



Message from the Principal

On Thursday we held our Sixth Form Open Evening and it was wonderful that so many prospective sixth form students and parents visited the academy to understand and appreciate the wide variety of post-16 options we have on offer in Rivers Sixth Form. I would like to thank the Sixth Form team for organising such a well-run event and also those current Sixth Form students who gave up their own time to discuss, demonstrate and promote their subjects in such a helpful, polite and informative manner.

This week our Year 7 students sat their GL Assessment Progress Tests in English, Maths and Science in the sports hall and I was extremely impressed with the mature attitude they displayed whilst sitting their first exams at the academy.

Parents of students in years eight to eleven will recall our uniform consultation in May, earlier this year. Thank you to everyone that fed back. We consulted on matters of jewellery, make up, nails and styles of shoe rather than a change to clothing. We will come back to the clothing aspect of uniform in the new year.

We propose to allow students some individuality in relation to these areas so that we may focus on the basics of looking smart from the shoulders down. Blazers must be worn to and from lessons, shirts tucked, ties worn at all times, no non-uniform (hoodies or sweatshirts), black leather shoes, skirt length mid-thigh. Decision making will be allowed for students themselves around appropriate make up, jewellery and nail colour. Please see the uniform details below. We will be speaking to students next week in assembly and propose to start the new expectations after half term.

I am delighted to share with you that Bear has passed her Dog Mentor training with flying colours and will now be able to work with our students.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing our students again on Monday.

Jo Williams, Principal



Dates for your Diary

**Monday 23rd October to Friday
3rd November 2023**
Half-term (two weeks)

**Thursday 30 November
3.45pm - 7.15pm**
Year 11 Parents Evening

Parent Pledge from the Principal

Any issue of concern that you may have that you are unable to resolve with a member of the academy leadership team, I will be available to speak to you on the phone within 24 hours or to meet with you within 48 hours.

15th September 2023

Date



Signature

Uniform:

Earrings (in addition to studs) will be permitted. Earrings must be removed for practical subjects though to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students during these activities. Only studs or small sleeper earrings smaller than a 5p may be worn.

Makeup may be worn but must remain subtle/discrete.

Eyelashes may be worn whether it be extensions or glue on eyelashes.

Jewellery – items such as watches, bracelets, rings or necklaces can be worn, however, they must be removed during practical lessons. Necklaces and bracelets must be tucked out of sight.

Nails – coloured, painted, false or extensions of nails are permitted, however, this must be to a safe length that allows students to safely participate in physical activities whilst not causing any possible harm to themselves or others.

Shoes - Shoes must be plain black leather with no white or coloured logos or stitching. We do not allow suede shoes, boots, slingbacks, wedges or trainers like 'Nike Air Max'. However, we do allow all black Nike Air Force 1s, Converse, All Stars, Puma and similar but again, they must be all black leather.



Say it: I-muh-ra-luh-tee **Spell it: Im-mor-al-ity**

Root: moral: (principles/ethics)

Immortality (noun) **Stem: · / moral/ honourable**

Understand it
The state of wickedness or lacking morals

Send the definition and the word in a sentence to Lsams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk for merits!

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

Literacy

One of the literacy challenges we run weekly is “Word of the Week” where students are invited to use the word in a sentence and submit it in order to receive merit points. The WOTW for next week is **“Immortality”**.

Why not have a go?

Year 7 This is Me, I am.... Young Writer's Poetry Competition

Congratulations to the winners of the Year 7 Poetry Competition. Overall, it was a really hard choice as there were so many amazing poems, but these three students really stood out with their thoughtful poems on the theme of 'Refuge'.

Well done to Jordan (7M1), April (7A2) and Lexi-Jaye.(7Z1)



English Star of the Week

The English star of the week is:

Eleanor (7Z2) for her fantastic creative writing in English

Well done!!

Performing Arts Stars of the Week

The Performing Arts Team have introduced “Performing Arts Stars of the Week”, where one or two students will be recognised each week for their work and effort.

This week's worthy winner is:

Lenny (10M1) for writing a highly creative and engaging script in drama based around the Hillsborough Disaster

Well done!





Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Mrs Coulson

Congratulations to, Imogen (10D1), Emily (10A1), Amelia (10D2) and Joshua (11Z2) for all completing their Bronze DofE Awards, this is a great achievement.

