



Message from the Principal

It was lovely to welcome our students back to the academy after the half term break.

On Monday we had our annual OAT led INSET day for staff. It was great to hear from our CEO, Tom Rees, about the progress of the Trust and a keynote speaker on teaching and learning. This half term we will be focusing on the effective use of mini whiteboards to drive the thought of students in the classroom.

Our Year 11 students continued their mock exams this week and I would once again like to commend them on their mature approach to these important assessments.

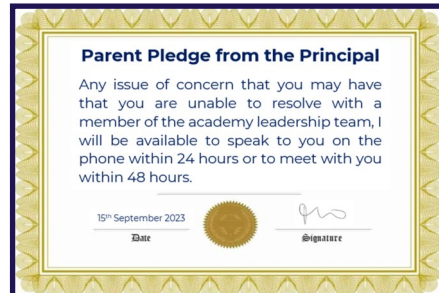
On Tuesday, as part of Anglia Ruskin Universities 'Cook up Your Maths, Amplify your Talent' programme, some of our Year 9 students were invited to attend a cookery school day at Braxted Park Cookery School to cook recipes they have been developing in the in-school sessions.

On the sporting front, our Year 9 girls football and netball teams attended a fixture against Chelmer Valley High School.

Next Thursday 6th March is World Book Day and we would like to invite parents, carers and grandparents of our Year 7 & 8 students to our 'Reading Breakfast'. Our Library will be open on this day at 8.45am until 9.20am for you to share a book with your child, explore the library and find out more about reading recommendations. Refreshments will be provided and it would be fantastic to see lots of parents and carers getting involved with your child's reading journey. If you would like to attend, please email lsams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing our students on their return on Monday.

Jo Williams, Principal



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 6th March - 8.45am

World Book Day - Year 7 & 8 Parent & Carer Reading Breakfast

Thursday 20 March 2025

Year 11 Academic Parents Evening

Monday 31 March 2025

Year 8 Parents Evening



Parents Evenings 2024-25

Year 11 Academic - 20 March 2025

Year 8 - 31 March 2025

Year 7 - 6 May 2025





Tea with the Principal

On Friday 28th February, 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 CARE values..

Bobby F (10Z1)	Samuel H (10Z1)	Sid L (10A2)	Blake V (10A2)
Isabelle J (10M2)	Jaya N (10M2)	Ola S (10Z2)	Maisie B (10Z2)
Freya C (10D1)	Max C (10D1)	Edward B (10M1)	Finn O (10M1)
Emily B (10A1)	Keira E (10A1)		



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 **"Rehydrate"**.

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

Say it: ree·hai·drayt

Spell it: Re-hy-drate

(Prefix) **hydro** - water - can be 'hydra'
(Suffix) - **ate** make into, become; put into action

Rehydrate
(verb)

Stem: hydra:- water

Understand it

He process of causing something to reabsorb water again

Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

This week we held the second round of the Year 10 Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. We had some excellent speeches from three students in Year 10 which were delivered to the Year 8 Assembly. Ash 10M1 spoke about Why Trump should be president, Isobel 10Z2 spoke about beauty standards and Finn 10M1 spoke about empathy. All three speeches had inspirational messages for our students and were brilliantly delivered. One student will go through to the Regional Finals in Colchester at the end of April.

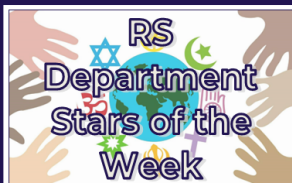


Well done to all involved.



Español Megan G Yr 8

FRANÇAIS Shaine B Yr 9



Sienna R Yr 10



Year 9 ARU Maths Programme Trip to Braxted Cookery School

A group of Year 9 students went to Braxted Cookery School on Tuesday as part of their Cook up your Maths programme. They had previously designed recipes and budgeted their money. On Tuesday they were given ingredients to make their recipes, and they produced some amazing food. Well done to all Year 9 students involved.



