



Message from the Principal

Thank you for your feedback on our new weekly method of communication. We will always take this into account as we continue to improve and develop the newsletter, so please do continue to provide us with ideas and suggestions via: info@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

This week, we have enjoyed a visit from Ms. T. Humby, the OAT National Lead for Teaching & Training. Ms. Humby is a trained Ofsted inspector and carried out a full review of the academy. I am pleased to say that her findings were largely positive, although, of course, we will continue to strive for further improvement and development for the benefit of all of our students, and will be sharing her findings and implementing her suggestions with both staff and students in the coming weeks and months.

Year 11 and 13 exam and revision sessions have continued this week, and we are so proud of all students who have given their very best and presented themselves in the best possible manner during what we know is a difficult and stressful time for many.

Year 12 "A" Level Drama students presented their examined showcase pieces on Monday and Tuesday this week. Their work was stunning and thought-provoking and we congratulate them all on their obvious hard work and effort.

As requested by parents, following last week's newsletter, I have included below a report on the recent OAT Sports Cup, in which many of our students participated and enjoyed success; as well as further academy news.

As always, I wish you all a happy, sun-filled and fun-filled weekend.

Jo Williams
Principal

Important dates

23/06/2022

Year 11 Leavers' day – please see letter previously sent.

24/06/2022

Year 12 Mock Interviews

Week beginning

27/06/22

Year 12 Work Experience

27/06/2022

INSET day – academy closed to students

29/06/2022 & 30/06/2022

Sixth Form induction days

08/07/2022

Sixth Form Summer Ball – Royal Corinthian Yacht Club

Week beginning

11/07/22

Year 10 Work Experience

13/07/2022

Year 11 Prom – Hylands House

22/07/2022

Last day of term – academy closes at 1.50 pm.



OAT Sports Cup

On 8th June, students from Years 7 – 10 took part in the OAT Sports Cup at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, competing against students from other OAT Academies in a range of athletics events.

Despite an early start, Rivers' students were enthusiastic and energetic; participating in a range of events including sprint and track races, high jump, long jump, javelin and relay. All students involved represented the academy superbly and with great pride.

Special mention should go to Frank and Callum (Year 10), who won their 200m and 800m races respectively; and to Ella (Year 8) and Isla (Year 7) who dominated their 200m and 300m races.

Callum also represented the mid-Essex boys' team in the 1500m steeplechase at the Essex Athletics Championships on 11th June, finishing in an impressive 4th place.

At the OAT Cup, Rivers eventually finished in 4th place, literally only a few points away from a podium finish! We commend each and every one of the students for their participation, their sportsmanship and their determination. This event has helped to prepare students for the forthcoming Essex District Sports Event on 21st June, and I look forward to sharing news of this in future newsletters.

The academy runs athletics club every Tuesday and Thursday after school, should any student wish to participate.





Afternoon Tea with the Principal

This week, on Friday 17th June, it was the turn of students in Year 8 to enjoy afternoon Tea with the Principal, to celebrate their achievements.

The students were nominated by their mentors and by their Head of Year, Miss Hayward, in recognition of their excellent efforts in representing the academy's AIRR values (Aspiration, Independence, Resilience and Respect). Further to parental feedback, we will also try to include the reasons for their nominations.



Well done to the following students:

- George (8MBU) – extremely respectful to staff & peers and always has high aspirations for himself.
- Will (8KDA) - always achieving highly, working incredibly hard and being supportive of others.
- Ella (8RCO) - unfailingly polite in all her engagement with peers, teachers.
- Joseph (8HMC) - he is consistently in school on time, respectful and ready to learn.
- Amelia (8CAL) - Her attitude to everyone is exceptional and she never complains or moans.
- Abi (8PLI) - she exhibits respect towards her mentor and the rest of her mentor group. She is resilient with all of the mentor activities.
- Chloe (8MBR) - due to her positive attitude to learning throughout this academic year.



We look forward to sharing Year 9's achievements with you next week!

