

28th January 2022

Dear all,

Our community has enjoyed a slightly different pace this week as a result of our first 'Free Week'. It is clear that students have appreciated a reprieve in relation to homework and I hope that this break will enable a renewal of energy in the coming weeks. We look forward to evaluating the impact of this format, to enable us to plan for the future.

Students and staff have managed incredibly well with the continuation of robust risk management within school to manage COVID19. Unfortunately, we continue to see high cases within our student body. As a result, we will continue with face masks being worn in classrooms and communal areas until the end of this Half Term, Friday 11th February. Additionally, we will maintain assemblies and wider events online. We hope that the holiday will then enable a full break and that we can return on the 21st with a relaxation of some risk management. I shall, however, continue to take each step prudently.

It was my great pleasure this week to host Headteacher Lunches for students to recognise their accomplishments. It was lovely to enjoy the company of my students in such a setting. Furthermore, the Archer Arrow Assemblies afforded the recognition of the vast achievements across enrichment for students and the awarding of the Golden Arrow. Enrichment is such a special part of our curriculum and the pride of students in receiving their awards was palpable. We so look forward to the upcoming Enrichment Fairs that will see students choosing their next courses, with hockey coming to the Archer for the first time and a large rock-climbing project to name but a few. There is a great deal to look forward to.

On Thursday we took part in an online Whole School Assembly to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. We focused on the central theme of 'One Day'. How, quite simply life can change in an instance owing to the actions of others. We explored the stories of those now known as the 'last witnesses', those with important stories to tell and share with us so that we can truly learn from the lessons of the past. We focused on the story of Manfred Goldberg who has taken part in a stunning portrait project with the Royal Collection. These portraits will stand as a powerful testament to the extraordinary resilience and courage of those who survived. I share now the words of Manfred, as I shared with students on Thursday, to support us in ensuring that our community takes every step to always stand up to what is wrong and act with humility and kindness; *'Never overlook injustice. All it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to stay silent. That is often the message that I ask people to inscribe into their hearts.'*

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *'All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.'* J.R.R. Tolkien,

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

Mon 31st – Lower School parent workshop with Sophia Davison 6-7pm, [MS Teams link to join](#)

February

Weds 2nd – Online year 9 Curriculum Choices Evening, book [here](#)

Thurs 3rd – Covid vaccinations, please check email for details

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 14th – Weds 16th – Archer Accelerate Programme, see email for details
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

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 has a positive balance on their account for this term.

HEADTEACHER'S LUNCH – Miss Harrison

I was delighted to host Headteacher's lunch at both upper and lower school this week. Well done to all students who were invited to attend. It was a pleasure to spend time with you.



LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE – Mrs Mahoney



Mon 31st – Lower School parent workshop with Sophia Davison 6-7pm, [MS Teams link to join](#)

Following a successful in school presentation to parents with children in year 7 last term, we are delighted that Sophia Davison, a Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, is offering the same talk online to parents and carers with children in years 7-9. Join her for an online presentation which considers some of the issues our children face living in the digital age.

During the talk Sophia will share her thoughts about setting and keeping boundaries around screen use and will encourage you to think about how to support your children when it comes to acquiring social media skills. Additionally, she will help you better understand, from a developmental perspective why teenagers behave as they do when it comes to their devices and she will share her experiences of the downsides to adolescent wellbeing that she feels have been compounded by our reliance on digital devices. Finally, she will speak about some of the most troubling aspects of digital technology in order

that you feel more confident to help your child navigate life in the digital age and so better support their emotional wellbeing.

Please note that later in the school year Sophia will be giving a different presentation to parents and carers with children in years 10 and 11 which will address some of the issues which are of greater relevance to these age groups.

STRETCH AND CHALLENGE YOUR CHILD – Miss Devi

Following feedback from a parent survey I wanted to share a few simple strategies to support your child's learning and challenge them to do a little more thinking at home.

