

10th December 2021

Dear all,

Simply thank you for your incredible support of our Big Give Campaign. I have been truly humbled by the response and so look forward to further expanding the reach of our Archer Bookcase programme. Thank you!

We have been so impressed by the maturity and resilience of our Year 11 cohort, across the past fortnight, as they have completed their Mock Exams. The students have met expectations thoroughly and we look forward to welcoming them back to school properly on Monday— no doubt they are all looking forward to the end of today, when this endurance test will come to end. Well done all.

Today, has very much been led by our students and I have been so proud of the commitment and creativity employed. With Lower School students supporting the work of Action Malaria and Upper School students raising important awareness and funds for mental health. The bake sales on Lower School demonstrated such leadership from our students, their pride in their work powerful to see. On Upper School our special picnic lunch and glass jar workshops afforded students the time and space to simply enjoy the important communal act of eating together, looking after one another and remembering their very special friend. The real essence of the Archer Way has been seen and felt today.

This evening we welcome the festive season with real aplomb with our annual 'An Archer Christmas Carol' concert. Following the necessary postponement last year, this feels even more special. I so look forward to providing a real opportunity for our students to perform, they have been working so hard. The music of the Christmas festival is steeped in history and has provided Miss Humphrey with the chance to really challenge our students. I know that the music of the evening will provide us all with space to reflect on the important messages of this time of year, regardless of our faith. The themes of peace, kindness, hope and goodwill to all men, have never been more needed.

We look forward to supporting Save the Children and the Finchley Food Bank on Thursday with our annual Christmas Jumper day, there are more details later in the newsletter. To support risk management, we will hold our end of term Celebration Assembly online, which whilst disappointing, affords an important protective factor for our social bubbles. Students will be dismissed at midday.

Two weeks ago, I urged parents to revisit 'streetwise' guidance at home. We shall be revisiting advice to students again next week. However, please may I ask that parents revisit key steps in ensuring safety, such as walking with friends, sticking to public spaces and not using mobile phones.

This will be the final newsletter of this term, Next week year group communications about the start of term arrangements will be shared alongside an end of autumn term review for parents on Thursday.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'No one has ever become poor by giving.'* — Anne Frank.

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY:

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

Term dates for 2022 2023: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/term-dates-2022-2023/>

December

Mon 13th – Christmas lunch for students, see menu below
Thurs 16th – Christmas Jumper Day, bring in £1 for Save the Children and chocolate coins for Finchley Foodbank
Thurs 16th – Last day of term, midday finish for students

January

Tues 4th – INSET day
Weds 5th – First day back for students. Please note this will be a staggered start to enable an onsite Lateral Flow Test for all students. Timings will be shared next week.
Thurs 6th – Year 11 parents' consultation evening 4.30pm – 8pm
Tues 18th – Year 8 HPV immunisations, letter sent out by email
Weds 19th – Year 8 parents' consultation evening 4.30pm – 8pm
Thurs 20th – Cultural Society trip to see Nutcracker!

February

Weds 2nd – Year 9 options evening
Fri 11th – school breaks up for half term
Mon 14th – Fri 18th – half term holiday
Mon 21st – School starts 8.30am
Tues 22nd – Year 9 & 10 HPV immunisations, letter sent out by email
Thurs 24th – Learning Review Day 2

KEY INFORMATION:

Staggered start of term information: In line with government guidance all students will be requested to complete a Lateral Flow Test at school on Wednesday 5th January. To enable this process safely, a staggered start will be in place. Timings will be shared next week.

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.

Data Collection Sheets: Please review the information closely on the data sheets that were sent home with students last week and notify us of any amendments that need to be made: office@thearcheracademy.org.uk

THANK YOU FOR BUILDING THE ARCHER BOOKCASE – Miss Harrison



“That’s the thing about books. They let you travel without moving your feet.” Jhumpa Lahiri

Once again, thank you for the brilliant response to the Big Give Christmas Challenge to build the Archer Bookcase. We exceeded our fundraising target and raised an amazing £11,672 including the match funding. It means a great deal to me that all students will have their very own Archer Bookcase of at least twenty books by the time they finish their Archer journey and for us to fund additional projects.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY/FINCHLEY FOODBANK – Mrs Mahoney



Seasonal Giving – Thursday 16th December

This year we will be supporting both Save The Children's Christmas Jumper Day and the Finchley Foodbank on the last day of term. All students are invited to wear a Christmas jumper/accessories and to bring in £1 donation for Save The Children and a packet of chocolate coins to be donated to the Finchley Foodbank. We would like all children whose families use the Foodbank to have a packet of chocolate coins to enjoy over the holidays from the Archer Academy. Thank you for your support.