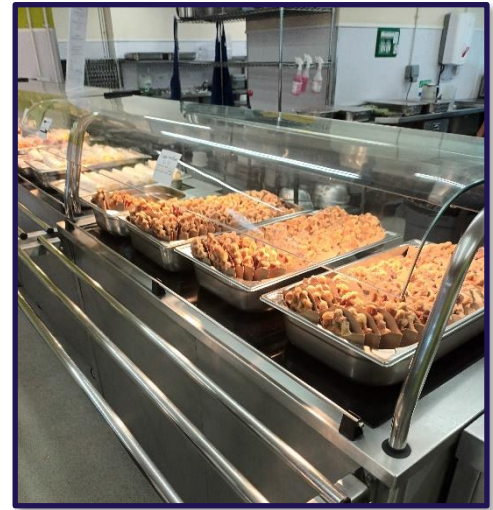




Academy Improvements

At Ormiston Rivers Academy, we constantly strive to listen, to improve, and to provide the best possible experience for all of our students.

We have recently introduced a new break and lunch time queuing system, in response to both student and parental feedback. The new system has been trialled since our return from half-term, and the feedback from students has been great.



On average, at both break and lunch time, all students have been served within 15 minutes. I would like to thank our wonderful catering team for their continued efforts and the wide variety of food options available for all of our students. They are always open to suggestions, so please drop us a line at info@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk if you have any particular requests or comments.

Reading Intervention

We have been trialling a new programme over the past half term, with great success!

Lexonik Advance is a programme that trains students to decode subject specific words quickly and effortlessly. It teaches them the complexities of the English language allowing them to develop a deeper understanding of the subjects they are being taught.

Students who have been through the programme have said that the programme was "fun" and "interesting" and "helpful".

After only 6 hours of the Lexonic programme, students made on average 14.5 months progress!

We are continuing our provision of Lexonik Advance due to its success and look forward to working with many students going forward.

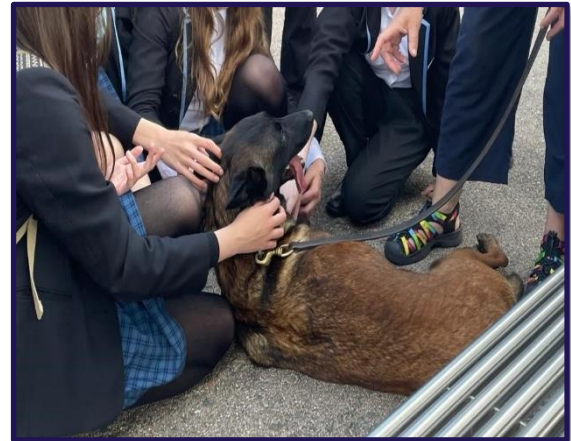




Helping students to overcome adversity

Students and staff were lucky enough to meet retired Police Dog, Baloo, and her incredible owner Mandy Chapman recently. Baloo, a Belgian Malinois was retired from duty after being hit by a car while responding to an incident. She broke her pelvis and leg, and the leg had to be amputated.

Since her life-changing injury, and thanks to the support of her owner, Baloo has gone from strength to strength, overcoming adversity and turning her disability into something which helps and inspires others, which was certainly the case for the students who were lucky enough to meet her!



Preparing students for their futures

Sixth Form students have been getting prepared for the mock interviews next week. These will involve them completing an application form and attending a formal interview with several volunteers from local businesses and the local community.

Students carried out a “dress rehearsal” on Friday 17th June, when they attended in their interview outfits and had practice sessions with members of the Sixth Form Team.

Further information on the actual interviews will be shared with you after the event.





Attendance Champions

Here we will celebrate the mentor group in each year that has achieved the highest attendance this week.

Year 7:	7MFR
Year 8:	8CAL
Year 9:	9SHV
Year 10:	10LRY
Year 11:	n/a (Exams)
Sixth Form:	C6PTO



The overall winner this week is 7MFR with almost 96% attendance.

Very well done to all.



Congratulations

Here we will celebrate those students who have achieved the highest number of achievement points in each year group this week:

Year 7:	Amy O
Year 8:	Luca L
Year 9:	Luke H
Year 10:	Heidi B
Year 11:	Jasmine E

Very well done to all of them.

Mentor groups with the highest number of achievement points overall this week were:

7BJN
8MBU
9BEJ
10AMO
11MJO/11CTH (joint)
C6PTO/C6FCO (joint)

Well done and keep up the good work!