Well done everyone



Food Technology - Mrs Hyde & Ms Gregory



Mrs Hyde and Ms Gregory's shared Year 7 food class astounded us this week with such amazing effort. Having sat their tests in the morning, it had eaten into our lesson time by 10 minutes, but as most of them had brought their ingredients, we decided we would be ambitious and still cook in the time we had. They managed to cook their mini carrot cakes successfully (with a few seconds to spare and only some needing to use a few minutes of break to finish up!)

Considering this was only their second practical lesson, they amazed me with how sensibly and confidently they worked. The quality of their work was great and it was lovely to see them helping each other and being considerate when they could see something needed doing. I'm now excited to see what the rest of their practical lessons are like!

Well done Year 7- merits have been awarded!

Tea with the Principal

On 13th October, the following Year 11 students, who had been nominated by their Head of Year and Tutors, were invited to tea with the Principal to celebrate their outstanding demonstration of the academy's AIRR values..

Oliver (11M2)	Teddy (11D2)
Halen (11D2)	Lois (11A1)
Ethan (11A1)	Patrick (11Z1)
Soloman (11Z1)	Eva (11Z2)
Paige (11A2)	Oliver (11A2)
Olivia (11D1)	Josh (11D1)
Harry (11M1)	Marcus (11M1)

Contact Information

If you have changed your address or telephone number, please remember to email info@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk to notify the school. If we do not have your correct contact information, this may cause delays when trying to reach you. When sending your email, please include your name, your child's name, your previous contact information and your new contact information with the date of when this change happened.

Thank you

Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

Another week at ORA completed for our Year 7's and we have one week to go until half term. Those six/seven weeks have flown by. This week students had an assembly on black history and a celebration of this. In addition, the full Year 7 cohort sat their GL Assessment Progress Tests in English, Maths and Science. These were sat in the Sports Hall under exam conditions and staff commented on how well the year group conducted themselves, which was great to hear and see.

I am delighted to announce that the following students have had the most positive behaviour points awarded to them in the year group for this week; Eleanor 7Z2, Emily 7M2, Jamie 7M2, Riley 7M2, Charlie 7M2, James 7D2, Megan 7D2, Harley 7M2, Alice 7Z1, Henry 7A2, Thomas 7Z2, Layla 7M2, Katelynn 7D2, Courtney 7M2, Sophia 7D2.

Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing them all again on Monday morning.

Contact: shanahan@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 7 Rugby - Mr Clay

Our first festival of the season was played at St Martins School in amazing sunshine. Despite the festival happening in the first half term, it was wonderful to see how confident the team were with their running, rucking and passing.

Mr Field has been busy with the students at Rugby club every Tuesday after school and it showed. There were some new faces to the game, but our regular club players supported them admirably, as they managed to win all of their three games at the festival. The team worked hard in attack and defence and can now look forward to their next festival after half term, which will be held at William de Ferrers in the first week back.

Please don't forget training is every Tuesday after school.

Well done team!!





Year 8 - Mr Willingham

This week our assembly focused on Black History Month. The students were informed why we celebrate black history and about people who have impacted the way our society runs today.

They were also told about the CyberFirst competition for girls in Year 8. I would really encourage students to take part in this national competition, and if they are interested to see Mrs Gibson to sign up.

This week the following students achieved the most positive merits!!

Emme (8D2)	Lully (8Z2)	Danica (8M1)	Jessica (8A2)	Haidyn (8M1)
Penny (8A2)	Ethan (8A2)	Henson (8A2)	Jess (8A2)	Ben (8Z2)

Well done to you all.

Contact: pwillingham@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

CyberFirst Girls Competition 2023

Starts 20th November- Ends 29th November

See Mrs Gibson in IT04 or email dgibson@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 8 girls only
Boys – Interested in something similar? Come and see me

What is the CyberFirst Girls Competition?

- The CyberFirst Girls Competition provides a fun but challenging environment to inspire the next generation of young women to consider a career in cybersecurity.
- The competition is a team event, with each one made up of 4 female students from Year 8
- It consists of two parts:
 - the online qualifying round to identify the top teams in each home nation and English region
 - the Grand Final where the top teams drawn from the regions in England, and from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will gather to compete for the title of UK CyberFirst Girls Competition Winners.
- Whatever your ability, from beginner to expert, the CyberFirst Girls Competition is an opportunity to learn something new about cybersecurity (plus it's really good fun!)

