

### Message from the Principal

I hope that you have all had a good week.

Our OAT Education Director, Nicola Bull visited us on Tuesday to review the impact that our Disruption Free Learning policy has been having. I am really pleased to report that the feedback she was given by both students and staff was that the policy continues to have a really positive effect on teaching and learning in the classroom. Your continued support given to our students to uphold the 3 Rs of the academy's Code of Conduct: Be Ready to Learn, Be Respectful and Be Responsible is really appreciated and is really making a difference to improving student behaviour.

I would like to now turn our attention to punctuality to school and lessons. Although the vast majority of students are arriving on time there is a minority that are missing out on learning time. I would like to be able to share this information with you in Go 4 Schools in order that you can support our staff to ensure that children are on time to school and class. I am asking our data team to prepare this information ready to share on a daily, 24 hours delayed, basis. We are aiming for a launch on Monday 18th March. More information will follow next week. Please can you start laying the foundation for this work by having conversations with our children about the importance of punctuality to school, class and in preparation for life after school and work.

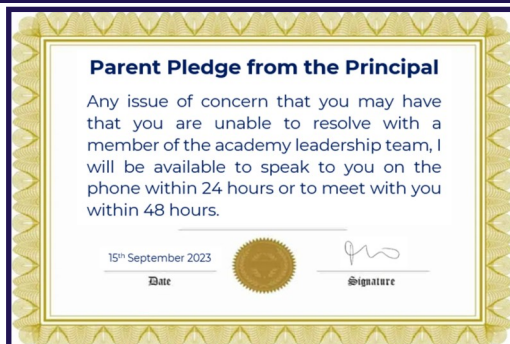
To celebrate National Careers Week our careers lead, Ms Compton, organised our annual Careers' Fair on Thursday. I would like to thank all the external providers and local businesses who gave up their time to support this event and provide invaluable information and advice to our students.

On Wednesday a group of Year 9 students were invited to attend a cookery school day at Braxted Park Estate as part of their Cook up Your Maths, Amplify your Talent Programme.

We also had our Year 8 Parents' Evening and, as always, it was great to see so many parents and carers in attendance to support our students' educational progress.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to seeing our students back at the academy on Monday.

**Jo Williams, Principal**



### Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 20th March 2024**  
Year 11 Parents Information Evening

**Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024**  
Easter Holiday  
Academy closes at 1.50 pm on Thursday 28th March  
Students return on Monday 15th April

**Tuesday 23rd April 2024**  
Year 7 Parents Evening

**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**

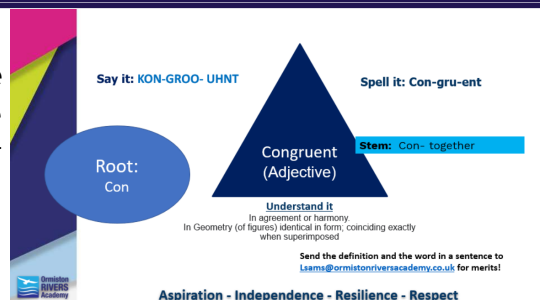
**Be Responsible**

**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 **“congruent”**.

Why not have a go?



Say it: KON-GROO-UHNT      Spell it: Con-gru-ent

Root: Con

Congruent (Adjective)

Stem: Con- together

Understand it  
In agreement or harmony  
In Geometry (of figures) identical in form; coinciding exactly when superimposed

Send the definition and the word in a sentence to [Leams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:Leams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) for merits!

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

### English Star of the Week

The English star of the week for resilience in English lessons is:

Pyper (11A2)

Well done!



### English Badges



This week Katelynn (7D2) received an English Writing Badge.

Well done and keep up the good work!

### Rotary Club Young Writers Competition



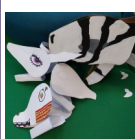
Last week, the entries for the Rotary Club Young Writers were selected. This year, the entries from Rivers were selected by 'Pauline's Book Club' from Burnham on Crouch. The book club were incredibly impressed with the quality of the entries they received and felt that many students had really shown creativity in their stories and poems.

Special commendations went to the following students: Jake 7M1, Haidyn 8M1 and Daisy 7Z1.

The students that are going through to the next stages of the competition and are winners of the first round of the competition are: Finn 10Z2, Jessica 10D2 and Lexi-Jaye 7Z1.

Congratulations!

