



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

We celebrated World Book Day starting with a vibrant Reading Breakfast that brought parents into school to read with pupils, enriching the event and highlighting the positive impact of meaningful family involvement in school life. The whole academy embraced the day, with staff dressing as favourite literary characters and departments delivering themed lessons, from a Harry Potter–inspired Science curriculum to explorations of Charles Dickens in English and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory–based activities in ADT. Students also decorated their classroom doors during form time to showcase their favourite books. The event was warmly received across the community, reflecting the value of engaging families and students alike, and you can find photographs and videos capturing the highlights on our Instagram ([@oat_ora](#)) and Facebook page ("[Ormiston Rivers Academy](#)").

We are looking forward to coming together once again as a school community on Friday 20th March to support, celebrate and fundraise for Comic Relief. The day promises to be full of energy and fun, with students enjoying a non uniform day, a bake sale led by our dedicated Sixth Form Leadership Team, a lively Staff vs Students challenge, and a lunchtime Zumba session brought to life by our fantastic science teacher, Mr Williams. While the day is set to be an exciting and joyful experience for all, we kindly ask that your child comes fully equipped for their lessons so that the non-uniform celebration can be embraced at no cost to learning, but with added enthusiasm and enjoyment. Tutor groups will also take part in a range of Red Nose–themed activities, helping to create a vibrant and memorable atmosphere across the academy. Further details will be shared with students during form assemblies in the lead-up to the event.

Next week, we will be welcoming a professional photographer into the academy to capture moments that reflect our vibrant school community. These photographs will be used across our displays, website, social media and academy prospectus to celebrate daily life at Ormiston Rivers and the achievements of our students. To help us present the academy at its very best, we kindly ask that all students arrive in full, smart uniform. Please be reassured that only students for whom we have received parental consent via the Photography and Video Information and Consent Form will be included in the photoshoot.

As our transition to Arbor continues, we are aware that some parents and carers have noticed discrepancies in attendance data displayed on Go4Schools. While configuration and testing between the two systems are ongoing, occasional delays or inconsistencies may occur. We appreciate your patience and understanding, and our team is working diligently to ensure all data is accurate and synchronised as the new system becomes fully established.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. It is deeply appreciated and plays a vital role in helping our school community continue to thrive.

Warm regards,
Dijana Piralic
Principal (Interim)

Parents Evenings

- Year 8** - Thursday 19 March 2026
- Year 11** - Thursday 26 March 2026
- Year 7** - Thursday 7 May 2026

Dates for your Diary

Friday 20th March 2026

Comic Relief

Friday 27th March 2026

Academy closes at 1.50pm for Easter Holiday

Monday 13th April 2026

Students return for Summer Term



Teaching Behaviours

Spring Term

The spring term is well underway, and it's been wonderful to see students settling back into routines with energy and focus. As we move through the second half of the year, we want to share a few key reminders and celebrations to help everyone stay connected and informed.

Getting Organised for the School Day

A positive start each morning makes a noticeable difference to students' focus and wellbeing. We kindly ask parents and carers to check three essentials with their child each evening:

- **Timetable** — Ensuring students know which lessons they have the next day helps them arrive calm, organised, and ready to learn.
- **Equipment** — A stocked pencil case, exercise books, PE kit, and any subject-specific items mean students can participate fully without stress or delay.
- **Phone pouch** — Students should bring their school issued phone pouch each day so that mobile phones can be stored safely and remain out of use during learning time.

These small routines help students settle quickly into lessons and support a positive learning environment for everyone.

Uniform Expectations for a Positive Start

As we settle into the spring term, we appreciate your support in helping students arrive each day feeling confident, prepared, and ready to learn. We ask families to take a moment each morning to ensure uniform is fully in line with school expectations. Please check that students are wearing:

- **Ties** — to be worn daily by all students - these can be purchased online or via the main reception.
- **Blazers** — brought to school every day and worn throughout the building. Permission may be given by teachers in classrooms to remove these.
- **Black leather-look school shoes** — not canvas trainers or sports-style footwear, to maintain a smart and professional appearance.

