

### Message from the Principal

It has been a quieter week at the academy now that our Year 11 and Year 13 students have commenced study leave. These students continue to sit their exams; we continue to wish them luck and to assure them that all our staff are here to support them in the final push towards the end of the exam season.

As we continually strive to raise the standard of behaviour in the school, we are adding a further level of sanction to reinforce our expectations that students should:

- **Be punctual to class and school**
- **Complete work to an appropriate standard**
- **Be fully equipped to participate in every lesson**

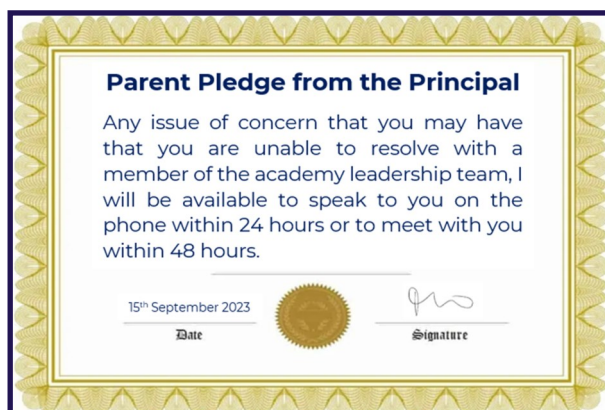
We are introducing short break and lunchtime detentions led by departments which will still allow students to obtain food and have a comfort break but will also support our expectations. All detentions will be logged on Go for Schools. Detentions will commence on Monday 17th June.

Over the next few weeks, we will be planning further improvements to our behaviour for learning systems and will be sending out a consultation document in order that you can share your views on how our systems may be developed.

On Thursday, our sports leaders from Year 10 and Year 12 provided an opportunity for students from our local primary schools to practice a range of events in preparation for the Dengie Sports competition which is taking place on 3rd July. Approximately 200 students rotated around long jump, high jump, tennis ball throw, relay, sprints and hurdles. Many thanks to our PE department for organising this and to the students who helped on the day.

I wish you a restful weekend and look forward to seeing our students refreshed and ready to learn on Monday.

**Jo Williams, Principal**



### Dates for your Diary 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

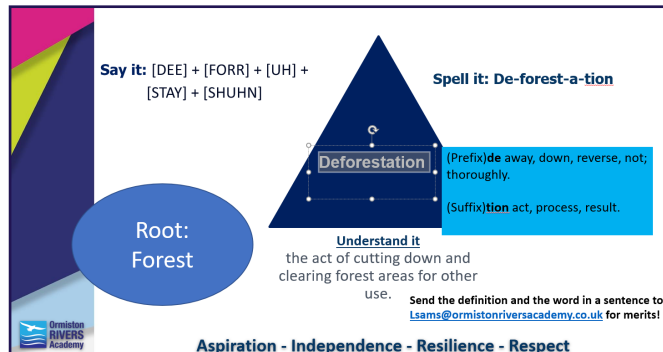
Last day of Summer Term (Academy closes at 1.50 pm)

### 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 **"Deforestation"**.

Why not have a go?



**Say it:** [DEE] + [FORR] + [UH] + [STAY] + [SHUHN]

**Spell it:** De-forest-a-tion

**Root:** Forest

**Prefix:** de away, down, reverse, not, thoroughly.

**Suffix:** tion act, process, result.

**Understand it:** the act of cutting down and clearing forest areas for other use.

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

**Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect**



### with the Principal

On Friday the following Year 10 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:

Amie C (10M1)	Amelia K (10D2)	Zachary P(10D1)	Sofia S (10Z2)	Katie M (10A1)
Angelina S (10M1)	Annie A (10M2)	James G (10D1)	Mia S (10Z1)	Josh G (10A1)
Charlie R (10D2)	Molly H (10M2)	Joslyn B (10Z2)	Amy K (10Z1)	



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

Tommy 8D2 for excellent work in drama.

Ella 10M2 for her constant positive attitude in Music Technology lessons.

