



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have had the pleasure of welcoming so many members of our wider community through our doors, sharing the vibrant spirit of our school and showcasing all we have to offer.

Our Open Morning Tours for prospective Year 7 students have been a great success, with enthusiastic families exploring the academy and learning more about life at Rivers. If you have siblings considering joining us next year, please note that the deadline to apply for a Year 7 place for September 2026 is **31st October 2025**. Applications should be made via the Local Authority website: [Secondary school places | Essex County Council](#)

On Tuesday, we hosted our Rivers Sixth Form Open Evening. With growing student numbers, strong A Level results, and a wide range of post-16 pathways, it was a pleasure to meet so many prospective students and families. A huge thank you to our Sixth Form team, staff, and current students for creating such a welcoming and informative event. For a glimpse into Sixth Form life, follow us on Instagram: [@RiversSixthForm](#)

We also welcomed our current Year 7 parents and carers into the academy this week. It was a valuable opportunity to meet Form Tutors and Head of Year, and to connect with the dedicated staff supporting your children. As always, your child's Form Tutor is your first point of contact for any questions or concerns.

Looking ahead, our Year 11 students are preparing for their mock GCSE exams after half term. Ms Taylor, Head of Year, along with our subject teachers, are providing all the guidance and support needed during this important time.

It's been a busy week for our PE department, with exciting fixtures both home and away. Our students have represented Rivers in netball, football, and rugby across multiple year groups. A big well done to everyone who took part; your commitment and team spirit are inspiring!

A reminder on attendance: Regular attendance is vital to academic success. Research shows that students with attendance below 95% typically underachieve by approximately one grade on average. Every day in school matters, and we encourage all students to be present and punctual to make the most of their learning opportunities.

Wishing you all a restful weekend. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, refreshed and ready for another brilliant week at Rivers.

Warm regards,

Dijana Piralic
Principal (Interim)



Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th October 2025

Staff INSET Day – academy closed to students

Monday 20th October – Friday 31st October 2025 (2 weeks)

Autumn half term holiday

Monday 3rd November 2025

All students return after half term



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 **“Conversion”**.

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

Say it: kuhn·vuh·zhn

Spell it: Con-ver-sion

Conversion

(noun)

(Prefix) **con** - together, with; altogether
(Stem) **vert/vers** - bend, turn
(Suffix) **sion** - act, process, result of

Stem: · / vert- bend / turn

Understand it

The process of changing one thing to another, e.g. changing the format or structure of something, religious beliefs or units of measure.



Ongoing Competitions

I am elated to announce that we have launched our first Writing Competition for the academic year 2025-2026. This Poetry Young Writer's Competition is titled- 'I Have a Dream' which allows students to write a poem of any length about an ambition, dream or passion that is of interest to them or anything that they are passionate about in life. **The submission date is October 22, 2025.** Please encourage students to enter this competition as they have the chance of winning £250, cinema tickets and Apple AirPods and have their work published in a book. Information for this competition has gone out in tutor trays and students can see, Miss Durrant in E05 for entry forms and more information. **Entries must be original and should be typed and emailed by the end date.**

Completed entries can be emailed to me at sdurrant@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

I look forward to the lovely entries that I will receive.

Miss Durrant



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all students and families who supported our Book Fair by purchasing new books and stationery. Every purchase helps support the school Library, and it was lovely to see so many students looking at the books and deciding what to read. Remember to complete the special book review when you have read your book and hand it to Mrs Yerbury, Librarian for a chance to win a prize!

Watch this space for news about another Book Fair next term!



Book of the Month October BLACK HISTORY MONTH

When Donte is suspended from school and arrested, framed for something he didn't do, he knows it would never have happened to his lighter-skinned brother, Trey. This is the story about his journey to find his voice against racism.

BLACK BROTHER, BLACK BROTHER by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Recommended for Years 7 & 8

CHILDREN OF BLOOD AND BONE by Tomi Adeyemi

Recommended for Years 9+

Here are some more books you could read...

The Infinite by Patience Agabari

Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah

Hacker by Malorie Blackman

Black History Matters by Robin Walker

The Door of No Return by Kwame Alexander (Y8+)

Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson (Y9+)

This Poison Heart by Kallynn Bayron (Y9+)

Song Beneath the Tides by Beverley Birch (Y9+)

Hidden Figures by Margo Lee Shetterly (Y9+)

What is Book of the Month?
Each month we recommend books for you to read and review; introduce new authors and genres.

We have several copies of each book, issued on a first-come, first-served basis - books are loaned for 2 weeks only to allow as many students as possible to read them. We encourage you to share your opinions and thoughts about the books by completing reviews, challenges and activities - outstanding entries will be rewarded with certificates and badges!

For more information see Mrs Yerbury, Librarian

Ormiston RIVERS Academy

Book of the Month

October is Black History Month, and we have chosen fantastic books for you to read, review and work towards a Reader of the Month badge! Black Brother, Black Brother by Jewell Parker Rhodes is a story about two brothers, and one boy's struggle against racism. It covers themes of prejudice and bullying, and follows Donte's journey to find his own voice.