These small checks make a big difference to help us maintain high standards across the school community.

Celebrating Student Achievement

This half term we have opened up the school merit swap shop! We have been swamped by students wishing to exchange their hard earned positive merits for prizes. There is a huge list to choose from, and the shop is open daily. This has focused students' attention on their positive points and gaining as many merits as possible.

- **Club Zero** - has been reset so that all students have 0. If they remain with 0 days off or 0 negative points, they will be allowed to attend school in non-uniform. 550 students were part of this club last half term.



- Win a Lap top!! ALL students have the chance to be entered into the draw for a new lap top. 100% attendance for 1 week give students one entry into the draw. Excellent merit scores provide another entry too. The prize draw will take place in the end of term assemblies.
- Department Stars of Month for all departments have been selected for February!
- CARE Cards - continue to be given out for excellent work. These are entered into the draw for a chance to win 1 of 3 prizes: catering cash prize, an art and equipment pack or a shopping voucher.
- Plus, many more end of term rewards to be won. We'll continue to highlight achievements in assemblies and on our school website.

Staying Connected

We're grateful for the strong partnership between home and school. Your encouragement, communication, and involvement make a real difference to students' success. If you have questions or feedback, please reach out to your child's form tutor as the first port of call.

Attendance Matters

100%

Each week we are giving a shout out to the tutor groups with the highest attendance for Years 7 to 11. This is something that needs to be celebrated, as attendance really does matter!

If you see your child's year group mentioned, give them a big high five for their contribution towards this fantastic achievement.

Year 7
7D2

Year 8
8M2

Year 9
9D1

Year 10
10A2

Year 11
11A1

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
- Attendance line: 01621 787855





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 **"Aesthetic"**.

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

Say it: uhs·theh·tik **Spell it:** Aes-thet-ic

Aesthetic
(adjective)

(Stem) **aesthet** - sense
(Suffix) **ic** - to do with, like **Stem:** aesthet:- sense

Understand it
Relating to the enjoyment or study of beauty.

Careers Spotlight

Career of the week

[JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #262 - CNC MACHINIST](#)



Year 10 and 12 Work Experience

Please continue to look for possible placements with your child. Once the placement has been agreed with the employer the students will need to log this information on Unifrog. They all have a user account and guidelines for completing this can be found on the school website [Ormiston Rivers Academy - Work Experience](#)

Careers Adviser - Fliiss Compton

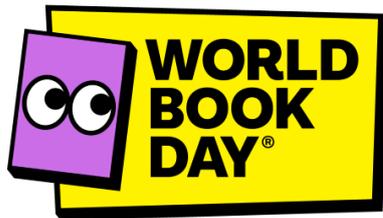
Fliiss is available for Careers Meetings on Wednesdays - if you would like your child to have a careers meeting please email on fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

A great opportunity open to all students age 13-25 - fully funded Earniversity course. It is great for young people thinking about making some extra money or trying to gain some transferable skills that employers are looking for, this is a good opportunity. To do that. The course starts this month Wednesday 17th March and runs for 5 weeks over a couple of evenings a week, it is all online and many young people involved have made a few hundred pounds and some in the thousands, but it will help build confidence and gain skills such as marketing, confidence in presenting and employability. The course will also help young people build their CVS. The course is open to 13-25 year olds

We had the results in for from the last course and one of the young people made over £1600 on the course over the 5 weeks, a great success.

We'll have another course starting soon for students with additional needs, but many young people have thrived with the fast paced fast track challenge.

Students can sign up here: <https://forms.gle/xZaSzQWDpJHYvX8r5>



Yesterday was a very exciting day for Rivers with our World Book Day celebrations!

Form groups worked so hard dressing their doors and winners were selected today!

They were

- Year 7: 7A2
- Year 8: 8A1
- Year 9: 9A2
- Year 10: 10Z1
- Sixth Form: Grace D



Students enjoyed the day with book themed lessons, prizes and lunch time activities. Staff dressed as their favourite books characters and all looked fantastic!



We also had the parent reading breakfast which parents, sixth formers and students really enjoyed. It was great to hear all about their favourite books.