Following on from this, there is a Campus Day at ARU in Chelmsford, where students will have a tour around campus, eat lunch on site and sample some lessons.



Year 7 Netball

On Tuesday 25th February the Year 7 girls had a home fixture against Chelmer High School. They played incredibly well with lots of enthusiasm, but unfortunately lost 6-3. There were lots of positives to take away from the match and lots of points to work on going forward. The player of the match was Lola K 7D2 playing in wing defence.



Year 9 Football

Our Year 9 girls also played a football fixture against Chelmer High School. With a very small team we played 5v5 and even with a player down we managed to win 6-1. The girls showed incredible pace and determination. Well, done girls. Player of the match was Sophie L 9D1 who did a superb job in goal.



We've had a shortened but productive week back. There are just a couple of classes that we are still waiting for their tests to be completed but all the results and data will be on Go4Schools within the next couple of weeks.

This week has also seen the introduction of more starter activities using white boards which I feel the students have engaged with well.

Year 7 have been looking at spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel which allows the students to practice using formulas in much the same way as they would using a programming language, and while there isn't an exam that explicitly uses this software, I'm sure that most parent carers would agree that spreadsheet skills are useful to learn for a multitude of jobs in the real world.

Year 8 have been starting work with the CPU with some impressive efforts from Ava and James in 8R/Cs1. They used the 'little Man Computer' to write Assembly Language Code and see the relationship between the CPU and RAM.

Year 9 have now all handed in their graphic design projects and will be graded on this over the next week or two. They have now started learning about Boolean Logic which links in nicely with the GCSE curriculum. BBC Bitesize has some nice resources for Boolean Logic for those that would like to do some research at home.

Year 10 have been revising for their forthcoming test and a special 'well done' to Hazel who has successfully completed all of the Python Challenges.

Year 11 have taken their Component 1 & 2 PPE mock exams and the school will be releasing the results in due course.

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



Exams News



We will complete our February PPE season with final written exams for Y11 in Chemistry and English Literature on Monday. Language Students will take their speaking practice exams during the week commencing 10th March.

The Exams Team would like to congratulate students who have participated in these mocks for their mature attitude towards these exams and for the respect they have shown to each other and to Exams staff and our invigilator team. We now look forward to a very successful Summer exams series.

Good luck to Year 13 Engineering students sitting their Level 3 exam on Monday morning and to Y12 Criminology students in their 3 day controlled assessment next week.

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!

'Gathering Interest' emails were sent to Year 7, 8 & 9 parents on Thursday to gauge numbers on these trips (as the venues will have limits and also transport will need to be arranged).

Gathering Interest Links:

Year 7 – Southend Adventure Island – <https://forms.office.com/e/0iUGU3BzUi>

Year 8 – Stubbers Activity Centre – <https://forms.office.com/e/d6xupqQ3Gd>

Year 9 – Thorpe Park – <https://forms.office.com/e/zPEgLsKsgt>

Year 12 – Laser Warfare: Woodland Combat - <https://forms.office.com/e/bTspD7H4Ez>

Please can parents respond by the end of the day on Monday 3rd March. After this date responses will be checked.



2025 Ski Trip - Sestriere, Italy

Over the half term holidays, 39 students and 7 staff headed to Sestriere in Italy for the school's annual ski trip. Sestriere was a new resort for the school but one that did not disappoint!

Despite the long journey, the roads and ferry crossings were kind to us, and we got there without any delays before lunch time on the Saturday. After a quick stop at the hotel, we then made our way to ski hire to collect our kit before heading back to the hotel for a much-needed rest.

The first day saw all students meet in Sestriere where the beginners used a gentle slope and 2 different-sized travelators as they began their lessons. Our top group were quickly away, quite literally blasting their way around the mountains.

As the groups progressed, the top group started to venture into Sauze D'oulx and the beginners even started to try the drag lift and longer runs. The intermediate group were also starting to see much more of the resort in perfect, sunny conditions.

