

### Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, our Gym & Dance production, Avatar, brought together creativity, talent and dedication in a truly memorable performance. From the staging and lighting to the music, costumes and makeup, every detail reflected the hard work and commitment of everyone involved. Most importantly, it was wonderful to see our students performing with such confidence, enthusiasm and enjoyment. Once more, we welcomed children from our local primary schools to the production, further strengthening the connections within our community. A heartfelt thank you goes to Ms Wilkins and all the staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to make the event such a success and provide our students with this fantastic opportunity.

As we look ahead to the final few days of term, there is still much to look forward to before we come together on Wednesday for our End of Year Celebration Assembly. On Monday, students will take part in our Academy Sports Day, followed by year group trips and Activity Day on Tuesday. With Sports Day taking place outdoors, please ensure that your child brings a water bottle and applies sun cream before arriving at school. Students are also encouraged to show their House spirit by wearing a top in their House colour: Green for Amazon, Blue for Danube, Red for Mekong and Yellow for Zambezi. These events provide a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate their achievements, enjoy time with their peers and make lasting memories as we conclude another successful academic year.



As we approach the end of term, we are looking forward to the final draw for Principal Piralic's Positively Perfect Prize. The winner of the fantastic brand-new bike pictured here will be announced during our End of Year Celebration Assembly on Wednesday. The prize will be awarded to one student in recognition of their excellent attendance throughout the academic year, celebrating the importance of commitment, consistency and making the most of every opportunity at school.

To further recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students, our Club Zero non-uniform day will take place on Wednesday, the final day of the Summer Term. This reward is for students who have either achieved 100% attendance or received zero negative behaviour points this half term. Parents and carers of eligible students will receive an email shortly confirming that their child is a member of Club Zero. A significant number of students achieve this recognition each half-term, which is a wonderful testament to their commitment, positive attitude and dedication to meeting our high expectations throughout the half term.

Our Sixth Form Rivers Sport Academy celebrated another successful season with its Football Awards Evening this week, recognising the dedication, commitment and teamwork shown by students throughout the year. It has also been wonderful to see Sports Academy students leading a range of fundraising activities, including a bake sale, the Rivers Games Football Tournament and a Dodgeball Takedown event. These events showcased their enthusiasm, leadership and commitment to supporting the wider school community. Congratulations to all award winners, and special thanks to Mr Hill for his continued support, encouragement and coaching, which have contributed so positively to the development and success of our students both on and off the pitch.

While this newsletter is filled with celebrations and reflections on the many achievements of our students, it also marks the end of another academic year. I would like to thank all students, parents and carers for their support throughout the year and wish everyone a happy, restful and well-deserved summer break. I look forward to welcoming our students back in September, ready for another year of learning, growth and success.

Warm regards,  
**Dijana Piralic**  
**Principal (Interim)**



**Dates for your Diary**

**Monday 20th July - Friday 24th July**

Year 10 Work Experience

**Monday 20th July 2026**

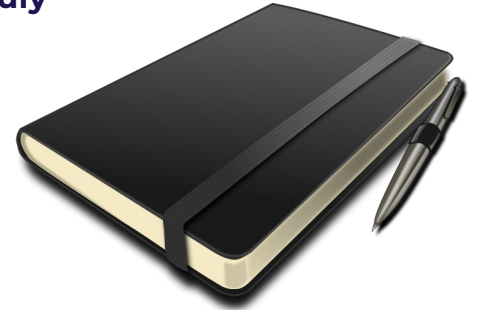
Academy Sports Day

**Tuesday 21st July 2026**

Year Group Trips

**Wednesday 22nd July 2026**

Academy closes at 1.50pm for Summer Holiday



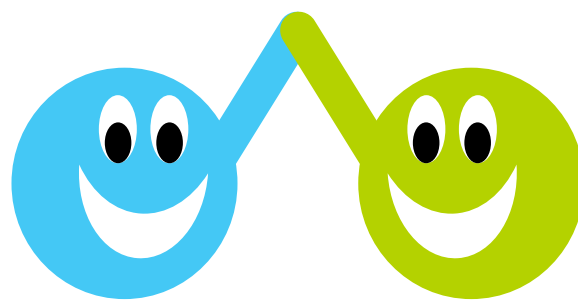
# Attendance Matters 100%

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**  
7M2

**Year 9**  
9M1



**Year 8**  
8A2

**Year 10**  
10M1

**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



# Teaching Behaviours

We have made it to the last week of the school year – wow, doesn't time fly when you're having fun!