Please remember to use your book tokens to collect your free books or £1 off of a book of your choice! Also, there is a reading challenge for Year 7s which was given out yesterday during form time! Prizes will be given for the students that complete that!

A big thank you to our Sixth form helpers throughout the day, your help was very much appreciated.

It was a great day, thank you to all of the students for their enthusiasm!





A huge well done to Sam and Paige who represented us brilliantly on Saturday in Round 2 of the Rotary Young Musician Competition.

Both students showcased outstanding musical talent, impressing the judges with their guitar performances and vocal ability. Their dedication, confidence and stage presence truly did us all proud.

Congratulations to you both, we are incredibly proud of your achievement!



DRAMA HOUSE COMPETITION



Perform a Monologue



What is a monologue?

A *monologue* is a long form speech delivered by a single character in a play or a film.

Writers use these speeches to express a character's thoughts, emotions, or ideas. Depending on what type of monologue is used, the character can be addressing themselves, another character, or the audience.

- Choose a monologue to perform/act on video.
- No longer than 2 minutes
- Email entries to Mrs Turnnidge by **Friday 20th March 2026**
- Say your name and tutor group at the start of the video.

Please see the Drama House Competition details. Open to all year groups!

Please see your tutor or Mrs Turnnidge in Performing Arts for examples of monologues if you are stuck for ideas.

Email Mrs Turnnidge with your entries by Friday 20th March.

We can't wait to see them!

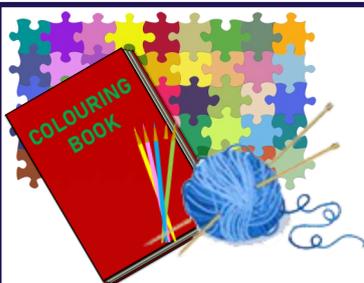
lturnnidge@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Exams News



Well done to all students who have been sitting their mock exams this week.

The mocks will continue over the next few weeks, so good luck to all in years 11, 12 and 13 as they endeavour to achieve the best marks possible in preparation for the real thing in May.



HOBBY CLUB

Don't forget that Hobby Club is open to all students in years 7, 8 and 9 on Fridays in D05. We have some things for you to do, but please feel free to make suggestions or bring in your own hobby to share with the group.

Rotary **YOUNG
CHEF** **COMPETITION**

Freddie in Year 9 took part in the Rotary Young Chef District Finals today at Hertford Regional College in Broxbourne.

After an early start to reach Broxbourne, the competitors received a warm welcome and a tour of the college kitchens, where they were able to set up their ingredients and equipment. Following a short briefing, any initial nerves were soon settled and the cooking got underway.

Parents, teachers and Rotary supporters watched via a live feed on the big screen, allowing us to see exactly how they were getting on in the kitchen.

There were seven competitors from Rotary districts across Essex and East Hertfordshire, with only a few points separating the overall winner from the lowest score. The standard was exceptionally high; every dish was beautifully presented and truly restaurant quality. The judges provided very positive and constructive feedback throughout.

Freddie prepared a chicken escalope with mozzarella and basil, served with fresh spaghetti in a tomato and roasted garlic sauce. He received valuable feedback from the judges on how to elevate his dishes even further in the future. One judge was so impressed that he stopped Freddie on his way out to ask for the recipe for his dessert — a Chocolate Orange Mousse — which he thoroughly enjoyed.

All competitors were praised for their maturity and professionalism. Although Freddie was not the overall winner on this occasion, he gained fantastic experience and we are confident he will continue developing his skills as he works towards his ambition of becoming a chef. Well done, Freddie!