We also had some fun evening activities; Miss Thurtle put on an excellent quiz that was won by the Year 11 girls. We also had a night at the cinema to watch the new Captain America movie, some delicious gelato in town and an evening at a sports centre where we were able to play football and volleyball.

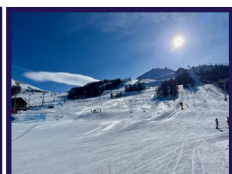
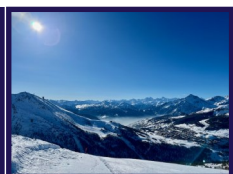
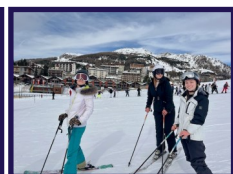
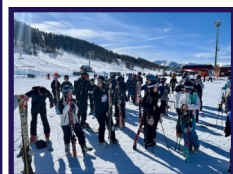
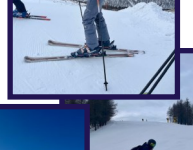
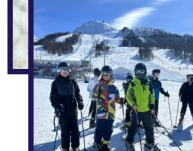
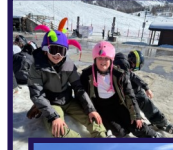
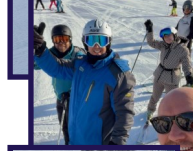
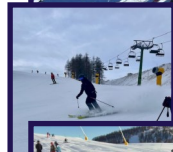
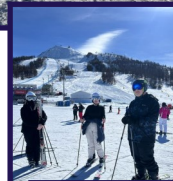
The most pleasing aspect of the trip, however, was the safe and steady progress made by all the skiers; it was a joy to hear them talk about their day and what they had been up to. I also hope they appreciated being in such a beautiful setting.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff that accompanied the trip, without their support the trip would not go ahead. I'd also like to thank the parents that provided their children with such a wonderful opportunity.

Places are still available for February 2026, please refer to the letter sent by Mr Jones if you are interested.

Many thanks for everyone's efforts and well done to our great group of skiers!

Mr Clay - Ski Party Leader





Dear Parents, Carers & Guardians



Safer Schools England

We are delighted to invite you as parents to download our Safer Schools App provided by our school insurance provider Zurich Municipal for free.



About the App:

The App is designed to support and protect children by educating and empowering you with the Information you need to help keep them safe online. You will receive alerts regarding identified online dangers so that you are well informed and can act if necessary. If you are worried about securing your child`s device, have a question regarding online laws, need to report an incident, want to find out if the app they use is safe? - the App will be able to help you with all of that. As adults we are also vulnerable online - there is a comprehensive knowledge base to help you keep you safe too.

Your child will be encouraged to install a child version of the app- **They do not enter any details (no emails etc) due to GDPR only a PIN.**



Excited? Ready to make your children safer? Download the Safer Schools App now!

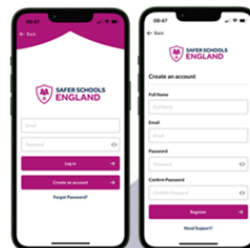
Make sure to enable push notifications to keep up-to-date with our tips, advice and guidance on how to keep your children safe.

Please Note: Only email and passwords are needed for adults

Step 1 – The App is free to download from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Simply search Safer Schools England.

Follow the Table of Contents on the right-hand side to go directly to the sections you need. As an adult user, you'll need to start by creating an account. **We do not require the children to do this due to GDPR compliance.** Your account is used to allow you to utilise the features with the App.

Step 2 - You'll now be prompted for an email address and password. If this is your first time, select Create An Account in the box un   in bar. Enter your name, use an email address you have access to and create a password.



Step 3 - Once filled, tap Register. You'll then see a terms and conditions pop-up. You'll need to scroll down to highlight the Agree button. Once it's highlighted, you can tap Agree. If you do not scroll down, you will not be able to continue. Once this has been agreed to, your new account has been created and you'll be directed to the Add School Or Role page.




These are the details you will use whenever you need to log in to the Mobile App or the Web App.