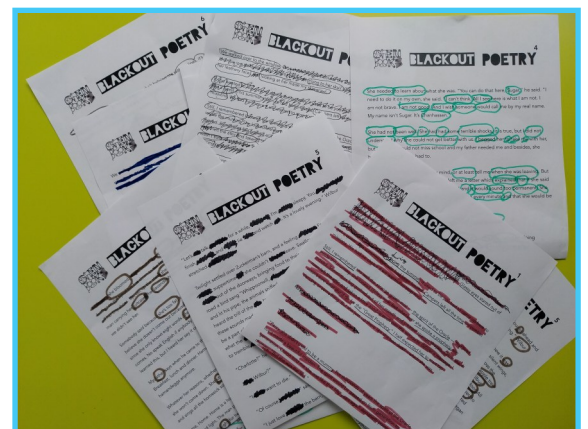
Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi (Year 8+ readers) follows a teenage girl's quest to reclaim the heritage that has been taken from her people. Set in Africa, this fantasy novel is a story of magic, adventure and identity.

Looking ahead to November, we will be recommending a selection of Horror and Suspense stories for you to read.

National Poetry Day

The Library joined with the English department to celebrate National Poetry Day on Thursday 2nd October. At lunchtime students were invited to create black-out poetry, play poetry bingo, and complete word-game bookmarks. Students who participated will receive merits, and the student that created the best black-out poetry will be awarded an English department Writing badge.

Mrs Yerbury, Librarian and English Teachers Ms Morrison and Ms Durrant were joined by Sixth Form volunteers to encourage students to take part and enjoy the event.



Thank you to everyone that helped to make National Poetry Day celebrations in the Library a success!



Careers Spotlight

Career of the Week - Content Creator

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSqr-DRmb30>

Year 7-10 Take Your Child To Work Days

Year 7,8, 9 and 10 - Take Your Child to Work Day

To widen the understanding and appreciation of the working world, we are delighted to start running the "Take Your Child to Work Day". Your child is invited to participate, and we hope that every student in Year 7-10 will be able to organise a suitable day's experience with a parent, relative, family friend or someone they know well – it does not have to be a parent.

Your help is greatly appreciated in helping to organise this for them. We hope a day can be arranged on either on Friday 17th October 2025 / Friday 5th December 2025 and/ or Monday 23rd February 2026. These are all INSET days, so no lessons will be affected.

The aims of the day are for students to:

- gain an awareness of a workplace organisation
- find out about the jobs that are available in different organisations
- develop an awareness of the skills and qualifications that are required in the workplace
- consider the need to develop an individual learning plan towards employability.

During the workday, all students will be given a booklet of activities to complete called 'My Work Shadowing Day Journal', which will direct their learning. These booklets will be handed out by their form tutor, in advance of the workday in order to allow students time to prepare; there will then be some follow-up activities on their return to school. Certificates and rewards will also be awarded later for the best journals.

Parents should use their own judgement about where their child goes, and I would like to stress that the focus for students will be observation and fact-finding. **The day is not intended to be a hands-on work experience placement and, therefore, for insurance purposes students should be treated as visitors and not workers, as the school cannot be held responsible for your child while they are in the workplace.**

We appreciate your support in organising a suitable, worthwhile experience for your child. If you require further information and advice, please contact me on email on fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Work Experience Weeks

Year 10 Work Experience Week - Monday 20th July - Friday 26th July 2026

Year 12 Work Experience Week - Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July 2026

More information to follow shortlytake a look here in the meantime

[Ormiston Rivers Academy - Work Experience](#)



Year 7 Netball

On Wednesday 1st October, the Year 7 girls played their first netball fixture of the year against Anglo European School. It was a challenging opening game, but the team demonstrated great determination and positivity throughout. The girls can be very proud of their efforts, and with continued practice at club and in

upcoming fixtures, there is lots of potential for growth and success.

A special congratulations goes to Georgia L (7Z1), who was named Player of the Match by Anglo. Well done, girls!



Year 8 and 9 Netball

On Monday night we hosted Anglo European School for 2 netball fixtures.

We were unlucky in both games, but the students showed great resilience and determination.

Players of the match:

Year 8 - Amelia M
Year 9 - Abby S



Netball Club

Its great to see so many of you coming along to netball club, On Wednesday night we focused on gameplay to get our teams ready for their upcoming fixtures this month!

A massive thank you to Halle D & Daisy S who continue to help out at club, week after week.

Athletics Event

On Wednesday 1st October, our Year 12 Sports Leaders helped to organise and run a fantastic primary school athletics event in the ORA Sports hall. Six local primary schools took part, with pupils enjoying a variety of activities including javelin, the vertical jump test, the speed bounce challenge, and a series of exciting running races.