Strategy 1: Ask your child about what they have learnt at school

This may sound simple, but it supports students in reflecting on their day, consolidating their learning, and reviewing and revising core aspects of the lessons of their busy day.

Strategy 2: Let them teach and lead

Students are learning a whole range of subjects at school and are becoming quite the expert. Empower them with ownership of this by allowing them to teach you, this could be by telling you a narrative about a particular historical period or showing you how to work out a difficult equation. This is also a great way for them to demonstrate leadership and independence.

Strategy 3: Current affairs

Engage students in the news, this could be just watching the news in the evening or reading an article. Do discuss what is happening and perhaps ask their opinion. This supports them in engaging with new and unfamiliar content as well as the process of shaping opinions and ideas. Current affairs also link to many concepts and thinking skills needed for a range of subjects at school and beyond.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or subject teachers should you want to discuss these strategies or anything more subject specific.

CHINESE NEW YEAR LUNCH – Michele Harrison



Olive Dining have prepared a spectacular menu to celebrate Chinese New Year on Tuesday 1st February. We hope students and staff enjoy the meal.

Gung hei fat choi!

Chinese New Year Menu
Sweet and sour chicken served with fried rice

Vegetable stir fry served with chow mein or fried rice

Vegetable spring roll or duck spring roll served with sweet chilli sauce/Hoi Sin sauce,
fried rice or chow mein

Orange and marmalade lemon curd cake served with whipped cream

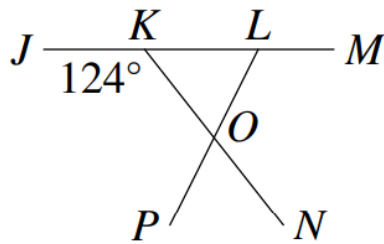
UK MATHS TRUST COMPETITION – Miss McDonagh

65 students across Year 7 and 8 were invited to represent Archer Academy in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust 25th Anniversary Challenge 2022. The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges are lively, intriguing multiple choice question papers, which are designed to stimulate interest in maths in large numbers of students.

This is a prestigious and exciting opportunity, which is recognised by over 4,000 schools and colleges so would be perfect for any college application form. The paper contained 25 multiple choice questions, selected from the past 25 years of JMC papers. The maths team were super impressed with the turn out and the enthusiasm shown by these students.

We cannot wait for the next competition with 80 Year 9 students taking place in two weeks' time. See below an exam style question which students faced.

In the diagram, angle OLM is twice as large as angle PON .



What is the size of angle OLM ?

102°

106°

108°

112°

124°

URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE – Ms Keen



On Monday evening our year 9 students competed in the first round of the Urban Debate League. Teams were given only 15 minutes to prepare and everyone performed exceptionally well. Team A won both of their debates against Whitefield School and Northwood School's team A. It was an extremely close call for Team B against Pattison College and Northwood School's team B. The standard of the debates was very high.

The top 16 schools from round 1 and round 2 will qualify to compete at the UDL finals day later this year. Fingers crossed for our students! There are still many more opportunities to compete this year, with round 2 of the UDL coming up week commencing the 28th of February. Look out for the sign up form or come and speak to Ms Keen.

Please congratulate and celebrate the achievements of the following students: Zena A, Finley B, James G, Alfie H, Esme S and Jasper Z, Millie M, Maleeha M, Jon-Luc R L, Sabrina S.

OUT OF THIS WORLD SCIENCE – Miss Berke



Year 7 have been learning about the Big Bang, planets, the night sky and even went on a mission to Mars, where students analysed soil samples from Mars to see if they could find any alien life forms!

We also hosted a year 7 space museum exhibition where they got to review each other's solar systems models and posters - and we all agreed that their brilliant work was certainly out of this world!

ARCHER ARROWS AWARDED – Ms Le



We have so enjoyed welcoming year 6 students from Martin Primary School to the Archer for enrichment lessons. We celebrated the completion of their course of lessons this week. Our three year 8 Archer Ambassadors received a special certificate too, for all their hard work and effort. Well done to everyone from the Martin and Archer teachers.



