



Message from the Principal

It has been another eventful week at the academy. On Monday a group of our Year 9 students were invited onto the Maldon Respect Project which is being run by the 'Essex Boys & Girls Club' organisation. Students were invited to join them for a day of outdoor activities at their Layer Marney Outdoors Centre where they did an evaluation, team games, interviews and bush craft.

On Tuesday, the owners of Clayhill Vineyard kindly agreed to give our Year 13 students a tour of the facility. These students are creating a software application for the owners and the trip gave them insights that will enhance their work and ensure they are meeting the client's needs.

On Friday a group of our Sixth Form students had the opportunity to visit the world's first university-level institution dedicated to the industry of Esports. The degrees are tailored for college students who are studying a computing course or a creative media course such as games development.

On Monday 29th we opened the application process for our Felsted Summer School places to our Year 8 & Year 9 students. Application forms are available for Year 8 & 9 students to collect from both the main and student reception and these need to be completed and handed in to Student Reception for the attention of Ms James by the end of the day on Thursday 8th February 2024. Please be advised that applications for a Felsted Summer School place will be accepted from students even if their parents were unable to attend the information evening held last week. I look forward to receiving and reviewing lots of applications for this exciting opportunity.

Our recent consultation with parents & carers regarding the use of the late bus has indicated that there is very limited use of this service by our students on a Monday and a Friday. Therefore, I would like to inform you that after half term, the late bus service will only run after school on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If this has a significant impact on any of our students, please do let us know by emailing Ms James at sjames@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Finally, I would like to wish good luck to all our Year 11 students who will be sitting their mock GCSE exams in the week before and after half term. I am sure that all your hard work and revision will result in some excellent outcomes.

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

Thursday 8th February 2024

Deadline for Year 8 & 9 student applications for Felstead Summer School

Thursday 15th February 2024

Year 9 Parents Evening

Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024

Half Term (Students return on Monday 25th February)

Tuesday 5th March

Year 8 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]

Signature

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 "**Chronically**".

Why not have a go?

Say it: kr-'nuh-kuh-lee

Spell it: Chron-ic-al-ly

Stem: / chron / chronic

Chronically
(verb)

Root:
Chron: time
(chronic)

Understand it
Persisting for a long time or constantly recurring

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

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

English Stars of the week



Emmie - 7D1
Lexi- Jaye - 7Z1
Daisy - 7Z1
Luke - 7M1
Haidyn - 8M1



Jude - 10Z2
Joslyn - 10Z2
Lenny - 10M1
Joseph - 10M2
Oscar - 10Z1

Amy - 10Z2
Tom - 10D1
Leela - 10Z1
Poppy - 10M1



Luke - 7M1
Isabelle - 7A2
Leo - 7Z2



Jack Petchey 'Speak Out Challenge'



On Tuesday 30th January, 60 of our Year 10 students were selected for the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. The students involved showed enthusiasm and confidence as they delivered a short speech to the group. The highly commended awards went to Amy (10Z2), Oliver (10Z1), Tom (10D1), Annie (10M2) and Leela (10Z1). These were for students that showed great improvement throughout the day. The students going through to the next round are Molly (10M2), Jude (10Z2), Joslyn (10Z2), Lenny (10M1), Joseph (10M2), Poppy (10M1) and Oscar (10Z1). This round will be held in an Assembly in the last week of term. One student will be chosen to represent the school at the Regional Finals in Colchester in April.

Well done and good luck!

Tea with the Principal

On Friday 2nd February, the following Year 7 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..

Grace (7M1)	Zach (7M1)
Reece (7D1)	Poppy (7D1)
Katie (7A1)	Jack (7A1)
April (7A2)	Riley (7A2)
Thomas (7Z2)	Evie (7Z2)
Dean (7M2)	Lewie (7M2)
Lara (7Z1)	Megan (7Z1)
Mia (7D2)	Liam (7D2)



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

- ♪ Sam and Amelia (SF5) for excellent characterisation in their drama work in lesson
- ♪ Ailsa (10M1) for a fantastic performance to backing tracks for Trinity in her music lesson.
- ♪ Tom (10D1) for a brilliant vocal performance for Trinity in his music lesson.

