

4th February 2022

Dear all,

It has been such a privilege to meet with Yr11 students this week for individual interviews to reflect on their current progress, ambitions and to set smart targets to consolidate and further accelerate their progress. Students have been so articulate in their own understanding of where they are in their academic studies and what needs to happen next to realise their potential. However, more broadly it was simply so powerful to explore wellbeing and self care strategies with each student in such an individual way, to ensure they have the tools to navigate some of the challenges ahead.

This week I asked students for their ideas about how we can best work with our celebrity patron Matt Lucas, on our Raise the Roof Campaign, and I have been thrilled by their ideas. I hope to have an update just after Half Term on this exciting work, as we move closer to the reality of building our new studio.

It was an honour to welcome Tom Toumazis, MBE, to school today to speak with Year 9 at their Careers Day. Tom's inspiring talk really did provide the sense we have been trying to invoke with our students about their future and all it can afford them, being so within their control. To hear someone with such experience and acclaimed achievements speak with such honesty about the importance of hard work but also learning from failure was so powerful. If you are fortunate enough to have a student in Year 9, please do ask them about it.

With my very best wishes,

Miss Harrison
Headteacher

Thought for the week: *"It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop."* Confucius.

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/>

February

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

Mon 21st – School starts 8.30am

Tues 22nd – Year 9 & 10 HPV immunisations, letter sent out by email

Thurs 24th – Learning Review Day 2

March

Weds 2nd – Year 8 Options Evening

Fri 4th – Archer Café 7REV

w/c 7th – Year 10 Work Experience

w/c 14th – Science Week

Weds 16th – INSET day (students off school)

Thurs 17th – Cultural Society trip to see & Juliet, details below

Fri 18th – Parent coffee morning with Miss Harrison and guest speaker, Dr Hugh Selsick, Consultant in sleep medicine and psychiatry, on the topic of teenage sleep, 9.15am – 10.15am

Weds 23rd – Spring Concert

Mon 28th –Upper school parent workshop with Sophia Davison, **revised date**

KEY INFORMATION:

Parent reading volunteers: We are seeking volunteers for the paired reading scheme. If you have an hour on a Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday morning to listen to a Year 7,8, or 9 reader who needs to build their reading confidence then please contact Mrsaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk
Thank you for your support.

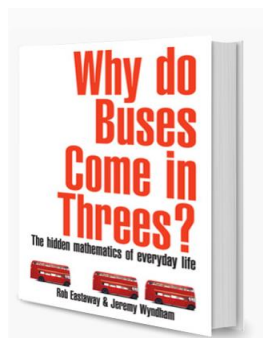
Congratulations to Miss Harrison's PA and our HR manager, Jessica Bryant who has recently got married and will now be known by her married name at school Mrs Jessica Scott. If you need to get in touch, her new email address is jscott@thearcheracademy.org.uk

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.

ARCHER ADVENTURES IN NUMBERLAND – Mrs Williams

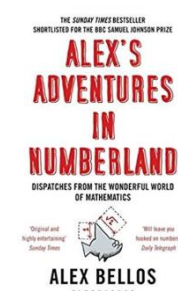
It's all about maths at school next week as we prepare to be immersed in Archer's Adventures In Numberland. All year groups will be tasked with memorising the Fibonacci sequence amongst many other mathematical tasks.



Monday 7th February

We will be joined by Rob Eastaway who will be leading years 7 & 8 in the Curious Maths Quiz. This talk takes the form of a quiz, with audience members pairing up to answer the questions. What's curious about it is that there are only seven questions, and the answers are full of mathematical surprises. It's fun and interactive, and without even realising it, the audience are introduced to important ideas in algebra, trigonometry, fractal geometry and more. Year 9 will be hearing more about the maths of money games. If you think games are just for fun, then think again. Games contain some of the most important maths you'll ever need in daily life, from managing money to out-thinking competitors. In this highly

interactive talk in which the stakes get ever higher, your students will be on the edge of their seats as they discover the unlikely usefulness of probability, permutations and percentages. And they may even win something.



Tuesday 8th February 6.30pm online event with Alex Bellos

All year groups and parents welcome, please join the event here - [TEAMS](#)

We are keen to inspire the Archer community with some extraordinary mathematics beyond the classroom. Bring your parents and get excited about maths together: the aim of the event is to create some

exciting, real world, inspirational Maths conversations between parents and students at home.



