

**Message from the Principal**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we've had the pleasure of celebrating some truly outstanding students across the academy. Each department selected their Star of the Month, students who have impressed us with their hard work, creativity, resilience, or simply by being a brilliant role model. You can find the full list of winners on page 3, and I'd like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to every single one of them. We're incredibly proud of you!

As part of our ongoing commitment to recognising positive behaviour, I'm excited to share that next Thursday will be a Non-Uniform Day for students who have received zero negative points this term. This is our way of saying a big "well done" to those who've consistently made great choices and contributed positively to our school community. Parents and carers of eligible students will receive further details shortly.

Our sports teams have been in action again this week, showing fantastic energy, teamwork, and determination. From our Year 7 & 8 boys rugby squad and girls football team to the Year 7 girls netball team, it's been a busy week of fixtures. Meanwhile, our Sixth Form students took part in a thrilling Rivers football match, showcasing their competitive spirit.

On Wednesday, some of our Sixth Form Football Academy students took on leadership roles as coaches and referees at the Primary School Football Tournament held at Burnham Ramblers Football Club. Their professionalism and enthusiasm were widely praised. They represented the academy with pride and maturity.

Our Sixth Form Drama students also had a chance to step into the world of live theatre with a visit to London's iconic Apollo Theatre to see Punch. Experiences like this bring their studies to life, sparking creativity and deepening their understanding of performance.

A huge thank you to our dedicated staff who make these enriching opportunities possible. Your passion and commitment to our students' development, both in and beyond the classroom are truly appreciated.

A quick reminder about attendance: whenever possible, please try to schedule medical appointments outside of school hours. Every lesson matters, and regular attendance makes a real difference to your child's learning and progress. Thank you for your continued support.

Finally, please note that Friday 17th October is an INSET day. The academy will be closed to students on that day.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday for the final week of this half term, refreshed, focused, and ready to finish strong.

**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



## Careers Spotlight

**Career of the Week - Cruise Ship Entertainer**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKpygD\\_udGI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKpygD_udGI)

### **Webinars and Online Resources for Parents and Carers**

[Parent - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Webinars & Workshops - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

A series of informative webinars for parents and carers and aspiring apprentices that will provide an abundance of tips, advice, and information around the topic of apprenticeships and technical education.

Each webinar lasts between 30 – 60 minutes and takes place on Zoom. Participants are required to sign up before the session and will receive an email confirmation and a reminder an hour before it begins. The webinars are recorded and shared with all registrants after the session.

### **Mock Interviews 29th and 30th January 2026**

Parents and Carers - we need you! We are always on the look out for new volunteers to interview our students on our Mock Interview Days - if you feel you have suitable experience for this please email me on [fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) for further details.

Thanks in advance

# Department Stars of the Month!

## September

### Maths

**Year 7** - Dolly C  
**Year 8** - Janhu H  
**Year 9** - Oliver K  
**Year 10** - Henson H  
**Year 11** - Ava B  
**Sixth Form** - Charlotte R

### Health & Social Care

**Year 10** - Molly B  
**Year 11** - Christie W  
**Sixth Form** - Tegan S



### Child Development

**Year 10** - Emily T  
**Year 11** - Chloe T-G



### Performing Arts

**Year 7** - Oliver L  
**Year 8** - Mia T  
**Year 9** - Isabelle Q  
**Year 10** - Harry F  
**Year 11** - Alissa J  
**Sixth Form** - Riley J

### MFL

**Year 7** - Henry B  
**Year 8** - James S  
**Year 9** - Daisy G  
**Year 10** - Henry H  
**Year 11** - Sam T



The **PE Stars of the Month** were selected for a lot of different reasons which encapsulates many of our school values. Some students received theirs for their efforts towards their studies, others received theirs for outstanding contributions to the school and all of their PE lessons. We also had one student who won their award for incredible resilience in PE as they continue to flourish in lessons.

Well done to all of our winners, it's truly deserved!

