

Weekly Newsletter Issue # 11 - 29th November 2<u>024</u>

Message from the Principal

Richard Dolding, our Education Director visited the academy this week and I am really pleased to report that he gave lots of positive feedback around the strategies we have put in place to develop our behaviour for learning practices. Our focus for the rest of this term will be on a whole-school approach to securing student attention in lessons which is important for gaining the attention and maintaining the concentration of our children while they are learning.



Last month, our Maths department put all our year 12 & 13 Mathematicians forward for the Senior Maths Challenge. Around 15 of our students achieved Bronze or better which was a fantastic result. Three of our students who achieved Gold (Alex, Anna and Theo) were then invited to take part in the next level up, the Senior Kangaroo Challenge. This is reserved for the top 10% of scorers in the country. They sat this challenge last week, and I am delighted to report that Alex achieved a Merit which is an incredible achievement. Huge congratulation to all our students that took part in this challenge.

I am also thrilled to report that two of our Year 8 students have been given the exciting opportunity to work with the Royal Shakespeare Company to deepen their literacy skills and bring the timeless tragedy 'King Lear' to life. These students will engage in workshops led by professional RSC educators, exploring the language and themes of Shakespeare's masterpiece.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to seeing our students on their return on Monday. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...







Jo Williams, Principal



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th December 2024

School Show - 'Love at First Flight' – Tickets available to purchase from main reception (£7 for adults/£5 for students & children)

Friday 20th December 2024

Break up for Christmas holiday (Academy closes at 1.50 pm)

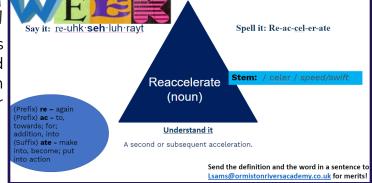
Parents Evenings 2024-25

Year 7 (Meet the tutor) - 25 September 2024 Year 11 - 4 December 2024 Sixth Form (Yr 12 & 13) - 16 December 2024 Year 10 - 21 January 2025 Year 9 - 13 February 2025 Year 11 Academic - 20 March 2025 Year 8 - 31 March 2025 Year 7 - 6 May 2025



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 "Reaccelerate".

Why not have a go?





Tea with the Principal

On Friday 29th November, 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 CARE values..

Max H (8M1) Christopher E (8M1) Alex S (8D1) Finn B (8D1) **Ruby W (8Z2)** George C (8Z2) April F (8A2) Ryan S (8A2) Elacy-R (8A1) Oliver K(8A1) Daisy G (8Z1) Megan G (8Z1) Mia W (8D2) Emily N (8M2) James J (8M2) Cameron H (8D2)



Christmas has arrived at Ormiston Rivers this week and with it our naughty elf Graham.





Some of you may have followed his adventures last year and spotted some of his hiding spots around the school. This year he has already been seen in the main hall rehearsing for the upcoming production of 'Love at First Flight'.





Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing pictures of Graham and other festive puzzles for you to solve.

If you would like to enter the competition then please put your answer to the questions on a piece of paper, along with your name and tutor group, and post it in the box at Student Reception. Each week Ms Williams will reveal the winner.

If you would like to enter this week, simply answer the following questions...

1). Where is Graham hiding?



2). Unscramble the letters to reveal the name of Graham's favourite festive treats.

AYACCENDN

FI COHCTOAOHT





GCSE and A Level Dance students were treated to a full day workshop with ZooNation and professional dancer and choreographer Lindon Barr.

He planned a bespoke educational workshop that started with a range of dance styles that originated from, and have been influenced,

by Hip Hop culture including Breakin', House, Groove, Waacking, Krump and the Funk style of Popping and Locking.

Students then learnt professional repertoire from two of ZooNations main productions. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students. Lindon commented on the professionalism and talent our dancers displayed. Congratulations to everyone involved, you are our stars of the week!









Español Oliver C 9Z1



Beth H Yr 11



In Computer Science this week Year 7 have been learning about computational thinking, specifically Abstraction, which is the process of removing unnecessary detail so that a problem is easier to understand.