Alex is a best selling Maths author (Alex's Adventures in Numberland, our flagship book for the week, was a top ten bestseller in the UK), writes columns for the Guardian, has presented on Maths for the BBC, and frequently speaks at conferences and festivals. He recently won the prize for best science writer 2016 awarded by the Association of British Science Writers.



We will also be building the biggest, the best, the most fractally triangle – aka the Sierpinski Triangle.



Intermediate Maths Challenge

We are very proud of the 70 Year 9 students who took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge this week. Students completed a 60 minute Maths Challenge paper with rigorous and intriguing problem solving questions. We very much look forward to celebrating those who have won certificates and reached the Kangaroo and Olympiad rounds.

EXTENDEND CURRICULUM – Miss Le

This week Year 11 started block 2 of their Archer+ Enrichments. It was great to hear how much students are enjoying a new set of Enrichments and feeling the importance of Archer+, at such a crucial time in their academic journey.

Year 7-10 had their virtual Enrichment Fairs and the excitement was clear to see as I walked around our school. We have refreshed our Enrichment offers and I am pleased to share we will be offering rock climbing, hockey, music tech, trampolining, archer adventure guild, running club and so much more. There is so much to look forward to and I cannot wait for block 2 to start straight after half-term. The deadline to complete the enrichment choice form is the 7th of February at 9am, please get your options in early to avoid any disappointment.

LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE – Mrs Mahoney

Thanks to those who were able to join us for Sophia's presentation on January 31st. We have been contacted by a number of parents and carers who would like the opportunity to watch it but unfortunately we are not allowed to re-publish the sources used in the presentation. There will be future opportunities to hear Sophia speak and we have also revised the date of the upper school Digital Diet presentation for parents so we can meet in person rather than online. The new date for this will be 28th March. More details will follow nearer the time.

We will be signposting our students to wellbeing resources across next week as part of Children's Mental Health week. If you would like to know more about this and find resources to support young people please have a look at the website. If you are worried about your child please contact the school [Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

HOUSE DAY 2022 – Mr Carter

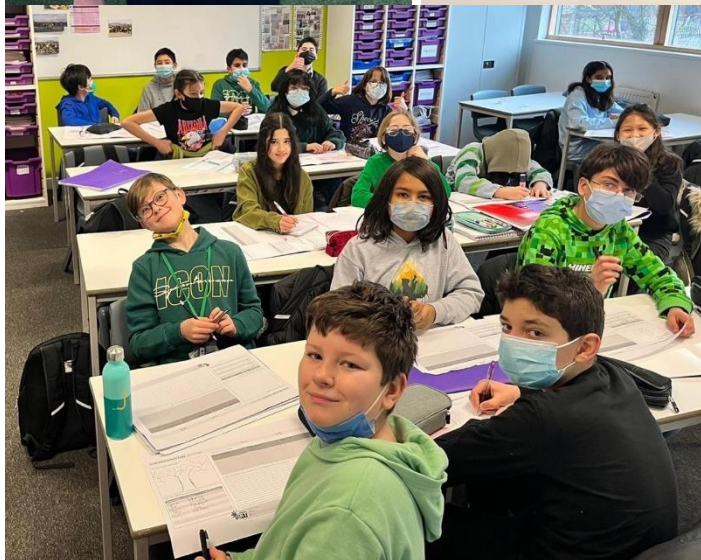
Last week Friday saw our celebration of our House system; the school community had celebrated in Archer style.

Why do we have a house system?

At Archer we operate a house system. This means that every student in years 7-11 is allocated a house to which they belong for the duration of their time in the school. Each of the three houses is led by a head of house. One of the main reasons behind choosing to operate a house system is the way it can help to create a sense of community, to build friendships, and to foster healthy competition. Every new student has a ready-made network of older 'brothers and sisters' to help them settle in, get used to the Archer systems and to help them out.

Throughout the year, houses compete against each other in a series of challenges and competitions with the aim of involving all students in developing the confidence, courage and skill to represent their group in a friendly and sporting way. But it is not all about sport. This year we are hoping to run house competitions in poetry, quizzing, bench ball, singing and many more.