For brilliant work in their African Drumming assessment:

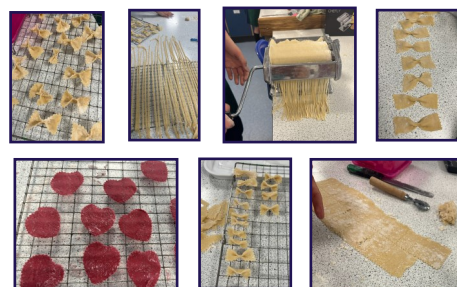
Casey, William, Fraser, Jack and Charlie in 7R/MU2. They achieved an Above.

Well done to all!

### Food Tech Stars Of The Week

Our Food Tech Team would like to shout out to the Year 9 superstars making pasta in Food this week. It looks fantastic!

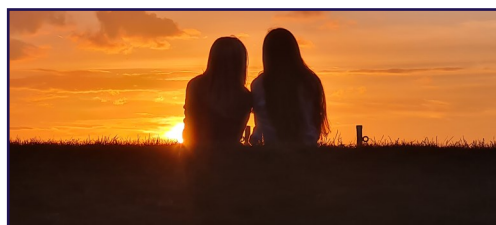
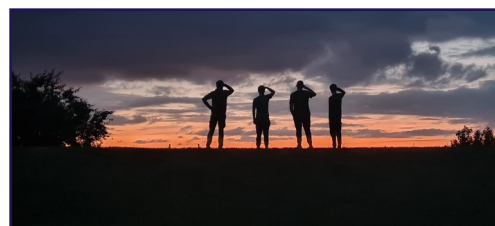
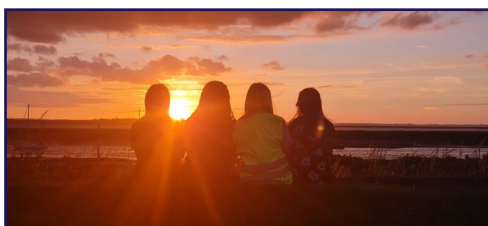
Well done all!



### Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition

The first of the Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition set off into the wilds of the Dengie Peninsular at the weekend. Meeting at Southminster Station off we walked to Bradwell. We had a lovely day and once again the students were fantastic. There was a lot of team work (and eating!) going on. We had a beautiful evening with a glorious sun set at Bradwell. Then back to the station the next day.

Very big well done to all the students and a very big thank you to Mr Coulson, Miss Brooks, Mrs Burls, Mr Argent and Miss Welham without whom these expeditions are impossible to run.



### ORA German Club



The ORA German Club now has a fantastic turn out of 10 students. This is for Year 7 & 8 students on Tuesday after school to learn about the German culture and language. The club is open to all students in Year 7 & 8 so please come along and join in!

Ms Dennis



### Dengie Sports Training Day

A massive thank you to all the Year 10 helpers and sport leaders who help run the Dengie Sports training day on Thursday. The Year 10's were amazing! They all represented the school well and they all helped with making the event run smoothly with some students taking on extra responsibilities such as leading events.

A special thank you to our sports leaders who have been planning their event in preparation for today and it was clear that their hard work paid off. I have heard positive comments about all the helpers but a special mention to Alfie, Nicole, Darcie, Jack, Rory, Will, Dominic, Callum, and Kaison for their outstanding contributions to helping the day run smoothly.

### Mr Moon



### 2024 County Championships

Many congratulations to our students who were selected to represent Mid Essex at the County Championships last weekend which were held at Chelmsford Athletic Centre. The event is a highly competitive day with the best athletes from across the whole of Essex taking part.

Jordan B from Year 10 competed in the javelin and finished a respectable 8th place with a throw of 30.90m for the Inter Boys Team.

Madison P and Lorna L both represented the Junior Girls Team. Madison P finished 5th place in the hammer event with a throw of 32.47m. Lorna finished 7th in the final of the 800m, setting a Year 8 school record in the process with a time of 2.29.02.

The Mid Essex Junior Girls were also crowned as overall winners for the day, fighting off close competition from Southend and Brentwood - congratulations!

