

Message from the Principal

It has been another busy week at Rivers.

On Monday, our Year 11 students attended a celebration assembly where they received their mock GCSE exam results accompanied by a letter of encouragement from their parents/carers to motivate them on their journey towards sitting their GCSE exams in the summer term. On Wednesday we held our second Year 11 parents evening of the year with a focus on the skills and knowledge already secured by our students and the specific areas of support available to them to guarantee the best possible outcomes when they take their GCSE's later in the year. As always, it was fantastic to see so many of our parents and carers attending to support their child in the run up to exam season. Please do let our Year 11 teachers know if you need further information about the interventions that are available to our students during this important period of their school lives.

On Saturday, Evie, Alice and Lara from Year 7 will be representing the academy in the regional finals of the Rotary Club Youth Speaks Debate competition. We wish them the best of luck and know that they will be fantastic student ambassadors for Rivers!

Unfortunately, we are experiencing technical difficulties with the new Go4Schools attendance module. We have been in contact with them and they have assured us these will be resolved as soon as possible. We will of course inform you when the system is up and running.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to seeing our students back at the academy on Monday for our last week of term before the Easter Holidays.

Jo Williams, Principal

Dates for your Diary

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

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

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

Year 11 Parents Evening - Mr Priddle

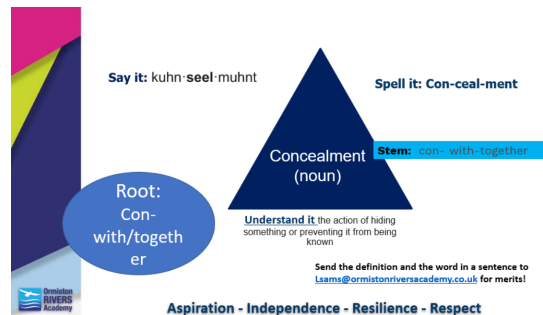
Thank you to all those that attended the Y11 parents evening Wednesday. It was lovely to see so many of you. Please see the attached link for English, Maths and Science presentations.

<https://ormistonriversacademy.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2024/03/Academic-Parents-Meet-Pt11.pdf>

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 **"Concealment"**.

Why not have a go?



Writing Champions

This week Lila 7A1, Riley 7A2 and Mia 10Z1 are our writing champions for having their poetry published in the Young Writers Anthology



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 Riley (SF2), Keeaun (SF1), Millie (SF1), Harriet (SF1), Isabel (SF2), Lois (SF4), Harry (8M1), Sophie (8M1), Jess (8A2), Ethan (8A2), Alexia (8A1), Erin (8D2) and Adele (8D2) for their fantastic performances at the Town Council Civic Reception last Friday, and for Henry (SF1) supporting with the sound.

Another shout out goes to Jordan (7M1) for his fantastic Greek Theatre assessment in drama this week.

Well done to all!



Tea with the Principal

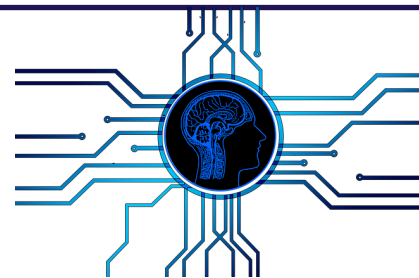
On Friday 22nd March, the following Year 8 students, who had been nominated by their Head of Year and Tutors, were invited to tea with the Principal to celebrate their outstanding demonstration of the academy's AIRR values..

Immie (8A1)	Charlie (8A1)	Alfie (8Z1)	Evie (8Z1)
Harry (8M1)	Sophie (8M1)	Tommy (8Z2)	Ryan G (8Z2)
Louisa (8A2)	Jess (8A2)	Ruby (8D1)	Skye (8D1)



Computer Science - Mr Lawman

This week in Computer Science we saw the Year 7's getting to grips with spreadsheets, using built in functions. Congratulations to Harry and Zach who were awarded Computer Science badges. A few more badges will be awarded to deserving students after Easter. Year 8's were learning about embedded systems which are now everywhere in the home and part of the Internet of Things (IoT). Year 9 have been learning about Boolean Logic and applying that knowledge to computerised systems. Year 10 have been practicing their programming skills and Max managed to create a program that converts hexadecimal numbers into decimal numbers.