Well done to all!





Fab Culinary Skills - Mrs Hyde

A fab week and some excellent skills this week from all students in food!

To name a few:

Year 10- sectioning chickens and learning about costing



Year 9- learning to prepare fish and making Jamie Oliver's fish baps and home made mushy peas - swiftly devoured with gusto!



Year 8 have been making fruity curry using chickpeas as alternative protein!



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

A huge congratulations to; Jack (10D1), Jessica (10D2), Charlotte (10D2), Amelia (10M1), Oliver (10Z1) and Laura (11A1), for completing the Bronze DofE Award.



And another huge congratulations to Finley (11A2), Esme (11A2), Eva (11Z2), Theo (11D2) and George (11A1) for completing the Silver DofE Award.



These are great personal achievements, with lots of memories attached.

Well done to all.

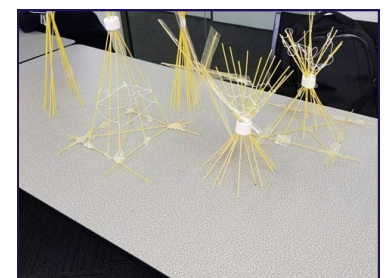
Holiday Revision Programme

The Year 11 and Year 13 Holiday Revision Programme for the Half-Term Break (19th-23rd) will be published next week.

Elite Leadership Day - Year 9 31st January - Mrs Compton

A group of 25 Year 9 students took part in an Elite Leadership Day this week on Wednesday.

This allowed students to develop their teamwork, communication and leadership skills, whilst taking part in a number of tasks in groups. Everyone's favourite was the pasta and marshmallow tower building competition



The theme of the day this year was Managing Money so students learn about the cost of living, mortgages and budgeting skills.

Thank you to John and Louise who delivered this session, the feedback was really positive and students enjoyed the day.



Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

Another week has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and earlier this week the year group were joined by a workshop called SMASHED which was informative, educational and entertaining. In addition, the theme for this week's assembly was celebrating diversity, focussing on the LGBTQ+ community.

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, Jake 7M1, Elacy-Raye 7A1, Ivy 7M1, Henry 7A2, Jack 7A1, Grace 7A1, Ryan 7A2, Jamie 7M2, Josh 7D2, Ingrid 7D2, Grace 7A1, Bobby 7A2 and Oliver 7A1.

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

Contact: pshanahan@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Netball

Year 7 Netballers had a tournament at William de Ferrers on Wednesday. This was a great opportunity to allow some of the girls who regularly come to practice and others who are wanting to get more involved, a chance to play at a fun tournament.



They won 2 matches, lost 2, and drew one. Overall, they had a great evening, and despite the cold weather setting in, they were optimistic throughout. A shout out goes to Abby 7D2, for her enthusiasm after each match, leading the three cheers chant.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in allowing our girls the opportunity to represent ORA well. A reminder Netball Club is Thursday after school.

District Football

After a successful trial in September, Bobby from Year 7 has played his first game for the Mid Essex football team in a 3-0 win. Bobby had a strong game and assisted 2 of the Mid Essex goals.

We wish Bobby luck with his football, and we hope he continues to get many more opportunities at this level and beyond.





Year 8 - Mr Willingham

Another busy week for students and in assembly they were told about a wonderful opportunity to attend Felsted summer school. I would really encourage students to apply, as this is something that will give them an amazing experience which they can treasure. We also had a message about the history of Pride and how it started.

I had some lovely comments about students this week not just those on the list below which is always great to hear. Our top positive point earners were:

Henson - 8A2

Ryan G - 8Z2

Henry - 8Z2

Lorna - 8Z2

Haidyn - 8M1

Lully - 8Z2

Tegan - 8Z2

Archie - 8M1

Huey - 8Z2

Thomas - 8Z2

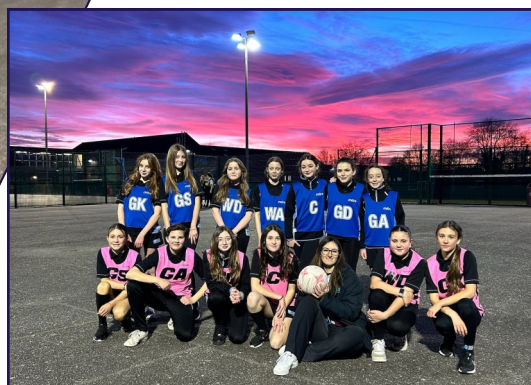
Well done to you all and keep up the good work!

