



Message from the Principal

It has been another busy week at Rivers with lots of internal and external activities taking place. Each morning this week we held "House" assemblies for students in Amazon, Danube, Mekong and Zambezi houses. Throughout the year we encourage students to participate in various house competitions and events and staff and students alike look forward with anticipation to finding out who has won the House Cup at the end of the summer term.

On Tuesday a group of our students took part in a communication and oracy workshop with the company 'Talk the Talk'. Ms Sams has told me that the children showed fantastic growth in their confidence and were excellent role models for the school. A group of Year 10 & 11 students wanting to study History as an A-Level and current A-Level History students attended The Tudors Student Conference at Conway Town Hall, London on Tuesday to supercharge their subject knowledge and love of History with a day focused on all things Tudors and a keynote talk from historian Tracy Borman.

On Wednesday, we held an Options Marketplace for our Year 9 students to give them all the information and support they need to make the important choice of subjects that they will take for their GCSEs.

On Thursday and Friday, mock interviews were held for our Year 11 and 12 students with volunteers from our local community. These are really important for preparing our students for future university, work or apprenticeship interviews and I would like to thank Mrs Compton and those who gave up their valuable time to help our students.

Last week I asked for your views regarding the academy's motto and our Vision and Values for the future of Rivers. We have received a few responses but, as always, your views are very important to us so it would be really appreciated if you could complete the consultation questionnaire found here by Friday 2nd February: [Parent & Carer Consultation on ORA Vision & Values](#)

We are opening the application process for our Felsted Summer School places on Monday 29th January at 5pm with a Year 8 & 9 parents information evening in the main hall. It is really important that you attend this meeting if your child would like to apply for this exciting opportunity and I look forward to seeing you then.

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

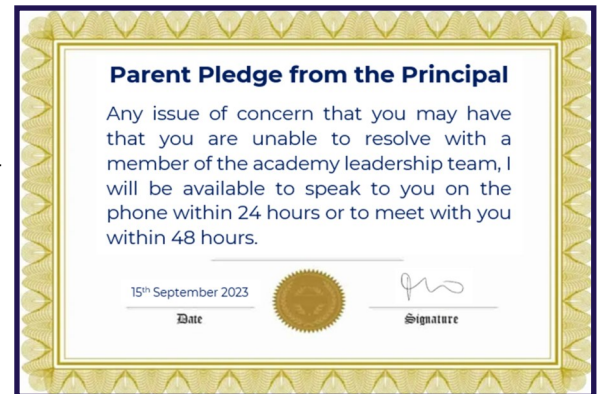
Jo Williams, Principal

Please can parents and carers continue to support our students to remember the 3 Rs of the academy's Code of Conduct:

Be Ready to Learn

Be Respectful

Be Responsible





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)

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:

“Synchronised”

Why not have a go?

Say it: Sing·kruh·nized

Spell it: Syn·chron·ised

Root:
Chron: time (sync)

Stem: / chron / chronology

Synchronised (verb)

Understand it
To make two or more things work at the same time

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

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

Rotary Club Young Writers Competition

The Rotary Club Young Writers' Competition is open to all year groups.

This can be any piece of creative writing or poem based on the theme of 'Rebuilding'. It can be linked to this theme in any way that you choose.

Please email typed entries to Lsams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk by Wednesday 31st January. These entries will be judged by a panel of Rotary Club members and entries will be submitted to the next stage of the competition.

Good Luck!



Talk the Talk Workshop

On Tuesday 23rd January, 20 students from Rivers and 10 students from Ormiston Park took part in a communication workshop in the Library. The trainer from 'Talk the Talk' Charity worked on many strategies to develop structured talk and debate.

The students thoroughly enjoyed this experience and were very supportive towards their peers throughout. Many students felt by the end of this workshop that their confidence in public speaking had really progressed. Well done to all of those involved.



Tea with the Principal

On Friday 26 January, the following Year 13 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..

Leo (SF6)
Jack (SF6)
Amelia (SF5)
Finley (SF5)
Millie (SF4)
Connie (SF4)



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

- Suzie, Sam, Maisie, Sienna, Niamh and Florence in 9O/Mu1 for excellent effort in their ukulele music assessment this week.
- Fantastic effort from Logan in 8R/Mu2 for his ukulele assessment also.
- Outstanding script reading from Annabelle in 7R/Dr4.



Well done to all!

