

New chapter for Archer Academy with new campus about to open

It's an exciting time for everyone involved in the Archer Academy, with just weeks to go until the school welcomes students to its gleaming new Stanley Road campus.

The £12 million pound development in East Finchley was funded by the Education Funding Agency, who purchased the site on behalf of the school, and supported by a £500,000 donation from the London Marathon Charitable Trust. It will be home to the Archer Academy's lower school students, with the upper school being housed at Beaumont Close once the school is at full capacity.

As well as a suite of classrooms and multi-use spaces for sport and recreation, the new facilities at Stanley Road include: a state-of-the-art all-weather pitch; an indoor climbing wall suitable for all abilities; three cutting-edge Science laboratories; two specialist Art and DT studios and a recording studio. In the words of one student: "The school is really modern and I can't wait to study there!"

The school is keen to ensure that people of all ages benefit from the investment that has been made, and so will be making the sports facilities at the new campus available to the community outside of school hours.

COMMUNITY BIG DIG, 5-6 SEPTEMBER

As part of the preparations for the opening of the Stanley Road

campus in East Finchley, the school is holding a Big Dig weekend between 10am and 4pm on September 5-6. The aim is to make the best of the outside space, and the team are asking members of the wider community to come and lend a hand.

As Andry Moustras, a governor at the school, explained: "You don't need to be a gardening expert to take part in the Big Dig, all you need is some spare time, a pair of gardening gloves and a willingness to support your local school. Families are welcome, refreshments will be provided and, of course, helpers will get a sneak peek at the school grounds before the campus officially opens. If you can come and help for a couple of hours, please email me at info@thearcheracademy.org.uk."

NEW CAMPUS OPEN EVENING, OCTOBER 7

The school's autumn open evening will take place on October 7 and is likely to attract high levels of interest as prospective parents get a first chance to have a full tour of the Stanley Road campus and hear the school's new headteacher Lucy Harrison speak. Visitors are being asked to book a timed ticket in advance for her talks, as places will be limited; visit www.tinyurl.com/archerevents to find out more.

Miss Harrison said today, "It's been wonderful to see the excitement and enthusiasm of students and staff as they have

returned from recent visits to our new school campus. We can't wait to have three year groups working there in September, and are looking forward to welcoming prospective parents on October 7.

We are thrilled with the state-of-the-art learning facilities that our new campus will provide for our growing school community. We are incredibly proud of everything we have achieved as a school to date; the future certainly looks very bright as we move into our third academic year."

For more information visit www.thearcheracademy.org.uk.



Spring Sale raises money for Combat Stress

Already known for its excellent annual Winter Fair in aid of Combat Stress, on Saturday May 16, Ruth Smith and her team assembled large quantities of new and nearly-new fashion clothing and held a spring sale in the small hall at Fellowship House. A steady stream of customers, including some from the Horticultural Society's Plant

Sale in the large hall, enjoyed retail therapy to raise much needed extra funds to support mental health outreach projects, which help armed forces veterans who need them.

This year's Winter Fair in support of Combat Stress will be held at the Free Church Hall on Saturday October 31.

MARJORIE HARRIS



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Brookland Junior School Fun Run



Sunny weather usually brings with it swimming pools filled to the brim, ice cream vans swarmed by anyone within five miles and deckchairs brought out of retirement. On May 15, however, it was accompanied by something new: Brookland Junior School's first ever 'Fun Run'.

Lasting the whole afternoon, the event was organised by a teacher Bryony Davies and two year six students Yael Katz and Isabella Connyngnam-Francis in the hopes of raising money to help Nepal after the devastating earthquake. All the money raised was split equally between Action Aid and Guy's Trust, a smaller charity working closely with Action Aid and founded in memory of a former Brookland School student.

During the activity the school was split in two and, during their time on the field, the groups ran large laps, getting a sticker for each one they completed. All students were sponsored by their family for either the number of laps they completed or simply a set amount for participating.

Own clothes (a phrase close to any child's heart who has to wear school uniform) could be worn, on the conditions that they were the colours of the Nepal flag and that one pound

was paid by children if they chose to wear them (all proceeds from this going to the two chosen charities).

Parents and siblings were allowed to come and spectate

and, at the end, ice lollies were handed out to everybody for their efforts, providing a welcome relief from the heat. Overall, you couldn't have asked for a better ending to a

baking hot May day. The final results were fairly impressive too with over £3,600 raised for the charities! All in all, a great day was had by everyone.

Yael Katz (aged 11)

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