Contact: pwillingham@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Netball

We were fortunate enough to have even larger numbers for our Year 8 Netball tournament yesterday, where we brought 2 teams to compete at William de Ferrers. We have had some great interest with our Year 8s in terms of sports clubs, so wanted to have the opportunity to have more students playing than usual. One of our teams managed to come 4th in the tournament and the other came 6th. Well done.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in allowing our girls the opportunity to represent ORA well. A reminder Netball Club is Thursday after school.





Year 9 Parents Evening - The Year 9 Parents' evening will be taking place on Thursday 15th February 2024 from 3.45pm – 7.30pm. The meetings will be held face to face inside the school. Please book appointments with your child's teacher's using your Schoolcloud parent account: <https://ormistonrivers.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. The system will open for bookings from Monday 5th February 2024, at 7pm and it will close on Monday 12th February 2024, at 9am.

Year 9 – Mr Marklew

This week marks another milestone in the planning for the Year 9 Options choices. We have started our next series of assemblies - where the new subjects come in and discuss their course with the year group. They explain what the course is, how it is different and how it is assessed. We will have 2 further assemblies like this before the end of the half term.

I am looking forward to welcoming our parents and carers into school before half term to talk Options choices at the Parent Evening. This will give you all a great opportunity to discuss progress and chances of success at GCSE level. Please ensure you have signed in to your Schoolcloud and selected your appointments. Our Senior Leadership team will be meeting all Year 9 students 121 before half term to ensure that their questions about Options are answered. They can offer advice and sign post students where to look for more info such as the Options Hub on the school website.

And finally, I have been getting into Year 9 lessons to check their work and their schoolbooks. The large majority have well presented, detailed work in their books - please ask to see these at home and discuss what work is being covered in lessons. This is a great conversation starter! I must remind all students that they should be ready to learn with the correct equipment: pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, purple pen. Some students did not have these for lesson which was a shame. I look forward to seeing more of their work in the next two weeks.

Contact: dmarklew@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Y9 Trip to Layer Marney - Essex Boys and Girls Respect Project - Mr Marklew

A small group of students took part in the Essex Boys and Girls Respect project on Monday. The Boys and Girls Group run activities and youth clubs across the Essex county and try to engage young people in life skills, team building and outdoor activities.

The trip consisted of team games and problem solving in the morning and bushcraft skills in the afternoon. The students demonstrated their communication skills and organisation with confidence. They were a credit to the year group and worked hard throughout.





The Essex Boys and Girls club will be selecting students from today's activities to take part in phase 2 of the project - an activity week in the summer term based in the lake district! Good luck to all of the students who took part as this is a fantastic opportunity for the winners.



Year 10 - Mr Field

Another great week for Year 10. It was great to see so many parents at Parents Evening on Tuesday and I hope there were constructive conversations between teachers, pupils and yourselves.

A number of Year 10 pupils took part in the public speaking day where they were challenged to learn how to speak in front of a crowd. It was great to see so many pupils challenging themselves at something that can be very nerve racking.

As I walked around lessons this week it was again great to see pupils working hard and focussed on their subjects. Aimie (M1) with her knowledge of how vegetation impacts weathering of a cliff face. Liam (D2) and Connie (A1) producing some great silkscreen artwork.

Top positive points earners this week were: Darcie (M1) Mason (A1) Alisha (Z2) Esme (D1) Abigail (Z2) Sydney (Z1) Harvey (A1) Mickayla (Z1) Connie (A1) Will (M1) Liam (D2) Jack (D2) and Samuel (Z2). Can these pupils please see me on Monday for their 'jump the queue pass'

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

This week's assembly was led by Mr Chapman and focussed on the Holocaust, remembering the atrocities that happened and unfortunately continue to happen around the world. Sometimes it is easy for us to believe that these things no longer happen and that we are safe from oppression and mistreatment, unfortunately this may not always be the case and it is important we are aware of this.