**Year 7** - Eliza C  
**Year 8** - James S  
**Year 9** - Abby S  
**Year 10** - Tom J  
**Year 11** - Holly B  
**Sixth Form** - Charlotte B



### Science

**Year 7** - Kyla S  
**Year 8** - Gracie W  
**Year 9** - Charlie S  
**Year 10** - Charlie W  
**Year 11** - Maria W  
**Sixth Form** - Theo J



Well done to our Performing Arts Stars of the Month: Oliver 7D2, Mia 8A2, Isabelle 9A1, Harry 10M1, Alissa 11D1 and Riley SF2.

They are a credit to all they do in the department and for the community.

### ADT

**Year 7** - Zachary M  
**Year 8** - Terrance L  
**Year 9** - Riley N  
**Year 11** - Ava H  
**Sixth Form** - Pyper C

### Humanities

**Year 7** - Freddie M  
**Year 8** - Hunter S  
**Year 9** - Evie L  
**Year 10** - Nicholson L  
**Year 11** - Ben S  
**Sixth Form** - Finley A

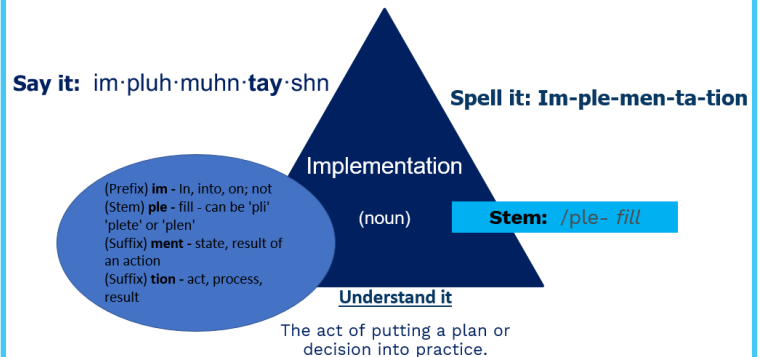
### English

**Year 7** - Rosa T  
**Year 8** - Grace F  
**Year 9** - Alice M  
**Year 10** - Danica C  
**Year 11** - Neala W-D  
**Sixth Form** - Freya A

### 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 **"Implementation"**.

Why not have a go? Send the definition and the word in a sentence to [wotw@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:wotw@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).



### Ongoing Poetry Competition

This is a reminder about our first National Writing Competition for the academic year 2025-2026. This Young Writer's Poetry 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. 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](mailto:sdurrant@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).

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

### Textiles

Our Year 9 Textiles groups have been introduced to a 'felting' technique this week using seasonal pumpkins and squashes as inspiration. I'm so impressed with their outcomes.



Photo - Courtney 9M2





### Year 7 Netball Rally

On Wednesday afternoon our Year 7 Netball Team travelled to William De Ferres School for our annual Year 7 Netball Rally Tournament.

The girls played some amazing netball, scored lots of goals and had a great time, whilst showing great respect to all of the schools involved and winning 2 out of 4 of their matches against Great Baddow High School and Plume. A special mention to Keira D for scoring all of our goals.

Player of the Tournament went to Annabella F! Well done Year 7!



### Under 13 Girls' Football Match vs Brentwood Ursuline

This week, our Under 13 girls' football team welcomed Brentwood Ursuline to Ormiston for an exciting fixture. Although the game ended in a loss, the team showed fantastic effort and determination throughout. It was especially pleasing to see the Year 7 students taking part in their first ever football match — they played with great enthusiasm and teamwork.



A special congratulations goes to **Lexi M (7D2)**, who was named **Player of the Match** for her excellent performance and commitment on the pitch. Well done to all the girls involved!

### Year 7 Rugby

The team travelled to S Martins for their first festival of the year. We played 4 games: Anglo European, Moulsham, Chelmer Valley and Brentwood County High. The boys won all four games and we'll now look forward to challenging ourselves against different schools at the next festival shortly after the October break.

The boys were a credit to the school, showing great respect and teamwork throughout the whole day.



### Primary School Football

Sport Academy students attended Ramblers Football Club to assist in a primary football event. 5 teams were present, and our leaders were a great asset to the academy as they officiated matches and supported the teams.