Year 8 have been learning about search and sort algorithms, which are actually on the GCSE curriculum, so it's really encouraging to see the Year 8's tackling bubble sort algorithms.

Year 9 have continued to learn about networks, and this week focused on how cloud storage can be utilised for different requirements. Archie & Isla in 90/Cs4 did particularly well.

Year 10 have been developing their programming skills, whilst relating them to real computational scenarios such as calculating the size of a sound file based on various parameters. Pictured is a page from Alex's book which is always so neat and tidy.

Year 11 have been busy reviewing their PPE exam results. It's important that students use this as a springboard to even better results in the New Year by focussing on their weaker areas of knowledge, which brings me on to remind you that I'm running GCSE Super Six every Monday and Friday. I was also really impressed by Max in year 11 who managed to create a program which converts Hexadecimal numbers into their RGB colour equivalent. Sixth Form I.T and Media super is on a Wednesday.





Year 7 - Mr Moon

Another positive week for Year 7. Our attendance is at 95.66% and still the best in the whole school! Lets continue to show up every day with a positive attitude for learning.

The tutor group with the highest attendance is once again 7Z1. They are also the highest merit earners this week with three of their students earning the most.

Jack (7Z1)

Harlie (7Z1)

Jess (7Z1)

Well done Mr Lyu and all of 7Z1 for the leading in attendance and merits for all of Year 7. A shout out also to 7D1, who were very close to overtaking 7Z1 on merits this week.

Honours award nominations have started and teachers have been busy nominating students for demonstrating our CARE values within their lessons. The winners will be announced in the last assembly before we break up for Christmas, so make sure you all continue to demonstrate how amazing you are in lessons.

The Rewards breakfast for this half term is for any student with 0 negative points. More information will be sent out regarding this closer to the time. Currently there are around 20 students with no negative points, so please keep up the good work!

We had our assembly today where we discussed Aspiration and Excellence from our Rivers CARE values, and looked at influential figures, their setbacks, and how they overcame them to become successful.

It has been great to see so many Year 7's getting involved in their rugby and dance lessons during PE, however, the numbers for afterschool clubs have started to reduce, which is a real shame. If we could really push for students to attend clubs, as this is a great opportunity for them to meet like minded people and build strong friendships. All afterschool clubs are free and there is a late bus that runs to make sure students have a way to get home. Please make the most of the clubs that are currently running before they change in the new year.

I hope you have a restful weekend and return ready to start next week with a positive attitude.

Many thanks

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Netball

On Wednesday, 10 of our Year 7 girls had the opportunity to play in a netball tournament at William De Ferrers. The girls played a total of 7 games, winning 4 of them and losing 3, placing 3rd overall. It was a great competition, with the girls gaining valuable experience playing other schools. Player of match was Mia B (7M1) for her exceptional attitude to being a part of the team and for the way she represented the school.



Year 8 - Ms Scott

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, Mr. Marklew led a thought-provoking assembly focused on behaviour. He highlighted the importance of respect, kindness, and perseverance, reminding everyone of the values that make our school community so strong. It was wonderful to see the students engaging with the topic and reflecting on how they contribute to a positive school environment.

We are thrilled to share that 99 students in Year 8 currently have 0 negative points recorded on Go 4 Schools this term. This is over half the year group, and I couldn't be prouder of them for managing their behaviour so well - long may it continue! Those with 0 negative points will be considered for the Rewards Breakfast at the end of term, so's keep up the fantastic effort.

This week, we also celebrated some of our exceptional Year 8 students who were nominated for the much-anticipated Tea with the Principal. These students have been recognised for their outstanding contributions, hard work, and positive attitudes. A huge congratulations to:

Christopher E (8M1) Max H (8M1) Alex S (8D1) Finn B (8D1) Ruby W (8Z2) George C (8Z2) April F (8A2) Ryan S (8A2) Elacy-R (8A1) Oliver K(8A1) Daisy G (8Z1) Megan G (8Z1) Emily N (8M2) James J (8M2) Cameron H (8D2) Mia W (8D2)

Well done to all of you! It's inspiring to see such a wide range of students being recognised

across the year group.

