



## Academy speakers full of bright ideas

By Nathan H, Year 10

*Bright Ideas* is a series of free talks, organised by the Archer Academy, to broaden the minds of their students and teach us about life outside the school gates. Inspiring individuals come into school every half term and give their time to speak to students about their lives and career journeys.

I've attended every talk since its inception, and I would highly recommend them to future Archer Academy students. The first speaker, John Hajdu, was unforgettable, as he was one of the last Holocaust survivors. I found the part where he described being saved by his auntie particularly poignant.

The Bright Ideas talks have broadened my horizons and have given me insights into future careers and prospects. I have approached two of the speakers for work experience; the newly elected local MP Sarah Sackman, who gave a brilliant talk on her work as a campaigner and barrister, and Adam Wagner, a human

rights barrister, who led several debates about topical issues during his talk.

Sarah Sackman wasn't the only politician, as local Green party candidate Steve Parsons gave a talk about environmentalism and campaigning. Mike Freer also spoke about his former role as an MP and minister.

After that, we had Issy van der Velde, a video game journalist, who explained how he found a job which fused his two passions, journalism and gaming.

It has been an incredible experience to be able to meet such influential and fascinating people, and learn how they connect and contribute to our local area and beyond.



Inquiring minds: Human rights barrister Adam Wagner leads one of the Bright Ideas talks at the Archer Academy



Movie culture: Christ's College students and their overseas friends visit the Harry Potter Studios Tour

## New headteacher for school with scores of international friends

Christ's College Finchley this term appointed a new headteacher to take over from Samson Olusanya, who had been in the role since 2013. Dr Ruth Hill arrives at the secondary school in East End Road, N2, from her previous position as senior deputy headteacher at Ruislip High School in Hillingdon.

John Bowra, Chair of the Governing Board, said: "We wish Dr Hill every success in her new

post. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Olusanya for all his hard work and dedication that he has shown whilst leading our remarkable school."

### International summit

Last term, Christ's College Finchley hosted the International London Summit bringing together 52 staff and students from schools in Mexico, France

and Taiwan for a language and cultural exchange.

The visitors explored iconic places of interest in and around London, including the Globe Theatre, a Thames river cruise and the Harry Potter Studios. There was also a celebratory dinner organised by host families at the school, whose students had previously visited Mexico, France and Taiwan.

Project coordinator Avni Aliaj said: "The International Summit Week at Christ's College Finchley was more than just a series of events; it was a celebration of unity, diver-



New headteacher: Dr Ruth Hill

sity, and the shared human experience. We look forward to continuing these valuable exchanges and strengthening our international ties in the years to come."

## St Mary's Christmas fair

There will be plenty of festive atmosphere at the Christmas Fair at St Mary's Catholic Church, 279 High Road, N2, on Sunday 1 December from 11am to 2pm. Organisers promise something for everyone, with carol singing, hot food and drinks. Visitors of all ages can meet Santa in his grotto and there will be home bakes, a tombola, arts and crafts, a hamper stall, toys, jewellery, pet accessories, henna and glitter tattoos, and more. Entry is free.



Lift-off: The 224 North London Air Scouts enjoying their visit to the National Space Centre in Leicester

## Air Scouts join the space race for a day

A group from the local 224 North London Air Scouts based in Sheldon Avenue, N6, visited the National Space Centre in Leicester to celebrate the launch of the new Scouts Space Badge. They took part in astronaut training and interactive exhibits, and went on a virtual trip to the moon in the planetarium.

Zhane, aged 11, said: "I was so excited to see the rocket. Today has been really fun and very scientific. The museum really lives up to its name, it's been very sciencey and I've had such a good day with my friends."

The Scout group is on the look-out for volunteers to help

with its existing sections and the launch of Squirrels for younger children. Whether you can spare a little time to assist with weekly meetings, help on trips, or share a special skill, your contribution will make a big impact. Get in touch by emailing [del@224northlondonscouts.org.uk](mailto:del@224northlondonscouts.org.uk) or WhatsApp 07707 763344.

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