

Message from the Principal

It was lovely to welcome our students back this week after the Easter break.

Yesterday we had a visit from our OAT Regional Education Director, Nicola Bull. Following her visits to classrooms throughout the day and speaking with both staff and children, Nicola was really impressed with the positive impact that our Distraction Free Learning has had and with the feedback she received from many of our students about improvements in the academy.

As you are aware, this term we are focusing on improving both attendance and punctuality to school and lessons. The student punctuality module on Go4Schools is now up and running and your child's timetable will now display lesson by lesson attendance including late, absent and illness marks displayed daily on a 24 hour delayed basis as well as showing individual subject attendance, a weekly breakdown and average daily trends for your child's attendance. We really hope that this information will help you to support and encourage our students to arrive at school and to their lessons on time.

On Thursday, Joseph in Year 10 competed in the Regional Finals for the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge, a nationally recognised competition which promotes oracy and public speaking in schools. I have been told that Joseph gave a really confident delivery and strong message about being a good friend and valuing yourself and that he really did Ormiston Rivers proud.

On Saturday a group of Rivers students will be participating in this year's National Theatre Connections project at the Queens Theatre in Hornchurch performing the play 'Age is Revolting'. This will provide students with invaluable first-hand experience of performing in a working theatre and working alongside industry professionals. We wish them all the best of luck with their performance. Break a leg!

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

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Year 7 Parents Evening

Friday 3rd May 2024

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Monday 6th May 2024

Bank Holiday

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May

Summer half term holiday

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

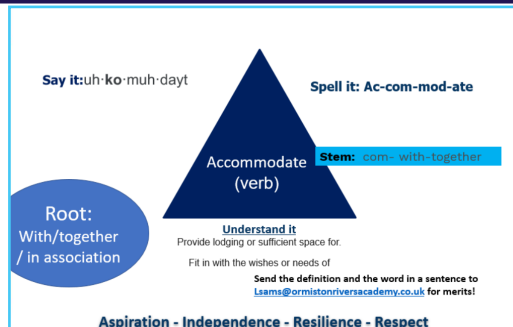


Signature

WORD OF THE WEEK

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 **"Accommodate"**.

Why not have a go?



Say it: u:h-ko-muh-dayt

Spell it: Ac-com-mod-ate

Accommodate (verb)

Stem: com- with-together

Root: With/together / in association

Understand it: Provide lodging or sufficient space for. Fit in with the wishes or needs of

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

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!



On Thursday evening Joseph (10M2) took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Regional Finals at the Gilbert School in Colchester. Joseph's speech on 'It can be toxic' was all about toxic friendships and gave advice to younger people on how to value themselves within friendships. It was a fantastic evening and Joseph's confident delivery, and message was brilliantly received.

Well done Joseph!



Rotary YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION

Before half term our school finalists for the Rotary Club Young Writer Competition were submitted for the District judging. We are pleased to announce that Alisha Clark won the District round for the Senior competition and will now go through to the Regional stage. Lexi-Jay Defriend was highly commended for her age group too.

Well done to all of the finalists and those that have taken part!

DEBATE

On Saturday 23rd March, the ORA Intermediate Debate Team competed at the Regional Final Debate Competition. The team were presented with their District Finalist Trophy and their £25 gift vouchers from the Rotary Club for getting through to the Regional round. The students spoke confidently on the topic of homework and despite not winning this year, they were commended on their speaking ability and really impressed the audience.

Well done to Alice, Evie and Lara!



Computer Science

This week has seen Year 7 looking at vector graphics and appreciating the advantages of using them instead of bitmap images for logo design, amongst other things. Year 8 have been learning about binary code and have attempted the Cisco binary game which is a fun way of brushing up on their conversion skills. Year 9 have been re-visiting programming using the Python programming language. Their focus this week was on the use of variables and using the correct data types.

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 Ms Goodfellow's and Ms Wilkin's Year 11 Drama class, who were fantastic in their Drama Performance exam with the external examiner. All students were a credit to the school and I know will gain some brilliant results!

Well done to all!



Tea with the Principal

On Friday 19th April, the following Year 9 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..

Sam S (9D1)	Alana L(9M2)
Tom N (9D1)	Avril H (9Z2)
Steven P (9Z1)	Maisie B (9Z2)
Hazel W (9Z1)	Keira E (9A1)
Meade M (9A2)	Halle D (9A1)
Joe J (9M2)	



YOUNG LIVES vs CANCER CLIC SARGENT BAKE SALE

Thank you to everyone who donated time and cakes on 27th March to enable this bake sale for Young Lives V's Cancer to go ahead. It was an amazing success and we raised a whopping



£200.89!
*Thank
You*



Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

The first week back after the Easter Break has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and the assembly this week was about young carers. Thank you Miss Compton for a very informative assembly.

