



Message from the Principal

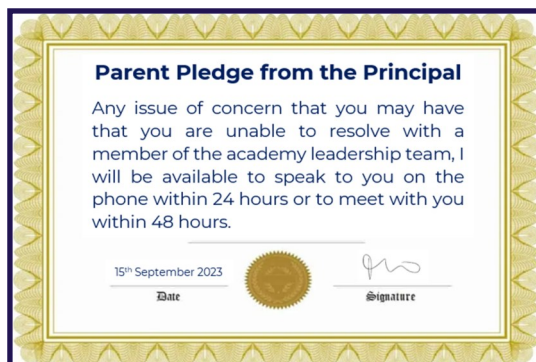
It has been another busy and lively week at Rivers. We are continuing to successfully put into practice our Disruption Free Learning behaviour policy. Staff have been working alongside students to support them to take onboard the 3 Rs: Be Ready to Learn, Be Respectful and Be Responsible and feedback from students is that the system is having a really positive effect on behaviour for learning in the classroom. I wanted to reassure all parents that the system will always be coupled with support and adaptations for students with SEND and our staff have received additional training to ensure this.

As I said last week, I would like to continue to consult with you regarding the academy's motto and our Vision and Values for the future of Rivers. As always, your views are very important to us so please can you complete the consultation questionnaire found here by Friday 26th January: [Parent & Carer ORA Vision & Values Consultation](#).

This week six of our Rivers Sixth Form students have been given the fantastic opportunity to travel to Switzerland for a guided tour of the CERN laboratory and the United Nations Office in Geneva. On Thursday, a group of our students from various year groups visited the Cliffs Pavillion in Southend to watch 'Six The Musical' as part of our Music enrichment programme and ahead of the Rivers Skiing trip taking place in half term, our PE department has taken a group of students to The Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead for a two hour beginners lesson with qualified ski instructors. I would like to thank our staff for all of their hard work planning and for giving up their time to accompany our students on these exciting and worthwhile trips and visits.

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 29th January 2024

Felsted Summer School - Parents Meeting

Tuesday 30th January 2024

Year 10 Parents Evening

Thursday 15th February 2024

Year 9 Parents Evening

Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024

Half Term (Students return on Monday 25th February)



Parent / Academy Agreement

At Ormiston Rivers Academy we are committed to:

- Listening to parents carefully and respectfully, including allocating an appropriate length of time for pre-arranged meetings
- Responding appropriately to concerns raised
- Outlining any actions that may be required
- Updating parents and carers on progress and outcomes of the concern
- Listening and responding to updates from parents and carers

At Rivers we expect parents and carers to:

- Communicate their concern respectfully and accurately
- Listen to and consider the responses from the school
- Work in partnership with the school in order to reach a resolution, including supporting the Ormiston Rivers Academy Policies
- Allow time for the school to respond to concerns (unless an emergency, 24 hour email response to confirm receipt; 3-5 working days to follow up)
- Acknowledge past support and intervention made by the school, even if a problem reoccurs

Ormiston Rivers Academy reserves the right to end a meeting or conversation should the above expectations not be met and reconvene the meeting or have the conversation 24 hours later.



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 **“Fortitude”**.

Why not have a go?

Say it: Faw-tuh-chood **Spell it: For-ti-tude**

Root:
Fort: strength (Fortify)

Stem: / fort / camp / keep

Fortitude (noun)

Understand it
To add strength to something

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

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

Rotary Club Young Writer's Competition

This year's theme is 'Rebuilding', you can submit a poem of up to 40 lines or a piece of prose up to 550 words interpreting this theme in any way that you choose.



Please submit entries to Lsams@ormistonriveracademy.co.uk by Friday 26th January.

Good luck!

Performing Arts Stars of the Week

The Performing Arts Team would like to recognise and celebrate the fantastic work that happens in the department each week.

This week a shout out goes to:

- Oscar (10Z1) for his fantastic contribution to lessons and his outstanding written work.
- 7T/DR3 for excellent participation and enthusiasm in their drama lesson this week.



Well done to all!

Tea with the Principal

On Friday 19th January, the following Year 12 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..

Kieran (SF1)
Theo (SF2)
Oliver (SF3)

Elizabeth (SF1)
Cameron (SF2)
Julia (SF3)





Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Mrs Coulson



Well done to all Bronze and Silver DofE students. We have now started the expedition training and I must say the students have been delightful and well organised. I look forward to the training to come.

Cliffs Pavilion Trip - Miss Thurtle

Team music had the pleasure of taking 40 students to see Six and Cliff's Pavilion on Thursday night. The majority of these students sing in our Rivers' Choir, who have been building a new repertoire since returning to school this September. Six focuses on the story of King Henry VIII and his six wives - offering a fantastic cross curricular experience for our students.



Primary Athletics Event - Mr Moon

On Wednesday our Sports Leaders hosted the primary indoor athletics competition, which had 6 primary schools in attendance, the most we have had for this event.