Our house icons are: Mary Seacole, Ignatius Sancho and Ada Lovelace, chosen by our pioneer students when they were in year 7.



CULTURAL SOCIETY TRIP – Mrs Csaky



Our next trip will be to see the musical & Juliet on Thursday 17th March. The outing will be led by Miss Harrison and is open to all Archer students. We have secured 30 tickets at the special school's price of £21.20. If your child is eligible for FSM, the school will subsidise the ticket.

& Juliet

Romeo who?! With her bags packed and ready to escape Verona, Juliet recovers from

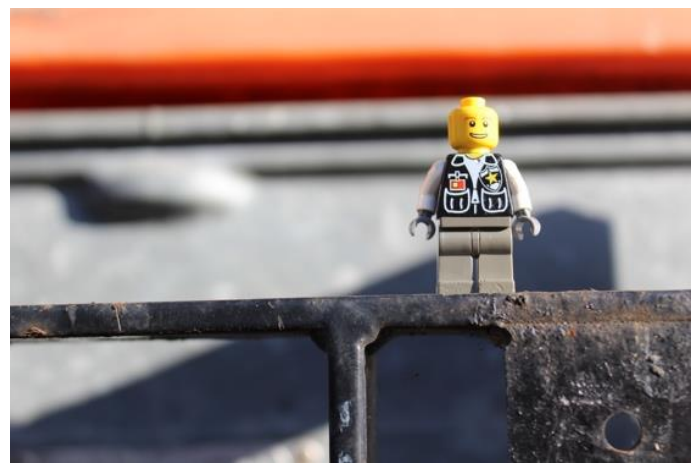
heartbreak in the best way possible... by dancing the night away with her best friends by her side! But when the sparkle fades, the confetti falls and reality catches up, it's clear that Juliet needs to face her past in order to find her future. Can she reclaim a story that has been written in the stars? Is there really life after Romeo... or could he be worth one more try? <https://www.andjulietthemusical.co.uk/>

If you would like more information and to apply for tickets, please email Mrs Csaky justinec@thearcheracademy.org.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY UPDATE – Ms Clarke

Year 11 Archer photography students sat a 6-hour exam on Tuesday. They were calm, patient and brimming with creative concepts.

Our Year 9 photography class took a trip to the High Road on Monday to take images of toys out on location. They worked with energy and a wide range of ideas despite the searing wind.



ARCHER LIVING WALL – Ms Clarke



A small group of our year 7 YGAs spent their lunchtime planting the first part of our new living wall on Wednesday. The wall now holds grasses, ferns, spider plants and succulents to enhance the Archer garden.

LIBRARY CORNER – Ms Appelquist & Mrs Horwitz

Lower School

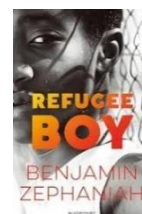
Hiya Cats, and welcome to Library Corner!



The Archer celebrates **LGBT+ History Month** this February with events in both libraries and around the school! Check posters for details.

Pastoral Reading Programme:

Year 8s, how are you enjoying *Refugee Boy* so far? Check **Show My Homework** for a student-written summary up to Chapter Five to help you jump right in in case you've missed any tutor times.

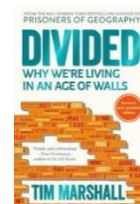


Book Events:



Check out The Children's Bookshop in Muswell Hill tomorrow from 3-4 as Eve Wersocki Morris signs copies of her debut novel, *The Bird Singers*. Taking place in the windswept Lake District and drawing from Polish folk tales, this magical novel is for fans of *The House with Chicken Legs* and *The Thirteen Treasures*.

New in Library: Geography students take note--the author of *Prisoners of Geography* has produced an examination of both the abstract and physical constructs that divide us.



Book Reviews:



Hugo P on *Minecraft: A Beginner's Handbook*: *I liked this book so much that I will be playing Minecraft when I get home!*

Arwen B on *In Real Life*: *Anda is my favourite character because she has a cool avatar!*

Maisie W on *Looking for Alaska*: *My favourite characters are Alaska and Miles because they have so much depth of character.*



Lily S on **Now**: *I recommend this if you love a book with teamwork.*

Thea B on **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban**: *My favourite character is Lupin because he is very kind and clever and has a dark secret!*



Reminder: Don't forget to send in your entries to the **Archer Bookcase** competition! Send your alternative book cover designs to

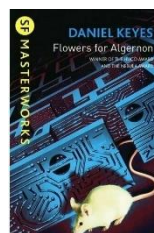
Mrsaappelquist@thearcheracademy.org.uk, or bring them in person to the Lower School (Y7,8,9) or Upper School (Y10) Library. Last submissions accepted **Monday 21 February**.