### Year 8 Rugby

Well done to the Year 8 boys rugby team who won 4 out of 4 games. They played really well and showed great determination. A special shoutout to Vincent 8Z1 who got player for the tournament for his strong carries and great tackling.

### Science<sup>=mc<sup>2</sup></sup>

#### Blast Off! How We Celebrated World Space Week 2025

October 4 to 10 was celebrated as **World Space Week 2025**. This year's theme: **"Living in Space."** We took a journey beyond the stars to explore what life might really be like among the planets, asteroids, and distant galaxies.

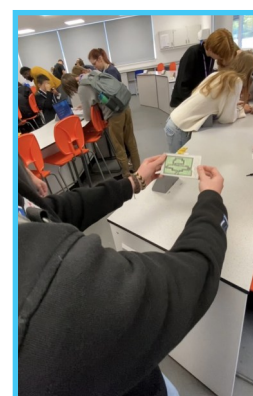
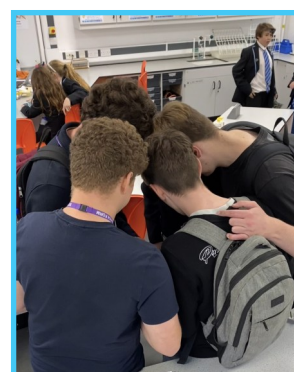


Our space display board got everyone thinking about the challenges of life in orbit. What would happen to your meals without gravity? How would you stay hydrated when water floats away in tiny globules? And what strange space habits might we develop if our days were spent orbiting Earth instead of walking around the playground?

The highlight of the week had to be our **"Escape from the Space Station"** challenge on Thursday! Sixth form students teamed up with Year 7s to solve 12 tricky puzzles and locate the missing parts of the Space Shuttle after their station had been struck by an asteroid. It was tense, exciting, and yes slightly chaotic, just like a real space emergency!

We also asked staff and students a fun question: **"What would you miss most if you lived in space?"** Some of the answers made us smile, laugh, and even feel a little nostalgic for Earth:

- ★ "The feel of sunshine on my skin"
- ★ "My comfy bed"
- ★ "The ocean"
- ★ "Going for a walk in the woods"
- ★ "My cats"
- ★ "Noodles and Chinese food"
- ★ "The breeze on a hot day"
- ★ "Planting flowers and vegetables in my garden"
- ★ "Cricket field and golf courses in the summer"



#### How about you? What would you miss most in space?

While we were daydreaming about life among the stars, we also learned some quick space facts:

- ★ Did you know astronauts grow taller in space? Without gravity compressing their spine, they can stretch up to **2 inches taller!**
- ★ A day on Venus is 243 earth days long, talk about a slow calendar!
- ★ And here's a myth-buster: **You don't float in space because there's no gravity.** Gravity is still there, you're just in free fall, orbiting the Earth.

World Space Week reminded us that space isn't just about rockets and planets, it's about imagination, curiosity, and asking "what if?" Whether you dream of zero-gravity noodles or long walks on alien beaches, one thing is clear: space is full of possibilities!

**Year 7 - Mr Adair**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move through the heart of the autumn term, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements of our Year 7 students and share some important updates from across the school.

This week, our Year 7/8 girls football team demonstrated a truly fantastic sporting attitude. Their teamwork, determination, and unwavering support for one another were evident both on and off the pitch.

In English, students have been showcasing their creativity through some astoundingly imaginative story writing. Their ability to craft compelling narratives filled with emotion, suspense, and originality has been remarkable. It's clear that we have some budding authors in our midst, and I look forward to seeing their talents continue to flourish.

Meanwhile, in Science, Year 7 have been engaging in in-depth discussions about the skeletal system. Their curiosity and thoughtful questions have led to some fascinating conversations, and it's been wonderful to see them connect classroom learning with real-world understanding. The enthusiasm they bring to these lessons is truly commendable.