PARENT TALKS – Ms Mahoney

Due to the positive feedback we have received from Year 7 parents, following the presentation from our resident child and adolescents psychotherapist, Sophia Davison, we are going to run two further talks on ***“Parenting in the digital age, how to manage your child’s digital diet.”***

The talks will run from 6-7pm on the below dates for upper and lower school parents.

Year 8 and 9	24 th January
Year 10 and 11	28 th February

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK - Mrs Gillham

Over the course of the Christmas holiday homework will be set as follows:

- No homework for year 7s and year 8s
- Core subject homework only for year 9
- Homework as normal for year 10 and 11 (1 hour per subject)

We hope that all students will use the holiday as an opportunity to read, both fiction and non fiction, and also to consolidate learning from this half term.

WELLBEING – Ms Martin

At the Archer Academy, we are passionate about promoting positive, emotional wellbeing and mental wellness for every child. To support you with helping your child to feel happy, fulfilled, and able to realise their full potential, we have added some wellbeing information as well as links to other organisations on the school website: <https://thearcheracademy.org.uk/wellbeing-at-the-archer-academy/>

For more information on signs, symptoms, and strategies, please use the links below which provide useful information on managing feelings and emotions and when to seek help:

- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/a-z-guide/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/>

Please do speak to us if your child is experiencing any challenges with their mental health or wellbeing.

DIVERSITY, EQUALITY & INCLUSION – Ms Humphrey



On Monday night teachers and staff from the Archer Academy opted to attend a very important session about the use of gender in our language. This was all the more powerful as they were joined by two students from year 10, who shared their experiences to inform and encourage staff to consider the language and imagery utilised in classrooms. As a school, we are really keen to reduce the chances of the accidental reinforcing of gender assumptions or stereotypes, and an awareness around pro-nouns; so that everyone at school feels like they belong, and know that their future aspirations are equitable.

A huge thank you to the Archer staff and students who were involved for their enthusiasm and dedication.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE – Ms Appelquist



Every year the Archer library publishes a holiday book guide for all the important people in your life. Find this year's list on our website [here](#) —you might find next year's favourite book!

If you're looking for more ideas, [here](#) and [here](#) are some roundups of the best of the year.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH – Michele Harrison

CHRISTMAS MENU
MONDAY 13TH DECEMBER

TRADITIONAL NORFOLK ROASTED TURKEY (HALAL)
SERVED WITH ALL THE FESTIVE TRIMMINGS
AND CRANBERRY COMPOTE
(G, SU)

ROASTED BEETROOT, BUTTERNUT
AND FETA WELLINGTON SERVED WITH
KALE AND THYME PESTO
(E, G, MK)

ROAST POTATOES, HONEY ROAST
CARROTS AND PARSNIPS

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS
PUDDING SERVED WITH VANILLA SAUCE
(G, N, MK)
OR CHOCOLATE YULE CAKE WITH
VANILLA SAUCE
(E, G, MK)
OR FRESH FRUIT SALAD

Olive

We are all looking forward to our Christmas lunch on Monday. Please make sure that your child's ParentPay balance is topped up so that they can enjoy the festivities.

DEBATEMATE SUCCESS – Ms Keen

Congratulations to all our year 9 Debatemate students after a fantastic start to the programme this term. They are making excellent progress and we look forward to what they will achieve at the urban debate league, their first round of competitions, running at the end of January.

Well done to all students who entered the competition to go to Dubai for the Debatemate Expo. A special congratulation to Esme S and Ash S for their achievements in reaching the semi-finals. They put forward a compelling argument about gender inclusion and issues in our local community.

A gentle reminder that Debate Mate is an annual enrichment and will start again on Thursday 6th January.