As we head into our final week, we would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year. Your partnership has played a vital role in helping our students achieve success both inside and outside the classroom.

The final week of term is just as important as any other. Students will be taking part in celebration events, sporting activities, rewards trips and end-of-year experiences that help create lasting memories and strengthen our school community.



## **Club Zero**

Students who achieve:

- 0 days off, and/or
- 0 negative behaviour points

will be invited to take part in a special non-uniform day on the last day of term.



## **End-of-Year Reward Trip**

On Tuesday, Students who have met the required standards throughout the year will enjoy our exciting end-of-year trip to the theme park – a fantastic opportunity to celebrate their hard work, commitment and positive choices.



## **Sports Day – Ready to Compete!**

One of the highlights of our final week is always Sports Day, and excitement is already building across the school!

Students and staff are looking forward to a fantastic day filled with competition, teamwork, determination and plenty of school spirit. Whether competing in traditional athletics events, taking part in team challenges, or enjoying some of the many fun activities on offer, there will be opportunities for everyone to contribute to their House.

Sports Day is much more than just winning races—it is about participation, encouraging one another, demonstrating resilience and celebrating success together. Every point earned will count towards the prestigious House Trophy, and we cannot wait to see which House will be crowned champions this year.

We know our students will bring energy, enthusiasm and sportsmanship to the day, and we are all incredibly excited to take part in what promises to be a memorable occasion to round off a fantastic year.

### **Final Whole-School Reward Assembly – The Big Reveal!**

To round off what has been a fantastic year, we will come together on the last day of term for our final whole-school reward assembly. This is always a special occasion as we celebrate the achievements, effort, resilience and successes of our students throughout the year.

The highlight of the assembly will undoubtedly be the grand attendance prize draw. Every week of 100% attendance has earned students a ticket, giving them the chance to win our incredible top prize: an 8-speed front suspension mountain bike.

There can only be one winner, and as the excitement builds, one lucky student will be leaving the assembly knowing that they will be riding home on a brand-new bike! 

Our reward assembly is a reminder that attendance, effort and positive choices matter. Whether students have earned a reward trip, qualified for Club Zero, represented their House on Sports Day, or entered the bike draw through excellent attendance, we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this year.

What a way to finish the school year—with celebrations, rewards, memories and the chance for one fortunate student to cycle into the summer holidays in style!     

### **A Final Message**

Together, we have helped our young people learn, grow and achieve so much.

We wish all of our families a safe, happy and restful summer break. Take time to recharge, recover from what has been a busy and eventful year, and celebrate everything that has been achieved. We encourage our students to reflect on their successes, whether they are academic achievements, sporting accomplishments, improved attendance, positive behaviour, new friendships or simply overcoming personal challenges.

Every student should be proud of the progress they have made this year. Success looks different for everyone, but every step forward is worth celebrating.

As we look ahead to September, our aim is simple: to make next year even better than this year. With the same determination, commitment and positive attitude, we know our students can continue to achieve great things.

Have a wonderful summer, enjoy time with family and friends, stay safe, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting year of opportunities and success.

**See you in September!**      

*The best way to predict your future is to create it. Let's make next year our best year yet!*

**Mr Marklew**

**Keeping Our Students Safe This Summer**

As students head off to enjoy their well-deserved summer holidays, please remind their health, safety, and well-being are important.

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**Emergency Contacts & Support Lines**

Keep these numbers saved in your phone or displayed on the fridge at home.