Our Sports Leaders did an outstanding job throughout the event, showing maturity, teamwork and leadership. They were a real credit to the Sixth Form, and the event was a great success thanks to their efforts.





Carnival

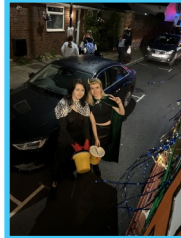
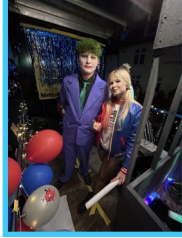
Well done to all the amazing students that represented our school on our first ever Carnival Float. We got lots of cheers from the crowds and all the charity buckets for the Carnival Committee were full!

We placed 1st in the Procession Novelty category and 2nd in the Junior Organisation

category.



Our students also performed beautifully, singing a range of songs and their costumes were brilliant. We can't wait to do another float next year and thank you as parents/carers for your support



Dance Competition

We are very proud of the students that recently performed on stage in a lyrical/contemporary and street dance competition over two days against a large number of other competitors. Norah - 7D1, Lily-Rose & Esme - 8A2, Sophia - 8M2, Emily Rose - 9Z2 and Erin & Adele - 10D2.

The students did extremely well and placed as follows:

3rd - Lyrical Team (all girls plus others still at primary school)

4th - Street Solo - Adele (10D2)

1st - Street Solo - Erin (10D2)

Day two saw further success:

★ 11-13yrs (average age) contemporary quartet - 1st place, (Norah (7D1) Emily (9Z2) Erin and Adele (10D2)

★ 12 & over Street duo - 1st place - Erin and Adele

★ 12 & over Groups - 2nd place 'Tarantism' (all girls plus others still at primary school)

★ 3rd highest score overall for 'Tarantism'

★ 3rd highest score overall, teen novice solo, Erin (this included all styles - contemporary, lyrical, musical theatre, tap, modern/jazz, classical, street, acro, cabaret)

★ Judges Choice Award - Erin and Adele street duo

Well done to all that took part. They received medals and trophies for all their hard work, and we look forward to hearing of further achievements.





Year 7 - Mr Adair

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well and settling into the rhythm of the new school year. It was truly heart-warming to see so many of you at our recent Meet the Tutor evening. Your presence and support make such a difference, and it was a pleasure to connect with you and share how your children are beginning their journey in Year 7.

We've had a fantastic start to the term, and I couldn't be prouder of our students. A special shout-out goes to our incredible Year 7 netball team, who have shown remarkable resilience and teamwork. Their "never say die" attitude on the court has been inspiring to watch, and they've represented our school with pride and determination.

Our involvement in the Burnham Carnival was another highlight. The Year 7 superhero themed entry was a showstopper! The creativity, enthusiasm, and sheer effort from our students and staff were outstanding—and it paid off. We were thrilled to win First Place in one category and Second Place in another. What a brilliant achievement and a testament to the spirit of our Year 7s!

As we move further into the term, I look forward to seeing even more of the energy, kindness, and curiosity that our students have already shown. Thank you again for your continued support, it means the world to us.

Warm regards,

Contact: cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Mr Moon

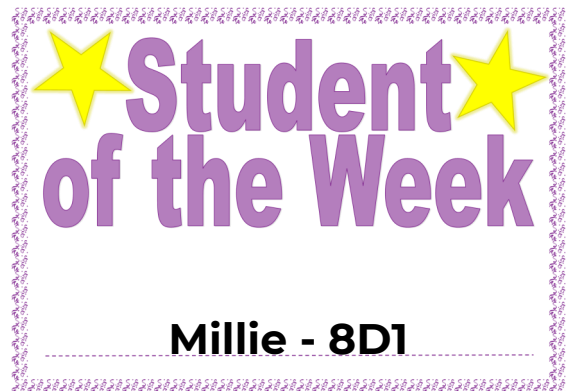
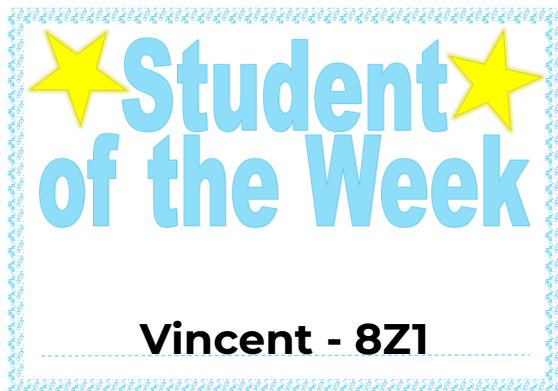
A big well done to our Year 8 Boys football team who played their very first match this week! The team showed fantastic teamwork, determination, and school spirit. We're so proud of how they represented our year group on the pitch.

Another well done to the girls who represented the Year 8 netball team. It was not the result that they had hoped for, but they never gave up and made the school proud with their attitude.

Next week we have the first Year 8 rugby fixture on Thursday.

We had our house assemblies this week, where each house were given progress reports for where they are currently at for the chance to win the house cup this year. We also introduced the new house captains.