Finally, we're excited to announce the Year 7 and 8 Christmas Reward Disco, a festive way to celebrate the end of term. Tickets are available on ParentPay for just £2. Spaces are limited, and it's first come, first serve, so don't miss out!

Thank you as always for your continued support. We're looking forward to more opportunities to celebrate the achievements and hard work of our Year 8 students as we head into the rest of the term.

Best wishes.

Contact: hscott@ormistonriversacademv.co.uk





Year 9 - Ms Thurtle

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. Another week has flown by at Ormiston Rivers and our students have had another brilliant week. Over 9000 positive points have been logged for the year group this week.

Year 9 line-ups have moved indoors for the winter months. Students will now meet their teachers in the sports hall during form time, lesson 3 and lesson 5.

This week, our assembly was led by me on academy expectations and student options. In March, students will be picking their options ready for Year 10. It is an exciting, yet daunting time for students, and I would encourage them to begin having conversations with you and their teachers about their current thoughts.

Jessica. W (9A2) had an exceptionally successful weekend at her dance competition. She came 4th in U16 Quickstep and made the semi's (top 12) in all other dances. Jess also made all semi's (top 12) in her Latin, which is very competitive, as she dances against girls who only train in Latin. On behalf of our year group, I would like to say how proud we are of Jessica in achieving such high outcomes in and outside of school.

This week, I would like to acknowledge the effort of each form tutor with the top 3 merit scorers!

9A1 - Oscar. R, Taylon. S & Immie. M

9A2 - Ethan. E, Henson. H & Jessica. W

9D1 - Jack. B, Sylwia P & Joe. C

9D2 - Jake. W, Felicity O & Emme. C

9M1 - Isabella. W. Danica. C & Dennis K

9Z1 - Samuel. S. Evie. H & Oliver. C

9Z2 - Thomas. O, Henry. H & Harvey. B

Year 9 highest merit scorer for this week - Oscar. R! Congratulations!

I would urge you all to come and see our school musical in December, Love at First Flight! So many students in Year 9 are taking part and their efforts in rehearsals have been excellent. Dates are the 10th, 11th and 12th of December.

Take care and have a lovely weekend.

Contact: cthurtle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Weekly Newsletter Issue # 11 - 29th November 2<u>024</u>

Year 10 - Ms Taylor

A number of Year 10 students have reported being tired this week and struggling with their emotional responses. On investigation, a number of them have been on group calls until the early hours of the morning. Could I ask for your support in helping them to manage this. Turning the Wi-Fi off overnight with parental controls could help if they are struggling to manage the calls themselves and get a decent nights sleep.

Our top merit awards go to:

Kayden D - 10D1 Bella W - 10M2 Bobby H - 10M2

Neala W - 10Z2 Thomas Y - 10Z1 Leo A - 10M2

Jack C - 10A2 Matthew C - 10M2 Faith W - 10Z2

Congratulations to Ms Murphy's group (10M2) for having the highest number of the top achievers in her group!

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 11 - Mr Field

As mocks exams are finished and grades are returned, students may want to maintain their revision or even start!!

Below are some revision tips for year 11:

- 1) Little and often 20 minutes bursts with a short break in between is the optimal time for the brain to remember information.
- 2) Produce a timetable (including breaks) this will organise your study time rather than just picking any subject.
- 3) Study in a quiet place reduces distractions
- 4) Use a variety of techniques note taking, flash cards or mind maps. Find out what works for you.
- 5) Good nights sleep helps you recover from the day and prepares for the next day.
- 6) Exercise

Top positive points this week are: Ethan, Ailsa, Samuel, Alisha, Brennan, Lillimae, Bethan, Connie, Kalan, Ben, Sydni, Tilly, Jack and George.

Well done all

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

UKMT - Senior Maths Challenge

Last month, we put all of our year 12 & 13 Mathematicians forward for the Senior Maths Challenge. This involves some extremely difficult maths, and we were so excited that around 15 of our students achieved Bronze or better.



Three of our Sixth Form students achieved Gold (Alex, Anna & Theo) and they were invited to take part in the next level up, the Senior Kangaroo Challenge. This is reserved for the top 10% of scorers in the country.