The event ran smoothly, and the sports leaders were given lots of praise for their positive attitude and professionalism throughout. It was a successful day with Burnham primary winning the event.

A special well-done to the Sports Leaders for their hard work.

Year 9 Futsal Competition - Mr Clay

Last week, a small group of year 9's went to Brentwood County High School to take part in the Mid Essex Futsal Tournament.

This was a first for many of the boys, and once they got used to the pace of the game, they had a brilliant time.

After drawing with Gt. Baddow in the first game, confidence grew and they went on to beat Brentwood, before nicking a late goal to sneak a narrow win against St John Payne.

St. Martins were the final team we played and it's fair to say that St. Martins played exceptionally well and deserved their win.

We finished in second place - a great result and a wonderful experience.

I can only apologise that I forgot to take a team photo so here's a coach snap of the happy team.





Year 10 Girls Futsal Competition - Miss Bloggs

On Wednesday our Year 10 Girls Futsal Team, with the help of some of the Year 9 team to make up numbers, headed for a competition at Shenfield High School.

The first game we played was against Shenfield, and not having the best of luck in previous years, the girls were a little apprehensive, but there was no need as Billie-Jo scored and took us in front. As the match progressed, Billie-Jo, Isla, Ella, Alissa and Hollie fought hard to keep a clean sheet and managed to beat Shenfield 1-0, the first time we have beaten them!

Our second match saw Katie replace Alissa, Daisy replace Isla, and Katie replace Ella as they battled against Chelmer Valley. The game saw us progress onto winning our group as we won 2-0.

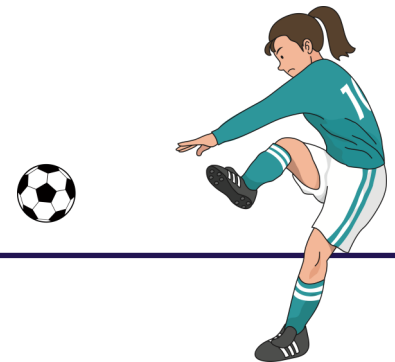
As the winners of our group, we progressed onto the semi-final against Great Baddow, who managed to stick 2 goals in the back of the net, leaving us with a 2-0 defeat.

The girls battled amazingly throughout the competition and represented the school superbly. The girls secured 3rd place on the podium and should be as extremely proud of themselves, as I am!

Player of the competition - Hollie after making some amazing saves in the first few games!!

Well done to the girls below for the taking part!!

Billie-Jo (10M2)	Ella (10M2)	Katie (10D2)
Katie (10A1)	Isla (9Z1)	Hollie (9D1)
Alissa (9D1)	Daisy (9A1)	



Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

A cold and chilly week has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and this week we had an assembly delivered by Mr Chapman looking at Holocaust Remembrance, as Holocaust Memorial Day is on the 27th January. It was also nice popping into some forms during mentor times this week with the groups looking at careers.

I am delighted to announce that the following students had the most positive behaviour logs in the year group this week; Henry 7A2, Riley 7M2, Ryan 7A2, Olly 7M2, Eleanor 7Z2, Ingrid 7D2, Reuben 7A2, Thomas 7Z2, Katelynn 7D2, Annie 7Z2, Riley 7A2, Megan 7D2, Jamie 7M2, Harley 7M2, Jack 7M2. Well done all!!!

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing the students on Monday.

Contact: pshanahan@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Mr Willingham

This week we had an assembly about Holocaust Memorial Day from Mr Chapman. He explained what had happened, the rights that were removed from people and how this led to the killing of millions and why we remember it.

Students are beginning to get used to the new behaviour policy and the processes being followed, and hopefully students have started to see an improvement in their lessons.

Also it has been particularly cold recently so I would advise students to bring coats in, but a reminder they still need to wear blazers and only school jumpers can be worn around the school.

Contact: pwillingham@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 9 – Ms. Turnnidge

Year 9 have had a great week and I have been impressed with the attitudes to learning in lessons I have seen. I saw some brilliant work in drama, maths and geography from students.

I have informed Year 9 there will be an options marketplace in the hall Wednesday 24th January at break and lunch. This will be a great opportunity to talk to older students about the different courses available.

I am extremely proud of all Year 9 have achieved since starting in Year 7 and how they have matured. As of Monday 22nd January, I will be taking on a new role as Head of Creative Arts. I have thoroughly enjoyed being this year groups Head of Year and want to thank you as always for the support you have given me. Mr Marklew will be overseeing Year 9 should you have any queries. We also have Ms Byford and Ms Makwana as our year group SSA team and the form tutors as first port of call.

Have a wonderful weekend and it has been an absolute pleasure to be your child's Head of Year.

Contact: [lturnnidge@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:turnnidge@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

Year 10 - Mr Field

Assembly this week was presented by Mr Chapman on the topic of Holocaust Memorial Day which is soon approaching. This was an informative and thought provoking assembly on a very important topic that should never be forgotten.