History Trip - Miss Heales

On Tuesday 23 January, a group of History students from Years 10-13 travelled to Conway Hall in London, to listen to an excellent lecture from the historian and curator of Royal Palaces, Tracy Borman. She spoke about Henry VII and his impact on the Tudor dynasty. A second lecture was held by members of the exam board, AQA, and gave some fantastic exam skills advice which all students found very useful. A wonderfully enriched trip for all.





Art News

REMINDER: Supersix is held on a Wednesday 3.20-4.20pm in DO2 All GCSE and A level students welcome!!



Art Club News

Art Club now runs on a Wednesday in DO2 from 3.20pm to 4.20pm. The club is led by our wonderful sixth form artist Olivia. Last week Olivia taught us how to draw eyes. I am so impressed with the drawings created! Come and join us next week to develop your creative and artistic skills

Artist of the Week Charlotte Croucher

A committed and talented art student. Well done Charlotte!!



Pop Art Printmaking

After exploring the work of Pop Artist Andy Warhol, this week our students have been exploring the technique of silkscreen printing.

Look at the work of artist and photographer Emily Blincoe.



Create a collection of objects to make your own rainbow Use your phone or camera to record your work and either print or upload to the google classroom.



What will you use to make your rainbow?? Remember to take the



Why not complete the January Photography Challenge to achieve merits and rewards? Submit to Ms Nice



Careers News

Year 11 and 12 Mock Job Interviews - Mrs Compton

On Thursday and Friday this week Year 11 and 12 students were invited to come along for a mock job interview.

Year 11 were asked to complete a CV and covering letter in tutor time sessions and bring this along to the interview.

Year 12 were also asked to update their CV and letter for their dream job.

Interviews were 20 minutes long with feedback at the end and students will receive their feedback sheet via tutors next week with advice if needed on how to improve in a real-life situation.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who came to interview students, as without volunteers events like this couldn't run.





Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

A windy week has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and this week the year group went to and took part in their individual house assemblies instead of a whole year assembly.

It was great for me to be able to pop into some forms during mentor times this week and see the students on task, completing various activities.

I am delighted to announce that the following students had the most positive behaviour logs in the year group this week; Jude 7D1, Scarlett 7A1, Grace 7A1, Henry 7A2, Josh 7D2, Bobby 7A2, Theo 7D2, Lexi-Jaye 7Z1, Jamie 7M2, Ivy 7M1, Izabelle 7A1, Abby 7D2, Lenny 7Z2, Elacy-Raye 7A1 and Lila 7A1. Well done all!!!

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

Contact: pshanahan@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 7 Netball - Miss Blogg

On Wednesday the Year 7 girls netball team travelled to Plume School for 2 fixtures. The first fixture saw the Year 7 team face William De Ferrers, who were superb with their netball skills. The second fixture saw the girls face Plume, who gave us a good game but unfortunately took the points.



The girls played well as this was their first netball fixture as a team and they all showed great resilience. Player of the game against Plume was Leyla (7Z2). Well done girls

Any girls looking to play netball or have some fun at clubs, please come along to Netball club Thursdays from 3:20pm - 4:20pm.

Year 7 Rugby - Mr Field

On Tuesday the boys travelled to Great Baddow High School for the next Year 7 District Rugby Tournament.



The boys started slowly just losing to Beckett Keys after playing some good attacking rugby. The next game the boys started quicker and played with more urgency with tackles flying in to stop the attacks. Jude was tackling anything that moved, halting any forward plays. Some great attacking runs from Casey kept the opposition on their toes. The boys grew into the tournament winning comfortably their next game against Anglo European. The boys again won their next 2 games against Sandon and Plume.

The boys are enjoying their rugby and please remember training is on Tuesday after school.

Well done all



Year 8 - Mr Willingham

On Monday this week, students completed a careers survey, whilst the other mornings were spent having our house assemblies.

Hopefully students are finding that the disruption free learning policy is helping them focus in lessons more, and in turn helping with their academic progress.

This week our top positive point earners were: Samuel - 8Z1, Cheri - 8Z2, Lully - 8Z2, Erin - 8D2, Lorna - 8Z2, Owen - 8D1, Thomas - 8Z2, Oliver - 8Z1, Flynn - 8Z2 and Penny - 8A2. Well done to you all and keep up the great effort you are putting in.