THEMATIC LEARNING – Ms Vandervelde



Y7s celebrated in style the completion of their current unit on Greece in Thematic Learning with a celebration of the Greek language, dance and food. What a lovely way to spend time together!

MY MATHS TUTOR PROGRAMME – Dr Morrison



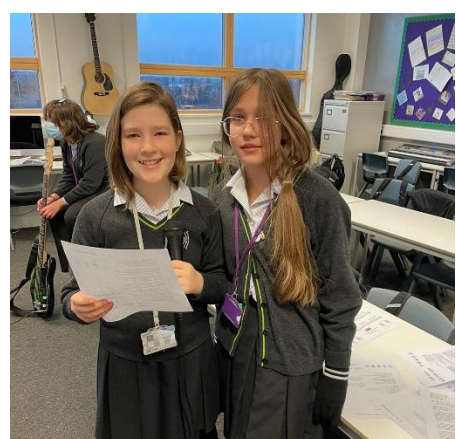
Well done to the year 10s who began the My Tutor programme this week. This is a 10 week course of one to one tuition in maths, English or science from students at a Russell group university. Students who complete the course typically make one whole grade of progress.

FESTIVE CHEER AT SCHOOL – Mr Alcock



It's great to see the Christmas trees at upper and lower school. Thank you to the students for their help in putting up all the decorations.

ENRICHMENT PHOTO ROUNDUP – Miss Le



STUDENT LEADERS – Ms Gunn

It has been a very festive week and while our wonderful upper school student leaders have been working hard on their mock exams, our lower school prefects have really stepped up, supporting with our Archer Festive Carol preparations, and leading our Student Council meeting. Well done Team.

Hello, my name is Anna, and I am one of the two deputy lead prefects of lower school. In this role, I hope to develop my independent skills and learn some more responsibility. A thing I enjoy about our school is that we have amazing facilities for students who like taking part in things such as dance, drama, music or physical education. An example of this is that we offer opportunities to take part in

things such as the annual showcase, which is an event to showcase the ability of the students here and I think is a great opportunity. **Anna M - Deputy Lead Prefect- Lower School**

Hello, my name is Maleeha, and I am a lower school deputy lead prefect. In my role, I hope to build on my public speaking skills. I enjoy the range of exciting opportunities on offer and the sense of community within Archer. This year, I plan to focus on supporting our student community after two years of disrupted learning. **Maleeha M - Deputy Lead Prefect- Lower School**

ARCHER GARDEN – Rachael Harvey



The Archer garden was a hive of activity last weekend. Despite the wintery conditions, we welcomed families to the free workshop, to make their own wreaths and help the Green Arrows fulfil all the Archer orders. Thank you to everyone who supported the event, through buying the beautiful, 100% sustainable wreaths or by giving your time to make them.

If you would like to return your willow hoops after Christmas, they can be recycled for next year.

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower School



Hiya Cats, and welcome to Library Corner, Holiday Edition!



Only one more week to go, so please be sure to **drop by the library and return any overdue books**. This will give you a great opportunity to stock up on reading material for the holidays!



Attention Year Seven:

The **BookBuzz** Books are here! All year 7s will be receiving the free book they chose over half term sometime this week and the next, just in time to enjoy over the holidays. If you haven't received your book, please contact Ms Appelquist in the Lower School Library.

Book Reviews:



Naama H on **Stargazing**: I learned that it's not always bad to have a good imagination and it does make you a different person (in a very good way).

Paniz A on *Moonrise*: I would recommend this because it's got a good plot and set of characters.
Iris E on *A Christmas Carol*: It means you can change in life—it is never too late!
Bella A on *Stone Cold*: I would recommend it if you aren't sensitive!

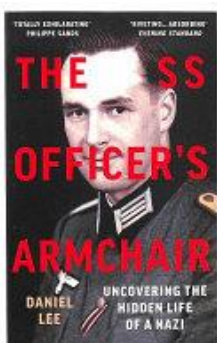


Parent Reading Volunteers:

All being well, we hope to re-start the Parent Reading scheme in the new year. If you have an hour on a weekday morning to come in to read with a struggling Y7 or Y8, please let [Ms Appelquist](mailto:Ms.Appelquist) know!