Walking around and visiting lessons this week I witnessed great learning with pupils being focussed and taking pride in their work, which was affirmed when I had conversations with them. Jacob (Z1) George (Z1), Amy (M1) & Josh (Z2) were all developing their knowledge of the heart and blood vessels in Health and Fitness. Mikie (M2) and George (A1) were both proud of their work in Music Technology, where they began to add sound to videos. In Engineering it was great to see Aimie (M1), Amalie (Z1) and Emily (D1) being able to talk through what they were making and how all the pieces would fit together as a finished product.

Well done to the following pupils gained the most positive points this week. Please come and collect your 'Jump the queue' pass as a reward from my office on Monday morning. Sofia (Z2) Imogen (D1) Jack (D1) Darcie (M1) Connie (A1) Katie (A1) Abigail (Z2) Emily (A1) Angelina (M1) George (A1) Charlotte (D2).

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

January is flying by. This week's assembly was led by Mrs Compton and focussed on an important aspect of life for most people, the writing of a CV and also interviews and interview techniques. This was as a pre-cursor to the mock interview days being held on 25th and 26th January.

Disruption Free Learning continues to work well across the academy and students are telling me of an improved atmosphere and better focus in lessons. This is vitally important for everyone in this final push.

Finally congratulations to the students gaining the most positive points this week for their hard work and attitude to learning. Yeushayne, Ethan and Aidan 11A1, Stanley 11A2, Eva 11M1, Finley, Will and Stanley 11M2, Olivia 11D1, Mia 11D2, Luke and Evie 11Z1 and Jess 11Z2. Well done to them all!!

As always, if there is anything I can do to help or support you, please contact me at the academy.

Contact: rswinnerton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Sixth Form Interviews - Miss Sametz

Sixth Form interviews have started today for Year 11s. These are going to take a few weeks so please be patient. Students will be given a slip with the room and time to go to. Interviews will be approximately 10 minutes and are meant to help students future plan and ensure their options are the right choices.



Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Issue: #16 – 19th January 2024

RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Thank you to all the parents and carers for taking the time on Monday evening to come to school and speak about your children's A Level subjects. It was a fantastic night for feedback and showing where students can continue to make progress. If you feel you need any further follow up, please do reach out to subject teachers directly or the Sixth Form Team to schedule a meeting or a phone call.

Lots of apprenticeships are opening up! We encourage students to keep checking their emails from Mrs Compton with weekly openings. Amazing Apprenticeships and the government website are great places to start. We also had Jack from AIM Apprenticeships in speaking with the Year 12s on Monday so they can also start their research.

There have been half a dozen real examinations over the last 2 weeks. Well done to all of our Year 12 and 13s who have been working hard to secure unit grades.

A few of our Year 12s and a Year 13 have been at CERN in Switzerland this week. We cannot wait to hear how they got on and will post more updates about this next week.



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 lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk with any comments / suggestions.

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 lwarner@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 lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.



Change of Personal Details

It is essential that we are kept up to date with changes in your contact details. This may be a change to a mobile number, an e-mail address, a full address or even a change of who is the first priority to contact. By keeping us up to date with changes we can ensure that you are receiving information regarding your child's progress and that we can contact someone in the case of an emergency. Or preferred means of communication is by e-mail, please ensure that we have a current e-mail address for you. Please notify us of any changes by e-mail to: kcannon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Academy Shop

All students are required to have sufficient equipment to allow them to learn and achieve their full potential. It is a students' responsibility to arrive at the Academy with the appropriate equipment for lessons:

Equipment:

2 x black pens	Maths set (including a scientific calculator)
1 x purple biro for assessment feedback	Student Planner (student organiser)
2 x pencils	Reading book
1 x 30cm ruler	Books / folders for the days lessons
Coloured pencils (not felt tips)	Water bottle
Eraser	Basic art equipment
Pencil sharpener	

The Academy Shop, located near the main hall, is open before school 8.30 - 8.50am and at breaktime 11.20 - 11.50am every day. The shop stocks all of the above equipment, as well as a wide selection of revision guides & workbooks, for all year groups. You can also purchase new ties from here. We can only accept cash for shop purchases on site, we are unable to use credit on a students catering card. Alternatively, you can complete an order form and return it to finance@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Year 10 & 11 - You will find an item on Parentpay - KS4 Revision Guides & Equipment- just overwrite the amount with the total to be paid, we will check it against your order and let you know when the items can be collected from the shop (or you can call in and collect from main reception if you would prefer).

Year 7, 8 & 9 (KS3) - Once we have received your completed order, we will add it to your Parentpay account. When payment has been confirmed we will let you know when the items can be collected from the shop (or you can call in and collect from main reception if you would prefer).

You can access the up to date [KS3 order form](#) and the [KS4 order form](#) here; these are also available on our website www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. Please contact finance on 01621 787845 if you have any queries.