



Archer Academy students in their new home. Photo by Philip Vile

Can you see me, mum?

This is one of the first photos of Archer Academy students on their new school campus on Stanley Road. All 450 pupils gathered behind headteacher Lucy Harrison, front, on one of the new sports pitches and photographer Philip Vile took the shot from the top of the school's teaching block.

The opening of the new site is another major milestone for the academy, which has spent its first two years in the former Arts Centre building in Beaumont Close, off The Bishops Avenue.

Year 9 student Ria said about the new school site: "I've got lost a few times but it's easy to adapt to. The facilities here are so new and modern which is really unusual in a school, we're lucky."

Headteacher Lucy Harrison said: "The new academic year has got off to a great start; each year group had their own day at the school to explore the building and settle into their routines, which definitely helped them start with confidence. We rounded off our first week with our first whole lower school photo, a brilliant moment that will stay with me for a long time."

East Finchley residents will also be interested to know that the school's indoor and outdoor sports facilities are now open for public use outside school hours. Find booking information at www.schoolsplus.co.uk/archeracademy and look out for more details in next month's ARCHER.

Now we're a £1 million home zone!

We all know that East Finchley is the happiest place to live in London (*THE ARCHER*, September 2015) but the flip side to that good news is that it is also becoming one of the most expensive areas in which to buy a home.

A survey by property firm Knight Frank found that more homebuyers are at risk of being pushed out of East Finchley because it is labelled as one of London's 11 new "£1 million neighbourhoods".

And Muswell Hill is one of the 11 too. The others are: Highbury, Kentish Town, Queen's Park, Clerkenwell, Maida Vale, Hammersmith, Vauxhall, Bat-

tersea and Herne Hill.

The analysis is based on postcode districts where at least 20% of residential property sales have been above £1 million in at least one quarter since the start of 2014.

Knight Frank said the surge in prices in East Finchley isn't the result of a trickle-down effect of rich foreign investors piling into the very top end of the market, as in

central London. In fact prices are rising because of "a scrum" for the type of mid-level housing that is widespread in N2.

£1 million properties are becoming the new normal, the survey concludes, because so many people are flooding into London and there just aren't enough houses being built to keep up with demand.

Do you have a story for us?

You can send your stories, letters, and photos by email to the-archer@lineone.net or by post to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA. Tweet us @TheArcherN2 and find us on Facebook. You can also find out more about contributing and advertising at www.the-archer.co.uk

Shape the future of our parks

Barnet Council is calling on residents to help shape the future of the borough's 200 parks and open spaces, including Cherry Tree Wood. There is a short questionnaire asking for views and aspirations that will help shape the way the council maintains its green spaces for years to come. A parks and open spaces strategy goes out for consultation in the spring of 2016.

Find the survey at <http://engage.barnet.gov.uk> (search for 'Parks'). You can also give your opinions at www.facebook.com/barnetparks.

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