On Thursday afternoon, we also enjoyed our Archer Arrows assembly where students nominated by their enrichment teacher, for being the most dedicated student in their particular enrichment class, were awarded the Archer Arrow and have their pick of enrichments for block 2 – a worthy prize for all their efforts with enrichment block 1.

BUILDING THE ARCHER BOOKCASE – Ms Vandervelde

Years 7-10 are midway through their pastoral reading books. Every week during one form time students are reading a shared text. We are keen to garner student voice on this initiative so please do remind your child to complete the student questionnaire set on Show My Homework:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2tMZ2aRIa0GLHFq8h_noGUN84RiyUtZNr4IUyovugolUQzZGOVVEOTZLRjhQT0dYTDQ3U111TIUzSC4u

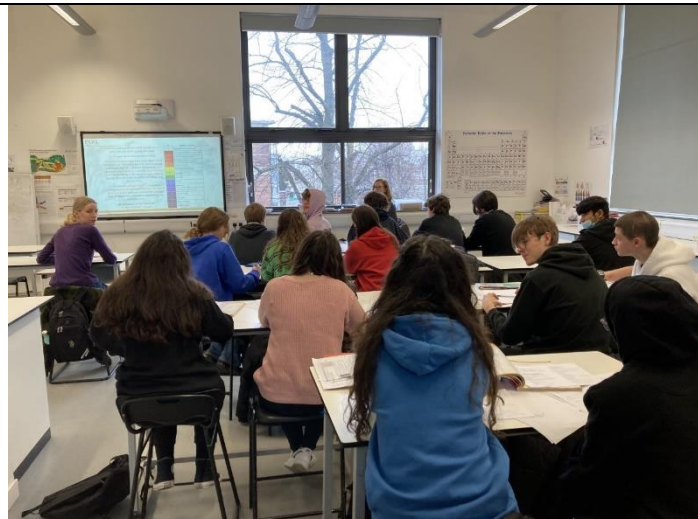
CULTURAL SOCIETY – Mrs Csaky



It was Miss Harrison's great pleasure to lead the Cultural Society trip to see Matthew Bourne's Nutcracker ballet at Sadler's Wells last week. Students as well as Miss Harrison and Ms Bami were delighted to be back enjoying a real in person performance.

Watch this space for details of our next outing!

SUPER SATURDAY – Mr Morrison

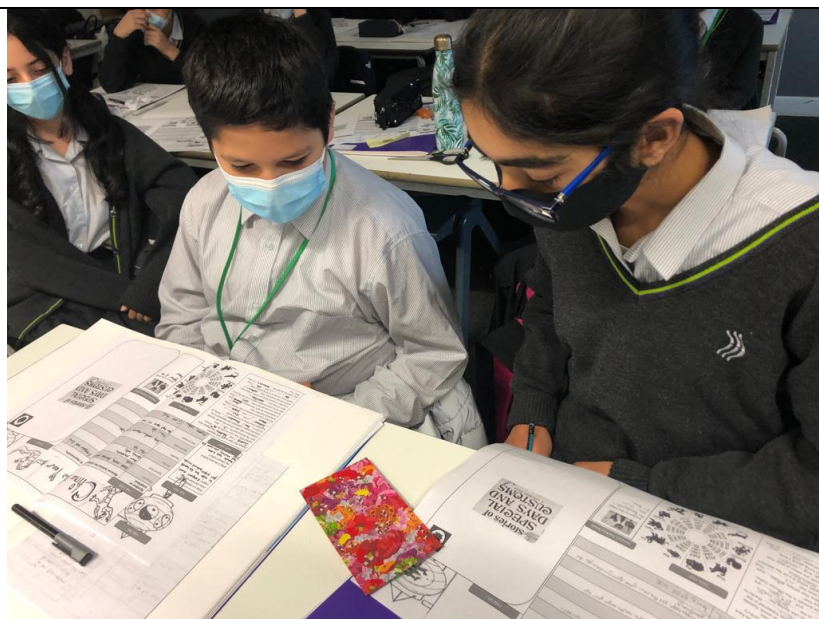
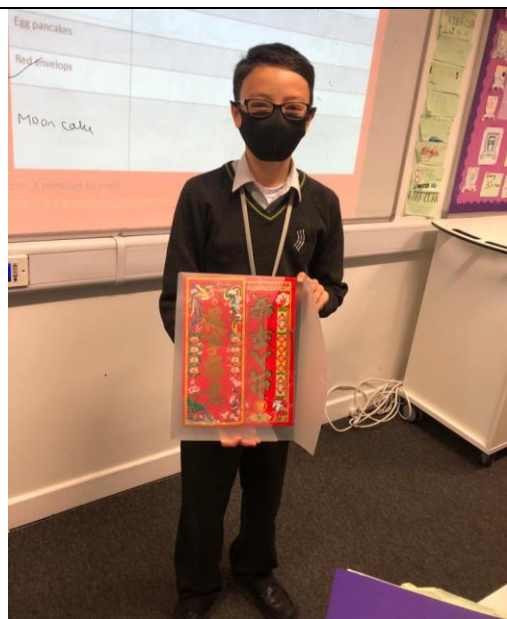