We now look forward to our District Championships being held on the 18th of June.

### Mr Clay

### Year 7 - Mr Shanahan

The second week back in our final half term of this academic year has been and gone at ORA for our Year 7s and today some members of the senior leadership team led the assembly reiterating the schools' expectations and detailing some tweaks to the Disruption Free Learning system which come into effect from Monday.

Recently Lewie T raced at Sherington karting track in Banbury for the GKL league which is an all-electric karting league. Last weekend was his second full weekend racing under this new league. He came 2nd out of 14 in the spring championship final round, with a lap time of 58 seconds. The event is two days long. One is a practise day from 7.30am until 5.30pm, then day two is race day again from 7.30pm until 5.30pm. The league moves around the country depending on the time of year and Lewie will now go on to race in the summer championship. Well done Lewie!!



It was great to pop into some lessons this week and it was brilliant to see students making boat holders for their phones in DT and listening so attentively about Jack the Ripper in English. I tried to also complete some percentage work in Maths which didn't end well for me. Thank you Thomas for your support!!!

Following some recent incidents within the year group, footballs will not be allowed to be brought into school next week and the ban stops next Thursday (20th June). Please do not allow your Year 7 son/daughter to bring a football ball in. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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

Thank you Year 8 for a positive week. In assembly, students were given an update on the DFL policy and reminded of high expectations around the academy.

Congratulations to Poppy L for qualifying for the Mounted Games Zones with the EFPC. It is great to hear about so many of Year 8 doing amazing things outside of school. Please send me an email with any achievements that your child has made.

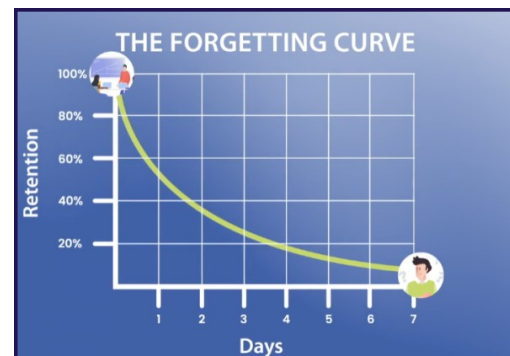
I would also like to mention Bertie B and Taylon S (374 merits) for their efforts across the academy and high aspirations.

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

### Year 9 – Ms Taylor

This week, Year 9 are continuing to work on study skills, and this week they have been focusing on the forgetting curve. Mentors have been discussing with students the importance of revisiting the key concepts of lessons - ideally the same day for a first review - and this will be vital in Key Stage 4.

We forget most of what we learn if we do not review it, and review it briefly, and often whilst the information is new. With a simple question of "What have you learned today?" rather than "How was your day?", parents and carers can support with improving memory and kickstarting REAL revision, which when done well is short and constant, rather than relearning which is trawling through already forgotten material for an imminent exam. The image below shows how quickly learning is lost if not reviewed and this is one value of homework.



Congratulations to the Year 9s who completed their Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh Award expedition last weekend. I heard wonderful reports about their conduct and I am so proud of them, and hope they recognise what an achievement this is.

Mentors are focusing on attendance in order to support the year group in becoming resilient learners. 90% attendance equates to  $\frac{1}{2}$  a day learning missed per week, and this will inevitably lead to lower grades if not rectified. I am grateful for the collegiate way in which both students and parents/carers are working with me and mentors to raise aspirations in the year group.

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



### Year 10 – Mr Field

Different activities occurred this week involving the year group which you can read about in this newsletter. It was great to see pupils in Hospitality & Catering producing high quality food for their course. I hope you get to taste some of the finished cuisine. It did look mouth-watering and they were very proud of their efforts. Secondly, it was great to listen to student accounts when leading younger students from our primary schools in performing different athletic events in preparation for the Dengie Sports. Their confidence will have grown in dealing with others and leading younger children.

Lastly, the year group was involved in a Sex Education lesson on Thursday and it was pleasing to hear from staff that the pupils listened and acted with maturity with this important topic.