...and yes a team of Year 8 girls from KES won the national in 2020 beating 200 other schools!

The challenge is divided into 4 topics – usually one per team member

Logic and Coding

Programming languages allow humans to tell computers what to do without having to write machine code (the computer processor instructions used to carry out tasks).

These challenges will look at binary, logic gates, and different types of programming languages from machine code to Python, common vulnerabilities in programs and how to write secure code.

Networking

Linking computers together so they can share information creates networks. Networks can be simple (like connecting to your home printer) or complex (like the Internet). Networks use different technologies like cables, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

These challenges will include how we create networks, and how we defend them from attacks.

Cyber Security

Cyber security involves protecting our computers, laptops and smartphones - and everything we store on them - from damage, theft, or unauthorised access. These challenges will look at the technologies and techniques that cyber security experts use, from protecting all ways you can communicate with a computer (such as Bluetooth or Wi-Fi), to making sure that software is safe to use.

Cryptography

Cryptography is the science used to keep information secret from everyone except those who have permission to access it. These challenges look at different types of cryptography, and the maths that makes it work. You will explore some common weaknesses of encryption, and where we use cryptography today. You'll also look at some common forms of encoding used in communications, such as morse code, base64, and UUENcode.

2023-24 Competition Key Dates

Key Dates	
Registration Open – Now	
Competition Open – 20 November 2023	You can work on the challenges in your own time, at home, at evenings and weekends
Competition Closes – 29 November 2023	
Celebratory event – TBC	

If you are interested you can read more on the web site: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition> which has some practice challenges to think about.

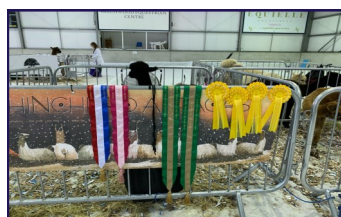
Then contact Mrs D Gibson via email or in person (IT04)

Don't worry if you're not in a team of 4 yet we can sort that out nearer the time. We'll chat via MS Teams and I can share more resources and ideas to get you up to speed before the challenge starts. We can arrange a couple of lunchtime sessions to talk you through some of the useful tools.

Year 9 – Ms. Turnnidge

Year 9 have had a positive week with great learning behaviour in lessons. Well done to Ava 9Z1, Elsa 9A1, Tom 9D1, Holly 9Z1, Isla 9Z1, Paris 9Z1, Natalie 9Z2, Finley 9A1, Freya 9D1 and Thomas 9Z1 for their brilliant work in Religious Studies this week, making some great contributions for mature topics.

Congratulations to Bradley 9A1 for attending an alpaca show at the weekend and achieving two 1st prizes and four 3rd prizes, along with two champions and Best of British Bred. It is wonderful to hear all of your achievements outside of school. Please let me know if you have anything you would like me to share in the Newsletter.



Our top 10 positive points this week are:

Madison 9M2 - 910 Alex 9M1 - 898 Thomas 9Z1 - 759 Matthew 9M2 - 719 Amelia 9A2 - 594

Tom 9D1 - 578 Jayden 9A2 - 536 Kayden 9D1 - 520 Freya 9D1 - 517 Lillie 9M1 470

A reminder that blazers have to be worn in school and all students should have ties.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Turnnidge

Contact: ltturnnidge@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 10 - Mr Field

Year 10 Continued to work well this week. This is especially the case for 30 pupils, all gaining 50 and above positive points for their focus and hard work.

The top performers this week were Emily (A1), Isabella (M2), Imogen (D1), Fraser (Z1), Mia (Z1), Molly (M2), James (D1), Callum (M1), Oliver (Z1) and Sophie (D1), all gaining 75+ positive points.

For those folks who completed the Bronze award for the DofE well done! I have received your certificates and will be giving them out to you very soon. If you have nearly completed the award, please complete it ASAP so you can be awarded your certificate and for those of you stepping up to the Silver award, good luck and enjoy the challenge.

Please keep up the hard work Year 10 as we go into our final week of half term.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

Week 6 has again seen Year 11 working hard towards their final exams.

In assembly this week, as part of Black History Month, we focused on the impact that black women have had on our society over the years, highlighting the work of unsung heroes such as Mary Seacole, who served in the Crimean War, saving hundreds of lives by riding into the battlefield on horseback to nurse wounded soldiers from both sides. It is important that we all learn the contribution made by such people in our history.