### Year 7 & 8 BookTalk and Craft Club



This week, Evelyn 8A2 showed us how to make amazing dragon hand-puppets from paper and card. Everyone enjoyed seeing the amazing dragon Evelyn had made at home and then created their own on a theme of their choice, such as characters from favourite books. Well done to Evelyn 8A2, Poppy 7D1, Pippa 8Z2, Emme 8D2 and Lexi 7Z1.

Students shared news about the books they are currently reading and had an opportunity to browse the shelves, choose new books, and be the first to read the latest additions to the Library collection.

### World Book Day

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
7 MARCH 2024

This week we celebrated World Book Day! On Thursday we had a range of activities in the Library and in the English Department as well as the 'Dress your Door' form group competition.

In the library, students signed up for activities at lunchtime, including the Ormiston Academies Trust Book Scavenger Hunt led by Mrs Sams and the Creative Bookmark workshop with Mrs Yerbury. Around 40 students took part on the day.



Students had fun making Origami folded corner bookmarks as shown in this photo. They used card, felt pens, acrylic gemstones and felt shapes to decorate their bookmarks with patterns or favourite book characters.

The Scavenger Hunt challenge involved searching the bookshelves for 7 topics, including autobiographies, award winning titles, themes of refuge and belonging, books written before 1980, and poetry. The winners of the Library Scavenger Hunt were Alice 7Z1, Zach 7M1 and Lara 7Z1. These students completed the hunt the quickest and therefore received a book prize!

Judging is still taking place for the other competitions and we still have book tokens for £1 books left over if students would still like them, please collect from the Library.

Thank you to everyone who took part and we look forward to the next Library challenge!

### Performing Arts Stars of the Week

**STARS OF THE WEEK**



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

A big shout out to Year 8 this week in music and drama for excellent attitudes to learning and enthusiasm for the subject.

Penny 8A2, Jenson 8A2, Jack 8A2, Tommy 8D2, Louisa 8A2, Pippa 8Z2 and Harry 8M1.

Well done and keep up the good work.

### Tea with the Principal

On Friday 8th March, 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.

Lucy (11D2)

Freya (11D2)

Shay (11Z1)

John (11Z1)

Tegan (11A1)

Aiden (11A1)

Erin (11Z2)

Freya (11Z2)

Nathan (11M2)

Chloe (11M2)

Finley (11A2)

April (11A2)

Bonnita (11M1)

Harry (11M1)

Dan (11D1)

Connor (11D1)



### Year 9 Anglia Ruskin University Programme - Braxted Cookery School

As part of the Cook up your Maths programme, students spent a morning at Braxted Cookery school making recipes that they had written and budgeted for in their in-school sessions. The food they made was amazing and they got to do a taste test of the 6 other groups in the programme. Some students are now considering becoming Food Critiques as a career!

A great time was had by all and the food was delicious, well done to all students who attended.



### Red Nose Day - 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

A selection of red noses are available to purchase from the Academy Shop for £1. Cash only please. The shop is located near the main hall and is open before school 8.30 to 8.50am and at breaktime 11.20 to 11.50am.



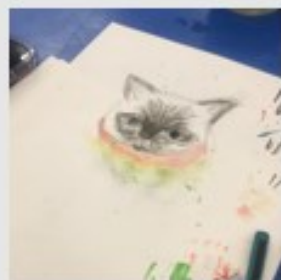


# Art News

### Art Club News

Art Club now runs on a Wednesday in DO2 from 3.20pm to 4.20pm.  
This week in Art Club our budding artists using watercolour to create these dripping paintings bursting with colour and creativity. Well done!!

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



Artist of the Week  
**Katie E**

Special mention to Jack M Yr10 for these excellent prints



Have you seen the work of Peter Clark?

Peter uses a comprehensive collection of found papers as his palette which are coloured, patterned or textured by their printed, written or worn surfaces, with this media he 'paints' his collages. He shades with density of print and creates substance and movement with lines plucked from old maps or manuscripts.



This month's challenge is inspired by the RSPB'S Big School's Birdwatch. Using Peter Clark as your inspiration and create a collage of your British bird using newspaper, magazines, wrapping paper and packaging. Collage the colours to create your image of the bird.

Submit your response to Miss Nice for merits!!