Step 4 - Next we need to add your role or roles. This corresponds to your role within the school community. All content is age and role appropriate, so as a parent you may see slightly different features or content or have different capabilities than your child's school staff or your child themselves.

Each role has its own **4-Digit PIN Number** or **QR Entry Code**. Once you've logged in, you'll be prompted to **Add School**. These codes can only be obtained from your school Admin Account holders. Once you have the relevant one, **Enter the 4-Digit PIN Number** (after searching for your school) or **Scan the QR Entry Code** (there is no need to search for your school if using this option). You will then immediately be logged in to the corresponding role, and this will be saved to your account.

 The Scan QR code option will open an in-App camera to scan it with. This is the one that **must** be used otherwise it will not work.

How do I use my codes?

The **4-Digit PIN Number** or the **QR Entry Codes** are provided by the school and are unique to every school.

Logging in with a PIN Code

If using a **PIN Code** to log in, you'll need to search the school name first. Once you see it pop up in the list, select it and click Continue. Then you'll see a screen with 4 spaces. Enter your unique **4-Digit PIN Number** here, and tap **Enter Code**.

Logging in with a QR entry code

If using a **QR Entry Code**, you won't need to search the school's name. Just tap the **Scan QR Code** option and this will open a camera in-App for you to scan it with. Once you do, this will log you in/add the correct school and role to your account immediately.






Parent Pin for Ormiston Rivers is: **6770**

The QR entry code to use is:



Still feeling unsure:

Contact the Safer Schools England Service Desk using the contact details below.

-  Check out our other [support articles](#)
-  Take a look at our [instructional videos](#)
-  Phone: 02896005777
-  Email: saferschools@ineqe.com
-  Website: Visit [Safer Schools](#) and use the Live Chat

Any other issues please email dgibson@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 7 - Mr Moon

Welcome back Year 7. We had a shorter week this week and it was nice way to settle back into old routines.

Next week we have World Book Day on Thursday. We also have new clubs starting after school with Badminton on Monday and weights room and exercise classes on Thursday for the Year 7's.

Student Shoutouts:

Attendance for Year 7 is 94.05% this week I know this time of year is hard with illness, but it is so important that we try to get to school so that we can achieve our goal of being the best year group. The tutor group with the best attendance this week is 7A1 with 95.82 %.

Top 3 merit earners this week 1st Grace 7A2 with 240 merits, 2nd we have Esme 7A2 with 210 merits and in 3rd place we have Autumn 7A2 with 200. Well done to all of you, keep up the great work. I think it goes without saying that 7A2 are top this week in merits so a special well-done to all of 7A2. I know Mrs Cope is very proud of you all.

There have been 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 to read during the week. The library is open during lunch for you to explore new books!

Mobile Phones: Phones should be off and out of sight during school hours. If you need to contact a parent or guardian, please use student reception.

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

CARE Cards: Parents, please ask your children if they have received any CARE cards each day, as I am hearing from the students that they are not showing people at home when they have received one, which is a real shame because you should be able to share in their joy for their achievements, so please ask your child about the CARE cards.

I Hope you all have a restful weekend and look forward to see you all on Monday.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Ms Scott

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome Year 8 back after the half-term break and see them settle quickly into the new school term. The students have returned looking smart and presentable in their uniforms, with minimal uniform issues. Their punctuality and conduct during the morning line-up have been excellent, making the start of each day efficient and disruption-free. I am incredibly proud of them for setting such a positive tone for the term ahead.

To support a smooth transition back to school routines, the Headteacher delivered an assembly on the first day back, reinforcing our school expectations and reminding students of the importance of respectful behaviour. After a week away from the usual structure of school life, this was a valuable opportunity to re-establish our high standards.

Additionally this week, Ms. Sams led an emotional literacy assembly, where three Year 11 students competed for the prestigious Jack Petchey Award. They delivered powerful and moving speeches on topics including politics, beauty standards, and personal experiences, such as living with dyspraxia. These speeches were truly inspiring, and I encourage all Year 8 students to explore their own passions in writing. Hopefully, many will consider applying for the Jack Petchey Award when they reach Year 11, where they could win £100 for their creative achievements.