Support for Parents and Carers with regards to Special Educational Needs

Hello, I'd like to share some useful links with you:

- 1. Essex Local Offer for parents and carers can be found here :**

[About | Essex Local Offer](#)

- 2. Advice for Parents and Carers by the SPACE organisation:**

[One-to-one support | Support for Parents And Carers in Essex](#)

This is a new service is October 2025 and all support is free for parents and carers

- 3. Attend SEND Roadshows for Mid-Essex which supports parents and carers**

[Local Offer Roadshow, Mid Essex | Essex Local Offer](#)

The Next Roadshow is:

Date and time

Wednesday 11 March 2026

9.30am to 12.30pm

Address

Chelmsford Central Baptist Church, Victoria Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1LN

- 4. Subscribing to the Local Authority Newsletter is highly recommended for parents and carers** [Essex Local Offer](#)

- 5. Electronic Toolkit for Parents and Carers of children who are Neurodivergent**

[Supporting Your Neurodiverse Child](#)

- 6. Support for parents, carers and young people who are Autistic**

[Services supporting autistic young people](#)

Becky Reynolds

Senco



Year 7 - Mr Adair

What an exceptional week it has been for our wonderful Year 7 students. Their enthusiasm, focus and commitment in lessons have been nothing short of inspiring, and this has been reflected in the incredible number of merits they have earned. In fact, Year 7 have achieved more merits in a single week than any other year group so far this academic year, a testament to their hard work and the positive attitude they bring into school each day. We are immensely proud of every one of them.

Our week was further brightened by an outstanding performance from the Year 7 boys' football team, who demonstrated remarkable resilience, heart and determination on the pitch. After a challenging first half, the boys rallied together and came agonisingly close to completing one of the greatest comebacks we've seen. Their teamwork and spirit were a credit to the school, and they should feel incredibly proud of the way they represented Year 7.

There has also been a real buzz around the school as we celebrated World Book Day. The excitement was infectious, with students sharing their favourite stories, exploring new books and embracing the joy of reading. A huge thank you to all the parents who joined us on Thursday morning to read with their children—your support made the event even more special and helped create a warm, community-focused start to the day.

Finally, we would like to congratulate all Year 7 students who have just discovered the roles they will be playing in the upcoming Gym and Dance Show. Whether performing centre stage or supporting behind the scenes, every student involved contributes to what promises to be a fantastic celebration of creativity and talent. We cannot wait to see their hard work come to life.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Year 7 have set an exceptional standard this week, and we look forward to seeing what they achieve next.

Contact: cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 8 - Mr Moon

What a brilliant week it's been for Year 8! We kicked things off with an inspiring assembly all about careers and planning for the future, and it was fantastic to see so many students thinking positively about their goals and the exciting paths ahead of them. Thursday brought even more energy as we celebrated World Book Day, with some incredible creativity on show across the year group. A huge congratulations to 8A1 (Mrs Maclean), whose amazing Gruffalo themed door took the Year 8 crown — a well deserved win for a truly eye catching design!



In lessons, Year 8 have continued to impress. In Maths, they've been powering ahead with their Algebra work, tackling new challenges with confidence and focus. Science has been just as lively, with students building and experimenting with circuits — plenty of sparks of curiosity (and only the safe kind!) throughout the week.

One area we do need to improve is attendance. It has dipped noticeably this half term, and although we know there are a few bugs going around, being in school every day is essential to keep learning on track and avoid gaps building up. Let's all aim for a strong attendance push over the next few weeks — every day really does make a difference!

A massive well done to our top merit earners this week! In 1st place is Danny (8Z1) with a fantastic 32 merits. In joint 2nd place we have Esme (8A2), Ashley (8A1) and Autumn (8A2), all achieving an impressive 30 merits. Joint 3rd place goes to Helena (8M2), Lily Rose (8A2), Poppy (8A1), Evie (8A2) and Bella (8D1), each earning a brilliant 26 merits. Huge congrats to all of you — and with results like that, it's no surprise that 8A2 take this week's top tutor group spot! Well done, Mrs Cope!

Finally, a special shout out to Mrs Byford's Students of the Week: Fern (8Z1) and Harvey (8D1), recognised for always being polite and respectful. Keep up the fantastic attitude — you set a great example for everyone.

I hope you all have a restful weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday. Many thanks Mr Moon and Mrs Byford.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 9 – Mr Chapman

Merits This Week

Our top three merit earners this week are:

James (9D2)
Riley (9A2)
Megan (9D2)

Merits for the Year So Far:

James (9D2)
Ava (9A2)
Mia (9D2)

James has now taken the lead by a single point. The overall rankings are becoming increasingly competitive, with several students pushing hard for the top positions. Keep up the excellent effort, everyone.