### February Art Challenge

Why not complete the February Art Challenge to achieve merits and rewards? Submit to Ms Nice

### **Ski Trip to Zell am See, Austria**

Over the half term break, 46 students from Year 11 and Year 13, along with 7 members of staff embarked on our first ski trip for many years to Zell am See in Austria.

After departing on Friday afternoon, we were treated to a quiet ferry crossing and empty roads for most of our journey.

Despite losing a couple of hours around Munich, we made it to our hotel on Saturday afternoon before unpacking and heading straight to ski hire to collect our boots, skis, helmets and poles. For the next four and a half days, our students skied on the Kitzsteinhorn in Kaprun. The glacier (over 3000m above sea level) meant we had lots of snow and, with the neighbouring resorts struggling for snow on the lower slopes, we were in the best place for our lessons.

The students were treated to all conditions: blue skies, cloud and even fresh snow. Without many knowing it, they navigated so many obstacles and necessary changes in technique and confidence in order to tackle the changing climate.

Our days were long, but with a hot lunch in a mountain restaurant and a chocolate bar in their pocket, all students dealt with the physical demands well. We also enjoyed some après ski activities such as a pizza night, a trip to Zell am Centre and our favourite - the Alpine Coaster in Kaprun!

Our journey back over Thursday night and Friday morning was a huge success. Thanks to clear roads and a coach of sleeping students, the drivers made an earlier crossing which meant we were back in Burnham for Friday lunch time. I understand many of the students had the best nights sleep that night and I thank them for their efforts over the week. My overriding hope is that they appreciated the opportunity afforded to them by generous parents and that one day, they might head out to the mountains again with a group of friends to continue their joy of skiing.

Our next trip will be in February of 2025 when we are heading to the Milky Way area of Sestriere-Sauze D'Oulx in Italy.

Finally, thank you to the parents for providing this opportunity, our wonderful staff for their tireless efforts over the week, and of course, our students. Our rep said we were the best group she had ever had!

Mr Clay  
Party Leader





"The ski trip was the best trip I have taken part in. The pupils were outstanding, showing great maturity and respect. My Favourite memory was the massive snowball fight we had on the mountain"

Mr Moon



"The students were amazing, the skiing was out of this world and the staff who accompanied me were next to none! Thank you to all the students who made the trip a memorable one"

Miss Blogg

### Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

Another week has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and this week the year group had an assembly delivered by Mr Priddle about being a good role model as well as some information on careers which was passed on from Miss Compton.

I am delighted to announce that the following students had the most positive behaviour logs in the year group this week; Ingrid B 7D2, Eleanor 7Z2, Izabelle 7A1, Henry 7A2, Thomas 7Z2, Katelynn 7D2, Jamie 7M2, Seeley 7Z2, Ellie 7Z2, Sophia 7D2, Brianna 7D2, Annie 7Z2, Christopher 7M1, Ryan 7A2 and Riley 7M2.

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

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

### Year 8 - Mr Willingham

This week we had parents evening and there was a real positive buzz. It was nice to hear how well so many of the students are doing and how happy they are.

We had an assembly about students being role models and the importance of stepping away from situations and supporting friends, rather than encouraging them to do the wrong thing. We also had a talk about careers and the importance of aspiration. Students were reminded where the careers office is and when they can visit for advice.

We had another week with lots of positive points being awarded and our top 10 merit earners were:

Jack - 8A2	Oscar - 8A1	Lorna - 8Z2	Tegan - 8Z2	Aiden - 8Z2
Adele - 8D2	Danica - 8M1	Lully - 8Z2	Henry - 8Z2	Taylon - 8A1

A big well done to you all and please make sure you come to see me to collect a queue jump pass as a reward.

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

### Year 9 - Mr Marklew

I wanted to start by thanking the Year 9's and their parents/carers for getting their Options forms handed in by Monday - we have had 100% of forms handed in now without me needing to chase up late entries! Well done!

In terms of the next steps of the options process, we will start to plan our Year 10 curriculum shortly and then look at settings for subjects and classes next year. In about 4 week's time, I will speak to any individuals whose preferred options choices cannot be met, resulting in their reserve options being used instead.



We have had a busy week with activities during form time, as there has been World Book Day on Thursday, and Careers week. We discussed the importance of reading and having role models at home that read and have been celebrating world book day by designing our form tutor room doors with our most popular books.