Contact: pwillingham@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 8 Netball - Miss Sametz

The Year 8 Netballers have had a busy week with two fixtures. On Monday, they faced Chelmer Valley in a really close game. Both teams fought well against the wind and the other team. In the end they just lost in the last quarter. Well done to the girls for their first game of this term. Jess was voted WOTM nominated by the other team.



Wednesday, the Year 8s played their second match of the week against Plume. Here we had a fantastic match taking the game by just one point. Poppy was given WOTM nominated by the other team. Despite having a small team on the day, we had some fantastic students step up and offer to help fill the team - so many, we couldn't actually bring them all so thank you to all the students who did play this week despite not being on the original team list and to those who came down just in case.

Reminder - netball club is Thursday after school - open for all years! Year 7 and 8 tournaments next week at William de Ferrers are on Wednesday and Thursday. Please check your messages as team list should be out.

Year 8 Rugby - Mr Clay

It was Gt. Baddow's turn to host the third rugby tournament of the year. The pitches were sticky in places but with St John Payne, Beckett Keys and Sandon in our pool, it was set to be an enjoyable afternoon. Sandon were first up and played outstanding rugby. Their strong forwards kept the ball well before using the backs to great effect which meant they won comfortably. Our next 2 games against Beckett Keys and St John Payne were much better. Both games were unbelievably tight but we lost out by one score in both games. Effort levels could not be faulted however, and all the players deserve credit for their attitude. Charlie, Jamie and James all on the score sheet for us.



The next tournament will be held on our playing fields in March, we'll look forward to even more rugby then. Also, a reminder that training is every Tuesday after school.



Year 9 – Mr Marklew

I want to start this week's notices by thanking Ms Turnnidge for her tremendous work as Head of Year 9 for the past 2 ½ years. I wish her well in her new role as Head of Performing Arts. I will be overseeing the year group as they move through their options process and start to prepare for their GCSEs.

This week we have been holding our house assemblies and celebrating our successes with our Heads of House. We have been voting on the key issues within Essex for the Youth council too.

Mr Madajczyk has hosted the next step in our Options process - the Subject Fair! We opened up our sports hall to our Subject leaders to discuss their GCSE courses and answer any questions that the Year 9s had before they make their final choices. We will be having a further assembly next week to talk about making the right decisions, and it will soon be our Year 9 parents/carer evening where you can ask your questions to the subject teachers.

Contact: dmarklew@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Options Marketplace - Mr Madajczyk

During break and lunch on Wednesday, subject leaders set up stalls at the 'Options Marketplace' for Year 9 students to shop around and gather all of the information they would need to make informed decisions when choosing their options.

Feedback from the students was very positive, with many voicing how informative, engaging and helpful it was.

Thank you to all of the staff and Sixth Form students for helping to make this a successful event, from setting up stalls, to being there to speak to students and even covering other staff duties to allow subject leads and SLT to attend.





Student Voice - Mr Marklew

This week we have been hosting our House assemblies with Mr Clay. This has been a great way of celebrating our successes towards the House Cup at the end of the year.

We have also been supporting with the Essex wide Make your Mark scheme. Our students have been voting on the issues that concern them the most. It gives them a great opportunity to impact the Essex Youth Service vision for the coming year. Once all the votes for the county schools have been counted, I shall share the results and discuss what our next steps are to support children and young people in this area.

young ESSEX ASSEMBLY

MAKE YOUR MARK

Make Your Mark is the largest consultation of 11 - 18 year olds in Europe.

It gives you as young people the chance to have your say on what matters to you.

Voting is open from 29th January until 8th March 2024

10 issues will be presented to you on a ballot paper.

You can vote in your school/college/youth groups or online

Email YEA@essex.gov.uk

To find out how to get involved

the three topics with the most votes become the newly elected Members of Youth Parliaments campaign themes for their 2 year term.

YOUTH SERVICE | **Essex County Council**



Year 10 - Mr Field

A great week for year 10 this week, from sporting fixtures to Anglia Ruskin University sessions to House assemblies. It was great to see many year 10s involved in many aspects of school life.

The deadline for pupils to organise work experience placements is Easter, which is 9 weeks away. Thank you to all those pupils who have organised their placements. Also, Year 10 Parents evening is on Tuesday 30th January, so if you have not yet organised your appointments, please do so quickly.