Mrs Byford's students of the week:



Top Merit Earners		
Place	Name	Points
1st	Dougie - 8Z1	34 points
2nd	Nicole - 8Z1	24 points
3rd	Rebecca - 8D1	22 points

I hope you all have a restful and relaxing weekend, and I am looking forward a new start next week.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 9 – Mr Chapman

Top Merit Earners – This Week

Congratulations to our standout students for their achievements this week:

- Zack N (9M1)
- Lara M (9Z1)
- Sophie S (9D2)

Top Merit Earners – Year to Date

A special mention to our consistent high achievers so far this year:

- Ava B (9A2)
- Isabelle R (9A2)
- Alfred H (9M1)

Black History Month

October marks Black History Month. Over the coming weeks, history lessons will explore the contributions of BAME individuals to British and global history. Assemblies next week will also reflect on this important theme.

Mental Health Awareness Week

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. We'll be highlighting the importance of wellbeing and encouraging open conversations around mental health across the school.

Half Term Countdown

Just two weeks to go until half term. Let's keep the momentum going—well done to everyone for your continued effort and enthusiasm!

Contact: rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 - Mr Field

Assemblies this week focussed on House competitions where students were introduced to house competitions and how they could collect points for their houses.

On visiting lessons this week it was great to students improving their knowledge of feeding young babies in child development.

Top performing students receiving positive points this week were:

Alfie, Kieran, George, Tegan, Jamie, Shaine, Logan, Pippa, Lily, Lily, Logan, George, Harry & Tyler. Well done to you all , keep up the hard work.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 11 – Ms Taylor

As the half term approaches, students should be actively engaged in revision after school in preparation for their next set of PPE exams in November. These will be the grades that students will put on applications for post 16 courses, and so they should be treating them as they would the real GCSEs.

There is no limit to the number of applications they can submit, and I recommend that students apply for any course that interests them. Many have visited open evenings and submitted applications - and this helps with motivation. On the following page, I have attached a list of local open evenings for your reference. This really is the time for future planning.

Please check the details of any open event before travelling – the information will be on the college websites. You may have to book in advance – booking information will also be on the college websites.

I am more than happy to work with any student on revision techniques and timetables and they can find me in the Year 11 study area during any break or lunch time.

Please be aware that I am starting to plan the Year 11 prom. For reference students with more than 400 negative points will not be invited, and students are expected to have over 95% attendance - although we will review on a case by case basis if we are aware of exceptional circumstances.

Student Shout Outs

Well done to the following students for achieving the most merits this week:

Sam S - 11D1, Leo A - 11M2, Lily B - 11A2, Jaya N - 11M2, Alissa J - 11D1, Maisie S - 11Z2, Summer T - 11D1, Lillie W - 11M1, Henry A - 11Z2, Aiden K - 11M2, Amelia T - 11Z1, Thomas Y 11Max C - 11D1, Alex G - 11Z1, Ava H - 11D1, Karsten M - 11A2, Becca M - 11M2, Riley W - 11D1.

Finally a huge shout out to Max C in 11D1 who is competing in a national 4km relay race in Birmingham this weekend.