Food Top Chefs! - Mrs Hyde

We have had some wonderful practical results this week in particular from Year 10 who made fruit tarts from scratch over two lessons. The presentation and time management was amazing and showed how much they have progressed this year. A special mention to Katie in Y10 for her Fruit tart.



Year 9 focused on pasta making skills and practiced shaping and cooking their pasta. Another special mention to Jaya in Y9 who not only produced a fantastic home-made pasta, but also a home made (nut free) pesto sauce from scratch!



Netball

Years 8 & 9 - Miss Blogg & Miss Sametz

On Monday night the girl's netball teams travelled to Hylands School for a double fixture. The Year 8 team played the whole game a man down with 6 players and still showed their skills. The Year 9 team played well, with people stepping up at the last minute to play. Despite the loss, both teams played well.



Year 8 Player of the match - Scarlet W (8A2) Year 9 Player of the match - Madi P (9M1)

Years 7 & 8 - Miss Blogg & Mr Moon

On Wednesday night we hosted Brentwood County High School for a double fixture of our Year 7 and 8 Netball teams. The Year 7 team saw girls new to the team play their first fixture, Lola M, Layla C and Bella D. The girls fitted in straight away and helped us to score our points. The Year 8 team played a great game, winning 10-6. The girls showed great teamwork and played well together.



Year 7 play of the match - Em J-G (7M2) Year 8 player of the match - Megan K (8D2)

Thank you to all the girls who show up weekly to represent our school!



Art News

This week's masterpieces



Your challenge is to design and make a 3D a room for an artist of your choice. Research their work and consider what they room might look like, what colours might be in it, what would surround them and why it would look a certain way. Using a cupboard box create your own mini version of your artists room using whatever materials you like. Be creative as possible!! You can get a box from Ms Nice in DO2.

Design a 3D room for an Artist.

Artists you could explore....



- Andy Warhol
- Henri Matisse
- Georgia O'Keeffe
- Yayoi Kusama
- Vincent Van Gogh
- Henri Rousseau
- Roy Lichtenstein
- Pablo Picasso
- David Hockney
- Banksy

Or any artist of your choice.....

Submit your creation to Ms Nice for merits

March Art Challenge

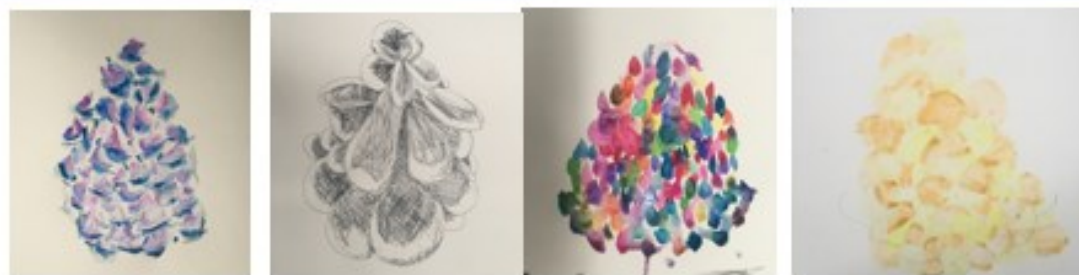


Art News



Art Club News

The students in Art club have been developing their creativity and drawing skills. They extended their portrait drawing skills by creating self-portraits in the style of Anime. Students drew also from observation pinecones but had to communicate different emotions in the way they were drawn. Can you guess the emotion communicated. Art club runs every Wednesday in DO2 from 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Come and Join us.