Super Saturday Archer Accelerate

Well done to the 40 year 11 students who came in to work on their photography and science GCSEs on Saturday. This is part of the ongoing Archer Accelerate support and intervention programme. An enjoyable session was had by all.

The Archer Accelerate Programme will also be running during half term from Monday 14th – Wednesday 16th February. Please see email from Mr Morrison for full timetable.

THEMATIC LEARNING – Ms Vandervelde



The year 7s are embarking on a Thematic Learning unit exploring Chinese New Year which will culminate in group performances (and writing) of Chinese puppet shows. Last week we were very fortunate to have some of our Chinese students explain the significance of the variety of traditions attached to Chinese New Year. Over the next few weeks the students will be tasked with making the puppets for their performances at home and will hopefully be inspired by some of the examples from last year!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP UPDATE – Ms Gunn

Our student leaders have been working so hard and have made a great start to 2022. Firstly, our student receptionists have continued to support staff at lower school, gaining valuable experience and improving their organisational skills. Well done Year 8. Our prefect teams have been working hard preparing for our upcoming student council meeting as well as making plans to support events in LGBTQ+ history month in February. Well done Team!

Hello Archer students and carers, I hope you had a wonderful break over the festive period and are back in the swing of school life. To many of you, well done on completing your fortnight exams and lots of you will be looking forward to the end of year residential trips. We had a great start to this year in the autumn term, with year 11s achieving fantastic grades for the December mock exams, but now it's time to start focussing on the real GCSEs. I hope you enjoy the rest of your spring term!

Raffy L - Head Student

My name is Kaelyn and I am an Academic Senior Prefect, a role which I share with Giulia. We endeavour to promote after-school academic clubs like Homework Club, which we are supporting every Monday at lower school. Currently, a key goal for upper school is to provide an indoor space for year 11s to study and relax in. Last October, Giulia and I worked to bring women in STEM into greater prominence during Ada Lovelace Day through a PowerPoint presentation that I really enjoyed researching.. I am looking forward to contributing to activities during LGBTQ+ history month and especially learning more about LGBTQ+ history myself as I only arrived in the UK 3 years ago.

Music is my hobby (the violin is my main instrument), and it is always a pleasure to play in our school orchestra every Monday, which is organised by Ms Humphrey. We are always playing exciting pieces like the "No Time to Die" movie theme, and the Radetzky March by Johann Strauss Senior, so do join the orchestra if you play an instrument!

Kaelyn S - Academic Senior Prefect

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower School

Hiya Cats, and welcome to Library Corner!

