topics in their subject areas so far this term.

Students will have an assessment in each subject. Each assessment will take place during normal lesson time. A timetable will be distributed by Heads of Year prior to the week, so that all students are aware of the schedule.

Key points to note:

- Students will receive revision guidance from their teachers in terms of revision topics and structured revision activities, both in lessons and on Show My Homework.
- Students will be informed of the exact time and day of their assessment by each of their subject teachers and a central revision timetable will be provided by Heads Of Year.
- The content of the assessment will include topics studied since the start of September, but may also include other topics studied towards the end of the last academic year (specific guidance will be given by class teachers where this is the case.)
- Some practical subjects may choose to assess work completed over a longer period rather than in the designated week – again specific guidance will be given where this is the case.

During the course of the assessment week, students will continue to be set revision tasks on SMH to help their preparation.

Further information and guidance on how to support your child with revision will be shared in the coming weeks through lessons, homework, tutor time and assemblies.

These are important assessment points, however please be aware that student progress will continue to be assessed through a mixture of classwork, homework and additional depth marked work, to ensure that a complete picture of progress is clear and accounts for a wide range of skills and knowledge.

Summer Challenge – Mr Menzies

The English department have been delighted by the flair, imagination and creativity of our new Year 7 students. Mr Harris remarked, "Wowzers! I have been so impressed with my class. Every student has clearly put time and effort into producing a spectacular piece of work." Well done Year 7! We look forward to a brilliant year and the start of an an incredible journey here at Archer!

File under: *Never Give Up!* Did you know that Mallory Blackman got **82 rejections** before her first book was published? Read [this](#) great interview with the author of ***Noughts and Crosses*** to hear how she spent lockdown. Hint: a new book is coming out! ***Endgame*** is available in bookstores this week.



Nicola Morgan, author of ***Blame My Brain*** and ***The Teenage Guide to Life Online***, has produced another book as a result of the pandemic. ***Be Resilient*** is her guide to bouncing back and building a healthy outlook, to achieve what you want and guard your mental health. See [here](#) as she details the main points of her book, all through the medium of football!

Upper School

Awesome News!!! The Upper Campus Library is open and a hive of activity.

Hours:

LIBRARY HOURS YEAR 11

Monday: 12h50 – 13h30 (**LUNCH**) AND 15h45 – 17h00 (**After School**)

Tuesday: 10h30-10h50 - **BREAK**

Wednesday: 12h50 -13h30 (**LUNCH**) AND 15h45 - 17h00 (**After School**)

Thursday: 10h30 – 10h50 – **BREAK**

Friday: 12h50-13h30 (**LUNCH**) AND 15h10-16h00 (**Library Closes**)

LIBRARY HOURS YEAR 10

Monday: 10h30-10h50 – **BREAK**

Tuesday: 12h50 –13h30 (**LUNCH**) AND 15h45 – 17h00 (**After School**)

Wednesday: 10h30 – 10h50 – **BREAK**

Thursday: 12h50 -13h30 (**LUNCH**) AND 15h45 - 17h00 (**After School**)

Friday: 10h30 – 10h50 – **BREAK**

Looking forward to seeing you and do let me know what you are Reading! @ Mrsrhorwitz@thearcheracademy.org.uk

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

Now we're up and running, the year group have made an excellent start to Year 11. You can really feel the shift across classrooms this week. Here are some key figures for you:

160 students in Year 11.

64 attendees at last night's Year 11 Online Parent Welcome Meeting.

54 students met the Archer+ deadline for submitting choices.

16 students have been late for school so far this term.

I am writing to request your support and engagement in such key parts of school life. I know you aware that this is an important year for your child, and it is imperative that you know that we are ready and willing at school to ensure your child achieves their very best. As I know you do, we also want the very best for them.

I will be sending out the resources from the Parent Welcome Meeting, as well as some key questions and answers. I ask that you sit with your child and review the information carefully. There is a lot of information, all of which is geared towards helping your child. There are also aspects of uniform and equipment, which remain a key priority for us. Please do ensure your child is well prepared for school and is dressed as they should be. All details are included on the slides.

If you do have any questions, please email the relevant member of staff, each section of the PowerPoint will be titled with the name of the staff member presenting.