Students were also reminded about the exciting upcoming Felsted Summer School opportunity. If they are interested, they must submit their applications by next week. This is a fantastic chance for them to get involved in something meaningful, and I encourage all who are eligible to apply.

On a more serious note, I would like to remind parents and carers that our school has a zero-tolerance policy towards racism. Unfortunately, we have noticed an increase in racist comments this week, with some students not fully understanding the impact of their words. Please take the time to discuss this important issue with your child, ensuring they are aware of unacceptable language and the harm it can cause to others. As a school, we are committed to fostering an environment of respect, kindness, and inclusivity.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting rewards planned, including our end-of-year trip to Stubbers. Attendance on this trip will be based on students' behaviour and attendance records, so I encourage all Year 8 students to remain focused and continue demonstrating positive attitudes throughout the term.

Well done to the following students who are the highest merit earner's this week. A fantastic accomplishment for the first week back!

Paige - 8A1

Rose - 8Z1

Lara - 8z1

Jude - 8D1

Charlie - 8A2

Thomas - 8Z1

Zach - 8M1

Callie-Mai - 8Z1

Lexi-Jaye - 8Z1

Max - 8M1

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Year 9 – Ms Thurtle

Dear Parent/Carers,

It has been a pleasure to see Year 9 return to school with such a positive mindset. The line-ups have been excellent, and students are ready to learn.

On Friday students attended the Options Fair in the main hall and were given their Options form to complete. Please take time over the weekend to discuss options with your child.

Students have also completed a Careers survey, to inform the school of opportunities our Year 9 students would like to see around Rivers.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved the highest number of merits this week.

Chloe. C 9Z1
Henry. T 9A1
Samuel. S 9Z1
Oliver. C 9Z1

Student responsibilities: It is the student's responsibility to ensure they are utilising lesson time by attending all lessons on time, working positively with staff and making every learning minute count.

Parental involvement: It is encouraged that you regularly monitor homework and classwork, as well as open discussions about school progress. It can be beneficial to have an allocated learning setting at home with set times for study. Reading with your child daily improves literacy skills, develops vocabulary, comprehension and fluency, which are vital for academic success. I would always recommend watching TV with subtitles and reading an autobiography.

Here are some additional links to things that will be useful for you:

[OAT Maths](#)
[Ormiston Rivers Academy - Assessment & Reporting](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

Contact: cthurtle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 – Ms Taylor

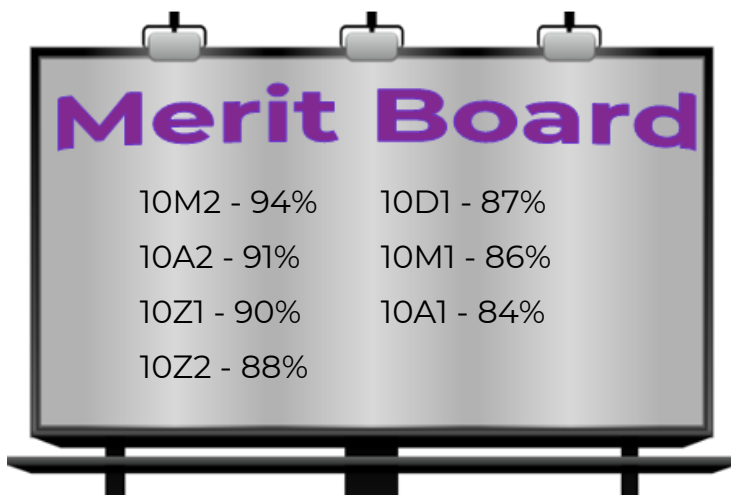
It was lovely to welcome Year 10 back on Tuesday, and they have had a positive week. Many have returned with a positive approach to work, and I have seen this in science, English and Food this week. They are using mini whiteboards as a means to show their teachers their understanding and where I have seen this used, they seem to enjoy it.