- Life-Threatening Emergencies: Call 999 or 112 immediately for Police, Ambulance, Fire, or Coastguard.
  - Non-Emergency Police: Call 101 to report anti-social behaviour or non-urgent crimes.
  - NHS Medical Advice: Call 111 for urgent medical concerns that are not life-threatening.
  - Childline: Call 0800 1111 for free, confidential support for young people.
  - Shout Crisis Text Line: Text SHOUT to 85258 for 24/7 mental health support via text.
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**Vital Water Safety Guidelines**

Summer weather draws many teens to beaches, rivers, and lakes. Open water poses hidden risks, even for excellent swimmers. Please ensure your child knows these life-saving rules:

- Look for Flags: Only swim at lifeguarded beaches between the red and yellow flags.
  - Float to Live: If caught in a current, tilt your head back, relax, fight the urge to thrash, and float.
  - Check the Depth: Never jump or dive into unknown open water due to hidden rocks and debris.
  - Cold Water Shock: Sudden entry into open water can cause involuntary gasping and drowning.
  - Peer Pressure: Never let anyone dare or pressure you into entering unsafe water.
  - Call for Help: If someone is in trouble, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. Never jump in to rescue them.
- 

**Digital Safety Check-In**

We encourage parents to establish a simple summer check-in routine:

- Share Plans: Ensure your teen shares where they are going and who they are with.
- Battery Life: Remind them to keep phones charged and carry a portable power bank if possible.
- Location Sharing: Consider using family safety apps or location sharing features for late nights out.

The NSPCC website has much useful information [Keeping Children Safe Online | NSPCC](#)

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If a child is in immediate danger, call 999 immediately. For general safeguarding or welfare concerns in Essex contact the Children and Families Hub at 0345 603 7627 (Mon–Thurs 9am–5:30pm, Fri 9am–4:30pm). Outside these hours, call the Emergency Duty Team at 0345 606 1212

### 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 **"Transmission"**.

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

Say it: tranz·mi·shn

Spell it: Trans-mis-sion

**Transmission**

(noun)

(Prefix) **trans** - across, through  
(Stem) **miss** - release, send, throw  
(Suffix) **sion** - act, process, result

**Stem:** miss:- release / send / throw

Understand it

A machine in a car using gears to control the output of power from the engine to the wheels.

### Career of the week



## TOY DESIGNER



It is always wonderful to celebrate the achievements of our students, and this year we are delighted to recognise a number of outstanding performances in athletics that have earned places in the school record books.

#### Athletics Record Breakers

Congratulations to the following students who have set new school records through their dedication, determination and exceptional talent:

- **Lorna L - 800m**
- **Florence F - Shot Put**
- **Maddie P - Hammer and Discus**
- **Phoebe F - Hurdles**
- **Tommy D - Hurdles**

Breaking a school record is a remarkable achievement that reflects countless hours of training, perseverance and commitment. These students have not only achieved personal success but have also set a new standard for future athletes to aspire to.

We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and the positive example they set for their peers. Well done to Lorna, Florence, Maddie, Phoebe and Tommy on writing their names into the school's sporting history. We look forward to seeing what they achieve next.

Congratulations to all our record breakers! 🏆👏🏃🏃



### Students Rise to the Challenge in Advanced Mathematics Workshop

Ormiston Rivers Academy was delighted to welcome George Bowman, CEO of Maths Advance and Senior Mathematics Teacher at the prestigious City of London School for Girls, for a day of advanced mathematical problem-solving workshops.

George worked with selected students from Years 8, 9, 10 and 12, leading a series of highly engaging sessions designed to stretch and challenge our most able mathematicians. Rather than focusing on routine calculations, students explored rich mathematical ideas including proof, paradoxes, asymptotes and the famous Four 4s Challenge, developing their reasoning, resilience and collaborative problem-solving skills.

Throughout the day, students worked together to tackle increasingly complex problems, explaining and justifying their thinking while learning that perseverance and logical reasoning are at the heart of successful mathematics. George's interactive teaching style encouraged students to think creatively, question assumptions and embrace challenge with confidence.

The workshops formed part of the Mathematics Department's commitment to providing high-quality enrichment opportunities that inspire curiosity and prepare students for success at GCSE, A Level and beyond.

We would like to thank George for an inspiring and thought-provoking day. The enthusiasm, engagement and determination shown by our students demonstrated the exciting mathematical talent that continues to flourish at Ormiston Rivers Academy.





