

7th January 2022

Dear all,

Happy New Year! It has been wonderful to welcome staff and students back to school for the spring term. Thank you for your support of our onsite Lateral Flow Testing Programme on Wednesday. The maturity and organisation of students was excellent and as a result we have been able to afford significant protective factors around our return to school. What is most important now is that we maintain our commitment to twice weekly home testing, to ensure that we can keep our community safe and protect student's education in school. The use of home testing, alongside in school risk management, is designed to protect everyone and I have been very impressed by student's resilience to the additional measures surrounding face masks. Whilst I fully recognise our collective exhaustion surrounding COVID19 the threat level remains high and by continuing to take careful steps, together, we are best placed to remove the need for further restrictions and measures.

Whilst we take every opportunity to be safe, it is essential that our contingency plans surrounding a possible increase in national restrictions or the need for any periods of home learning are robustly in place. Please find attached guidance surrounding remote learning, this guidance focuses on remote set work. The information is not different in format to our previous provisions but it is important that parents and students are confident with how to access their learning should they need to work from home. Over the coming week we will be revisiting expectations for virtual lessons and how the virtual timetable works with students, should we have any period of school closure or the need for any form of hybrid working. For now, I would ask that you check your child is confident with their passwords for all school platforms and that they have a working confidence with MS Teams.

The spring term is always a busy and important one for our community with a range of important milestones surrounding the curriculum, careers, education and examination preparation for students. Alongside this we look forward to a series of special curriculum weeks, to enable students to explore key subjects and ideas in depth and through a range of creative experiences. We very much look forward to our first special week, Archer Adventures in Numberland, at the start of February. Never has the opportunity to be able to do such things been more important.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'Happiness and personal fulfilment are the natural consequences of doing the right thing. Doing the right thing is more important than doing the thing right.'* John D. Rockefeller.

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/>

January

10th – 21st depth assessment fortnight, see article below

Weds 12th – Online Vocational Evening for Year 10 and 11

Fri 14th – Archer café 7SMU

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!

w/c 24th – Year 9 choices assemblies

Mon 24th – Lower School parent workshop with Sophia Davison, online from 6-7pm, see below for details

February

Weds 2nd – Year 9 Curriculum Choices Evening

Fri 4th – Year 9 Careers Day

Fri 4th – Archer café 7JRA

w/c 7th – Archer Adventures in Numberland Week

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

Mon 28th –Upper School parent workshop with Sophia Davison, 6-7pm, see below for details

KEY INFORMATION:

Remote education guidelines: Please find attached the remote education guidelines. This is intended to provide clarity for both students and parents about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions require entire cohorts/bubbles to remain at home.

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 has a positive balance on their account for this term.

YEAR 7-10 DEPTH ASSESSMENT FORTNIGHT - Mrs Gillham

Our second depth assessment fortnight will be taking place from Monday 10th to Friday 21st January. This will involve years 7 to 10 only. The purpose of this is to provide students with the opportunity to sit summative, in class assessments which allow them to demonstrate the progress that they have made across a range of topics in their subject areas so far this term.

The assessments require students to complete tasks, activities and short and long answer questions based on the work they have completed across the last half term but also may include a linear element to maintain the link to prior learning and to ensure that we are constantly refreshing ideas learnt throughout each subject course.

This fortnight also provides an essential opportunity for students to practice preparing and sitting assessments in a condensed period of time, but without the formality of whole year group summative examinations.

Students will have an assessment in each subject. Each assessment will take place during normal lesson time. A central timetable has been created and shared on SMH so that all students should know when their assessments are taking place.

Assessments completed during this scheduled fortnight are summative in nature, but used in addition to a suite of other depth assessments across the half term to provide a holistic understanding of student progress. This holistic grade is then what is reported in your child's next report.

Key points to note:

- Students should refer carefully to the revision guidance that has been shared from their teachers.
- Students should have been informed of the exact time and day of their assessment by each of their subject teachers and a central timetable is provided on SMH to further support this.
- The content of the assessment is likely to include topics studied since the start of September, but may also include other topics studied towards the end of the last academic year. More detailed specific guidance will be given by class teachers to support students in their preparation.

To help students to prepare for their assessments, revision tasks and guidelines will be updated on SMH and on MS Teams. Students should ensure that they allocate time for revision and that they prepare thoroughly for each subject assessment.

