



Message from the Principal

Our staff and students have been working hard in the run up to the last week of this half term.

Our Year 11 students have been sitting their mock GCSE exams this week and I have been really proud with the mature attitude to learning that the majority of them have approached these important assessments with. I wish them all luck with their remaining exams during the week after half term.

In response to a number of our students requesting the option to wear tailored shorts and requesting that these be added to the school uniform list, I am pleased to report that tailored shorts for both boys and girls will be stocked by our school uniform supplier and can be worn as optional following the Easter Holiday. These can be ordered in the usual way either directly from our supplier, Anglia Sports & Schoolwear via their online ordering service at www.yourschoolwear.co.uk or via the Academy by emailing your order to speterson@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. I genuinely appreciate the effort these students made in presenting this request with such maturity and positivity.

We will be consulting with parents and carers regarding the design of our school skirt and tie during the next half term.

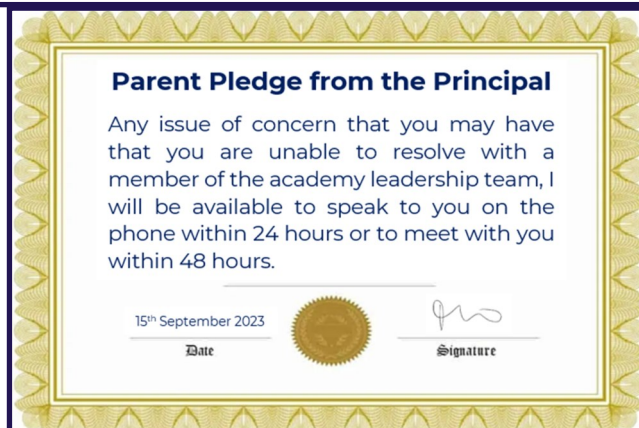
This week our Year 9 students have been given their GCSE Options Booklets to help them make informed choices about the subjects that they choose to study going forward. On Thursday we had our Year 9 Parents Evening and it was really encouraging to see so many parents attending to gather the information needed to support our students when making the important choice of subjects that they will take for their GCSEs. Further information for students and parents can be found on our Year 9 Options Hub page on our website Ormiston Rivers Academy - Year 9 Options Hub.

The application process for our Felsted Summer School 2025 places is now open to our Year 8 & Year 9 students. Application forms are available for Year 8 & 9 students to collect from both the main and student reception and these need to be completed and handed in to Student Reception for the attention of Ms James by the end of the day on Thursday 6 March 2025. If your child wishes to apply for this fantastic opportunity, parents/Carers must attend an introductory meeting at the academy on Thursday 27th February at 5pm to give you some more information and answer any questions about the programme and I look forward to seeing you there.

On Friday, 40 ORA students embarked on their journey to Sestriere-Sauze d'oulx in Italy for the 2025 ORA Ski Trip taking place during the half term holiday. I would like to thank our PE Department for organising and all the staff who are giving up their half term holiday to accompany our students on this fantastic trip and hope that the children have a wonderful experience.

Finally, please remember that Monday 24th February is a Staff INSET day so the academy will be closed to students. I look forward to seeing all of our students refreshed and ready to learn on their return on Tuesday 25th February.

Jo Williams, Principal





Dates for your Diary

Friday 14 February 2025

Break up for half term

Monday 24 February 2025

Staff Inset Day – academy closed to students

Tuesday 25 February 2025

All students return to academy for Spring Half Term 2

Thursday 27 February 2025 – 5pm

Felsted Summer School Year 8 & 9 Parents Information Evening

Parents Evenings 2024-25

Year 11 Academic - 20 March 2025

Year 8 - 31 March 2025

Year 7 - 6 May 2025



KS3 (Year 7, 8 & 9) Voluntary Donation for Design & Technology Resources

Whilst students are expected to bring the basic equipment for learning to school every day, there are elements of the curriculum where materials and resources are provided by the Academy, for both teaching demonstrations and students use. These include raw materials such as steel and wood for Design & Technology, fabric, thread and accessories for Textiles and ingredients & sundry items for Food technology demonstrations.

Almost all resources have increased in price over the last few years and it is with this in mind that we are asking for parental donations towards the cost of such materials. A donation of £10 per student at Key Stage 3 will make a huge difference to the affordability of delivering engaging lessons for all students. Donations are completely voluntary.