Road Safety

To ensure our students' safety on their way to and from school, please can we ask you to remind your children that they should not be crossing the road directly outside the academy main entrance but should use the zebra crossing. Please can you also remind your children about the Green Cross Code to use when crossing roads:

THINK! First find the safest place to cross

STOP! Stand on the pavement near the kerb

USE YOUR EYES AND EARS! Look all around for traffic and listen

WAIT UNTIL IT IS SAFE TO CROSS! If traffic is coming, let it pass

LOOK AND LISTEN! When it is safe, go straight across the road – do not run or walk diagonally

ARRIVE ALIVE! Keep looking and listening while you cross

Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

Another week has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and this week I was delighted to host our Honours Assembly to positively reward some of our students who were nominated by staff for demonstrating our AIRR values and for their outstanding contribution this term in school.

Well done to the following students;

7A1 - Michael H, Ava J, Joshua R, Bella D

7A2 - Henry J, Riley N, Poppy C, Ava B

7D1 - Lacey H, Jude L, Alex S, Gracie O'R

7D2 - Katelynn C, Megan R, Sam A, James B

7M1 - Tuleeah P, Tyler M, Teddy C, Beau Y

7M2 - Em J-G, Jack M, Riley N, Harriet O

7Z1 - Alice M, Lara M, Michael F, Charlie W

7Z2 - Bobby P, Evie L, Emilie-Rose C, Annie B

Enrichment Award - Thomas O'B - 7Z2

Reading Award - April F - 7A2

Attainment Award - Emily L - 7M2

Attitude to Learning and Principal Award - Ingrid B - 7D2



D7 Bus - Following reports of some poor behaviour by some of our Year 7 students, I have been on the bus before it leaves school this week reminding students of our expectations. The last thing we want is the bus company banning students from using this service and I will continue to work with the drivers to promote positive behaviours on this bus. Please do speak to your son/daughter and reemphasise those positive standards of behaviour please.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing the students next week. Just a reminder that the last day of term will be Thursday 28th March with students finishing at 1:50pm.

Contact: pschanahan@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 8 - Mr Willingham

Next week will be my final week at Ormiston Rivers Academy as I take up a role in a new school. It has been wonderful to see your children grow since joining the school. Ms Thurtle will be stepping up as Acting Head of Year 8.

This week we had an assembly about young carers and the support available for them. Students were also told that if they are a young carer, think they are a young carer, or even know someone they think is a young carer, they should speak to Miss Corbett.

Last week I received news of some very talented students in the year group, but unfortunately not time for last week's newsletter. Erin (8D2), Adele (8D2) and Alexia (8A1) recently competed in the 'Be You' online dance competition in street dance and contemporary styles. Erin and Adele achieved first place with their street dance duo routine, then Alexia joined them and they achieved first place with their street trio, second place with their contemporary trio, and second place with their street group routine where they were joined by a few other students whom do not attend Rivers. This was all in the 12-15yrs age category and is a national competition.

They also took part in the recent talent competition held at On the Latch in Latchingdon and reached the semi finals. Well done girls!!

Talking of students doing well, this weeks top merit earners are:

Oscar 8A1 Lully 8Z2 Taylon 8A1 Pippa 8Z2 Tegan 8Z2
Daisy 8Z2 Cheri 8Z2 Louis 8Z2 Lorna 8Z2 Ben 8Z2
Ryan G 8Z2 Jenson 8A2 Ryan D 8Z2 Haidyn 8M1 Eilena 8Z1



Don't forget to come and see me on Monday for your 'Jump the Queue Pass'.

Finally I would like to say how proud I am of the year group and know they will prosper. My best wishes for future.

Contact: pwillingham@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 9 – Mr Marklew

Well this has been a super quick and super busy half term - sports events, music concerts, prep for the end of term assemblies and also the school play rehearsals!

And next week continues to be jammed packed with the Honours assemblies and reward breakfasts. Our form tutors have chosen winners for our AIRR awards carefully, from a long list of nominations. And I have selected students who have shown an improvement in their merit scores this half term so congratulations in advance to them!

I will be introducing the new Head of Year 9 to the year group after Easter - they will introduce themselves to you all in the newsletter too. And I will be sharing my thoughts and ideas with them to help them settle into the role. A huge thank you to you all for your support and to the form tutors who have been exceptional in their support.