Top positive points earners this week were:

**Harry, Mickayla, Esme, George, Alisha C, Alisha R, Nancy, Sophie, Ben, Olivia, Ronnie**

Please see me on Monday for you jump the queue pass as a reward.

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

Congratulations to **Frankie (10M1)** who has passed the K9 First Aid Course for Dogs. Frankie is now moving on study for the next course with a view to working with animals when finishing school.

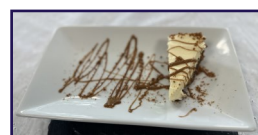
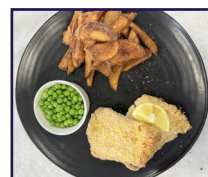
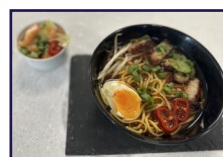
### Year 10 Hospitality and Catering

Some of our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students undertook mock practical assessments on Wednesday this week, after preparing the written parts of their mock assessments which was to plan a dish for elderly customers and one for students which met their nutritional needs.

Students had to prepare and cook the two dishes together in the same session, testing their time management and multitasking skills as well as showing as many complex preparation and cookery skills as they could. I was extremely impressed by the work produced by our students and not only this but the support and kindness they displayed to each other in the kitchen, in what can be quite a stressful experience.

The remaining Hospitality and Catering students in Year 10 will undertake their practical session on Friday 28th June and I look forward to seeing their creations. This is proving to be a valuable step in preparing them for their real Non Exam Assessments for Year 11.

Well done to all and a big thank you to the parents and carers for supporting them to practice and prepare for this at home, it is much appreciated.



# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

### Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

We are really looking forward to the Sixth Form Induction Day for Year 11 on Tuesday 9th July. Letters have been sent out with attendance forms to complete.

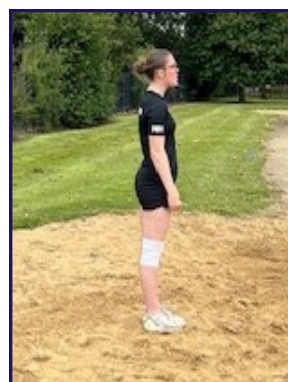
We had ex Sixth Form student Rae in to work with the Performing Arts Department on their upcoming show 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. She lead a workshop with the whole cast and watched the Elite Dance rehearsal at lunch.



It has been lovely seeing our Year 13 students in revising and sitting their final exams. Good luck to those who still have exams to complete as we go into the final week.

Year 12 students have taken part in Personal Statement writing workshops and are now starting to collate ideas to begin writing their own. Remember to see Mrs Penberthy to look at exemplar material.

Well done to Alfie, Megan, Nicole, Connor and Owen for helping with Dengie Sports. Our Sports Leadership students were a great help with the Primary School event.



Reminder: Sixth Form students must bring their laptops in with them every day. Monday and Tuesday morning assembly and tutor time is compulsory.

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





# Catering



## Menu

We have pleasure in 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  
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](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).

**Term dates can be found on the academy website:**  
[Ormiston Rivers Academy - Term Dates](#)





**ACL**

## COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

**FREE! ONLINE  
COURSES**



- Starting School & Nursery
- Getting Your Children School Ready
- Starting Secondary School
- Anxiety & Meltdowns
- Assertive Parenting
- Managing Big Emotions
- Raising Boys
- Setting Boundaries
- Sibling Rivalry
- Surviving The Summer For Parents
- The Teen Brain
- Understanding Children's Anxieties
- Understanding Neurodiverse Children
- Zones of Regulation



**SCAN ME**



call our friendly team on  
**03330 321 017**



Search 'Family Learning' at  
**aclessex.com**

Email Queries

**aclfamilylearning@essex.  
gov.uk**

**FIND OUT MORE**



Essex County Council



Ormiston  
**RIVERS**  
Academy

# Weekly Newsletter

Issue # 32 - 14th June 2024

**ACL**

**COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING**

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