

### Message from the Principal

It has been another busy week at the academy with exam season moving into full swing. We continue to be very impressed with how hard our Year 11 and 13 students have been working to prepare for their exams and the maturity and determination they are demonstrating when sitting them. Please be assured that our staff continue to be available to provide any support they may need.

On Tuesday, twenty-four of our Rivers students attended the Abbey Road Institute Tour and Workshop where they learned about the history of the studios and took part in a two-hour music tech workshop. Once again, we are really proud of the fantastic feedback regarding our student's conduct whilst representing the academy on this trip.

On Thursday, we welcomed Richard Dolding, our new OAT Regional Education Director, at the academy when he met with both staff and students. We look forward to working with him to support the further development of the school.

Following my announcement in the newsletter last week, please note that the amended term dates for the 2024-25 academic year have been updated on the ORA website and can be viewed here: [Ormiston Rivers Academy Term Dates](#)

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Please can I remind parents that Year 11 study leave does not begin until Thursday 6th June. We ask for your support with this as allowing multiple students to come and go from school throughout the day presents huge organisational issues and additional pressure on our staff. We can only do this with all students at a set time. Please see the letter sent last week:

[Year-11-Leavers-Letter-16.05.24.pdf \(ormistonriversacademy.co.uk\)](#)

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend and look forward to seeing our students back at the academy on Monday for the final week of this half term.

**Jo Williams, Principal**

#### 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.

15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Date



Signature

#### Dates for your Diary

**Monday 27th to Friday 31st May**

Summer half term holiday

**Thursday 6th June 2024**

Year 11 Leavers' Assembly

**Wednesday 26th June 2024**

Year 11 Prom

**Monday 8th July to Friday 12th July 2024**

Year 12 Work Experience

**Monday 15th July to Friday 19th July 2024**

Year 10 Work Experience

**Wednesday 24th July 2024**

Last day of Summer Term (Academy closes at 1.50 pm)

### 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 **“Analogue”**.

Say it: AN] + [UH] + [LOG]

Spell it: Ana-log-ue

**Analogue**  
(Adjective)

(Prefix)ana again, thoroughly

Ana: Again, thoroughly.

**Understand it**  
Information translated into electrical impulses of varying amplitudes

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

Why not have a go?

### 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:

 7O/Mu1 who did some fantastic African Drumming performances this week. Particularly Sonny, Luke, Ewan, Finian, Daisy, Beau, Georgie, Alfred and Zach.

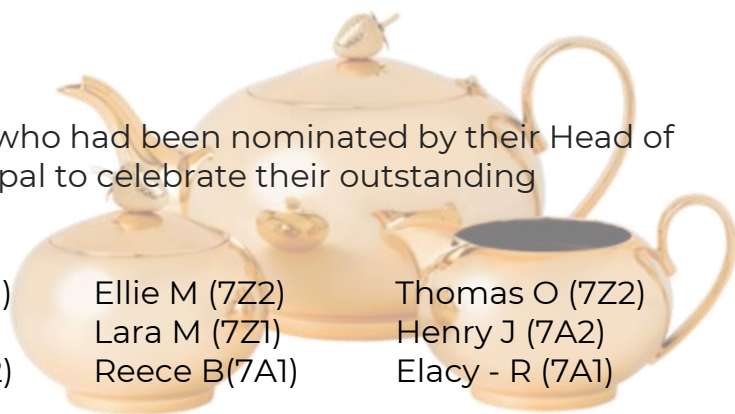
 All students that attended the trip to Abbey Road Studios were also a credit to the school in their behaviour and attitude. Particularly April (11A2), Henry (SF2) and Keeaun (SF1).

Well done to all!


### with the Principal

On Friday 17th May, 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..

Alex S (7D1)	Teddy C (7M1)	Alfred H (7M1)	Ellie M (7Z2)	Thomas O (7Z2)
Harry C (7D1)	Eoin C (7D1)	Daisy G (7Z1)	Lara M (7Z1)	Henry J (7A2)
Alfie M (7A2)	George R (7D2)	Ingrid B (7D2)	Reece B(7A1)	Elacy - R (7A1)
Harriet O (7M2)	James J (7M2)			



### Abbey Road Trip

 We were fortunate to take a selection of Music Technology students to Abbey Road Studios, where they had a tour of the institute and the educational facilities. They took part in a mixing workshop with Charlie Thomas (a producer who has worked with the likes of Calum Scott, One Direction and Little Mix) and were able to ask questions about entering the music industry.