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

Upper School



YEAR 10 AND 11 HISTORIANS THIS IS YOUR FINAL CHANCE TO MEET DANIEL LEE AUTHOR OF ...

The SS Officer's Armchair

Where: Upper Campus Library

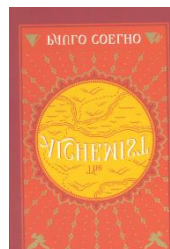
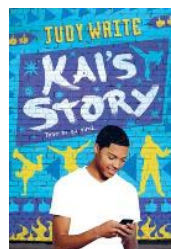
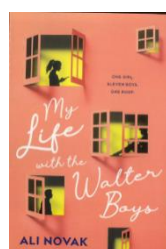
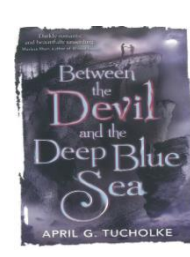
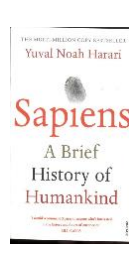
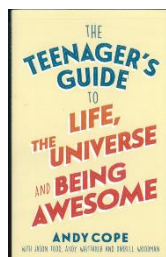
When: Tuesday 14th December 2021

Time: During Enrichment 3.00 – 4.15pm

“It began with an armchair. It began with the surprise discovery of a stash of personal documents covered in swastikas sewn into its cushion. *The SS Officer's Armchair* is the story of what happened next, as Daniel Lee follows the trail of cold calls, documents, coincidences and family secrets, to uncover the life of one Dr Robert Griesinger from Stuttgart. Who was he? What had his life been – and how had it ended?”

Visit the library or email mrsrhorwitz@thearcheracademy.org.uk to book your space!!!

New @ Upper Campus Library - Just in time for the Holidays!



PE DEPARTMENT UPDATE



Rugby

The year 7 boys rugby team had their second tournament at Saracens on Wednesday. This time entering with more experience and more schools to play. They got off to a great start beating Whitefield and a resilient Finchley Catholic. The boys started to tire after an intense start, as they succumbed to a loss in their 3rd game against Wren Academy. After a short break and a team talk they went on to win the next 2 games against Saracens and Kingsbury. Well done team! 4 wins out of 5 is an outstanding achievement. – **Mr Clark**

Cross Country Championships

The cross country championships took place at StoneX fields on Thursday. This was a familiar course to some, however the temperature was a lot colder since their first run out. We had a few podium finishes with Elizabeth finishing 2nd in her race and Leo winning his race. Isaac, Amber and Phoebe all managed top 10 finishes in their races. A tremendous effort from all the runners, well done! - **Ms Alcock**

COMMUNITY NEWS

UNIFORM4KIDS



Updated Opening Hours

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have reviewed our weekday store trading hours. **During our quiet times, our stores will be closed on a Friday from October to May.** This change will take place from 1st January. Orders can continue to be placed online 24/7. This will not affect the summer period when we will remain open 6 days a week from June to September.

Thank you for your continued support

Christmas and New Year opening

17th–28th December 2021: **CLOSED**
 29th–30th December 2021: **OPEN 9am-5.30pm**
 31st December 2021–3rd January 2022: **CLOSED**
 4th January 2022 onwards: **OPEN 9am-5.30pm**

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

Mocks are finished. I wonder if you reviewed feedback from the lead invigilator last week with your child. I hope you did... It is so important to enable your child to avoid any disruption to their preparations for their summer exams.

We understand your child may well be tired, and understandably so. It would have been an exhausting two weeks for them. Now spare a thought for their teachers, all that marking to do - Merry Christmas

year 11 teachers! Seriously though, as ever it is a joint effort and I know that this has been a useful and productive experience for all students in year 11.

I look forward to welcoming them all back to school on Monday morning with another inspiring and informative assembly. I will outline the plan for the final week of term and encourage them to have a good rest over the festive period, and of course to come back recharged and ready to maximise every opportunity that is presented!

Have a lovely weekend, do say some nice things to them, they have done very well.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Safya I and Matthew B - for showing good resilience during the mock exam period

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It has been a brilliant final full week for year 10, the year group have had a real uplift in their studies. It has been lovely to see so many students taking part in the variety of extracurricular opportunities available. A highlight of mine has been seeing the students concentration and focus in the Woodhouse mentoring session.