Sonny F - For impressing Miss Bowles and Mr McSherry this week
Caesar C - For attending additional revision opportunities this week across his subjects

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

This week we have seen the year group fully immerse themselves into their GCSE subjects and students have already been praised for their conduct and effort across a range of lessons! In particular, students have been recognised for their excellent attitude to learning in GCSE PE, Drama and Computer Science. The year group are clearly enjoying their new personalised timetables.

Thank you to all the parents that attended the welcome evening on Tuesday, if any parents have questions following the evening, please do not hesitate to contact me.

This week the year group were informed of their enrichment choices, and I am so excited to see these start next week.

Mrs Brami was extremely proud of her year 10 vocational studies students this week and the majority have gone home with a postcard! Well done!

Please do remind students to set out a clear homework timetable and check their show my homework. Students will be set 1 hour per subject per week.



Rudy H - for his excellent attitude in PE
Clarice - for always supporting her tutor group

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

Thank you to those of you that came to the parent meeting on Tuesday, I know there were some difficulties in joining the form specific meetings, please do not hesitate to get in contact with your child's form tutor if you have any questions.

In Lifelong Learning this week, the students finished looking at the events in Afghanistan and begun to explore the idea of identity. They have started creating their own family tree, assessing the impact of social media and exploring why identity is important. The students were also lucky enough to have been visited by Author Laura Bates discussing her new book, The Trial, and the wider themes around it, which covered some intense and serious subject matters. Please do talk to you child about the assembly and encourage them to ask questions if they have any.

Prefect interviews will be starting next week, those who applied have all received details in order to prepare for their interview. They will be delivering a pre-prepared presentation to Ms Gunn and myself, where they will outline why they are suitable for the role and what they think they will bring to it, followed by a few on the spot questions. This process will be competitive and I would encourage you to have a conversation with your child if they are applying. It is a difficult thing, to put yourself forward for a role, and it would be good to be on the front foot to prevent too much disappointment for those that aren't chosen.



Jacob B - a brilliant start to the term, earning a huge amount of merits
Nava I - always hard working and polite, a true example of the Archer Way

Year 8 – Mr Wick

Our first full week in the bag, and what a week it has been. It was lovely seeing the students reforming their friendships and looking so comfortable being back at school. Year 8 are continuing to meet and even exceed our expectations, I have been delighted to see the sheer number of merits awarded since

their return to school, particularly encouraging considering the changes they have faced on their return.

On Wednesday we had our Settling in Evening, which had some technical difficulty, but ultimately gave the pastoral team a chance to meet parents.

Please do look at the curriculum maps showcasing all of the subjects students in Y8 will be experiencing: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/year-8-curriculum-plans/>

I have heard so many positives from their subject teachers, fully earning the sunny day on Thursday. We started our week with tutor time focussing on tutor display boards, followed by a basics and equipment check on Thursday. Assembly on Friday afternoon will focus at the impact of language and how it can impact others, giving students the time to reflect on the difference between banter and bullying, especially with the rise of internet sensations leading the way for unwanted vocabulary!

 **Stars of the Week** 

Sezen U and **Gabriela D** who have been hugely supportive of our Archer Community. Thank you for your care.

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase

It was lovely to meet with parents on Monday for our Yr7 Parents Welcome Event, I hope everyone found the time with your child's tutor, Miss Harrison and Ms Martin, informative and purposeful. Unfortunately, due to a technical issue I was not able to speak. However, I would like to take this opportunity to echo Miss Harrison's sentiment - quite simply, wow! Not only have Year 7 topped the honour roll having earned well over 1000 merits so far, but all students have arrived on time and eager to learn. There is so much to be proud of, please do take the time to congratulate your child.

I am delighted to confirm our Kingswood residential will take place between November 3rd and 5th. Kingswood is very much an Archer tradition – one that focuses on risk-taking, developing resilience, and team-building skills. Often our Yr11 students recall on their Kingswood adventure with real fondness. Please do ensure you have secured your child's attendance – there is an expectation that every child will take part. If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Next week, pupils will complete their baseline assessments. A reminder that no preparation should take place for these exams, they are merely to support us in enabling your child. If you have any questions, please do email me directly.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Calum and **Nina** in 7JHA for always trying your best in lessons. Your teachers have been so impressed by your resilience. Keep it up!