We also crossed the famous Beatles zebra crossing and went into the Studio shop!



### A great Big Thank You!

At the end of our first full week of Summer Exams, we are very proud of the excellent behaviour and attitude towards their exams that our students have shown so far. There have been a few nerves, but huge resilience has been shown in working through these. Well done and thank you.

Thank you also to our younger students for the respect they have given to the various 'Exam in Progress' signs around the school.

We look forward to another busy week ahead, more of the same please!

From the Exams Team



### Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

Another week has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7's and today I led the assembly reiterating my expectations to the year group as their head of year and how our AIRR values are so important for all of our learners.



I met with our form reps this week to get their views on the DFL system and uniform before they meet with Mr Marklew next week. I thoroughly enjoyed the meeting and it was great to hear their views articulated in such a mature way. Thank you to all forms for participating in this and giving their views to their rep.

I am delighted to announce that the following students had the most positive merits this week; Ingrid B 7D2, Riley N 7M2, Lara M 7Z1, Thomas O'B 7Z2, Megan G 7Z1, Katelynn C 7D2, James B 7D2, Megan R 7D2, Annie B 7Z2, Brianna B 7D2, Izabelle Q 7A1, Thomas F 7Z1, Bella D 7A1, Hannah B 7Z2 and Liam H 7D2.



Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing the students next week

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

### Year 8 - Miss Thurtle

As we move into the final week of this half term, I would like to say how delighted I am that so many Year 8 students have raised their aspirations! I set a target a few weeks ago for students to exceed 230 merits in a week. This week 3 students have exceeded this extraordinary target! Well done to:

Alfie M - 8Z1 272 merits - Pippa G - 8Z2 260 merits - Ben C - 8Z2 257 merits

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



### Year 9 – Ms Taylor



As we move ever closer to the start of the GCSE courses, Year 9 are being encouraged to focus on their behaviour for learning. Following some incidents of disruption caused by phones in lessons, notably apps being downloaded to mimic a walkie talkie, Year 9 have been reminded that phones are not required in lesson time so the focus can be on the students' learning. Since Wednesday, students have been turning their phones off in their mentor time and are being told that they must remain off in lessons. I have advised students that I will view it as defiance towards me and their mentors should there be further phone incidents in lessons. I am pleased to report that there has been a significant reduction in phone incidents in lessons, and we will continue this push. Staff and many students have commented positively on the impact on their learning, and I would ask for your support in reinforcing the importance of having lessons as a time purely dedicated to learning.



The reduced disruption has allowed staff the time to focus on positives, and of special note this week were:

90DT3 for their amazing lesson on Wednesday and Freddie - 9M2, Sol - 9M2, Scott - 9M2, Jasmine - 9M2, Jayden - 9A2, Lillie - 9M1 and Bella - 9M2, all for their behaviour, conduct and work in science.

Thank you for your continued support, and I am sure that with our working together, the students will continue to develop better working habits.

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

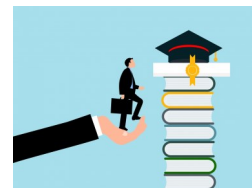
### Year 10 – Mr Field

Another trip this week involving year 10. This time they visited Abbey Road Institute with a chance pop over to the studios and walk across the legendary zebra crossing. These trips are invaluable experiences for our students.



During my assembly I spoke about resilience and the importance of failing. I included how we learn from mistakes, how we deal them and being able to move forward. I informed the students that the reason why we fall over is to learn how to get back up again.

During my learning walks it was wonderful to see the students working hard in their core subjects. English classes were completing an end of unit test. I hope you get the marks you deserve! In maths I got to see Molly and Mia quickly answering questions on the board about volume, as well as Keira and Tommy answering questions on standard form numbers. Lastly well done to Dominic for discovering a formula of triangles within a polygon.



Top positive point earners this week are: Emily, Esme, Amelia, Mia, Jack, Ella, James, Darcie, Callum, Sofia and Amelia. Please see me for your jump the queue pass on Monday.