Year 10 students were rewarded today with hot chocolate with the Principal. Congratulations to those students who were nominated by their mentors.

Top merit achievers this week are:



As we head towards Easter and the treats in form time, the weekly merit table for forms is:



Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 - Mr Field

Year 11 have had their 2nd week of Mock exams over the past 4 days. As previously mentioned in the newsletter before half term, it is still great to see how the students have remained focussed and prepared for their exams. This is invaluable experience where everyone is gaining the resilience and excellence they will need for their upcoming exams in the summer. Well done everyone and I hope you are rewarded with the best possible grades to help you along with your future ambitions.

Once the exams have been marked, students will receive their grades in a special assembly, with each student receiving their collective marks in an envelope to replicate what would occur on results day.



After the science exam on Monday, students will receive a letter concerning the option to order a leavers hoodie. Please return the letter fully completed and with the relevant signatures.

Just a reminder that if students would like to go to the end of year prom and have not returned their confirmation letter, please could this be returned ASAP.



Thank you and I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

We hope everyone had a fantastic half term and it has been lovely seeing our students return this week with a clear mindset and ready to learn.

Friday Feels

This term we will be focussing on something to do with Comic Relief - please let us know any ideas you may have.

Year 13 Yearbook

Plans have commenced and the photoshoot is taking place today. What better way to look back at your time at Rivers Sixth Form! We will also be arranging a whole year photo when the weather is a little warmer.



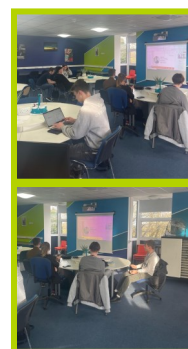
Trips

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 are still a few we are waiting on. If you need a manual consent form, please see Mrs Penberthy. The deadline is today!

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.

OAT Oxbridge Programme

Following the launch of the OAT Oxbridge programme which aims to support students with applying to Oxford, Cambridge and Russell Group universities. A group of Year 12 students attended the virtual talk about the programme on Tuesday 25th February. These students are now completing applications to be accepted on the programme. The next session will be a Personal Statement Presentation on Wednesday 7th May 3:30pm-4:30pm and this will be available to any students looking to attend university.



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.

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.

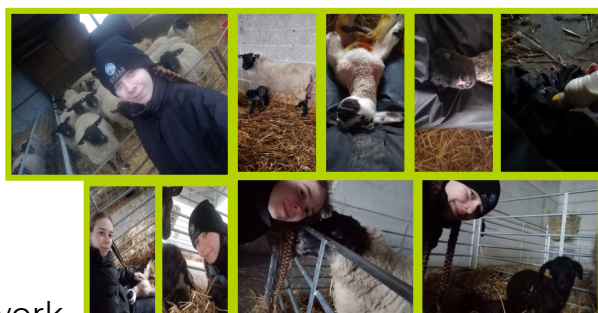


RIVERS SIXTH FORM

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.

Marli has already completed her work experience at Butterfields Farm - a 1500 acre arable-sheep farm carrying 500 breeding ewes. She assisted with lambing, including feeding, watering and administering medications. She found the experience educational, and she has been offered a summer shepherding position. We are very proud of how professional Marli has been while keeping up with her work.



Sixth Form Applications

Interviews are now completed for Sixth Form and letters have been sent out to all students who applied with conditional offers or the outcome of the meeting.

Throwback Thursday

This week we introduced you to Beth who has a degree in Sociology with Social Psychology. She is currently working as a SEND teaching assistant in a Special Needs school and working towards her teacher training to become a SENCO. While in Sixth Form Beth studied Sociology, Performing Arts Health & Social Care and Child Development. To find out more, follow us @riversixthform



Beth
BA Sociology with Social Psychology
Beth studied Sociology, Performing Arts,
Health and Social Care and Child
Development at Rivers Sixth Form

Housekeeping

We are noticing a few lanyards not being worn again. This is a requirement of a Sixth Form student.