On a more serious note, I'd like to raise awareness about the growing concerns surrounding social media use, particularly WhatsApp group chats. While these platforms can be useful for staying connected, they can also become spaces where inappropriate or hurtful content is shared. We've seen instances where this has impacted student wellbeing, and we ask for your support in helping to monitor your child's phone usage. Encouraging respectful and kind communication online is essential and together we can help prevent any further issues from arising.

**Finally, I'd like to congratulate our top merit earners for the week:**

Shay E (7M1), Jenson J (7A2), Isabelle M (7D2), Morgan W (7D2), Jesse B (7A2), Honey D (7Z1), and Samuel P (7Z1). Your hard work, positivity, and commitment to learning have not gone unnoticed—well done to each of you!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards

**Mr Christopher Adair**  
**Head of Year 7**

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





### Year 8 - Mr Moon

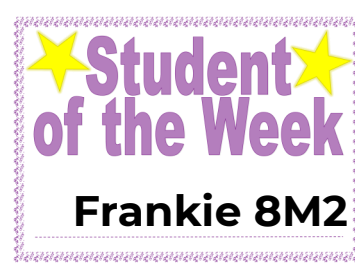
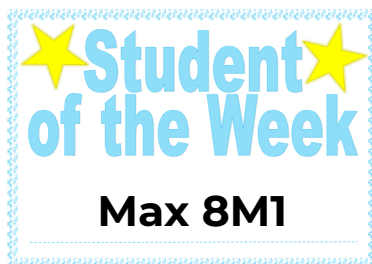
A big well done to our Year 8 Boys Rugby team who played their very first festival this week! The team showed fantastic teamwork, determination, and school spirit. We're so proud of how they represented our year group on the pitch. Well-done to the girls who represented the girls football team not the result that they wanted but they never gave up and made the school proud with their attitude.

Assembly this week was about Black History Month and was lead by Mr Chapman. He also talked about mental health day today.

### Mrs Byford's students of the week:

#### Top merits:

- 1st - Frankie 8M2 36 points
- 2nd - Kyran 8A2 34 points
- 3rd - Jess 8D1 32 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](mailto:smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

### Year 9 – Mr Chapman

As we wrap up our final Friday before the half-term break, it's hard to believe how quickly the time has flown. With just four school days remaining, we're nearly halfway through the first term—and what a start it's been! I hope everyone in Year 9 has found moments to enjoy, grow, and feel proud of their progress so far.

#### Top Merit Earners This Week:

1. Leo – 9A2
2. James – 9D2
3. Emilie-Rose – 9Z2

#### Top Merit Earners So Far This Year:

1. Ava – 9A2
2. Isabelle – 9A2
3. Mia – 9D2

Let's keep the momentum going as we head into the final stretch before the break. Whether you're aiming to climb the merit leaderboard or simply finish the term strong, every effort counts.

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



### Year 10 - Mr Field

Last weekend I had the pleasure of watching many of the year group play rugby for Burnham Ramblers at Rochford RFC. It was a very competitive game with tackles flying at all angles.

Archie and Jake were superb at the line out, connecting very well in starting attacks from the set play. Mason was superb at the break in protecting the ball or clearing out opposition. Tommy's distribution of the ball at centre was great to move the play wide.

Well done to Tommy Spencer in earning Man of the Match for his tireless contribution to the match.

Well done to all the boys and keep up the hard work for the rest of the season. Thank you to Mr Hart for the photo.



### Top positive points earners this week are:

Isla, George, Lily, Tegan, Molly, Pippa, George, Lily, James, Ronnie, Lorna, Bella, Maisie and Haidyn. Well done to you all and keep up the good work.

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



**Year 11 – Ms Taylor**

This week, most forms have had assemblies in the 6th form area to support their post 16 planning. I again include open evenings from other providers for your future planning. Students are to be reminded that attendance and punctuality are information requested in references, alongside conduct, and as we near half term and resilience is harder to find, they should try to find the motivation and resilience to keep conduct high and punctuality good. Mentors will be working with students who fall below this standard.

I have seen some lovely work in intervention session this week, where students have been focused on areas they need to improve. A reminder that the next set of mock exams begins straight after half term, and so revision should be going on. These will likely be the grades on applications.