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



### Year 11 - Mr Swinnerton

The exams have well and truly started! Science, English and Maths have now all taken place as well as important option subjects. I would like to repeat some of the advice I have given previously. It is important to reassure our students and keep them calm. 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.



*Good luck!*

Leading into the exams, it is also important to eat healthily, get enough sleep and stay hydrated.

This week again, I am not intending to highlight any individual student performances, except to say that I have seen all of 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](mailto:rswinnerton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

## RIVERS SIXTH FORM



### Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

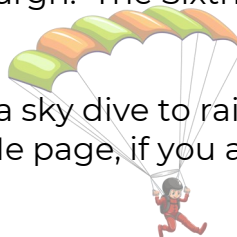
Good Luck to all our Sixth Form student's who have started their exams.

Year 12 continue to have the highest overall attendance in the school at 96%. Keep up the great work!

On Friday, Alex visited Buckingham Palace to collect his Gold DofE award, where he got a tour of the garden, listened to some talks from some inspirational people, and met Prince Edward, who is the current Duke of Edinburgh. The Sixth Team are so proud of Alex and his achievement.



Our Year 12 student Harry will be completing a sky dive to raise money for Farleigh Hospice. [Here](#) is the link to Harry's Go Fund Me page, if you are able to donate. Wishing Harry all the luck!



Year 13 students have been given the updated plan for the end of term and arrangements including voluntary attendance for lessons week commencing 3rd June. Letters will be sent home outlining these details. Friday 24th May is the Year 13 Leavers assembly. Students must make their way to PA04 at 1pm.

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



# 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	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](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.

### **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: 0845 355 8104

Attendance line: 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](mailto:kcannon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).





# ESSEX PRIDE 2024

**SATURDAY 22nd JUNE  
CENTRAL PARK, CHELMSFORD**

**MICHAEL  
MAROULI**



**CLAIRE  
RICHARDS**



**CHEDDAR  
GORGEIOUS**



**CHERYL  
HOLE**



**JAYMI  
HENSLEY**



**JO ALEXANDER  
AS DOLLY  
PARTON**



**SPACE  
FOREVER**



- 2 STAGES OF LIVE ENTERTAINMENT -
- SILENT DISCO DANCE TENT -
- CITY CENTRE PRIDE MARCH -
- BREAK OUT WELLBEING ZONE -
- FAMILY ZONE -
- GREAT FOOD & LICENSED BARS -

TO BOOK TICKETS AND FOR FULL  
LINE-UP AND LATEST NEWS VISIT:  
[ESSEXPRIDE.ORG](http://ESSEXPRIDE.ORG)



**HEADLINE SPONSOR:**  
**a.r.u.** Proudly supporting  
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**Registered Charity  
Number: 1149059**

All details correct at time of press





## **Community Gaming Initiative (CGI)**



CGI will now be hosting regular sessions at the

### **The Dengie Family Hub**

Ormiston Rivers Academy, Southminster Road,  
Burnham-On-Crouch, CM0 8QB

**1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month**



Starting from the 18th of October\*



5:30-7:30pm

**CGI aims to develop more opportunities to use gaming as a social tool to bring young people together, socialise and develop their skills.**

**PROBLEM SOLVING  
SKILLS**

**IMAGINATIVE THINKING  
FASTER REACTION TIMES**

**INCREASED  
CONCENTRATION SPAN**

**ENHANCED SOCIAL  
SKILLS**

There will be a range of different gaming activities including PS5 and Xbox Series X to choose from at each session, so there will be something for everyone!

**IMPROVED HAND/EYE  
COORDINATION**

\*Membership form must be completed in order to attend

Membership Form



To find out more email  
[gaming@maldoncvcs.org.uk](mailto:gaming@maldoncvcs.org.uk)  
or call 01621 851981



Maldon & District CVS are a service provider which values diversity and inclusivity towards our service users, partners and members regardless of their gender identity, sexual orientation, race, disability or creed.



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**IMPROVED HAND/EYE  
COORDINATION**



There will be a range of different gaming activities including PS5 and Xbox Series X to choose from at each session, so there will be something for everyone!

Regular sessions are held in Maldon and throughout the Dengie.

To be kept up to date or register, please contact us.

Community Gaming Initiative  
Membership Form



To find out more email  
[gaming@maldoncvcs.org.uk](mailto:gaming@maldoncvcs.org.uk)  
or call 01621 851981



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