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

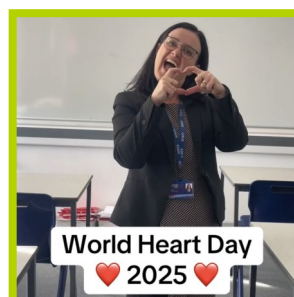
<p>Chelmsford College www.chelmsford.ac.uk</p> <p>Wednesday 1st October 2025– 6pm to 8.30pm Wednesday 12h November 2025– 6pm to 8.30pm Wednesday 4th February 2026 - 6pm to 8.30pm Wednesday 20th May 2026– 6pm to 8.30pm</p>	<p>South Essex College - SEC www.southessex.ac.uk</p> <p>SEC - Southend City College Thursday 25th September 2025 – 5pm to 8pm Wednesday 14th January 2026 – 5pm to 8pm Thursday 12th March 2026 – 5pm to 7pm</p>
<p>USP College www.uspcollege.ac.uk</p> <p>Seevic Campus - Benfleet Thursday 2nd October 2025– 5.20pm to 8pm Wednesday 19th November 2025 - tbc Thursday 22nd January 2026 – tbc Tuesday 7th July 2026 – tbc (yr 10/11)</p> <p>Palmer's Campus - Grays Thursday 16th October 2025 - 5.20pm to 7.00pm Wednesday 5th November 2025 - tbc Thursday 29th January 2026 – tbc</p> <p>XTEND Digital Campus – Canvey Thursday 25th September 2025 – 5.20pm to 7pm Wednesday 25th February 2026 - tbc</p>	<p>SEC- Stephenson Road, Southend Tuesday 11th November 2025 – 5pm to 7pm Tuesday 3rd February 2026 – 5pm to 7pm Thursday 16th April 2026 – 5pm to 6pm</p> <p>SEC - Centre for Digital Technologies, Basildon Tuesday 21st October 2025 - 5pm to 7pm Tuesday 10th February 2026 – 5pm to 7pm Tuesday 28th April 2026 – 5pm to 6pm</p> <p>SEC - Luckyn Lane, Basildon Thursday 9th October 2025 – 5pm to 7pm Thursday 29th January 2026 – 5pm to 7pm Tuesday 31st March 2026 – 5pm to 6pm</p>
<p>Writtle College www.aru.ac.uk/writtle-college</p> <p>Saturday 11th October 2025 – 10am to 3pm Saturday 29th November 2025 – 10am to 3pm Saturday 14th March 2026 – 10am to 3pm Wednesday 10th June 2026 – 3.30pm to 7.30pm</p> <p>Harlow College www.harlow-college.ac.uk</p> <p>Thursday 16th October 2025 - 5.00pm to 8.00pm Tuesday 10th February 2026 -5.00pm to 8.00pm</p>	<p>SEC - Thurrock Campus Wednesday 1st October 2025– 5pm to 8pm Wednesday 7th January 2026 – 5pm to 8pm Wednesday 25th March 2026 – 5pm to 7pm</p> <p>Plume Academy www.plume.essex.sch.uk</p> <p>Thursday 9th October 2025 – 6pm to 8pm</p> <p>Stansted Airport College www.stanstedairportcollege.ac.uk</p> <p>Saturday 11th October 2025 - 10am to 2pm Thursday 22nd January 2026– 5pm to 8pm</p>
<p>The Sixth Form College, Colchester www.colchsfc.ac.uk</p> <p>Wednesday 22nd October 2025 - 6.15pm to 9pm Thursday 23rd October 2025 – 6.15pm to 9pm</p> <p>Applications will open online from 24th October 2025 and will close on 31st January 2026</p> <p>William de Ferrers School www.wdf.school To be advised</p>	<p>Colchester Institute www.colchester.ac.uk</p> <p>Colchester Campus Tuesday 14th October 2025 – 5pm to 8pm Saturday 18th October 2025 – 10am to 1pm Thursday 23rd October 2025 – 5pm to 8pm Thursday 22nd January 2026 – 5pm to 8pm</p> <p>Braintree Campus Monday 13th October 2025 – 5pm to 7pm Saturday 8th November 2025 – 10am to 12.30pm Tuesday 20th January 2026 – 5pm to 7pm Thursday 14th May 2026 – 5pm to 6.30pm</p>
<p>For Grammar Schools – please visit their websites for details of their Sixth Form open events.</p> <p>The Grammar Schools in our area are as follows</p> <p>King Edward VI - Grammar School Chelmsford County High School for Girls Colchester County High School — for Girls Colchester Royal – Grammar School Southend High School – for Girls Southend High School – for Boys Westcliff High School – for Girls Westcliff High School – for Boys</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Information Events at Colchester Institute Thursday 12th February 2026 - 5pm to 7pm Thursday 18th June 2026 - 5pm to 7pm</p> <p>Braintree Sixth Form www.braintreesixthform.com Wednesday 5th November 2025 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm Applications will open online from 6th November 2025 and will close on 31st January 2026</p>

RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

We started the week celebrating World Heart Day. Our school came together to raise awareness about heart health and show our support for the global fight against cardiovascular disease. The theme this year was 'Don't Miss a Beat', and our staff and students certainly did just that. Sixth Form students embraced the day by wearing red, a powerful symbol of heart health and solidarity. The sea of red across the Sixth Form centre was a striking and heart-warming sight, reflecting the energy and commitment of our young leaders to important global causes. Meanwhile, staff got involved by sharing their best heart poses — from hand hearts and heart-shaped props to creative classroom displays. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces across the school, all united in spreading positivity and awareness.

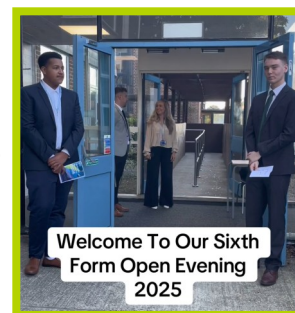
World Heart Day is a reminder of the importance of looking after our physical and emotional wellbeing. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the day both meaningful and fun. Let's keep the conversation about healthy hearts going and continue to show the love, every day.



Sixth Form in the Community

Sixth Form Open Evening – A Huge Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful students who supported at the Sixth Form Open Evening. From those leading activities in departments to the Sixth Form Leadership Team who moved about the building answering questions and guiding students, every student was brilliant. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school with such enthusiasm and professionalism.



On Wednesday, our Year 12 Sports Leaders helped to organise and run a fantastic primary school athletics event in the ORA Sports Hall. Six local primary schools took part, with pupils enjoying a variety of activities including javelin, the vertical jump test, the speed bounce challenge, and a series of exciting running races.