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

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY DRIVE – Mrs Mahoney

Happy New Year to all our Archer families. From the week of the 10th January we will be holding our second whole school attendance drive to celebrate good attendance and punctuality to school and lessons. As students return to school this week they have been reminded of the importance of good attendance to school and ways they can each individually improve or maintain their attendance. All students have been challenged to achieve 100% attendance across the week, or improve their attendance. We are aware that Covid continues to affect attendance and students who become unwell will have other opportunities to be celebrated in future attendance drives, however, it is important we have high expectations regarding attendance and punctuality as the pandemic continues.

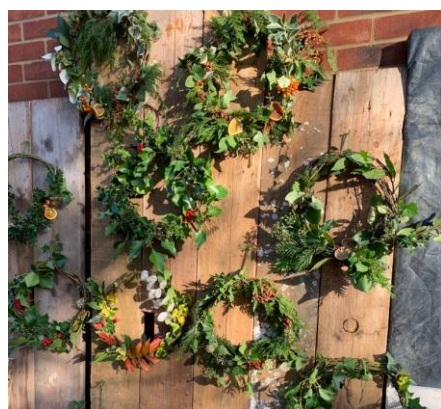
Some students will be placed on attendance and punctuality reports to support them in improving their attendance. Individual and supportive goals will also be set for students who find attending school challenging and we will be looking to celebrate everyone's improvements in attendance. Rewards will be awarded during the week of the 17th January. If you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's Head of Year.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION – Mrs Csaky



Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with the Archer Festive Carol Concert. The evening was a huge success and there was a wonderful, warm atmosphere. The £655 raised from the sale of refreshments will go to the Parents Association for the school and the Green Arrows raised £700 from the sale of their Archer festive wreaths which will go towards funding toilet facilities for the garden.

The Archer baking and wine mulling skills were certainly evident on the night. Thanks again to all the brilliant helpers for giving their time to help the school and to make this such a great community event.



GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT – David Adams



ONLINE 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 MS Teams owing to current restrictions, for Lower School. We hope to be able to run the Upper School Talk in person but this will be confirmed nearer the time.

Lower School	24 th January
Upper School	28 th February

HISTORY AUTHOR VISIT – Ms Devi



At the end of last term, we were delighted to be joined by author Daniel Lee who delivered a fascinating talk about his new book 'The SS Officer's Armchair: In search of a hidden life.' The discussion gave students and staff an insight in to how Daniel came to write the book, the work a historian conducts to piece together a narrative of the past and a wider perspective in to the perpetrators of Nazi Germany. Students were profoundly impressed with their knowledge, questions and judgements and led the discussion with their enthusiasm, which was fully matched by Daniel! A big thank you to all students and staff who attended and a special thank you to Daniel Lee for his time and effort for offering such a fantastic and enjoyable opportunity.

Year 11 student Firas: “I found it fascinating that Daniel found the documents in an armchair and started investigating from that point”.

Year 11 student Sam: “I found the discussion very interesting and thought provoking”.

A SPORTING CAREER – Ms Thornley



On the morning of Monday 13th December, year 8 had the excellent opportunity of hearing first-hand about a range of careers connected to sports.

Year 8 had just completed an interesting unit on Sports and Society in thematic learning which also included a taster GCSE PE lesson. It was therefore very fortunate that we were able to arrange a diverse group of people to come in to school and talk to the students about their current role in the sports industry.

All the speakers were highly informative and came from a range of different backgrounds

including a physiotherapist for the England rugby team, a sports journalist for the Times newspaper and even a sports-inspired artist working in the gallery of Tottenham football stadium. There was a great deal of positive feedback from students and an extra thanks should go to Ms Gunn and Mr Raghuveer for organising the event.

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower School

Hiya Cats, and welcome to Library Corner, First Edition of 2022!

New year, new you:

Have you made any New Year's Resolutions? See the Lower School Library Self-Help Shelf (say that three times fast) for a variety of books to help you smash them!



All these and many more are available in the Lower School Library!

If your resolutions include reading more or different books, [here's](#) a list of bookish new year's resolutions from Penguin Teen to help inspire you.

Book Reviews:

Did you get a lot of reading done over the holidays? If you'd like to share your opinions and earn 10 merits, email a book review to me at Mrsaappelquist@thecharacademy.org.uk. You can find a template on the website (under Parents/Library) or in the Lower School Library.