Year 11 students continue to work hard as we move forward and with only one week to go until the half term break, many are realising how quickly the time is passing. After the break there are only seven school weeks until Christmas!!

People deserving recognition this week have enjoyed Tea with the Principal this afternoon, details of which can be found in this newsletter. Meanwhile, the top six students who earned the most merit points this week in Year 11 are, Will 11M2, Nathan 11M2, Luke 11Z1, Daisy 11D1, Olivia 11D1 and Mia 11 D2.

Finally, may I say again, if I can help in any way to support your child with their school life, please contact me at the Academy.

Contact: rswinnerton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

PROM event - Tuesday 17th October

Prom Open Evening @ Ormiston Rivers Academy on 17th October 2023 5-7pm
Hosted by Formally Suited & The Bridal Rack

Repayment Plans

Suits - New / Nearly New / Hire
(Get in touch if you wish to sell one)

No dresses the same

Suits / Dresses
Make up / Hair / Nails / Tanning / Accessories
Decorations / Memorabilia / DJ / Cakes



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 - Mr Moon

Another amazing week by our Year 12's still leading the school with attendance and positive behaviour. A special thank you to all of the pupils who helped with the sixth form open evening which was a great success due to the support of the sixth form helpers. A reminder that we have two assemblies next week, one on Monday and the other on Wednesday. This does mean that pupils are expected to be in on Wednesday morning as the assembly is on your work experience. Please keep up all the amazing work you are doing year 12.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 13 - Miss Sametz

A huge thank you to all of our Sixth Form helpers who chose to stay back and give up their time at our Open Evening. They are a real credit to the school and even this morning it was great being in the Sixth Form Common Room hearing our Year 12 and Year 13 students speaking about how much fun they had last night.

It was also fantastic to see so many Year 11's and some Year 10's attend to find out more about the options Rivers Sixth Form has on offer.

Contact: dsametz@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk





RIVERS SIXTH FORM

The Application Process

Once students have applied, they will have interviews to further discuss their options and make sure it is right for their career pathway. For more information visit the [Sixth Form Admissions page](#), and if at any time you need support, please do email Miss Sametz or the Sixth Form Team at dsametz@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk or sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Autumn



Research on our website, read our prospectus and speak with staff. Attend Open Evening in the first half term for more information and guidance. The Sixth Form Taster Day will take place for all ORA students and potential external students.

Winter



Applications will be submitted at the beginning of the winter term. Applicants will have an interview with the Sixth Form Team to discuss your application and choices, go through predicted grades, and future goals. External students will be arranged an appointment outside of school hours to support their current studies.

Spring



You will receive a conditional offer by the Spring Term. We wish all applicants good luck on their examinations and hope to see everyone at Induction Day after the examination season is over.

Summer



Results and enrolment day. Celebrate your success and finalise your enrolment at ORA by meeting with our Sixth Form Team for a one to one meeting. We will look forward to all Year 12s beginning their sixth form adventure in September!



Catering



Menu

We have pleasure of enclosing a link to next weeks menu. Please note that items are subject to change at short notice due to availability of produce from our suppliers. We welcome feedback on our catering offer; so please email our catering manager, Leanne Warner at lwarnar@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk with any comments / suggestions.

[Ormiston Rivers Academy - Break and Lunchtime Menus](#)

Parentpay

The daily limit for students to spend is set at £4.50 as a default. This means, should a student select items at break and / or lunch which take them over the limit, they will be asked to put something back. If you would like to change the limit on your child's account please email our catering manager lwarnar@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. Please note: it can take a while before the cashless system updates once you have added funds to your child's catering account. Please be mindful of this and try and get the money on there in plenty of time for break / lunch. When adding funds please ensure you add it to Dinner money and make sure it's not just sitting in your parent account.

Free School Meals

The daily limit for free school meals is £3.30. Funds will need to be added to your child's Parentpay account should you wish them to be allowed to exceed the limit.

Catering Cards

Students must tap their catering card each time they wish to make a purchase, even if they are entitled to free school meals. Please remind them that they need to bring their catering card in every day. Those students without their card will be held back until the end of the queue, allowing those through with cards first. The cards really speed up the catering service, giving students more time to socialise with friends and eat their food. If a card is lost or damaged, a new one can be purchased for £1 on Parentpay. The new card will be delivered to tutors the following morning.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above please contact either Leanne Warner, Catering Manager lwarnar@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.