Our Sports Leaders did an outstanding job throughout the day, showing maturity, teamwork and leadership. They were a real credit to the Sixth Form, and the event was a great success thanks to their efforts.

RIVERS SIXTH FORM

A huge good luck to Finley, who sat his LNAT (Law National Admissions Test) this week. We're proud of all the hard work and preparation he's put in, and we wish him every success as he takes this important step towards a future in law. You've got this, Fin!

APPLICATIONS

Sixth Form applications are now open. Students have been emailed the link, parents and carers have received the link via text and it is also available on the ORA website. Deadline for applications is 9th January 2026.

Student Shoutout

Year 12 - Bethany for all the extra time put in out of lesson time.

Year 13 - Aisden for being a great Sixth Form advocate and being the best dressed at Open Evening

Sports Academy News

Rivers Sport Academy 6 – 0 South Essex College



What a performance yesterday! A 6-0 win and a clean sheet is nothing to underestimate. The squad showed real unity, determination, and quality throughout the game. This togetherness underpins the values we are building, and with the mix of talent and hard work on display, it feels like we're on the verge of creating something very special. Superb facilities and an excellent pitch set the stage for a great game.

Match Highlights:

- An early opener from Blake, assisted by Jack
- Jack doubled the lead
- Alex made it three
- Blake struck again after an unbelievable pass from Jordon (HT: 4-0)
- Jordon got on the scoresheet himself
- Alex sealed the win with his second

Fantastic team effort, and an outstanding result!



Sixth Form Dress Code

We would like to take a moment to recognise our students who have gone above and beyond in following the new Sixth Form dress code – we are very proud of how smart and professional they all look. Thank you for setting such a positive example.

Please continue to follow the dress code carefully, and if you are ever unsure about what is appropriate, don't hesitate to check with the Sixth Form team.

Please note: Following a first warning, students who do not meet the dress code expectations will be asked to return home to change before re-joining lessons. Thank you for your cooperation and continued high standards.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Careers

If any Year 12 or 13 students would like a careers appointment or support, please speak to Mrs Penberthy to arrange this.

Bursary

If anyone needs any financial support for the Bursary, please contact Mrs Penberthy ASAP.

Exams/Study

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

Tutor Sessions

A reminder that you need to attend all mandatory tutor sessions

Monday - Yr 12 Assembly, Year 13 Careers

Wednesday - Yr 12 Skills

Friday - Yr 12 Careers, Year 13 Assembly

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. The focus is on future careers, and Academic Tutoring can help students identify and achieve career goals and improve professional relationships.

Sixth Form Reminders – Attendance, Lanyards & Wellbeing

Lanyards must be worn at all times while on site. We also recognise that this year can be particularly stressful as exams approach. If you are feeling under pressure or have any concerns, please don't hesitate to speak with Mrs Penberthy or Mrs Wilkins — we are here to support you. Additionally, we've seen an increase in students taking holidays during term time. Please be reminded that consistent attendance is vital to your academic progress. Research shows that students with high attendance are more likely to achieve stronger outcomes, as well as develop habits that prepare them for future success. Sixth Form is a community — when you're absent, you miss valuable opportunities to connect, contribute, and grow alongside your peers. Thank you for your continued commitment.

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.



Rivers Academy Shop

Academy Shop

All students are required to have sufficient equipment to allow them to learn and achieve their full potential. It is a students' responsibility to arrive at the Academy with the appropriate equipment for lessons:

Equipment:

2 x black pens
1 x purple biro for assessment feedback
2 x pencils
1 x 30cm ruler
Coloured pencils (not felt tips)
Eraser
Pencil sharpener

Maths set (including a scientific calculator)
Student Planner (student organiser)
Reading book
Books / folders for the days lessons
Water bottle
Basic art equipment

The Academy Shop, located near the main hall, is open before school 8.30 - 8.50am and at breaktime 11.20 - 11.50am every day. The shop stocks all of the above equipment, as well as a wide selection of revision guides & workbooks, for all year groups. You can also purchase new ties from here. We can only accept cash for shop purchases on site, we are unable to use credit on a students catering card. Alternatively, you can complete an order form and return it to finance@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

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 each half-term may be donated to charity or disposed of accordingly, 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.

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



Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

GO 4 Schools

Starter version Modules MIS Engage/CPD

Login

Contact us

Schools login

Students login

Parents login

Governors login

MAT login

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

GO 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

Send password reset link

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.