The £10 is for this full academic year. We have added the item to Parentpay for ease of payment. Should you prefer to pay by cash, please place it in a sealed envelope with your child's name on it and pass it into main reception.

Thank you.



Tea with the Principal

On Friday 14th February, 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 CARE values..

Henson H (9A2)	Jenson S(9A2)	Jack S (9A2)	Jess W(9A2)
Beau D (9A1)	Cheri P (9A1)	Tommy S (9Z2)	Ben H(9Z2)
Eva D (9M1)	Scarlett D (9M1)	George N (9Z1)	Keegan R (9Z1)
Jack B (9D1)	Joe C (9D1)	Emily T (9D2)	Erin R (9D2)



WORLD 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 **"Hydroelectric"**.

Why not have a go? Send the definition and the word in a sentence to lsams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Say it: hai·drow·uh·lek·truhk **Spell it:** Hy-dro-e-lec-tric

Hydroelectric
(noun)

Stem: electric

Understand it
to do with electricity generated by the flow of water

(Prefix) **hydro** - water - can be 'hydra'



Auditions took place this week for our annual Gym & Dance Show. The theme this year is 'Star Wars' based on the original trilogy and show dates are 16th, 17th and 18th July 2025.

Congratulations to all of the students who auditioned, we were blown away with the talent across the school. Please check the door to PA03 on the first day back to see if you have been successful. Well done and Good Luck!



FRANÇAIS Ruby (8Z2)

Español James (8M2)



Tristan (7M1)



Year 7 & 8 have been completing their end of unit assessments this week which are a combination of multiple choice and long answer questions. Over the next 3 weeks, the students' books will also be marked and a grade will be given on Go4Schools. It's so pleasing to see that lots of students are taking extra care in their books after recently signing their pledges.

When we return after a well earned half term break, the year 7's will be getting to grips with Spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel and Year 8 will be learning about 'Computing Fundamentals' which covers topics like the CPU and Primary Storage.

It's been quite a busy and productive week for year 9 who have been completing their video game cover design which will be assessed and given a grade using a rubric on Teams. It was nice to be able to tell lots of parents at parents evening how well their children did with this creative task. Here are some examples of the students work and the type of project they can expect to do if they pick iMedia as one of their KS4 options.



Year 10 have been honing their coding skills with a host of python challenges. I'm very proud of the way that lots of the students really engaged with this task. Just as a reminder, Python software is very easy to download and use at home and isn't a very big file size, so you don't need to worry about it taking up lots of storage space on your computers.

We had a productive Super 6 on Monday with lots of students coding and using Seneca. Sadly, no Super 6 on Thursday due to the year 9 parents evening but normal service will resume after half term. On Friday, year 11 did their PPE Paper 1, so let's hope that went well! ...with Paper 2 coming after half term.

Clubs and Super Six Sessions

Year Group	Club	Day	Time	Room
Years 7 & 8	Computer Science Club	Monday	Lunchtime	IT02
Year 10	Computer Science	Monday & Thursday	After School	IT02
Year 10	iMedia	Monday & Thursday	After School	IT02
Year 11	Computer Science	Monday & Thursday	After School	IT02
Years 12 & 13	Media	Wednesday	After School (Not on Parents Evenings)	IT02
Years 10 & 11	Business	Monday	After school	IT04



End of School Year - Summer Trips (Trips/Activity Day Tuesday 22nd July 2025)

On Tuesday 22nd July 2025, Years 7, 8, 9 and Sixth Form will all be going out on separate trips for the day. Year 10 will be on work experience and Year 11 would have already left.

Students not going on these trips will be expected to attend school as normal, however fun activities will be organised throughout the day. It will surely be a day to remember!

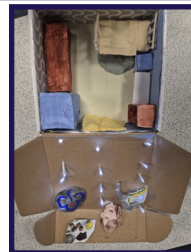
After half term, 'Gathering Interest' letters will be sent out to parents to gauge numbers on these trips (as the venues will have limits and also transport will need to be arranged).

PLEASE WATCH THIS SPACE!