This week marks **Holocaust Memorial Day**. To commemorate the day and better understand, try one of these affecting reads from the Lower School Library:

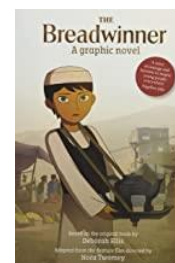


New Graphic Novels in the Lower School Library:



After getting accepted to the prestigious Kings Row private school, Nicholas is thrust into a cut-throat world, facing not only his golden-boy half-brother, but the unbeatable Seiji. Rivalries and romance abound in this series illustrated by Johanna the Mad.

A beautiful adaptation of the animated film tells the story of eleven-year-old Parvana who must disguise herself to support her family during Taliban rule in Afghanistan.



Parents:

We're still accepting volunteers for the Paired Reading scheme! If you have an hour a week to listen to a Y7,8 or 9 reader who needs to build reading confidence then please contact Mrsaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk and let us know when you are available.

Book Reviews:

Alvaro OG on *The Maze Runner*: My favourite part was when absolutely everything in the Glade started to go wrong!

Nathan H on *Immune*: I liked the allergy section because it explains how allergies work.

Joey S on *Over Sea, Under Stone*: *I would definitely recommend this book as it's fun, interesting, and exciting!*



Reminder:

Don't forget to send in your entries to the Archer Bookcase competition! Send your alternative book cover designs to Msaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk, or bring them in person to the Lower School (Y7,8,9) or Upper School (Y10) Library. Last submissions accepted **Monday 21 February**.

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

PE UPDATE – Mr Clark



Netball – Miss Alcock

Well done to the year 9 and 10 girls A netball teams this week for their performance against the Wren. Year 10 played well together having had limited training as a team but were just beaten.

Year 9 had a brilliant game winning 22-3, which follows the incredible effort and dedication seen from all the year 9 girls at training.



Middlesex Cross Country Championships – Miss Alcock

Well done to the students who were selected to represent Barnet at the Middlesex Champs this week. All 3 girls ran incredibly well and finished brilliantly.

The year 7 girls' positions were: Elizabeth - 10th and Amber -16th.
Phoebe representing Year 9 was 26th



Swimming Star

Leonardo D in Year 7 raced for his swimming club in Sheffield at the Regional and National qualifiers on the weekend. It was his first experience racing outside of London, and only the second time he was racing in an Olympic size pool (50m). It was also the first time Leo was racing with University clubs.

He secured a silver medal in the 200m breaststroke, reached the final for 100m and got a trophy as 3rd 12 year old boy.

He also qualified for quite a few regional times. Congratulations Leo!

PE Reminder - the following training sessions are open to all students in the relevant year group. Please do come along and join in.

Tuesday 7:30am - Year 7 & 8 Netball

Wednesday: 7:30 - Year 9 & 10 Boys Basketball

Thursday: 7:30 - Year 9 & 10 Netball Training

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

1-1 Interviews. Next Week. For your child...

Key questions:

What have you done to prepare for your 1-1 interview?

Do you have the preparation task complete (on ShowMyHomework)?

Do you have all the other documents that Mr McSherry has encouraged you to use (ILP, Progress Report, script from September's 1-1 interview)?

Do you know when your interview is, where it is, and whom it is with?

Statements:

It is important to maximise this opportunity and prepare properly for your interview.

The schedule is published on ShowMyHomework, with the preparation task - Make sure you have seen it and completed what you need to do.

In assembly this week I discussed how being prepared can really serve to ease any undue stress and anxiety. I am also interested in your child building skills of preparation and organisation, and not just talking about it. I do not feel we do that best by 'spoon feeding' - I am sure you'll agree. I explained what 'spoon feeding' was and explained that we wouldn't be doing it however, we are of course, always here to help. Remember, if it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you.

Tutors have been instructed to issue postcards to any students that managed to bring all the preparation items to form time today.