With the focus on Careers week, Ms Compton hosted a Careers Fair on Thursday night. It was great to see so many Years 9's in attendance and checking out their future jobs in what is an amazing event. This is a yearly fair so they will have the chance to attend again! Ms Compton has also signed our students up to a website called Unifrog, which is a great tool for looking at potential jobs - there are some tasks ready for them to complete once they log on.

And finally we are asking the Year 9 teachers to nominate students for our AIRR Honours reward assembly at the end of the term. Awards will be given to students who show Aspiration, Independence, Resilience and Respect across each subject - good luck everyone!



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

### **Year 9 – Mr Field**

As a part World Book Day students decorated their tutor room door themed around their favourite books. It was great to see the classroom doors decorated brightly and to see how they portrayed what they like to read. Ms Smith's door looked fantastic with decorations from the Roald Dahl's classic, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Well done to Grace, Annie, Ella, Leila, Charlotte and Molly who all helped with the decorating.

During Learning Walks this week, it was good see the students in Mr Moon's class justifying the differences between Cardiovascular and Muscular endurance. I also got to see Skie with her knowledge of mitosis in Biology, as well as Mr Frost's class developing their knowledge of electrolysis and how engaged they were with the experiments they were conducting. It was great to hear from Liam, Liam and Jack when they explained to me what was occurring and why.

Another reminder that pupils have 3 weeks left to organise their work experience placements and to submit their completed forms to Mrs Compton. If there are any issues, please see Ms Compton as soon as possible.

Top positive point earners this week have been: Imogen (D1), Oliver (Z1), Isabelle (M2), Emily (A1), George (A1), Liam (M2), Katie (A1), Amelia (A1), Mia (Z1), Charlotte (D2) and Ronnie (Z2). Please see me on Monday for your Jump the Queue Pass.

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

### Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

A return to normal lessons this week for year 11 after the completion of their mock exams.

Assembly this week was led by Mr Priddle and focussed on the next steps moving forward towards the final exams. We also focussed on maintaining our values and standards over the next few weeks. This is especially true with how we treat each other and making sure we are all being as supportive of each other as possible.

We also need to highlight the need to maintain standards over the next few weeks. Year 11 are role models for the whole school, and as such, it is important that standards of behaviour and uniform are kept as high as they have been all year. This is especially true of uniform, and in particular, footwear. Footwear, as highlighted in previous messages from the Principal, should be black leather look shoes with no colouring. Fabric shoes are also not permitted and even though there is only a short period of time left at school, it is vital we maintain our standards.

Congratulations to Lucy and Freya 11D2, Shay and John 11Z1, Tegan and Aiden 11A1, Erin and Freya 11Z2, Nathan and Chloe 11M2, Finley and April 11A2 and Bonnita and Harry 11M1 who have been nominated by their tutors for tea with the principal this week.

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](mailto:rswinnerton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

# RIVERS SIXTH FORM



**Year 12 - Mrs Wilkins / Year 13 - Miss Sametz**

We want to congratulate the whole of year 12 who attended the University and Apprenticeship Fair in London on Friday 1st March. Their behaviour was exemplary and we returned with many books, bags and stationary to fill the Sixth Form area.

The university and apprenticeship fairs are the perfect way for students to choose which course or pathway is right for them. The event was exciting and informative and provided students with the opportunity to speak to a wide variety of universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers - as well as attend vital seminars, in order to make informed choices about their future.

Please see photos taken from the event at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London.



Thank you to the outstanding students who helped support the Sixth Form at the annual Careers event on Thursday 7th March. Our Sixth Form students spoke confidently to younger students and parents about what the Sixth Form has to offer. It was a fantastic event arranged by our very own Sixth Form tutor Mrs Compton.

Congratulations to Alex, Anna, Harry and Jacob who applied to be on the OAT Oxbridge Scholars Programme. All 4 students wrote impressive applications and were all successful in being chosen. We look forward to hearing about their experiences.

Reminder: Can all Year 12 students please check their emails to complete the options form for the Sixth Form Summer rewards trip. We want to celebrate the outstanding attendance this year.

Thank you to Olivia and Meredith on creating our fantastic World Book day themed door.

Contact: [mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) /  
[dsametz@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:dsametz@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)





# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director [amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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. Table tennis bats & balls for use on the new outdoor table tennis tables are also available to purchase at a cost of £4.00 for a bat and 20p for a ball. 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](mailto: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](http://www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk). Please contact finance on 01621 787845 if you have any queries.