Students were reminded in assembly about being ready to learn and making sure they were wearing the correct uniform. Can parents/carers please ensure that their son/daughter has the necessary equipment for all lessons please. The school shop is available should students require equipment. Tutors should be making calls home with regards to uniform, so if your son/daughter is wearing incorrect uniform, please put a note in their planner so that the school is aware.

I am delighted to announce that the following students had the most positive merits this week;

Lara M 7Z1, Thomas F 7Z1, Ryan S 7A2, Isabelle R 7A2, Katelynn C 7D2, Sophia S 7D2, George R 7D2, Izabelle Q 7A1, Brianna B 7D2, April F 7A2, Ingrid B 7D2, Kayden B 7M1, Riley N 7A2, Seeley E-R 7Z2 and Charlie W 7Z1

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing the students next week. I am also looking forward to meeting lots of you at parents evening next week.

Contact: pshanahan@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 8 - Miss Thurtle

As the Head of Year 8, It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to parents/carers and students. I look forward to working closely with Year 8 at a pastoral capacity. This week I have been round to visit each form group to introduce myself and was delighted to see so many happy faces in assembly yesterday.

Congratulations to the students below who received the most merits this week. I have introduced a new incentive in hopes to raise aspirations. Each week, the students who receive the highest number of merits will be rewarded in assembly and acknowledged for their efforts. At the end of this term, the student with the most merits will receive a £15 Amazon voucher.

Lully C 8Z2

Samuel S 8Z1

Ben C 8Z2

The Year 8 reward trip to 'Stubbers Adventure Centre' is now on ParentPay. It is a great opportunity for Year 8 to spend time as a year group to develop their teamwork skills. This trip will run on Monday 22nd July.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education. Here's too a fantastic term ahead!

Contact: cthurtle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 Rugby Festival

A couple of weeks ago, our Year 8's took part in a district rugby competition against schools across the Mid Essex area.

The day consisted of multiple, competitive games played in the right spirit. All of our games were so close, and in all circumstances, it was a single try that decided the result.

Next year, the team will be playing on a full pitch for the first time which will be extremely exciting.

To the players - Thank you so much for all your efforts in training and festivals this year, you've been a pleasure to work with!



Year 9 – Ms Taylor

Thank you to the Year 9 students who have made me feel very welcome during my first week at Ormiston Rivers Academy, especially those who have come over and introduced themselves.

It was lovely to see some Year 9 students being invited to have tea with the Principal today for all their hard work and commitment to the AIRR values.

In assembly this week I spoke to the students about how I am now considering them as Key Stage 4 and expecting them to act as such, as we are on the last stretch of this year and the Year 11 students will be leaving very soon. I was very encouraged that the majority of students have followed through and taken this on board and done just that.

Thank you to the parents that I have spoken to this week for their unwavering support. It has left me feeling encouraged for the time ahead.

Congratulations to the students who received a high amount of achievement points this week. Please keep up the good work.

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 10 – Mr Field

In the week leading up to the Easter Holiday it was wonderful to witness lots of great learning.

- ◇ In Religious Studies I was able to see Sofia marking her mini tests with plenty of ticks. Well done Sofia.
- ◇ In Health & Social Care I listened to Chloe, Jasmine, Jude and Liam speaking about their coursework, focussing on how adolescent children are affected by specific circumstances.
- ◇ In Performing Arts I watched as Arthur attached a relevant soundtrack to a video to reflect the time period.
- ◇ Lastly, I was pleased to hear Oliver, Skie and Jessica speaking with great knowledge and insight about the civil rights period in their history lesson.

On Tuesday we had our Awards assembly and it was great to reward students for their hard work, dedication and focus. Well done to all the winners, especially to the first time winners.

Wednesday I hosted the next rewards breakfast for 20 students who worked hard and gained as many positive points as possible. It was great to sit down and chat to them and hear how they are getting on at school.



I hope everyone had a relaxing Easter as the pupils come back refreshed and ready to begin their final year prior to the GCSE exams commencing.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

The final push for the exams has started. As I write there are just over three weeks left until they begin! It is important to reassure our students and keep them calm. At this time obviously some may begin to be a little stressed. A little stress is not a bad thing, but it is important not to let things become all consuming. Something I have spoken about in assemblies is that they can only do their best and that if they do that, then everyone will be proud of their achievements. Leading into the exams, it is also important to eat healthily, get enough sleep and stay hydrated.

This week I am not intending to highlight any individual student performances, except to say that I have seen all year 11 focussed on their studies and trying to prepare well. Obviously all staff are behind them, working hard and trying to help with this final few weeks.