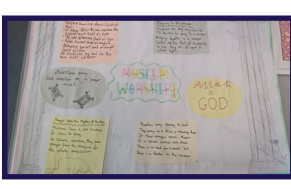
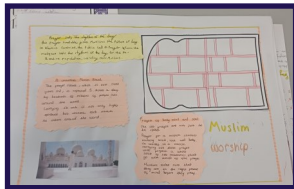
Mr Marklew

Religious Studies

This half term Year 7 students have been learning about Sacred Spaces - as part of their HW and half term assessment they had to create their own shoe box shrine. Here are some amazing examples. Well done to all Year 7 students who put time and effort into creating such a special piece of work.



This half term Year 8 students have been learning about Worship within different religions - the end point was to design a presentation on Muslim Worship (Salat), here are some of the amazing pieces that were produced.



Internet Safety

This week Ms Gibson led assemblies on internet safety, talking to students about how to stay safe online. As we enter half term we advise all children to do some cyber security housekeeping and check security/privacy settings on their social media accounts. It is good practice to do this on a regular basis as part of a cyber security housekeeping routine.

Resources to support the check:-

- There is lots of useful information on swgfl.org.uk
- Those who are using the Safer Schools App will also find helpful information in relation to security and social media apps



Book of the Month

In February we are reading Crime Fiction with titles from well-known authors such as John Grisham, Ally Carter and Malorie Blackman.

- Theodore Boone by John Grisham: 13-year-old Theo wants to become a lawyer or courtroom judge when he leaves school. There's a high-profile murder case in his city and Theo, sworn to secrecy, uncovers a surprise witness that could change the outcome of the trial. Find out what happens in this crime thriller.

Library News



- Read one of Ally Carter's crime or spy stories this month! Either the Heist Society series filled with intrigue, danger and romance... Or Gallagher Girls' Cross My Heart and Hope to Spy - espionage, danger and glamour set in a school for spies.
- Malorie Blackman's Hostage tells of a young girl who has been kidnapped and has no idea of what will happen next. This title is one of the Barrington Stoke dyslexia friendly books.

How do students achieve their Library Reader of the Month badge? Just choose one of the current or previous Book of the Month titles to read, complete the book review and activity sheet. There are different authors and genres each month, so there's something for everyone to enjoy from sci-fi, fantasy, Black History month, climate fiction, horror, and crime. Next month we will be reading historical fiction and have selected titles inspired by both real and imagined events around the world at different times.

World Book Day

This year, World Book Day will be celebrated nationally on Thursday 6th March - visit worldbookday.com for more information. The theme, Read Your Way, encourages children to discover the benefits of reading for pleasure - their website refers to the importance of reading: "it's more important than ever to get young people excited about reading for fun, unlocking the proven benefits it brings, including better wellbeing and improved learning across the school curriculum".

Ormiston Rivers Academy will also be celebrating World Book Day - watch this space for more news of planned events.

Students at Ormiston Rivers Academy receive their £1 book tokens during Form Tutor time during the week commencing Monday 10th February, and these tokens can be exchanged at participating retailers for one of the WBD titles from 13th February 2025.

This year's titles include The Wolf Trials by Kiran Millwood Hargrave, This Story is a Lie by Benjamin Dean, The Soccer Diaries: Rocky Takes the Lead by Tom Palmer, and LEGO: Our Amazing Universe.

Book of the Month February - Crime Thrillers

Theo wants to be a lawyer or courtroom judge when he leaves school. There's a high profile murder case in his city and Theo, sworn to secrecy, uncovers a surprise witness that could bring the killer to justice. Will he succeed or will a guilty man go free?

THEODORE BOONE JOHN GRISHAM

Read one of Ally Carter's crime or spy stories this month! The choice is yours - either Heist Society series filled with intrigue, danger and romance... or Gallagher Girls Cross My Heart and Hope to Spy, set in a school for spies, there's espionage, danger and glamour!

ALLY CARTER

Read one of Malorie Blackman's Hostage series. A young girl who has been kidnapped and has no idea of what will happen next.

HOSTAGE MALORIE BLACKMAN

Like Crime Fiction? Take a look at these titles:

- Enola Holmes by Nancy Springer
- Boy Missing by Sophie Mackenzie
- Young Sherlock - The Storm by Andrew Lane
- Artemis Fowl series by Eoin Colfer
- The Pearl Thief by Elizabeth Wein (Y9+)
- You'll Be the Death of Me by Karen M. McManus (Y9+)
- Crossing the Line by Tia Fisher (Y8+)

For more information see Mrs Verburg, Librarian.