Summer Ball letters will be going out next week - the date this year is Friday 27th June at the Royal Corinthian.

We understand that this time of year is very stressful, and students may start feeling the pressure of exams. Please do speak to Mrs Penberthy or Mrs Wilkins if you have any concerns.

Please follow our Instagram account for regular updates @riverssixthform
Remember to call Mrs Penberthy to report absences 01621 787882

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.



Win·An·Easter·Egg!¶



Suggest·a·grab·'n'·go· option·for·break¶

- Design·a·recipe·for·a·grab·'n'·go·item¶
- It·must·cost·no·more·than·£1.50·to·make¶
- Give·it·a·name¶
- Write·it·on·a·ticket¶
- Add·your·name·&·tutor·group¶
- Pop·it·in·the·box¶

All·entries·will·be·judged·for·originality,·cost·and·tastiness.·Two·winners·will·be·chosen·and·presented·with·one·of·the·above·Easter·eggs·during·end·of·term·assembly.·The·selected·recipe·will·also·be·produced·by·our·catering·team.¶

Deadline·for·entries:·Friday·28th·March¶



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.



Red Nose Day 2025 - 21st March

We are now selling red noses in the Academy Shop. They are £1, all monies received will be sent to the charity. Please help us raise as much as we can.



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'.



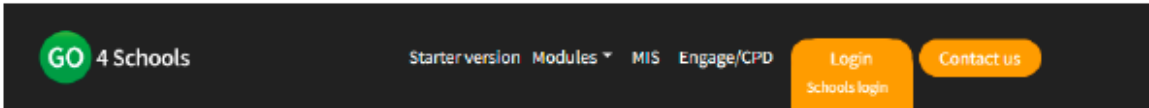
Parent / Carer Login

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.



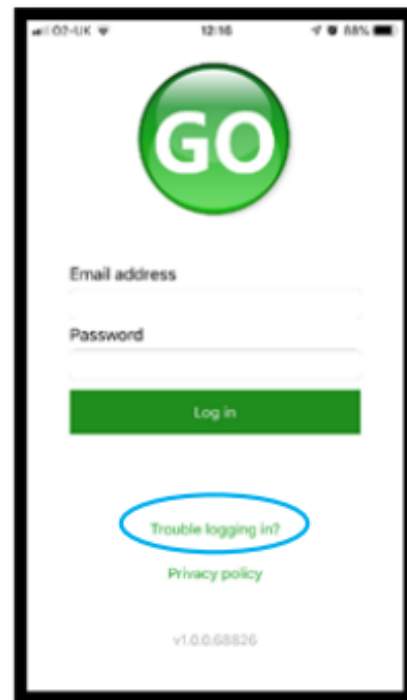
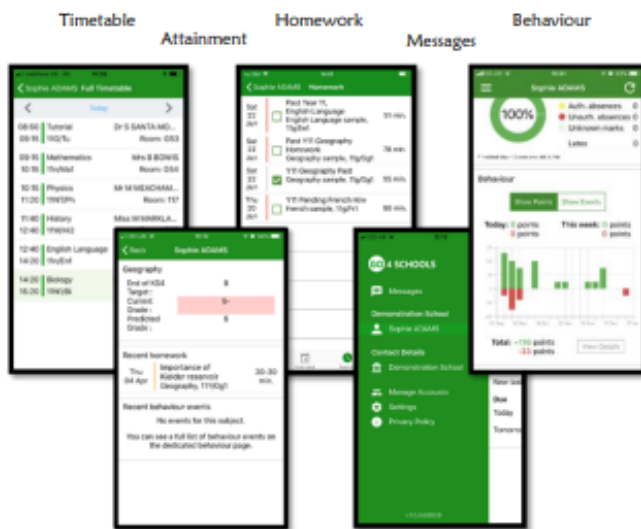
[Click here](#)

[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.



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



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
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**Weekly
Newsletter**

Issue # 21 - 28th February 2025



COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

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