Options Forms

Options forms will be emailed out next Monday. Please remember that this is not a first come, first served process, so there is no need to rush your submission. Take the time to speak with staff, ask questions, and make the most informed choices you can. The deadline for completing options forms is **Friday 20th March**.

Contact: rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 - Mr Field

During my learning walks this week, it was wonderful to see such hard work, focus and genuine enjoyment taking place across our lessons.

In Computer Studies, Jaydon, Tommy and Leah spoke confidently about the coding projects they are developing—great to see such enthusiasm for problem-solving and programming.

Over in Music, Brodie, Sophie and Ayla were singing beautifully in harmony to a classic Bruno Mars song. Their teamwork and vocal blend were fantastic, and we look forward to seeing them perform in the show later this year.

In PE, pupils continued developing their basketball skills, with noticeable improvements in their lay-ups. Mason, Peter and Tommy in particular grew more accurate with their shooting as the games progressed.

A reminder to parents and pupils that Year 10 exams begin immediately after the Easter break. Please ensure revision is well underway and that time is being used effectively to prepare.

Congratulations to our highest positive-points earners this week:

Oliver, Sam, Scarlett, Sophie, Evelyn, Logan, Poppy, George, Archie, Owen, Jaydon & Molly

A fantastic effort from you all — keep up the brilliant work!

A huge well done to Lorna, who competed in the Essex and Eastern Indoor Athletics Championships last weekend. Below is Lorna's own write up detailing her achievements — an inspiring read and a testament to her dedication.

At the weekend I travelled to Lee Valley indoor athletics centre in North London. I competed in the 800m and ran 2.22 in my heat to progress to the final. I ran a similar time in the final after a battle with 3rd place over the last lap I won a silver medal.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 – Ms Taylor

Year 11 have had a heavy week of exams, and as these come to a close next week they should be reminded that they are entering the last seven school weeks before their exams. When they get their results back, they should be asking staff for 3 areas which would make the most difference to them and focus on these.

The next phase of prom invites will come out after the mocks are over, and students are reminded that their invite depends on 3 criteria:

- * attendance to school
- * attendance to lessons
- * conduct in school.

Most of the Year 11's have conducted themselves superbly over the mock period - and I congratulate them for this.

Any student without plans for next year should ensure that they have some applications in. It is always preferable to have options to turn down on results day than to be hunting for places still available.

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Now that the Year 11 mock examinations are behind us, our students are entering the final and most important stage of their GCSE journey. The coming weeks are crucial—this is the time when focus, determination, and consistent effort can make a truly significant difference to their final outcomes.

GCSEs open doors: to college courses, apprenticeships, sixth-form pathways, and the wider opportunities that shape their futures. Every hour of revision, every practice question, and every bit of resilience they show now will pay off in the summer. As we often say to students, “Dreams don’t work unless you do”—but with the right effort and support, those dreams are absolutely within reach.

Over the next few weeks, please encourage your child to stay motivated, attend all intervention sessions, and make use of the revision materials provided. Your support at home—helping them plan their time, maintain good routines, and stay positive—makes a huge difference.

You will soon receive invitations from our specialist subject teachers for the Easter Holiday Revision Programme. These sessions are designed to give targeted support, boost confidence, and address any final gaps before the exams begin. We strongly encourage students to attend.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership. Together, we can help ensure every student achieves their very best.

Mrs Gibson
Associate Assistant Principal- Raising Standards



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

It's been a particularly busy and exciting week in Sixth Form. On Thursday we came together to celebrate World Book Day, with students showing great creativity and enthusiasm. A huge well done to everyone who took part in decorating the Sixth Form doors, the winning design came from Grace, whose Alice in Wonderland themed door was a fantastic effort. Our Sixth Form Leadership Team also had the opportunity to meet with governors this week, sharing their ideas and representing the student voice. Meanwhile, Year 13 students have now begun their phased study leave for PPE's, marking an important step as they prepare for their exams.