**Top merit earners this week are:**

Sienna B - 11D1, Kaitlin C - 11M1, Holly D - 11Z1, Ava H - 11D1, CJ H - 11Z2, Kyla L - 11D1, Amelia T - 11Z1, Madison W - 11M2, Damien W - 11Z1, Kayden D - 11D1, Chloe G - 11A1, Teddy K - 11Z2, Tia O - 11D1, Katalinah W - 11A2, Thomas Y - 11Z1.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

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

### **Chelmsford College**

[www.chelmsford.ac.uk](http://www.chelmsford.ac.uk)

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

### **USP College**

[www.uspcollege.ac.uk](http://www.uspcollege.ac.uk)

#### **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)

#### **Palmer's Campus - Grays**

Thursday 16th October 2025 - 5.20pm to 7.00pm  
Wednesday 5th November 2025 - tbc  
Thursday 29th January 2026 – tbc

#### **XTEND Digital Campus – Canvey**

Thursday 25th September 2025 – 5.20pm to 7pm  
Wednesday 25th February 2026 - tbc

### **Writtle College**

[www.aru.ac.uk/writtle-college](http://www.aru.ac.uk/writtle-college)

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

### **Harlow College**

[www.harlow-college.ac.uk](http://www.harlow-college.ac.uk)

Thursday 16th October 2025 - 5.00pm to 8.00pm  
Tuesday 10th February 2026 -5.00pm to 8.00pm

### **The Sixth Form College, Colchester**

[www.colchsfc.ac.uk](http://www.colchsfc.ac.uk)

Wednesday 22nd October 2025 - 6.15pm to 9pm  
Thursday 23rd October 2025 – 6.15pm to 9pm

Applications will open online from 24th October 2025 and will close on 31st January 2026

### **William de Ferrers School**

[www.wdf.school](http://www.wdf.school)

To be advised

**For Grammar Schools –  
please visit their websites for details of their  
Sixth Form open events.**

The Grammar Schools in our area are as follows

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](#)

### **South Essex College - SEC**

[www.southessex.ac.uk](http://www.southessex.ac.uk)

#### **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

#### **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

#### **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

#### **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

#### **SEC - Thurrock Campus**

Wednesday 1st October 2025– 5pm to 8pm  
Wednesday 7th January 2026 – 5pm to 8pm  
Wednesday 25th March 2026 – 5pm to 7pm

#### **Plume Academy**

[www.plume.essex.sch.uk](http://www.plume.essex.sch.uk)

Thursday 9th October 2025 – 6pm to 8pm

#### **Stansted Airport College**

[www.stanstedairportcollege.ac.uk](http://www.stanstedairportcollege.ac.uk)

Saturday 11th October 2025 - 10am to 2pm  
Thursday 22nd January 2026– 5pm to 8pm

### **Colchester Institute**

[www.colchester.ac.uk](http://www.colchester.ac.uk)

#### **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

#### **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

#### **Apprenticeship Information Events at Colchester Institute**

Thursday 12th February 2026 - 5pm to 7pm  
Thursday 18th June 2026 - 5pm to 7pm

#### **Braintree Sixth Form**

[www.braintreesixthform.com](http://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



# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

## **Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins**

We began the week by warmly welcoming our Year 11 students into the Sixth Form for a dedicated morning with the Sixth Form Team. It was fantastic to see so many students engaging with staff, asking thoughtful questions, and making the most of the opportunity to explore our facilities. This visit offered an excellent chance for them to get a feel for Sixth Form life, meet the team, and gain a deeper understanding of the wide range of opportunities and support available to them.



## **The Great Rivers Bake Off Returns!**

Today marked the exciting return of The Great Rivers Bake Off, with over 20 students competing in a delicious bake-off challenge to support World Mental Health Day. It was wonderful to see so many staff and students in the Sixth Form area enjoying the tasty creations and coming together as a community. This event not only adds a sweet twist to the House Competitions but also encourages teamwork, friendly rivalry, and community spirit. Congratulations to all the bakers for their fantastic efforts. Your creativity and enthusiasm truly made the day special!