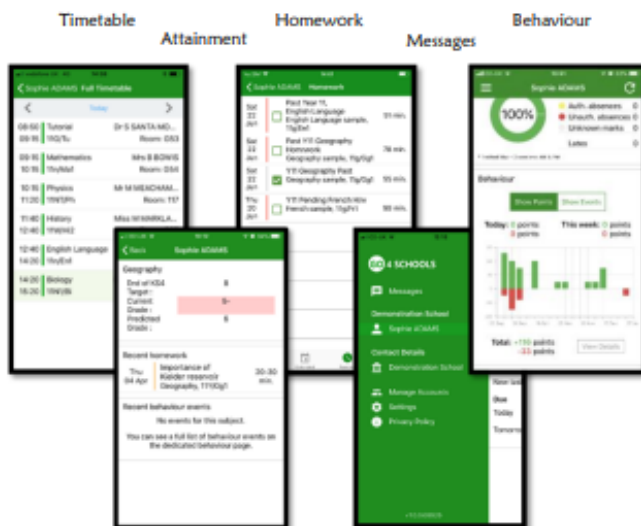
[Click here](#)

[Click here](#)

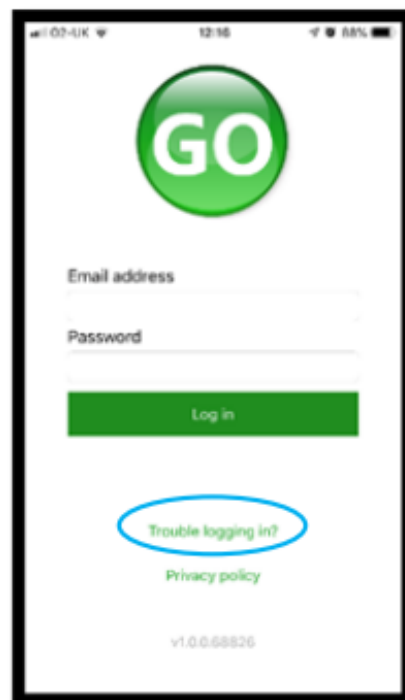
2 – Type in your school email address.

3 – Type in your password.

This is the password you have already set in go4schools.



**Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy**



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.

GO Sign in with GO First-time user?

Forgotten Password?

Email address

Password

[Forgotten Password?](#)

☐ Remember my email address

GO Sign in with GO

GO Sign in with GO First-time user?

Forgotten Password?

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

This is the password you may use to log in to GO 4 Schools if your school supports this login method.

Email address

Send password reset link

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.



**Burnham On Crouch Town Council
in conjunction with
The Royal British Legion
invites you to attend.**

**BURNHAM ON CROUCH
REMEMBRANCE DAY
SERVICE**

**SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
10:30AM
BURNHAM WAR MEMORIAL**

**Commemorating the sacrifices of members of the
armed forces and of civilians in times of war.**



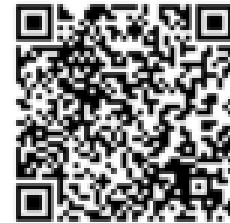


FREE PARENT WEBINAR

supporting your primary school
aged child with challenging
behaviour

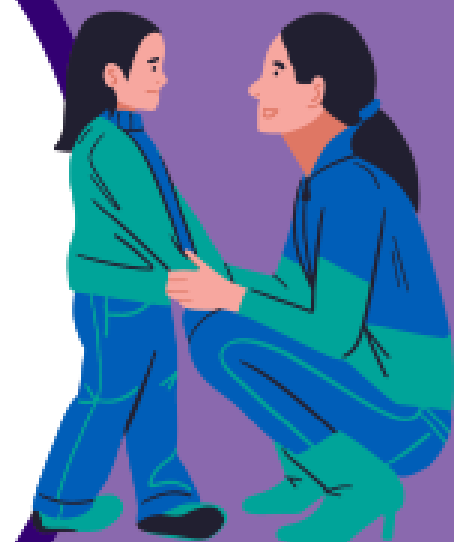
Provided by your Mental Health Support Team
@set_camhs_nhs

**Thursday 9th
October
11am**



Sign-up using the
QR code.

All children can push boundaries and exhibit difficult behaviours, however sometimes children's behaviour can escalate and seem to come out of nowhere, this workshop will help parents understand what might be causing these behaviours and tools and strategies to manage them effectively.





FREE PARENT WEBINARS

for supporting your primary aged
child with mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team

@set_camhs_nhs

SIGN-UP & FIND
OUT MORE



Do you need help supporting your
child? We offer a variety of online
workshops to help you to support your
child on the following topics:

- ✓ Fears and Worries
- ✓ Challenging Behaviour
- ✓ Emotionally Based School Avoidance
- ✓ Understanding Autism
- ✓ Understanding ADHD
- ✓ Sleep Support

Sessions will be held online during
the day and evenings.





FREE PARENT WEBINARS

for supporting your secondary aged
child with mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team

@set_camhs_nhs

SIGN-UP & FIND
OUT MORE



Do you need help supporting your
child? We offer a variety of online
workshops to help you to support your
child on the following topics:

- ✓ Understanding anxiety
- ✓ Understanding my low mood
- ✓ Exam stress
- ✓ Emotionally based school avoidance
- ✓ Talking to your teen about wellbeing
- ✓ Understanding autism
- ✓ Understanding ADHD
- ✓ Self-harm

Sessions will be held online during the
day and evenings.