Book of the Month March - Historical fiction

This is an exciting introduction to the genre of historical fiction. A wartime 1942 ghost story set across Singapore and Northern England. Full of courage, grief, forgiveness and belonging - an atmospheric and gripping tale with roots in real history.

NISHA'S WAR DAN SMITH

Travel back in time to the court of King Arthur and his magician Myrddin in this new telling of the Cornish legend. Tales of a warrior on a quest to unite war-torn Britain against the invading Saxons. However, it may not be all that it seems as Gwyno discovers another side to the story and the secret to Arthur's success...

HERE LIES ARTHUR PHILIP REEVE

Like History? Here are some more books you could read...

- Wolf Children by Bren Paul Dowsell
- Gladiator by Simon Scarrow
- Over the Line by Tom Palmer (Easy Reader)
- The Royal Rebel by Bill Ziss (Dyslexia Friendly)
- Refugee by Alan Grafz (Year 8+)
- The Enigma Game by Elizabeth Wein (Year 9+)
- Salween's War by Hiba Noor Khan
- The Black Crow Conspiracy by Christopher Edge
- Ella Rose by Lucy Worsley

For more information see Mrs Verburg, Librarian.



Year 7 - Mr Moon

It's the final week for this half term, and yet again it has proven to be a great one for Year 7. We are now halfway through the school year and the students have fully settled in.

This week there have been lots of assessments. Well done to everyone for trying their hardest. I have seen lots of the different assessments go on this week during my lesson drop-in sessions, from English where they have been writing about Bone Sparrow, to playing hallelujah in Music.

Attendance

Attendance for Year 7 this week is 94.17%. Again, I know this time of year is hard with illness spreading thick and fast, but it still remains important that we try to get to school. It is only with good attendance that we can be in our lessons and learning everything we need to achieve our goal of being the best year group. The tutor group with the best attendance this week is 7A1 with 95.98 %. Well done guys!

Merit Points

The top 3 merit point earners this week are:

- Joint 1st - Bellamarie and Poppy in 7D1 with 220 merits.
- Joint 2nd - Islay and Madison in 7D1 with 200 merits.
- Joint 3rd - Millie and Envey in 7A2.

I think it goes without saying that 7D1 are top this week in merits so a special well-done to all of 7D1. Keep up the good work!



As we enter the next half term there are some changes in regard to PE lessons the boys will be changing from football to either Dance or Badminton and the girls will be changing from Badminton and Dance to Football or Netball. Boots and shin pads are advised for Football and any extra layers for both Football and Netball as they are both outside. Trainers are fine for the boys as both groups are indoors for their PE lessons.

Helpful Reminders

Uniform: Please make sure you're wearing the correct uniform each day. Check the school's guidelines if you're unsure about the details.

Library Books: Remember to return any overdue books and borrow something new.

Mobile Phones: Phones should be off and out of sight during school hours. To contact home please use student reception.

Word of the week: Don't forget to submit your word of the week to Mrs Sams for extra merits.

CARE Cards: Please ask your children if they received CARE cards each day, as you should be able to share their achievements.

I Hope you all have a restful Half term and look forward to see you all in a weeks time.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Ms Scott

As we come to the end of another busy half term, we want to take a moment to say how incredibly proud we are of Year 8 students. They continue to show great resilience, determination and a fantastic work ethos in all aspects of school life. Whether in lessons, extra-curricular activities or supporting one another as a year group, their efforts do not go unnoticed.

This week we had the pleasure of celebrating some of our top performing students with a special reward breakfast with Mrs Corbett. The 15 students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to their studies and school values, enjoyed a well-deserved morning treat in recognition of their hard work. It was a fantastic way to acknowledge their achievements and we hope it inspires all students to keep striving for excellence.

As we break for half term, we encourage all students to take the time to relax, recharge and enjoy themselves. A well-balanced mix of rest and fun and fresh air will ensure that they return refreshed and ready to take on the next half of the term with the same energy and dedication they have shown so far.

We wish everyone a happy healthy and enjoyable break.

The Year 8 Team

Contact: hscott@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk





Year 9 – Ms Thurtle

Dear Parent/Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely week. It was wonderful to see so many of you at parents evening. I hope you found the evening useful and in a well-informed position to begin the conversation with your child/ren about options which are now fast approaching.

Congratulations to the following Year 9 students who have been nominated for hot chocolate and cake with the Head this week.