Student Shout Out

Year 12: Grace, for her dedication and creativity in designing the fantastic Alice in Wonderland themed door for World Book Day.

Year 13: Abbie, for her excellent effort and commitment in keeping on top of all her coursework.

Sixth Form Student Leadership Team

This week our Sixth Form Student Leadership Team met with the governors to discuss their roles and the projects they are currently leading. It was an excellent opportunity for our students to present to the governors and showcase the fantastic work and commitment demonstrated by Sixth Form students.

Looking ahead to next week, we will be launching the Leadership Programme to Year 12 students who are interested in applying and interviewing to become part of the new leadership team. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to work alongside school leaders, contribute to whole-school improvements and collaborate on a range of exciting projects across the school community.

What's Coming Up

- Comic Relief
- Staff vs Sixth Form Dodgeball
- Year 12 Work Experience - W/C 29th June 2026 - Upload to Unifrog
- Charlie Dix leading sessions on Finance and Future Careers
- House competitions
- Summer Ball 3rd July 2026



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form in the Community

World Book Day in the Sixth Form

Sixth Form fully embraced the spirit of World Book Day this year with a fun and creative celebration. Students took part in decorating the Sixth Form doors, with the theme of Disney inspiring a fantastic range of colourful and imaginative designs across the area.

Throughout the day, Disney music played in the Sixth Form space, creating a lively and positive atmosphere for everyone. Adding to the fun, members of the Sixth Form Team dressed up as characters including Alice in Wonderland and Cruella De Vil, which brought plenty of smiles and helped build a real sense of community.

It was wonderful to see so many students getting involved, showing creativity and enthusiasm. The event was a great example of the brilliant team spirit within our Sixth Form.



Reading Buddies

A big thank you to our wonderful Sixth Form students who have been volunteering as reading buddies this term, supporting younger students with their reading. Your time, encouragement and commitment make a real difference. We are especially grateful to those who also took on an extra reading session to celebrate World Book Day, helping to share the joy of reading across the school.

Race For Life

Our very own Mrs Penberthy will be taking part in Race for Life on 10th May 2026 in loving memory of Audrey, her best friend's mum, who sadly lost her life to cancer last year. If you would like to support Mrs Penberthy and help raise funds for Cancer Research UK, please consider making a donation via the link below. Your support would be greatly appreciated.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Leadership Team

Before the half term, the team met with MP Sir John Whittingdale to discuss democracy and community issues with students. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to have voice.

Rivers Sixth Form Applications - Year 11 Interviews Update

Year 11 interviews have now concluded, and offer letters have now been sent to students' school email addresses. These letters contain important information about the next steps in the application process. Students are asked to check their email carefully and respond to their offer as soon as possible.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Rivers Sixth Form operates a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy. The laptop trolley has been removed from the Sixth Form area, meaning students will need to bring their own devices into Sixth Form sooner than planned. If any students do not currently have access to a laptop or suitable device, please speak to a member of the Sixth Form team so that appropriate support can be arranged. Alternatively there are 10 laptops available in the LRC for Sixth Form students to rent for the day.

Exam Behaviour & JCQ Regulations

As we approach the exam season, it's important to remember the expectations for behaviour during all exams. To ensure a smooth and fair exam experience, students must adhere to the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) regulations, which are in place to maintain integrity and fairness for all candidates.

Key points to remember:

- Arrive on time: Make sure you arrive at least 15 minutes before the exam starts. Late arrivals can lead to complications, and in some cases, may not be allowed to sit the exam.
- Clear water bottle: Only clear, unlabelled bottles are permitted in the exam room. No labels or logos are allowed on the bottle, and the bottle should be free from any writing or stickers.
- Prohibited items: Phones, smartwatches, or any electronic devices must be turned off and left in your bag, which should be placed at the back of the exam room. Only pens, pencils, and necessary equipment should be on your desk.
- Respect and Focus: It is essential to maintain a calm, respectful environment for everyone in the exam hall. Please follow the instructions given by the invigilators, remain focused, and take the time to carefully read all instructions. Following these regulations is vital for a smooth exam experience and for your success in the upcoming assessments. Let's all do our part to ensure that everything runs smoothly!