## **Sixth Form in the Community**

Today has been a vibrant and meaningful day in the Sixth Form as we came together to celebrate World Mental Health Day. Staff and students showed their support by wearing yellow, symbolising hope and awareness. The day kicked off with a fun and engaging Hello Yellow Treasure Hunt, setting a positive tone for the morning. A big thank you to our Sixth Form Leadership Team for organising thoughtful activities, allowing younger students to participate during tutor time and helping to foster a strong sense of community and wellbeing across the school.



## **OAT Oxbridge Scholars Programme – Final Stage: Mock Interviews**

Congratulations to Theo, Eva, and Finley, who reached the final stage of the OAT Oxbridge Scholars Programme this week. They spent the day participating in rigorous mock interviews designed to challenge their knowledge and prepare them thoroughly for their upcoming Oxbridge interviews. Their dedication, resilience, and intellectual curiosity were truly impressive, and we wish them the very best as they take the next steps in their Oxbridge journey.



# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

## **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 - Jacob Cartwright for his work ethic.

Year 13 - Finley Ashworth for his outstanding feedback from the Oxbridge Mock Interview Day.

## **Sports Academy News**

Sport Academy Boys Support Primary School Football Event

Our Sport Academy students recently had the opportunity to represent the college at a local primary school football event hosted by Ramblers Football Club. With five enthusiastic teams taking part, the event was filled with energy, teamwork, and a strong sense of community.

The boys played a vital role in the success of the day, stepping up as match officials, team supporters, and role models for the younger players. Their professionalism, leadership, and enthusiasm did not go unnoticed, making them a true credit to the Sport Academy. By officiating games and guiding young players through the tournament, our students demonstrated the skills they've been developing on the course, from communication and decision-making to leadership and fair play.

Well done to all involved for representing the Academy so positively and contributing to a fantastic experience for the primary pupils.



## **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](mailto: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](mailto:lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) with any comments / suggestions.

## Nut Allergies

Any form of nut or products that contain nuts should not be brought into school. We do have students with severe nut allergies, which can be life threatening, and we would appreciate your support in keeping them safe.

## Parentpay

The daily limit for students to spend is set at £4.50 as a default. This means, should a student select items at break and / or lunch which take them over the limit, they will be asked to put something back. If you would like to change the limit on your child's account please email our catering manager [lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk). Please note: it can take a while before the cashless system updates once you have added funds to your child's catering account. Please be mindful of this and try and get the money on there in plenty of time for break / lunch. When adding funds please ensure you add it to Dinner money and make sure it's not just sitting in your parent account.

## Free School Meals

The daily limit for free school meals is £3.30. Funds will need to be added to your child's Parentpay account should you wish them to be allowed to exceed the limit.

## Catering Cards

Students must tap their catering card each time they wish to make a purchase, even if they are entitled to free school meals. Please remind them that they need to bring their catering card in every day. Those students without their card will be held back until the end of the queue, allowing those through with cards first. The cards really speed up the catering service, giving students more time to socialise with friends and eat their food. If a card is lost or damaged, a new one can be purchased for £1 on ParentPay. The new card will be delivered to tutors the following morning.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above please contact either Leanne Warner, Catering Manager [lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director [amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).



# Rivers Academy Shop

## Academy Shop

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

### Equipment:

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

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

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

Year 10 & 11 - You will find an item on ParentPay - KS4 Revision Guides & Equipment- just overwrite the amount with the total to be paid, we will check it against your order and let you know when the items can be collected from the shop (or you can call in and collect from main reception if you would prefer).

Year 7, 8 & 9 (KS3) - Once we have received your completed order, we will add it to your ParentPay account. When payment has been confirmed we will let you know when the items can be collected from the shop (or you can call in and collect from main reception if you would prefer).

You can access the up to date [KS3 order form](#) and the [KS4 order form](#) here; these are also available on our website [www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](http://www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk). Please contact finance on 01621 787845 if you have any queries.





