



YOUNG ARCHER



Time to listen: The Academy's Mark Carter, left, with David Lammy MP during the online discussion.

Shared experience on BLM

By Kate Wiseman

The Archer Academy hosted its first virtual community event on Tuesday 7 July with a live panel discussion on Black Lives Matter attended by more than 400 people.

The event was focused on better understanding our individual and collective responsibilities in addressing racism and it also served as the official launch of the school's staff and student Diversity and Inclusion societies.

Speakers included David Lammy MP, social researcher

and academic Dr Carlene Firmin and author Ashley Hickson-Lovence. Students and staff shared their personal experiences of racism and what Black Lives Matter means to them.

Contributors said it means "building a society where... diversity is not just tolerated but actively sought after and

encouraged", and it means "acknowledging that we're human...it is a statement to make people realise that our lives and opinions matter...it is equality. It's not being followed by security when I walk into a shop or looked at differently because of the colour of my skin."

Pay care workers a decent living wage

Ellie Afek from Year 10 at the Archer Academy in East Finchley is playing a leading role in a campaign to demand that the government pays care workers a decent living wage. She was one of two hosts of a joint Jewish and Muslim blessing for care workers at the Kenwood Care Home in North Finchley.

Rabbi Rebecca Birk from Finchley Progressive Syna-

gogue and Abubakar Ali from the Somali Bravanese Welfare

Association thanked staff at the home for their hard work looking after some of the most vulnerable in society and called for all carers to be paid a real Living Wage in return for a hard day's work.

Ellie told the gathering, organised by Barnet Citizens: "For years, carers have been hidden heroes. This crisis has shown who our most essential workers really are. Thank you to carers over Barnet, and in the UK who have literally put their lives on the line during lockdown to care for those who need it most."



Fair wage: Ellie Afek, second left, back row, with visitors and carers at Kenwood Care Home

Bubbles in the bathroom and the garden

An East Finchley nursery reopened right at the start of June, welcoming children back with balloons and a special medal for being brave in returning after such a long break.



All clean: The children have got used to the new hygiene rules



Al fresco: Four of Monkey Puzzle's children enjoy a snack outside

Monkey Puzzle, opposite the tube station, had to run its days a little differently as parents and carers were not allowed into the building, and children had to remember to stay in their small groups.

Operations manager Jenny Eracleous said: "The children have done brilliantly at adjusting to the new normal and are now experts at hand washing and remembering to stay in their bubbles. We were really lucky at first with the weather meaning children could spend most of their time in our garden."



On the run: Marco Glaser trains in Cherry Tree Wood. Photo Mike Coles.

Why I'm pounding the streets in the run-up to my 13th birthday

By Marco Glaser

With more free time than usual in June due to lockdown, I decided to challenge myself by running 113 miles in 11 weeks, raising money for charity. I am running around 10 miles each week from Cherry Tree Road and my last run will be on my 13th birthday on 21 August.

My original aim was to raise £1,013. However, I managed to complete this goal within two weeks, so I adjusted my target to £2,013. I have raised £1,730 so far, but I am opti-

mistic I can raise a bit more to help my two nominated charities: Mind and Maccabi GB. Mind uses the power of sport and physical activity to raise awareness, tackle mental health stigmas and support people with mental health problems to become more active. They also offer a range of resources and engagement opportunities for sports organisations who wish to do more around mental health. Maccabi GB is close to my heart as my grandpa and uncle have both represented their country in the international Maccabi games. Maccabi GB is a leading health and wellbeing charity and has developed over 80 years, with a broad range of sporting, educational, social and health activities. The fact that my friends and family are sponsoring me and supporting these charities keeps me going when I'm running or feeling rather tired from running! If you would like to support me, please go to: uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MarcoGlaser

Archer's arrows

Fed up with screentime, or just fed up? Then join in with Grange Big Local's Scavenger Hunt. A free book, *Archer's Arrows*, aimed at eight to 18-year-olds and designed by artists John Costi and JC Adams, has local superhero, the Archer, leading you around the area and showing you things to do and try.

Grange Big Local has a limited number of copies to give away and will be giving some to Finchley Foodbank to distribute. Check their social media to find out where to get your copy, or download it directly from www.grangebiglocal.org

FUN and MUSIC for BABIES and TODDLERS in N2 on TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS at 10am



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