We would like to congratulate Alex who achieved a Merit in this challenge. This is such an exceptional result, and we are very proud of everything he has achieved.

If you put your mind to it, anything is possible!

Throwback Thursday

This week we introduced everyone to Annabel who studied Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics at Rivers Sixth Form. She is currently studying Software Engineering at university and is in her second year. For more information on our former students please follow the Instagram account - @Riverssixthform



Friday Feels

In the month of December, we will be challenging students to make a Christmas decoration. These must be brought in before Friday 13th December as we will be announcing the winner during the Awards Celebration. Good Luck!

To add to our Friday Feels, the students have been busy in Sixth Form decorating the area for Christmas. It has brought a lovely warm feel to area and it was wonderful to see the students getting into the spirit

and working together. On Monday there will be a hot chocolate station for students to enjoy a warm drink now the weather is getting colder.







RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

On Tuesday our year 12 Dance students were lucky enough to take part in another workshop but this time it was with industry professional and member of the company ZooNation, Lindon Barr. He taught our students sequences from professional ZooNation repertoire and gave students feedback on their exam practical pieces. This was a fantastic opportunity for the students, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.



Congratulations to all students for completing their PPE's. We even had some working in the Sixth Form to catch up on any they missed. Grades will on Go4Schools and teachers will be working through the papers in the next few lessons. Please use this feedback to focus on areas that need work before the next set of PPE's in February.

Contact: <u>mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk</u>



Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024



Catering



Menu

We have pleasure of enclosing a link to next weeks <u>menu</u>. 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 <u>lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk</u> 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.



Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024



Catering





FRIDGE From 11™ November

Pigs in blankets, caramelised onions, with smoked ketchup

baguette £2.00



Turkey, herb stuffing and sweet cranberry sandwich £1.70



Chicken, cripsy bacon, sweet cranberry and lettuce christmas

club sandwich £2.00



Vegan christmas wrap £1.70



Brie, sweet cranberry and spinach wrap £1.70



Gluten free chicken, stuffing, and gravy mayo sandwich £2.00



Pot of pigs in blankets with ketchup £1.50



Sweet treats will run through out November and December please look at special boards Gluten free also available





BRINGING FESTIVE CHEER TO THE Grab and go From 11th November

We will be adding some hot festive items to the menu, please look on special board for the daily changes

Things like

Brie and bacon paninis
Brie and cranberry paninis
Christmas pasty turnovers
Hot baguette filled with pigs in
blankets and gravy
Festive toasties
Hot Christmas brownies
Warm Ginger cake

And many more....

Gluten free will be available





Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024



Catering



Christmas Lunch

We will be serving Christmas lunch for students & staff on Thursday 19th December. The cost is £7.50 and this must be pre-booked and paid for via Parentpay, please ensure you input comments to confirm whether or not your child has any specific dietary requirements. If your child is entitled to free school meals you still need to book, as this ensures we cater for the correct numbers and avoid waste. Please email finance@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk to book a free school meal and ensure you include the student name, year group and whether or not there are any specific dietary requirements.

The meal will consist of:

Roast Turkey, carrots, brussels sprouts, yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, pigs in blankets, stuffing balls and gravy, followed by an ice cream pot.

or

Vegan wellington, carrots, brussell sprouts, yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, pigs in blankets, stuffing balls and gravy, followed by an ice cream pot.

Gluten Free option: Roast Turkey, carrots, brussell sprouts, GF yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, GF pigs in blankets, GF stuffing balls and gravy, followed by an ice cream pot.

All meals will be served with Gluten Free gravy and come with a





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

1x 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 <u>KS3 order form</u> and the <u>KS4 order form</u> here; these are also available on our website www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. Please contact finance on 01621 787845 if you have any queries.



Weekly Newsletter Issue # 11 - 29th Nove<u>mber 2024</u>

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.

Lost Property

We have several items in lost property, mainly coats, PE kits, blazers and drinking bottles. Any student can check in Student Reception for lost items. Please note that items not collected before the end of this term will be donated to charity, therefore, please remind your children to check for anything they have misplaced before this time. Thank you.







Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the U code (late after registers have closed).

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

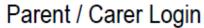
The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court.

Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.



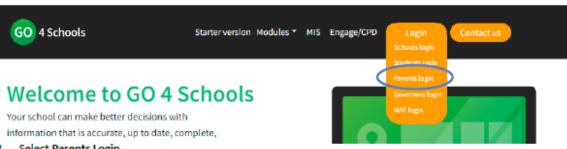
Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024



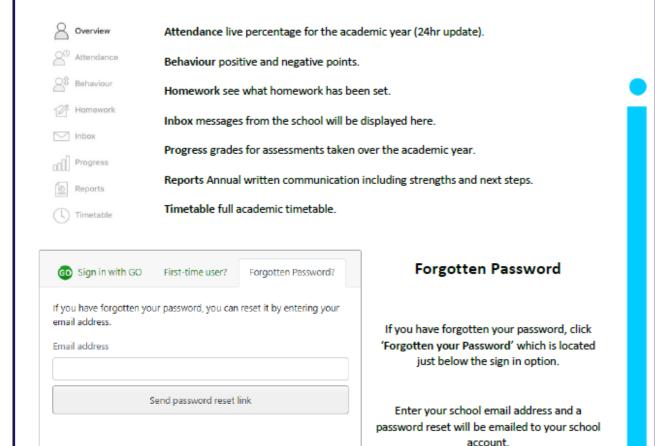
Go4Schools is an online platform providing parents and carers with live attainment, timetable, targets & attendance. This will also be where pupil reports are released.



1 - www.Go4schools.com through any web browser.



- Select Parents Login
- Click First-time user
- Enter email address registered with Ormiston Rivers
- Click New password
- Select Sign in to Parent Site
- Open link sent to personal email address entered and activate account
- Set your Go4Schools password
- Sign in





Issue #11 - 29th November 2024

G4S App Login

1 – Download the app.



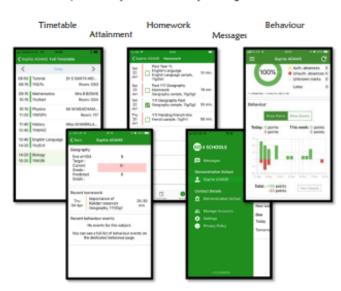


Click here

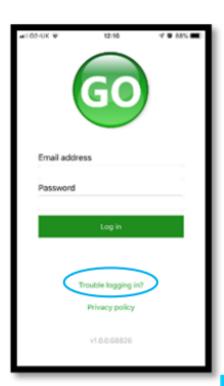


- 2 Type in your school email address.
- 3 Type in your password.

This is the password you have already set in go4schools.

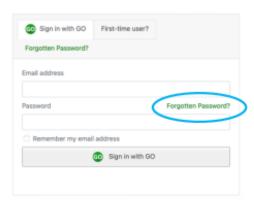


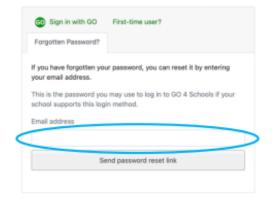




FORGOTTEN YOUR PASSWORD?

If you have forgotten your password, click 'Trouble logging in?'
This will open the web browser where you will click forgotten password.





Type in your school email address and click 'Send password reset link.

Open Outlook from Office 365 (your school email) and you will have received an email from Go4schools that include instructions on how to reset your password.

Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024

Essex Partnership University

Flu Vaccine Catch up Clinics

Has your child missed their FLU vaccination?

We are running catch up clinics for the flu vaccine this winter, your nearest clinic is:

Witham Health Centre CM8 2UX

Monday 16th December 2024 (15.30 to 17.00)

Monday 23rd December 2024 (10.00 to 15.45)

Please call 0300 790 0597 Option 1 to book an appointment.

For information on school aged vaccinations please visit our website:

#GetWinterStrong



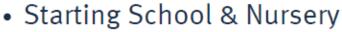


Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024



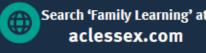
COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

FREE! ONLINE **COURSES**



- 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





Email Queries Search 'Family Learning' at aclfamilylearning@essex. gov.uk

FIND OUT MORE









Issue # 11 - 29th November 2024