### **Gym & Dance Show 2026 – Avatar**

What an incredible three nights of entertainment! Our annual Gym & Dance Show, Avatar, was a spectacular celebration of talent, creativity and teamwork, showcasing the dedication of students from Years 7–13 alongside over 50 children from six of our local primary schools.

From the very first rehearsal to the final curtain call, our students demonstrated exceptional professionalism, commitment and resilience. Backstage, the atmosphere was truly inspiring, with students encouraging one another, helping with costumes and props, calming nerves and celebrating each other's successes. Their kindness, teamwork and support for the younger performers were just as impressive as the performances themselves.

It was a joy to welcome so many primary school pupils to perform alongside our students. They embraced every rehearsal with enthusiasm and confidence, creating lasting memories while experiencing what it is like to be part of a large-scale school production.

The feedback from our audiences has been overwhelming. We received countless compliments praising the outstanding standard of performance. Audience members described the production as "professional", "West End quality", "visually breathtaking" and "the best school production we have ever seen". The level of talent, commitment and passion displayed by every performer left a lasting impression on everyone who attended.

A huge thank you goes to all of our performers, student leaders, backstage crew, staff and families for their incredible support. Productions like this simply would not be possible without the dedication of so many people working together.



### Rivers Games 2026

This week saw the exciting launch of our very first Rivers Games, bringing students together for a series of competitive events designed to celebrate teamwork, school spirit and community.

The week began with Arena Football, where students from Years 7 and 8 represented their houses in a fast-paced seven-a-side tournament on the Astroturf. The standard of play was fantastic, with students showing determination, resilience and excellent sportsmanship throughout every match. It was wonderful to see so many students supporting their teammates and proudly representing Amazon, Danube, Mekong and Zambezi.

The competition continued with our Fuel for the Games Nut-Free Bake Sale, which gave students and staff the opportunity to enjoy a range of delicious treats while helping to raise money for the Rivers Sport Academy.

The week concluded with the highly anticipated Dodgeball Showdown, where Sixth Form students took on members of staff in front of a packed Sports Hall. The atmosphere was incredible, with students from across the school cheering from the sidelines as both teams battled for victory.

The Rivers Games have been a fantastic celebration of sport, competition and school community. Most importantly, the events have helped to raise valuable funds for the Rivers Sport Academy while giving students the opportunity to get involved, support one another and create some brilliant end-of-year memories.

A huge thank you goes to every student and member of staff who competed, supported, organised or donated throughout the week. Your enthusiasm helped make the first Rivers Games a brilliant success.





Our school was filled with confidence as our year 8 students were presenting their chosen charities in front of judges like their head of year, Mr Moon, our amazing SSA Ms Byford, the Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, Ms Julie Fosch, Burnham-on- Crouch North Ward Councillor, Ms Wendy Stamp and part of the ORA sixth form team.

Amazing presentations were presented and all showed great knowledge and commitment to their charities.

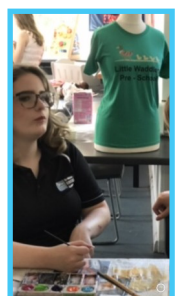
The overall winners were our RNLI team: Jessica H, Eleanor S and Elissa S from 8M2.

Well done to everyone, you all made our school proud!



This week has been a fantastic one for our Year 10 Child Development students. On Tuesday, they successfully hosted a Teddy Bears' Picnic for children from St Mary's Primary School, demonstrating outstanding confidence, kindness and professionalism as they led activities and acted as excellent ambassadors for the school.

On Wednesday, students took part in a practical lesson where our classroom became a pre-school, allowing them to experience activities from a young child's perspective. The lesson included a surprise mock OFSTED inspection by three student inspectors, who awarded us an 'Expected Standard' judgement. Both experiences were valuable, engaging and showcased the students' enthusiasm and commitment to Child Development, whilst having fun.



### Year 7 - Mr Adair

As we approach the end of another fantastic school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of our Year 7 community for a year that has been filled with hard work, determination, resilience, and an incredible amount of positive energy. It has been wonderful to see our students grow in confidence, embrace new challenges, and make so many memorable achievements throughout the year.