9A2

Henson H - 0 negatives
Jenson S - 0 negatives
Jack S - 0 negatives
Jess W - 0 negatives

9D1

Jack B - Setting a very good example in form time
Joe C - Always volunteering to help and to read

9D2

Emily T
Erin R
for their mature attitude towards their subjects

9M1

Eva D - for making such a positive start at OTA
Scarlett D - for supporting Eva and being a good friend

9Z1

Keegan R - Such a pleasant student who shows resilience though school can be challenging for him. He is also a critical thinker. It would be interesting to pick his brain outside of the academic setting
George N - Working hard to achieve high outcomes, showing leadership potential. Brilliant music assessment too!

9Z2

Tommy S - For always being willing to read and participate in form time activities. Great work with the Essex Girls and Boys project.
Ben H - For being cooperative and polite during form time

A huge congratulations to Ollie. A (9A2) who boxed his way to a Gold medal at the England Boxing Schoolboys Contest last weekend. Keep up the good work!





I would also like to recognise the outstanding talent that is our wonderful Year 9 Ethan. A and his wonderful partner Sophia. S (Yr8) who had an amazing time competing at the iconic Blackpool Tower. It was an incredibly busy international competition, and the duo achieved 4th place in Under 14 Ballroom, 5th place in the Jive in the Junior 10 dance, and semi-finalists in a majority of the other events they entered. Congratulations on such fantastic results and well done for following your passion and promoting a love of all things dance! They are looking forward to their upcoming competitions both national and international.

I am also so proud to mention a wonderful act of kindness demonstrated by a member of Year 9. Jake. W (9D2) very bravely helped a member of the local community. He assisted in retrieving a defibrillator and waiting for emergency services to arrive to help an elderly gentleman. Jake helped to save a life, and this truly aligns with everything our CARE values stand for. Well done Jake!

I continue to highlight the students who were selected for the rewards breakfast this Friday for 'the most improved'. This can be awarded to students for various reasons: Improved attainment, attitude to learning, self-confidence and personal goals reached and recognising improved behaviour. Well done to the students below.

Harry. T	Ayla. K	Jamie. G	Lia. M	Aaliah. D
Leo. S	Nathan. B	Beau. D	Bella. M	Taylon. S
Emily. T	Megan. K	James. D	Keegan. R	Olivia. G

Students have now had their options booklets distributed to them, alongside an assembly led by Ms Paralic. I would urge you to read through this with your child/ren during half term. After half term, students will have an options fair, where they can talk to current students on the courses and staff members. Please take your time in making your option decisions.

Please direct any options question to Mr Madajczyk.

@rmadajczyk@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

[Ormiston Rivers Academy - Year 9 Options Hub](#)

I wish you all a happy and restful half term. I am off on the ski trip with the school and hoping to return without any broken bones! Take care.

Contact: cthurtle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 – Ms Taylor

This week I would like to congratulate Madison Poulter for receiving a Jack Petchey award at athletics. This is a massive achievement, and she should be very proud of herself.

This week in assembly I have told Year 10 about the need for positive conduct and attendance over 95% in order to be invited to prom, unless there are extenuating circumstances that we are aware of - so please do keep the lines of communication open.

Top merit achievers this week are:

Kaelen A - D1, Sam S - D1, Max C - D1, Hollie P - D1, Suzie P - D1, Riley W - D1, Bobby B - D1, Freya C - D1, Georgie C - D1, Sienna B - D1, Tylor E - D1, Tom N - D1, Bella W - M2, Maisie S - Z2, Ava H - D1, Tia O - D1, Faith W - Z2.

Congratulations to Mr O'Toole for the huge number of students in the top achievers this week.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term.

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 - Mr Field

This week's focus has been solely on mock exams and the Year 11 students have set off to a great start. It has been amazing to see the manner in which students have been committing to their revision, getting themselves prepared and their behaviour when it comes to sitting the exams. Exam seasons are a stressful time for all involved, but as the students sit their second round of mocks, their experience continues to grow in preparation for the real thing in the summer.

As we have half term next week, I would like to offer a reminder to help students continue to prepare for their exams during the time off.

- Ensure revision is divided into 20/25 minutes slots with short rest periods in between.
- Exercise helps the brain and the body relax between sessions.
- 8+ hours of sleep which starts before midnight.
- Remain hydrated.