A special thank you to the group of students who beautifully decorated the upper school Christmas tree: Eve, Megan, Ava, Isak and Leo S.

It has been wonderful to see the year group taking part in our first charity at upper school today, raising money for Mind. A special thank you to the group of girls who have worked extremely hard to organise everything for the day.

I hope everyone has a restful holiday and look forward to welcoming the students back in the new year.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Ash and Grace for their excellent contribution and support at the diversity and inclusion staff training day.

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

This week in Lifelong Learning the students have continued their sex and relationship education - learning about contraception and STIs. This can lead to students having many questions, please don't hesitate to get in contact if you have any worries/ concerns.

The year 9s demonstrated excellent leadership, supporting with house football for the younger year groups. The year group really do set a good example to the year 7s and 8s, we should be proud of their attitude and engagement with all aspects of school life. They truly are becoming the Archer Analysts we want them to be.

A few reminders for the next week.

- There will be no enrichment, this means school ends at 3.10 on Tuesday next week.
- Thursday is Christmas Jumper day, bring £1 and bag of chocolate coins for Foodbank appeal
- School will finish at midday on Thursday and there is no school on Friday.
- Deadline to sign up for the end of term residential is 13th December 2021 - please get in contact if you have any questions.
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There is so much to look forward to next term, with the options process for GCSEs, further house competitions and more. I can't wait to see what the year 9s can accomplish. Have a lovely winter break.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Shaan - for her wonderful effort in all her subjects. She has particularly impressed in PE!

Keith - for his positive attitude and excellent manners

Year 8 – Mr Wick

What a penultimate week! Students have been celebrating each other and staff this week with kind words of appreciation for the upcoming winter break.

This week students have focused on social wellbeing in their Lifelong Learning curriculum; the concept of building positive personal connections with others, dealing with conflict, and being a part of a positive social network.



On Thursday, students joined Mr Wick for a celebration assembly for their merits and effort during the behaviour drive this week. The year group received a huge number of achievement points, and top scorers had their names taken from a hat to join for this celebration. We will be having more celebrations over the year!

On Friday we had our bake sale and own clothes day to raise money against Malaria. It was amazing and students got into the spirit fantastically!

Next week is our final week of term. Some key points:

- There is no enrichment - students will be dismissed

from 3.10pm on Tuesday

- Thursday is Christmas Jumper day, bring £1 and bag of chocolate coins for Foodbank appeal
- Thursday is a half day - students will be dismissed from midday

★ Stars of the Week ★

Luca C and Isabella A d S for receiving such incredible praise for their work this week. Well done!

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase

During this week's assembly, year 10 students visited year 7. As participants of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge, year 7 enjoyed three speeches performed by upper school students on the topics of climate change, slant walking and Italy's failed conquest for Ethiopia in 1896. Year 7 were highly engaged and made an excellent audience – well done to all. I look forward to facilitating further cross campus opportunities.

Today students enjoyed our Greek Extravaganza! From Greek food, dancing to language, Archer students always reference this event as a highlight of our Thematic Learning curriculum. Parents – do discuss this with your child over the weekend. They have plenty to share.

And finally, it was wonderful to see so many students involved in our house football competition earlier this week. It was equally lovely to see year 7 collaborating with year 9 students who oversaw the running of the event. Well done to all for getting involved! A particular well done must go to 7SMU for their win.

Next week marks the end of the term. Please do take the time out to recognise and celebrate your child's achievements – there is so much to be proud of. The tutor team and I look forward to doing so during assembly and tutor time. Some key points for next week:

- There is no enrichment - students will be dismissed from 3.10pm on Tuesday
- Thursday is Christmas Jumper day, bring £1 and bag of chocolate coins for Foodbank appeal
- Thursday is a half day - students will be dismissed from midday

Have a wonderful festive break. Happy New Year to all.

★ Stars of the Week ★

DeNero in 7JRA for a much-improved week. Well done for putting your best foot forward.

Keep up the effort!

Kulsoom in 7JHA for being polite, kind and hard-working. Well done for modelling the Archer Way.

Keep it up!