FREE STUDENT WEBINARS

for supporting you with your
mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team

@set_camhs_nhs

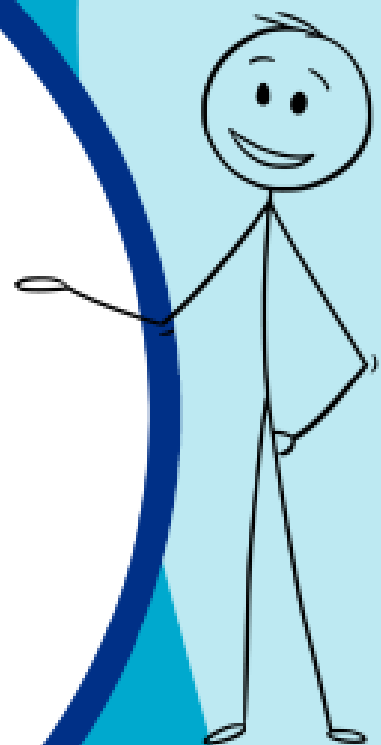
SIGN-UP & FIND
OUT MORE



Do you need help with your mental health and wellbeing? We offer a variety of online workshops to help you on the following topics:

- ✓ Understanding anxiety
- ✓ Understanding my low mood
- ✓ Exam stress
- ✓ Strategies to manage distress
- ✓ Support for neurodiversity:
 - Meltdowns and shutdowns
 - Energy accounting & burnout
 - Communication
 - Sensory needs

Sessions will be held online and will last between 20 and 30 minutes. Use the QR code above to find out the different dates and times!





**Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy**

**Weekly
Newsletter**

Issue # 5 - 3rd October 2025

FREE STUDENT WEBINARS

supporting you with exam stress

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team

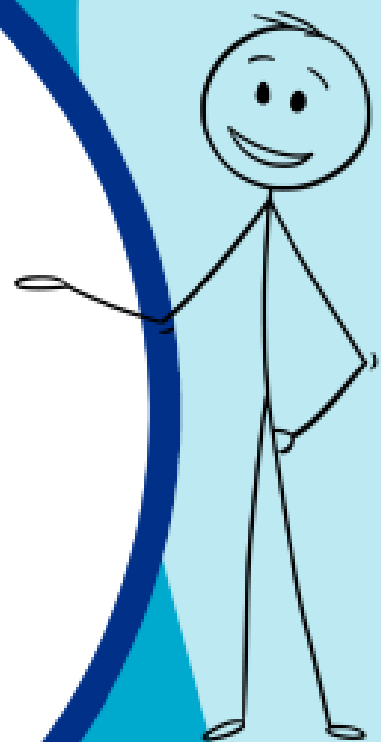
@set_camhs_nhs

SIGN-UP & FIND
OUT MORE



Feeling exam pressure? You're not alone! Join us for an interactive webinar all about managing stress during exam season. We'll explore what stress really is and how to spot when your "stress bucket" is overflowing. Plus, you'll learn simple strategies and practical problem-solving skills to boost your wellbeing and keep exams in perspective. Take away tools you can use every day to feel calmer, more in control and ready to do your best.

21st October - 10am
22nd October - 12:30pm
23rd October - 3:15pm



Striving to provide the best care by the best people



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

NHS

North East London
NHS Foundation Trust

Community - Ambition - Resilience - Respect - Excellence



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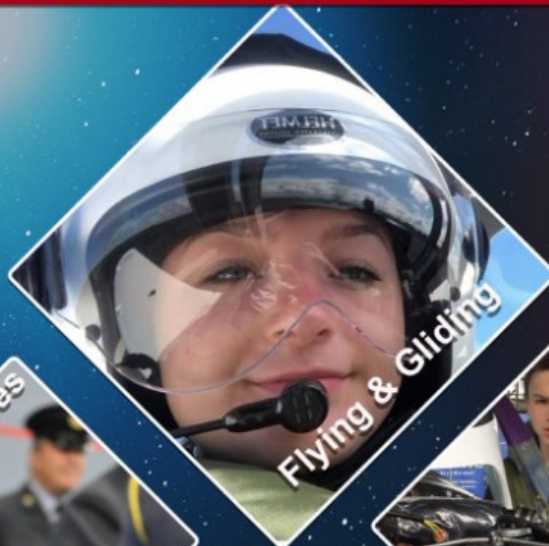
**Weekly
Newsletter**

Issue # 5 - 3rd October 2025

AIR CADETS

Aged 12-17

JOIN US - CADET



VISIT OR CALL US TO FIND OUT MORE

www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets

0345 6006601

#REACHINGFORTHESTARS

 **ROYAL
AIR FORCE
AIR CADETS**
the next generation.

**Aged 12 – 19?
Started Year 8 in September?**

**Our next recruitment night is:
Thursday 2nd October 2025**

19:30 @ Burnham Baptist Church



 **ROYAL
AIR FORCE
AIR CADETS**
the next generation.

Community - Ambition - Resilience - Respect - Excellence