Next week, we celebrate our students' sporting prowess with our annual Sports Day on Monday. Students will have the opportunity to compete in a range of events, including sprints, relay races, long-distance running, long jump, high jump, shot put, and many more. We look forward to seeing our students demonstrate teamwork, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm as they represent their houses.

On Tuesday, our Year 7 students will enjoy a well-earned day of fun at Adventure Island, Southend. This promises to be a fantastic reward for all of their hard work throughout the year and an opportunity to create even more wonderful memories with friends before the summer break.

The Year 7 team would like to wish all of our students and families a fantastic summer holiday. We hope you enjoy spending time with loved ones, making happy memories, and taking advantage of the warmer weather.

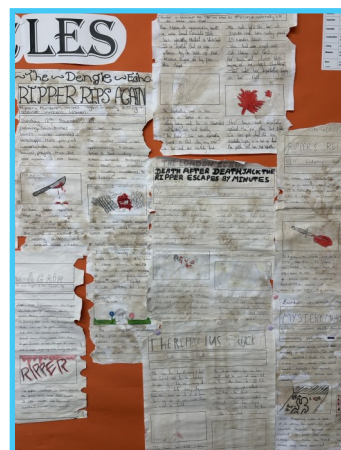
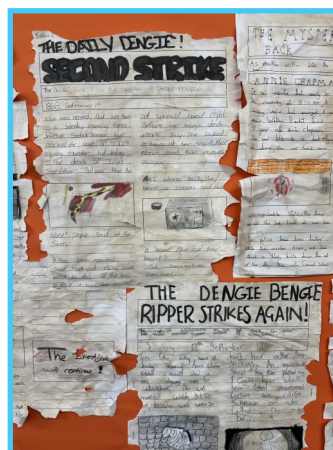
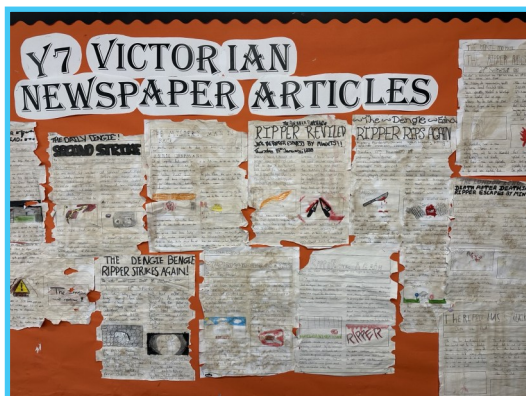
To our Year 7 pupils, please remember to stay safe this summer by:

- Spending time in the shade during the hottest parts of the day.
- Drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated.
- Wearing sunscreen and reapplying it regularly when spending prolonged periods in the sun.

Finally, thank you all so much for a year that I will never forget. It has been a privilege to be part of your Year 7 journey, and I am incredibly proud of everything you have achieved. I look forward to welcoming you back in September and seeing all that you accomplish in Year 8. Have a wonderful summer!

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

Some pics of  
7G/EN's  
Victorian  
newspaper  
articles





**Year 8 - Mr Moon**

**Year 8 – A Fantastic Year to Remember**

As we come to the end of another successful academic year, it is the perfect opportunity to reflect on everything our Year 8 students have achieved and experienced.

This year has been packed with opportunities for students to challenge themselves, learn new skills and create lasting memories. From the Spanish Experience, which allowed students to immerse themselves in a different culture, to today's inspiring First Give event, where students demonstrated their commitment to making a positive difference within the community, Year 8 have consistently embraced every opportunity available to them.

Students have also participated in a wide range of enrichment activities, fundraising initiatives, performances and sporting events throughout the year. The Honours Assembly provided a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the hard work, dedication and achievements of many students, whilst events such as Sports Day, performances and charity activities have helped to showcase the incredible talents within our year group. Together, these experiences have allowed students to develop confidence, resilience, teamwork and leadership skills beyond the classroom.

Most importantly, Year 8 have grown immensely as young people. They have supported one another, overcome challenges and represented the academy with pride. I am incredibly proud of their achievements and have no doubt that they will continue to flourish as they move into Year 9.