Finally, the importance of reading for pleasure:

As if you needed more reasons to pick up a good book, [this](#) Easy Wins article highlights the benefits of reading before bed.

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

Upper School

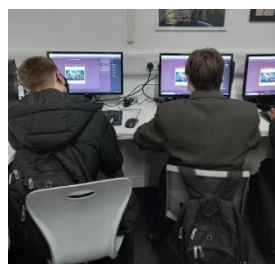


Archer Bookcase - Flowers for Algernon YEAR 10 Pastoral Reading Book

A great way to engage with your child about their reading choices and to become involved with the Archer Bookcase, is to familiarise yourself with the book *Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes, the book that the Year 10 students are enjoying during Form Time.

Acquaint yourself with the [Book Trailer](#), delve into the main theme of [IQ vs EQ](#), find out where they are up to, together discuss the concepts and story and find out what THEY think! This [Article](#) could be of interest!

Year 10's enjoying the Library and the Computer Lab – Reading, Choosing books, Sudoku, Chess, Homework, Word bomb and Pop sauce (in Lab)



PE UPDATE – Miss Le and Miss Alcock

Netball

This week the year 7&8 girls netball teams took part in their first netball fixture of the year against St Michael's. Well done to all the girls who took part, although we left with two losses the girls showed true resilience and I know with more training underneath them they will be ready for their next games after half term.

All girls are invited to come to training. Year 7&8 - Tuesday at 7.30am and Year 9&10 - Thursday at 7.30am

Football

This week the year 7 girls football team had two football games. Their first was a quarter final game against King Alfred. The girls found it very difficult to get into the game but manage to claw back one

goal in the second half, after being 2-0 down. There were spells of excellent movement and passing as a team. The final score was 2-1 to Kind Alfred, a heavy one to take but they had little time to dwell on this loss as they had a game the following day.

The year 7 girls shook off the defeat against King Alfred and beat Christ College 3-0. They showed great character and resilience after such a busy week of football. I am very proud of how far they have come as a team and as the season ends soon, they should hold their heads high with the performance they have put in.



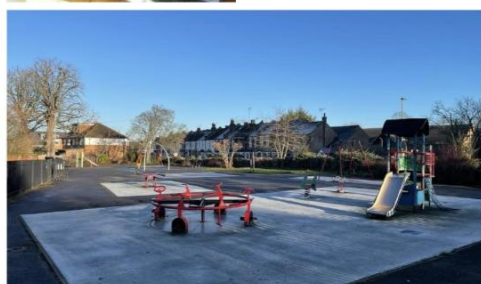
Our combined Year 8 and Year 9 girls team played against a strong Christ College team. From the first whistle the girls worked quickly and soon scored, making it 1-0. It was evident we were strong at defending and had a clear idea of what type of football we wanted to play, keeping the ball on the ground and direct. The game ended 5-1 and what a brilliant performance it was.

Congratulations to both teams for their wins this week. Players of the Match were Elizabeth (Y7) and Elsie (Y8), well done!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Market Place Playground Community Engagement Day



**Saturday 19 February 2022
12.00-15.00 in the playground**

EVERYONE WELCOME

**Friends of
Market Place
Playground**

Part of



**EAST FINCHLEY
COMMUNITY TRUST**

Funded by



Come along and have your say in the future of Market Place Playground!

Meet the Friends and our design team Phil Doyle and Aileen Shackell. We want to hear your ideas!

For more details contact:

friendsofmarketplace@gmail.com

Market Place Playground Park Road East Finchley N2 8DQ

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

Year 11 - Mr McSherry

How could a young person claim to be maximising their opportunities if they are not fully prepared? They couldn't.

Friday form time last week saw 2 students out of 160 prepared. 2 students brought documentation with them, 2 students were able to engage in meaningful discussion about their progress, their achievements, and their next steps in their educational journey. Raffy L and Natasha P, well done.