Students have received a letter this week regarding intervention sessions in school over the half term break. I hope the students take up the offer to compliment their own revision.

Have a productive half term.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

What a busy week in Sixth Form. We started the week with a fantastic session with a guest speaker from First Intuition discussing accountancy and finance. Charlie Dix then ran a session with our Yr12 students on CV's and the importance of Work Experience.



This week Sixth Form students took on duty roles across the school which is a fantastic opportunity for leadership responsibilities and creating a positive school culture by providing roles models around the building

This week we had a small visitor in Sixth Form (mini Mrs Wilkins). Sixth Form students enjoyed interacting and communicating with her bringing out their inner child.



Friday Feels

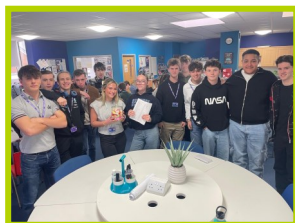
Today is Valentine's Day!!! We are celebrating wearing pink or red and by filling a wall in Sixth Form with post-it notes with things students love about Sixth Form.



We also have a large post box made by Yr13 students that students and staff have been filling over the last week with letters of appreciation to either other students or members of staff. These are being hand delivered today.



Finally, we have a large jar of sweets in the Sixth Form and students are competing to guess the exact amount of sweets to win the whole jar.



Trips

The Summer rewards trip for Year 12 students has been announced as LASER TAG! Letters will be sent out for this and we are looking forward to spending the day with you all.

The next university/apprenticeship career fair trip is on Friday 21st March. This is being held at Emirates Stadium London and we will be returning to school by 3:30pm. Please check ParentPay and complete your consent forms as there a still a few we are waiting on. If you need a manual consent form, please see Mrs Penberthy.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

OAT Oxbridge Programme

Following the launch of the OAT Oxbridge programme which aims to support students with applying to Oxford, Cambridge and Russel Group universities. All Year 12 students are invited to attend the virtual talk about the programme on Tuesday 25th February 3:30pm-4:30pm and the Personal Statement Presentation on Wednesday 7th May 3:30pm-4:30pm.

Exams/Study

Mrs Penberthy will continue to host an optional revision session in the Sixth Form area titled "Pemboodle's Revision". She provided snacks and light background music to create a warm and inviting environment. This session will run every Wednesday 3:20 - 4:20pm.

PPE's

PPE's finished this week for Sixth Form students. Students were offered study leave but many have chosen to work in the building and study in groups. Year 12 students have also behaved impeccably, arriving to exams ahead of time and in a mature manner. We are very proud of our students.

Academic Tutoring

Please make sure you are all checking your emails daily and attend your academic tutoring session on time. These 1:1 sessions are aimed at helping students develop critical thinking and independent learning skills and ultimately improve confidence. As discussed with Year 12's this week, we are focussing on their future careers, and Academic Tutoring can help students identify and achieve career goals and improve professional relationships.

WEX

Work Experience has been launched with Year 12 for week commencing 7th July. It has been fantastic to see so many students already completing applications and contacting organisations. Remember the work industry is highly competitive, work experience you complete now could be a deciding point in your future career. Please speak to the Sixth Form Team if you need any support.

Sixth Form Applications

Interviews are now completed for Sixth Form. Letters are being sent out today with conditional offers.



Throwback Thursday

This week we introduced you to Dani who has a BSc in Psychology and Counselling and a Masters MSc in Business and Psychology. While in Sixth Form Dani English, Sociology, Performing Arts and Drama & Theatre Studies. To find out more, follow us @riversixthform.

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.

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.



Catering



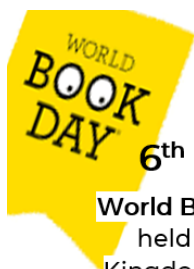
March

1st St David's day

St David's Day Celebrations.
Traditionally known as the "feast day of Saint David", March 1st has been a day of celebration in Wales since the 12th century and as well as St David as his achievements, it's a day to honor Wales as a whole.

On Monday the 3rd march we will be celebrating by the best of Welsh produce.

We will be making chicken and leek pie, leek and potato soup and Welsh cakes.



March

6th world book day

World Book Day is a charity event held annually in the United Kingdom and Ireland on the first Thursday in March, the event was first celebrated in the United Kingdom in 1998..Our mission is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income.