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Dress Code

As the weather begins to get warmer, we would like to remind all Sixth Form students to continue to adhere to the Sixth Form dress code. Thank you for maintaining the high standards expected within our Sixth Form community. 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.

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.

The Rivers Sixth Form Team

 mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

 sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

 Absent reporting to Mrs Penberthy: 01621 787882

 Follow us on Instagram: @RiversSixthForm

 Visit: www.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 | Maths set (including a scientific calculator) |
| 1 x purple biro for assessment feedback | Student Planner (student organiser) |
| 2 x pencils | Reading book |
| 1 x 30cm ruler | Books / folders for the days lessons |
| Coloured pencils (not felt tips) | Water bottle |
| Eraser | Basic art equipment |
| Pencil sharpener | |

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

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

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

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



Absence Reporting

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

MyEd Messaging App

ConnectED absence line: 0845 355 8104

Attendance line: 01621 787855

Change of Personal Details

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

Lost Property

We have several items in lost property, mainly coats, PE kits, blazers and drinking bottles. Any student can check in Student Reception for lost items. Please note that items not collected before the end of 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.



Hillside brood cheer for Jude!



The Hillside Team are planning a fundraising 8 mile walk for Jude, one of our children at the nursery who was diagnosed over Christmas with a rare and aggressive brain tumour. Please see the link for further information and how you can donate and be involved in raising money for Jude and his family.

<https://gofund.me/248ea1ca3>





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'.



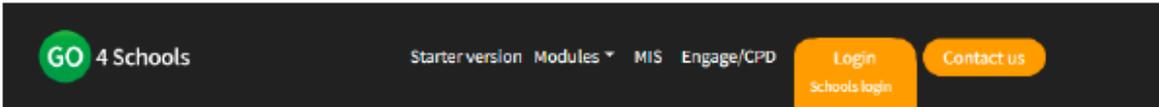
Parent / Carer Login

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.



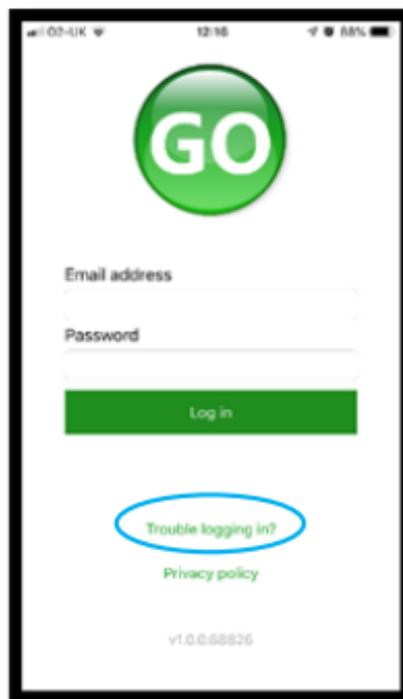
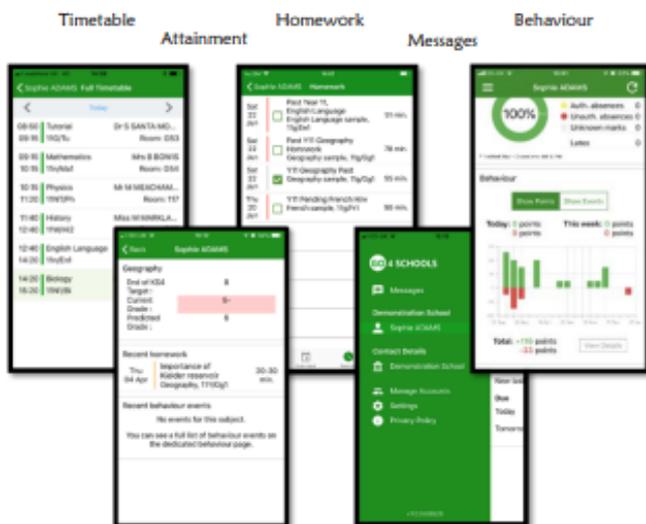
[Click here](#)

[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.