Top positive points earners this week are: Darcie (M1), Alisha (Z2), Sofia(Z2), Emily (D1), Mickayla(Z1), Ella (Z1), Aimie (M1), Imogen (D1), Jack (D1), Nancy (D1) and Tyler (D2). Please see me Monday morning to collect your 'jump the queue' pass as your reward.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Health and Social Care - Mrs Procter



Congratulations to our new Year 10 subject ambassadors for Health and Social Care:

Alisha (10A1)

Brennan (10A1)

Bethan (10Z2)

Year 10 Boys Futsal - Mr Field

The year 10 Boys Futsal team travelled to Shenfield on Tuesday last week to compete in the district Competition. The boys started slowly, unfortunately losing their opening game to St Martin by one goal. The boys grew into the competition improving their performances with every match. The boys attacked well, passing became sharper and when gaining a little space, they shot on target to test the keeper. The second game was against Sandon with a great performance earning them a 1-1 draw. Third match was against Brentwood County High and the boys were strong, finishing 3-0 victors. Goal of the tournament from Tommy (10A1), with a twinkle toes attack around all of the opposition before scoring. The final game against Shenfield was a 0-0 draw, but this was the best game of the night from the boys with an increased urgency and great team performance.



Year 10 Football - Mr Marklew

Year 10s Boys football team did themselves proud on Monday. It would have been hard to pick a man of the match as they all stepped up and rose to the occasion. They felt disappointed to lose 2-0 to WDF but can be proud about how well they played together. In the first half they played against the wind but controlled the ball well, defended as a unit and nullified the threat. They used the ball well, attacking from the left then right wing. An unfortunate goal was conceded from a cross that bobbled around the penalty area. In the second half ORA continued to create chances, had some free kicks in promising areas, and were unlucky to miss several good goal scoring opportunities. ORA went searching for the equaliser but were caught on the break with the last play of the match.



Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

January is flying by.

This weeks assembly was led by Mr Priddle and focussed on the short space of time between now and the exams starting. Revision guides were distributed to all attendees to support students when organising their individual programmes of study. Obviously, with only a limited period of time left, it is essential that everyone is on track and feeling the support we are giving.

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. Aidan, Lois, Thomas, and Yeushayne 11A1 Will, Finlay and Nathan 11M2 and Luke 11Z1. 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 been taking place over the past week. There are still a few more to take place so if your child has not had their interview yet, don't worry. The time slips are being given out the day before so that students don't lose it or forget it.

Catering Students - Mrs Hyde

A huge well done to Year 11 Catering students who have completed their practical assessments this week and last. They have worked so hard to showcase their cookery skills and although it was stressful at times for them they have really shone. Well done!



Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Issue: #17 – 26th January 2024

RIVERS SIXTH FORM

As usual, it has been a busy week up in the Sixth Form area. House Captains of all four houses have been running their house assemblies for the school. We are very proud of our Year 12 Student Leaders for leading assemblies as we know it can be daunting.

Our Year 12s have had mock interviews today. A huge thank you to every interviewer who came in to make this happen and to Mrs Compton, one of our Year 12 tutors and Careers Lead for always making sure these events run smoothly. We have had some very dapper students today and have had great feedback. Thank you to all the Year 12 and Year 13 helpers for helping this event run.



Catering



Menu

We have pleasure in 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
1 x purple biro for assessment feedback
2 x pencils
1 x 30cm ruler
Coloured pencils (not felt tips)
Eraser
Pencil sharpener

Maths set (including a scientific calculator)
Student Planner (student organiser)
Reading book
Books / folders for the days lessons
Water bottle
Basic art equipment

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.



Letter from Essex County Council - Measles and Schools

Public Health
County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1QH



Date: 19th January 2024

Dear Parent / Guardian

re: Measles

Cases of measles are increasing in England currently. If your child has not been fully vaccinated with the MMR vaccine it is a good time to get this done to protect them. This can be arranged through the child's GP practice. You can check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations by looking at their personal health record (Red Book) or by asking their GP.

The early symptoms of measles can look like other illnesses: runny nose; cough; conjunctivitis. The child may also have a high fever. The distinctive rash of measles begins around day 3 of the illness, a rash of flat red or brown blotches appear, beginning on the face, behind the ears and spreading over the body.

Any child thought to have measles should not be sent to school. Where possible NHS 111 or the GP should be phoned for advice, rather than visiting the surgery or A&E. This is to avoid passing the infection on to others. Further details about measles can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>.

Yours faithfully

Danny Showell
Public Health Consultant