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

Year 11 Football - District Cup Semi Final

After a quarter final win against Anglo European, we headed to Shenfield for the semi final.

Knowing how strong Shenfield would be, the team started the game strongly with the central partnership of Beauden and Teddy keeping the opposition at bay. The first goal fell to us - Kaden picked up a stray clearance to strike with his right from inside the box and beat the keeper as it crept under his body. The first half ended 1-0 and in all fairness, we had played well enough to deserve the lead.

The second half was more intense, and with our front 3 causing issues all game, it was Archie's turn to unleash from just outside the corner of the box. His shot beat the outstretched keeper before hitting the post and heading in - a great strike! The final 15 minutes were nervy, but after surviving a few Shenfield attempts, the game finished 2-0 - a clean sheet was a wonderful testament to our work rate and organisation in defence.

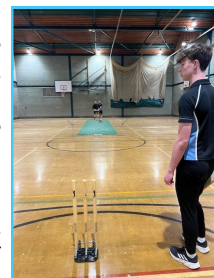


Many congratulations to all of our players. The final will be played after the Easter holidays.

Year 11 Indoor Cricket

For a final farewell to their school cricket experience, our Year 11's visited William de Ferrers before Easter for an indoor cricket game. It was a fun afternoon, full of laughs and learning. Some of our students hadn't played for a long time, so it was nice to get into the swing of it again.

If any 11's are keen to play some cricket this year, please speak to the PE department who can put you in contact with local clubs.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM


Years 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

We hope everyone had a great half term!

It's great seeing the Year 13 students working hard and revising whilst in their free periods and after school in the Sixth Form area. With a matter of weeks to go, you are doing amazing. Keep up the good work.

Year 12 attendance continues to be the highest in the school, at 96% to date. We will be arranging a fun trip for all students who achieve 97% and above this half term. Full details will be given soon.

Before Easter we had an awards ceremony. Well done to all our students who received end of term awards for their hard work and amazing attendance.



Thank you to an ex-student of ours Trinity who came in today to talk about her career in the Royal Navy and experiences in the nuclear industry.

A huge well done to Thomas who ran the half marathon in 2.5 hours. There is still time to donate to his amazing cause. Please see the link below.

Contact: mwilkins@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.

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.



Rivers Academy Shop

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.

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

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.



Playing well known pieces such as The Great Escape, Pomp & Circumstance & many more!

Introducing The Brass Band

The London North-East Fellowship Band of The Salvation Army was formed in 1985 and is the oldest established "fellowship" band in the SA UK Territory.

It's purpose is to encourage fellowship between Salvation Army bandsmen and some non-SA bandsmen from East London and Essex who have retired from work but wanted to make music together regularly.

Treasured members

Today members of the band travel considerable distances at their own expense to give concerts for Senior Citizens' Clubs, Salvation Army Corps and Churches within the Essex area from locations such as Barking through to Chelmsford and Great Wakering. In the past the band has provided concerts at places such as Derby, Coventry, Eastbourne, Lincoln, and Deal. It has also taken part in the annual Christmas Carol Service at Stansted Airport and has given several "lunchtime" concerts at Chelmsford Cathedral.



The band at Chelmsford Cathedral!

What is Rotary?

Rotary is one of the world's largest and most successful membership and humanitarian service organisations, with 1.2million members in 35,000 clubs in over 200 countries

Rotary gives you the platform to your ideas and passion for change into action, develop your skills and build lasting friendships.

Our local Rotary Club donates to many Charities and other worthy causes, both local and national. Funds raised at this Concert will go to Youth Projects which include SEND in Dengie, Young carers Charity plus projects in local schools to encourage children in life skills.

Numbers are limited, so tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis.

BRASS BAND CONCERT



Performed by
The London North-East Fellowship
Band of the Salvation Army

3rd May 2024 7 pm
The United Reform church,
Station Road, Burnham.
Adults £10, Under 16's £5

Purchase tickets at -
Greys Soft Furnishings Ltd
173, Station Road.
Or contact Dennis
Email: dennisbloomfield@outlook.com
Call: 07902 899 991



All profits go to charity or to assist young people.



Junior Golf Week

Mon 29th July to Fri 2nd Aug

09:00AM



15:00PM

- Learn golf skills with our PGA Professionals
- Make new friends
- Fun game based activities
- Get outdoors
- No equipment required - Price includes a club to keep worth £40.00

£130.00

Price Includes 1 club worth
£40.00 to keep!



Ages 6 to 14

- * Bring your own lunch
- * Equipment provided
- * No experience needed

Limited places available
Contact Simon to book your place:

 01621 782282

 simon@burnhamgolfclub.co.uk



CALL NOW

01621 782282



Burnham Golf Club,
CM0 8PQ



VISIT US

www.burnhamgolfclub.com