Maisie B on *Good Girl, Bad Blood*: I'd recommend it if you like crime and mystery.
Marcel K on *Why the Whales Came*: The author leaves you on a cliffhanger!

Library Year Group Bubbles:

Please note, the year group bubbles are **still in effect** for visiting the library at break and lunch time:

Year 7s: Mondays and Wednesdays

Year 8s: Tuesdays

Year 9s: Thursdays

If you wish to return a book before then, drop it in the returns box outside the library at any time. If you're interested in a certain book, email me at Mrsaappelquist@thecharacademy.org.uk.



Attention Year Seven:

If you haven't received your **BookBuzz** book, please contact Ms Appelquist in the Lower School Library.

I hope you've had a great start to the New Year—have a lovely weekend and *keep reading!*

PE DEPARTMENT UPDATE – Mr McSherry

Year 9 Basketball – Archer Academy 15 – Hendon School 14

The Year 9 Basketball team got their second win in as many games at the end of last term against a decent Hendon team. The boys started slowly, allowing the opposition to dictate the pace of the game.

Jesse set the tone here engaging in a challenging physical battle with perhaps their best player. Jesse rose to the challenge and really set the tone with that competitive edge. Alfie H came on court and helped to slow things down, allowing us to play the game at our pace and dictate a lot more.

Well done to the whole team: Oskar, Abdul, Luca, Rayan, Alexander B, Nathan L, Jesse H, Edward, Alfie H, Connor R and Rafael Q.

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

★ Stars of the Week ★

Back next week!

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

Happy New Year! How 'recharged and ready' do you think your child is? They have certainly come back with some good energy and focus in school.

It has been very encouraging to see year 11 students lead the way with regards to adhering to the new guidelines, face masks being worn in communal areas as well as in classrooms.

I have noted with the year group this afternoon that many deadlines for sixth form applications have passed, some remain open. Notably, the Woodhouse application deadline is Monday 10th January, 2022 - That is next week! That is a hard deadline.

Still plenty to apply for. More details will be included in the year 11 bulletin.

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

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It has been lovely to welcome the year group back this week. The students look well rested after the break. I look forward to catching up with as many of the year group as possible to hear what they have been up to.

Please do make sure your child is completing lateral flow tests every week on a Monday and Friday.

Next week is the start of the second depth assessment fortnight. Students have been made aware of when assessments will take place in their lessons.

Work Experience:

Monday 7th March – 1 week

Thank you to all those parents who have support their child to complete their work experience placement submission. I will be meeting with students who have not managed to secure a placement next week.

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

Welcome back - It has been lovely to see the students all looking refreshed and ready to return to school. There is so much to look forward to through the remainder of this year, the final options choices for their GCSEs and the end of year trip to Stubbers, to name but a couple.

The focus now however must remain on maximising learning time and setting ourselves up for success with the transition to upper school at the end of the year. Please do support with this by ensuring:

- Perfect uniform
- Correct equipment
- Excellent punctuality and attendance.

This will enable us all to focus on the important aspects - their learning and wellbeing.

Year 8 – Mr Wick

It's so wonderful to see the year 8s back after our winter break. This term we have some lovely events happening including:

- Form charity projects
- Form prize challenges
- Choosing Y8 to 9 options

I hope we are all looking forward to a positive term ahead and some fun experiences along the way.

A reminder to please check out ParentPay to put your deposit down for the Bushcraft Residential coming up in July.

Please review exam times for the depth assessment fortnight on Show My Homework.

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase

Happy New Year. I hope all Archer families had a wonderful festive season. Year 7 have made a fantastic return to school and the tutor team and I look forward to building on the successes of last term.

In tutor time, students will continue reading I am Malala in addition to learning about healthy relationships. Please do discuss this with your child over the weekend; I look forward to building on their knowledge over the next few weeks. Also, a few key reminders:

1. All students should come to school with a facemask and ideally with a spare
2. Students should have their reading books every day in addition to their copy of I am Malala
3. Students should bring a fully equipped pencil case which includes a glue stick, scientific calculator, spare pens in addition to a purple and red pen

If I may ask parents to take the time and ensure your child is ready for their learning and attends school well prepared each day.