I would like to reiterate how being prepared can really serve to ease any undue stress and anxiety. Also, that I remain interested in your child building skills of preparation and organisation, and not just talking about it. The interviews themselves this week have seen students prepare better, and in greater numbers. This is positive, and a move in the right direction.

Once again, do support your child, but also affording them the time and space to gain skills of independence, reinforcing accountability.

Have a lovely weekend, whilst discussing these messages with your child.



Raffy L and Natasha P - for being prepared and maximising every opportunity!

Year 10 - Miss Alcock

It has been a busy week for year 10, the students have had lifelong learning sessions on LGBT History and the Chinese New Year. They have also had their block 2 enrichment fair; students will need to make their choices over the weekend and submit these via SMHK. Please do have a conversation with your child about the choices available and encourage your child to try something new.

Next week students will start to reflect on their academic progress in preparation for Learning Review Day 2, which takes place after half term.



Clarice and Zara S - for always being role models to their year group and offering to help staff at any opportunity.

Year 9 - Mr Constantinou

A very busy week for year 9. Thank you to those of you who attended the options evening on Wednesday, and bore with us through the technical difficulties. This is such an important part of the students' education journey and I am glad we were able to mark it in a formal way for them. Please do continue to have conversations with your child, if you have questions, you can find the email addresses for all the heads of department on the Archer website or contact your child's form tutor.

A reminder of some key dates:

Learning Review Day - 24th February - most will submit their options on this day.

Final deadline for submitting options - 25th February

The students then had their first careers day, it was so lovely to get the students thinking about their possible careers after leaving the Archer. They came up with some brilliant questions to ask our guest visitors and clearly enjoyed the assembly from our guest speaker. Why not ask them what their favourite part of the day was?



Jason - for settling in so brilliantly
Amy - for immaculate behaviour and an excellent attitude

Year 8 – Mr Wick

What a lovely week it's been! Year 8 have enjoyed further learning in thematic about objects which have changed the world. On Tuesday tutor groups launched the LGBTQ+ month for February, discussing key interesting concepts together as this poignant month approaches. On Thursday students continued their focus on careers as we discussed GCSE & A-levels, giving students the opportunity to ask questions related to their futures.

A letter has gone out for student curriculum choices with upcoming assemblies and an options evening. Please look out for further information coming soon. Our curriculum planning for year 9 and beyond has been an exciting process. As your child moves through year 8 we are delighted to provide them with the opportunity to make some curriculum choice ready for the next academic year. We would like to invite all parents to a year 8 into year 9 curriculum evening on Wednesday 2nd March to introduce the opportunities available and to support some important and exciting decision making. We are currently intending to run this event in person at Lower School; however, this will be kept under review and is dependent on levels of infection within the community and national guidance. If necessary, this event will move online but the date and timings will remain the same.

Stars of the Week

Sky D who has been an excellent positive influence on the year group this week
Evie C for her incredible effort and continued brilliance in the year group.

Year 7 – Ms Ogbaselase

As ever, students have had a fantastic week. Year 7 have clearly developed strong foundations with our brilliant basics firmly embedded. A huge well done to all.

Earlier this week, you will have received a letter about Take My Child to Work Day. Taking place on 14th March. The aim of the event is to raise aspirations by giving students a little taste of the working world. Due to Covid we were unable to run this day for the past two years and so are glad to see its return. To ensure an equitable experience for all, this year we are asking parents if they might be able to host another child for the day. Perhaps if you have a particularly 'whizzy' job – just imagine how wonderful that could be for another one of our students. If so, please do indicate this on your reply slip. A reminder that slips should be returned by next Friday.

A huge well done must go to our year 7 girls football team for their efforts this week. They played two games; demonstrating superb dedication and collaborative skills. Well done for securing your win! I hope you feel proud of your achievements – you certainly should!

Next week marks the last week of term before the holidays. It also marks the halfway point of year 7; who would have thought it would go by so quickly?! I look forward to marking our students' achievements then.

And last but certainly not least, well done to 7JRA for hosting a fantastic Archer Café. What a lovely way to end a stellar week.

Stars of the Week

Louis B in 7JRA and Nalia in 7NAS for being role models to your peers and demonstrating excellence in all you do. Well done!