### **Absence Reporting**

Students should attend school unless they are very unwell. On every day of absence please contact the school with the reason why your son/daughter is not attending. Please contact us as early as possible and at the latest by 8am on the first day of absence. This can be via the following methods:

MyEd Messaging App

ConnectED absence line: 0845 355 8104

Attendance line: 01621 787855

### **Change of Personal Details**

It is essential that we are kept up to date with changes in your contact details. This may be a change to a mobile number, an e-mail address, a full address or even a change of who is the first priority to contact. By keeping us up to date with changes we can ensure that you are receiving information regarding your child's progress and that we can contact someone in the case of an emergency. Or preferred means of communication is by e-mail, please ensure that we have a current e-mail address for you. Please notify us of any changes by e-mail to: [kcannon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:kcannon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).

### **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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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.



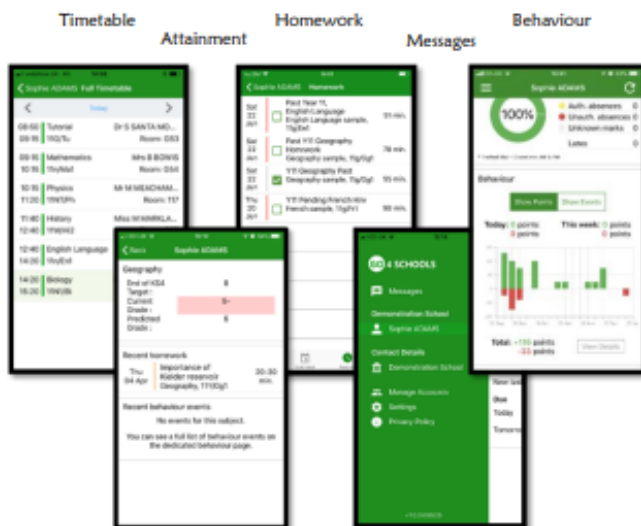
[Click here](#)

[Click here](#)

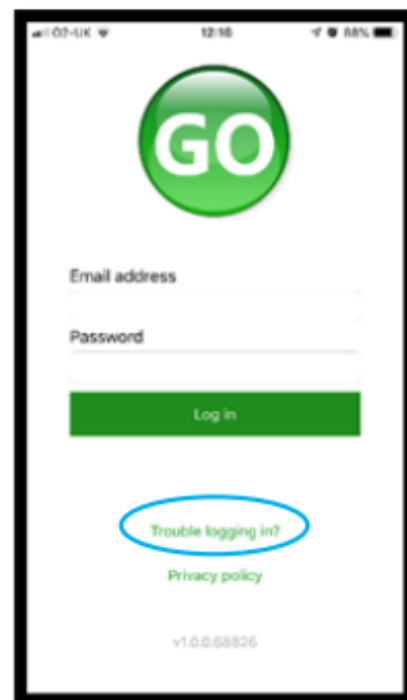
2 – Type in your school email address.

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.**





Ormiston  
**RIVERS**  
Academy

**Weekly  
Newsletter**

**Issue # 6 - 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025**



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**



FULL DETAILS HERE



## **INCLUSIVE U'S FOOTBALL CAMP**

**WHO?** Young people aged 5-16 with  
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

### **WHAT TO EXPECT?**

- » **Expert Coaching:** sessions will be led by our FA qualified coaches, who are experienced in working with SEND players.
- » **Skills Development:** enhance your skills through fun football drills, including passing, dribbling, shooting and much more.
- » **Special Guests:** the possibility of meeting Colchester United players and the Club mascot Eddie the Eagle!
- » **Exciting Rewards:** every participant will receive a Colchester United themed prize, with additional medals and trophies available to be won.

**TO INSPIRE, ENRICH  
AND UNITE OUR COMMUNITIES**

Registered Charity Number: 1159381

[www.cu-fc.com/cucf](http://www.cu-fc.com/cucf)  
[cucf@colchesterunited.net](mailto:cucf@colchesterunited.net)  
01206 755160

📱 @ColU\_CF 📺 /ColUCF  
#enrichourcommunities

**Community - Ambition - Resilience - Respect - Excellence**