Disruption free learning continues to work well across the academy and although one or two students have fallen foul of the new system, in general 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. Paige, 11A2. Kayce and Olivia 11D1, Mia 11D2, Will 11M2, Luke and Evie 11Z1 and Katie and George 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

Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews have finished for ORA students and we are in the process of setting up appointments for any external applicants. We know it is difficult at this age to fully decide what your future career is so the interviews have been supportive in making sure students have a clear vision or plan for the future. Please reach out to Mrs Penberthy if there are any queries regarding your application and we will help to sort this. As always, please email Mrs Brazier if you feel you need a careers appointment. We wish all Year 11s good luck on their upcoming PPEs which will help to shape our conditional offer letters for Sixth Form.

Rugby

The Year 11 rugby team had a home game at Anglo European this week. 18 players turned out and the game could not have been closer!! Ormiston started brightly with a try from Tom who broke the line well from a few metres out. After Anglo hit back, we scored arguably our best try as the ball was passed down the line before Henry motored over. Joe converted both kicks to give us a 14-12 half time lead. The second half continued in the same way and after converted tries from Archie and Patrick, the win looked promising. However, despite being in possession in injury time, we lost the ball and a couple of conceded penalties meant that Anglo were 10m from our try line. 2 phases and they worked their way over to earn a 29-28 win.

Despite losing in the final seconds, the team played well and deserved more. Their tireless approach could not be faulted, and they represented the school impeccably.





RIVERS SIXTH FORM

IT IS OFFICIAL! UCAS is officially shut for September 2024 applications. The Sixth Form Team has had some last-minute applications from ex-pupils who have decided to apply for university, so we have been busy behind the scenes making sure even former pupils are supported in their applications. We have had a busy few weeks of interviews for Drama and Teaching degrees and are continuing to have many students making it through each round of their apprenticeship applications.

The Sixth Form Team would like to give some extra loud thanks to Mrs Cope, Mr Tompkin, Mrs Hyde, Ms Ball, and Mrs Hoare for all their support as tutors and helping with references. We also couldn't have done this without Mrs Smith and Mr Rumary who have been fantastic at helping students with Personal Statements for particular degrees. We love this time of year when we get to have students tell us all about their offers.

We are happy to announce our reinstatement of the Sixth Form Instagram Page. We have managed to hit 1000 followers this week and would like to use it as a regular way to showcase the amazing role models we have at our school in Sixth Form. Please do feel free to follow and we encourage any ORA students to stay in the news with events that we run and the work our students do. This week we have featured: Mock interviews, Sociology group revision, and our trip to the University of ESports at the Velodrome - watch this space: @riverssixthform.

Reminder

Students need to follow their offsite agreement. In terms of tutor time Year 12 must be in every Monday and Tuesday and on days when they have a first period lesson. Year 13 must be in for Monday and Friday and when they have a first period lesson. On exam days, they must be in their examination room 10 minutes before the start time.



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.



NHS Consultation - Proposed changes to services at local community hospitals

The academy will be hosting an NHS consultation meeting on 6th March 2024 regarding changes to local hospital services.

The NHS consultation regarding the proposed changes to services at local community hospitals is now active. Details are available on their MSE Virtual Views engagement platform: <https://virtualviews.midandsouthessex.ics.nhs.uk/changes-to-services>.

To give your views on the proposals set out in the consultation document please complete the survey by clicking the link below.

[Click here to complete our consultation survey](#)

Ladies Rugby - Burnham Rugby Club



Burnham Rugby Club

Ladies Squad

(the awesome Badgers, we don't give up!)

NEEDS YOU!



Train with us to have fun, improve your fitness and play games (not compulsory 😊).

Wednesdays, 5.45pm-7pm
Burnham Rugby Club
From YR 6 upwards
(no upper age limit 🤪)

Interested? Contact Specks 07784 125497



Proudly sponsored by The Victoria Inn, Burnham-on-Crouch