Once again, do support your child, but not too much. Have a lovely weekend.



Enja M and Amelie M - For completing the preparation task for the 1-1 interviews in record time!

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It was lovely to see the students enjoying the first house day on Friday as well as students enjoying time at lunch in the games room.

Year 10 have had a week of positive comments from their staff. Here are some of my highlights: Mr Barrow's geography class - All of the class for being an absolute pleasure to teach. Rina and Krrish for consistently giving 100%.

Ananda and Lola were fantastic in their Drama lesson yesterday. Despite missing 3 members of their group they still stayed focused and continued to devise with energy and passion.

Year 10 musicians continue to hit the right notes in Jazz Band - in preparation for their next concert in March.

Maziar for the most amazing piece of writing Mr Mustafa has ever seen from a Year 10 student in Spanish. Seriously impressive structures and it's so clear that he is taking all feedback on board. So super proud of him - it's left me on a high all week!

Please don't forget that next week there will be a whole school focus on uniform, please do make sure your child has the correct school uniform and PE/CPA kit.

Stars of the Week

Daniel C - for working hard every lesson and being determined to do well. Thank you for such fantastic work ethic Daniel!

Thana for developing a 'can do' attitude in geography

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

This week the students have been watching their GCSE options assemblies, pre-recorded videos delivered by the heads of department. Please do encourage your child to email or find members of staff from the relevant departments if they have any questions. Their final choices will be due at the next Learning Review Day, on the 24th February, so please do continue to talk to your child for the next few weeks so we are supporting them in making the best, most informed decisions.

A reminder the parent talk for the GCSE options launch is on Wednesday next week virtually. We look forward to seeing you there. Please book your place [here](#).

Stars of the Week

Connor R and Gersia S - making a real effort this week to be more organised. Demonstrating excellent reflectiveness and resilience.

Year 8 – Mr Wick

This week has been another excellent week for year 8. We have seen the amazing thematic work where students have been looking at "objects which have changed the world." Including the printing press, anaesthetic, and writing implements.

We have also had our "Free Week" a week for students to receive no homework, reset, and enjoy a week focused on rest and recuperation.

On Thursday we discussed the meaning of Holocaust Memorial Day in tutor time, focusing on its impact and why we remember these tragic events.

And on Friday students came into school in their own clothes wearing a splash of colour dedicated to their House. Some information for home reading:

Ignatius Sancho: a British abolitionist who fought against slavery and became known as the first Black Briton to vote.

Mary Seacole: A British-Jamaican doctor who healed soldiers during the Crimean War.

Ada Lovelace: An English mathematician working with major engineers, data analysts, and poets to improve our current understandings of computing.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Anisa E and Luka A-C for massive improvements in school, well done

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase

As ever, students have worked hard this week. We've seen the launch of a new unit in thematic learning in which students have enjoyed working out riddles and learning about Chinese legends. Likewise, the maths challenge saw a range of students take part in an extra-curricular offer. Well done to all of those who were involved – taking advantage of additional opportunities is an excellent way to maximise your Archer journey.

Thursday marked Holocaust Memorial Day, during which students observed an assembly by Miss Harrison and a small group of Yr9 students. Likewise, in Lifelong Learning, we reflected on wider, more recent genocides – well done to students for exploring such sensitive topics with respect.

On Monday next week, we look forward to welcoming back Child and Adolescent psychotherapist Sophia Davison back for a second talk on 'Life in the Digital Age.' The first talk was so well-received; I would highly encourage all parents take advantage of the offer. This will be a virtual event and I look forward to seeing parents then.

Last but certainly not least, well done to our year 7 boys football team for their efforts this week. Albeit a loss, you played exceptionally well and should be proud of your efforts.

 **Stars of the Week** 

Hugo in 7SRA for demonstrating kindness to all and a real zest for learning. Keep up the superb effort!
Nora in 7JRA for being polite, kind and hard-working. Well done for modelling the Archer Way.
Keep it up!