And after half term I will be sending out letters regarding the end of year trip to Thorpe Park. Details will follow, and this is open to every student who has shown the AIRR values and a fantastic attitude to learning throughout the year!

Contact: dmarklew@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 10 – Mr Field

As we approach our final week of this term, it still pleases me to see so many students working hard and continuing to develop their learning in their GCSE subjects.

During my learning walks this week I witnessed students completing assessments in English and Science, with everyone working hard. During Mr Williams Science lesson it was great to see students completing tasks on the human body, especially Zach and Toby using their knowledge of Health and Fitness lessons to answer questions on the topic where the curriculum has crossed over.

A final reminder that work experience forms need to be handed into Mrs Compton by Thursday 28th March.

Top positive point earners this week are: Katie (A1), Imogen (D1), Amy (Z1), Mia (Z1), Mikie (M2), Alisha (Z2), Connie (A1), Sam (M1), Ella (Z1), Emily (A1), Charlotte (M2), Oscar (Z1) and Tommy (M2). Please see me in my office on Monday to collect your Jump the Queue pass as a reward.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

An exciting week which began with the year group receiving their mock GCSE results first thing on Monday morning. Obviously this led to pleasure for many but consternation for a few who did not achieve all that they wished to.

It is still not too late to improve those final grades and over the remaining few weeks we will continue to support and encourage all our students to do their best and work hard towards the final exams. The sacrifices made now will be beneficial in the future.

It was lovely to see so many parents on Wednesday night coming to speak to staff to try and find out how they can support their children moving forward over the next few weeks. I really felt that it was a positive experience for all those who attended.

Students highlighted this week by staff for amazing work and effort include, Oliver 11A1, Daisy and Joseph 11D1, Bonnita 11M1, Annie and Mia 11Z1 and Katie 11Z2.

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

RIVERS SIXTH FORM



Year 12 - Mrs Wilkins / Year 13 - Miss Sametz

Thank you to the students who helped out, at the Year 11 parents evening last night. We pride ourselves on having a strong supportive Sixth Form to support a range of events across the school.

All students who have applied to Rivers Sixth Form for September 2024, will have received their letter regarding their placement. Further details to follow, regarding our taster day.



Congratulations to all students who received their Btec and Ctec results on Thursday.

For any regular updates, please follow our Sixth Form Instagram account @riverssixthform.

We would like to take this opportunity, to recognise the students that regularly attend interventions and after school revision sessions, in preparations for their final exams. Year 13, you are nearly there!!! Keep up the good work.

Contact: mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk / 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 with any comments / suggestions.

Nut Allergies

Any form of nut or products that contain nuts should not be brought into school. We do have students with severe nut allergies, which can be life threatening, and we would appreciate your support in keeping them safe.

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.

Absence Reporting

Students should attend school unless they are very unwell. On every day of absence please contact the school with the reason why your son/daughter is not attending. Please contact us as early as possible and at the latest by 8am on the first day of absence. This can be via the following methods: MyEd Messaging App, ConnectED absence line on: 0845 355 8104, Attendance line on: 01621 787855

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:

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

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.



Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

Weekly
Newsletter

Issue # 24 - 22nd March 2024



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

**National
Theatre**

AGE IS REVOLTING

By **Abi Zakarian**



**CONNECTIONS
2024**

**Tuesday 26th March
@ 7pm
Tickets £3**

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect



**Norfolk Essex Suffolk
Teacher Training**
nurture • empower • teach

The best thing about teaching computing?

- Helping young people develop their understanding of more than just key concepts.
- Inspiring others with the constant change and discovery of new technology.
- Overcoming student challenges and seeing the realisation on their faces as it finally clicks, and all makes sense.

We are open for applications but there are only a few spaces left! Apply to Nestt in Essex now at:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training>, subject code F385, or sign up for our online information event on March 28th or April 18th 2024 here: <https://nestt.org.uk/>