Look out for the themed menu for this event



March

3rd - 7th School breakfast week

National School Breakfast Week (NSBW) celebrates the importance of a nutritious school breakfast in fuelling students for success.

We will be show casing over the first week in March, smoothies, overnight oats, poached egg and bacon muffins, crumpets, cereals, and a selection of fruit with may more options on offer.



March

17th St Patricks day

The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and, by extension, celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish in general. Celebrations generally involve public parades and festivals, céilithe, and the wearing of green attire or shamrocks.

We will be selling Grasshopper brownies for a little nod to the day



March

25th International waffle day

International Waffle Day – 25th March. For something a little different this March, it could be time to get your waffle on. International Waffle Day was created in Sweden, where they have supposedly been eating these loaded treats since the 1600s.

We will be celebrating national waffle day by many different toppings, fruit, cream, chocolate, ice cream etc. Look out for the menu on the day



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.

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: 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.



Essex County Council

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'.



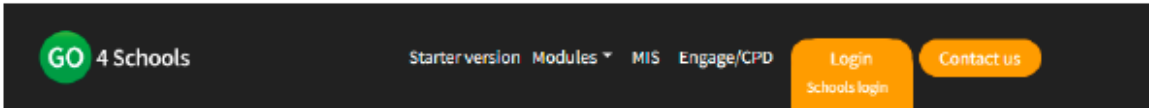
Parent / Carer Login

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



Ormiston RIVERS Academy

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



Welcome to GO 4 Schools

Your school can make better decisions with information that is accurate, up to date, complete,

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



	Overview	Attendance live percentage for the academic year (24hr update).
	Attendance	Behaviour positive and negative points.
	Behaviour	Homework see what homework has been set.
	Homework	Inbox messages from the school will be displayed here.
	Inbox	Progress grades for assessments taken over the academic year.
	Progress	Reports Annual written communication including strengths and next steps.
	Reports	Timetable full academic timetable.
	Timetable	

Sign in with GO First-time user? Forgotten Password?

If you have forgotten your password, you can reset it by entering your email address.

Email address

Forgotten Password

If you have forgotten your password, click 'Forgotten your Password' which is located just below the sign in option.

Enter your school email address and a password reset will be emailed to your school account.



G4S App Login

1 – Download the app.



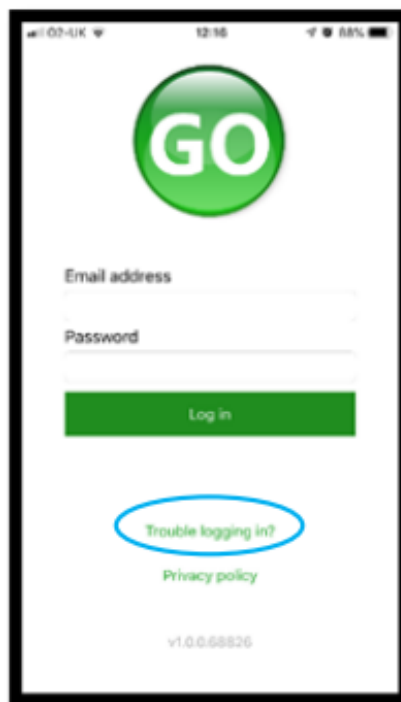
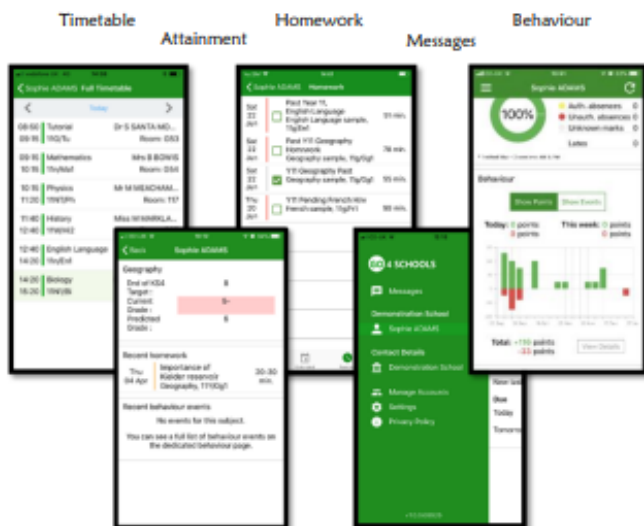
[Click here](#)

[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.