**A Personal Farewell**

As many of you will know, this year also marks the end of my time as Head of Year 8. It has been an absolute privilege to work with this fantastic group of students. Watching them grow in confidence, maturity and character has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. I have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating their successes, supporting them through challenges and getting to know so many wonderful students and families.

I would like to thank all students, parents, carers and staff for their support throughout the year. Together we have built a year group that should be incredibly proud of what it has achieved.

Although I am stepping down as Head of Year 8, I will continue to take great interest in the progress of this cohort and look forward to seeing all they accomplish in the years ahead.

Thank you for making the past year so memorable. I wish all of our students and families a fantastic summer break and every success as they embark on the next stage of their journey.

Mr Moon  
Head of Year 8

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

### Year 9 – Mr Chapman

As this will be my final newsletter entry of the academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff, parents and students who have helped make this such an enjoyable and rewarding year. When I first took on the role of Head of Year, I wasn't entirely sure what to expect. However, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the year group, carrying out daily check-ins with students, and supporting them wherever possible. In return, it has been a real pleasure to work with Year 9, and I am already looking forward to spending the next two years with them as they continue their journey through the school.

On Wednesday, we held our Honours Assembly, where we celebrated the achievements of Year 9 during their final term of the year. Congratulations to all students who received certificates and recognition for their hard work and commitment.

A special mention goes to our whole-school award winners:

- Reading Award: Lexi-Jaye for reading the highest number of books this term.
- Enrichment Award: Abby for attending the most clubs, activities and sporting events this term.
- Attitude to Learning Award: Amelia for achieving the highest number of merits this term.
- Attainment Award: Izabelle for making exceptional academic progress and achieving some of the highest grades this year.
- Principal's Award: James for an outstanding year, combining excellent results, a very high number of merits, and consistently positive contributions to school life.

Continuing our theme of celebrating success, it will come as no surprise to regular readers that our top three students for merits this year remain Ava, James and Mia. A particular well done goes to Ava, who has consistently featured among the highest merit earners every week since the start of the academic year. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects her sustained commitment and effort throughout the year.



As we head into the final few days of term, there is still plenty for students to look forward to. Sports Day takes place on Monday, followed by the Rewards Trip to Thorpe Park on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we will come together for our whole-school end-of-year assembly, where students will receive prizes and enjoy performances from this year's Gym and Dance Show participants.

Students who will be studying Computer Science, Business Studies and/or iMedia in Year 10 will be provided with a Transition Booklet to complete over the summer holidays. While completion of the booklet is not mandatory, students will be awarded merits for any work completed.

Completing transition work between Key Stage 3 (KS3) and GCSE study is an important step in preparing for academic success. The booklet is designed to bridge the gap between lower school and GCSE expectations, helping students become familiar with key concepts and skills before starting their new courses.

Engaging with the transition work can help ease the move into Year 10, reducing stress and anxiety during the first weeks of term while enabling students to make a strong start. It can also provide an early sense of achievement and confidence in their chosen subject. Furthermore, completing the booklet demonstrates commitment, enthusiasm and dedication towards the course they will be studying over the next two years.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our students and families a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming our Year 9 students back in September as Year 10 students, ready for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We have an exciting and important year to come, and I am looking forward to seeing what they achieve.

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

### **Year 10 - Mr Field**

As we reach the end of another successful year, I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the highlights from recent weeks and thank you for your continued support.

This week, Year 10 students welcomed visitors from the British Army, who led a range of engaging problem-solving tasks and team-building exercises. The activities challenged students to work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and demonstrate resilience when faced with a variety of practical scenarios. It was fantastic to see so many students stepping out of their comfort zones and developing valuable leadership and teamwork skills.

Our Music students also enjoyed an exciting trip to Abbey Road Studios. This memorable visit provided a fascinating insight into one of the world's most famous recording studios and allowed students to learn more about the music industry. A particular highlight was the opportunity to visit the iconic zebra crossing, made famous by The Beatles' Abbey Road album cover.



Our Health & Social Care students recently had the wonderful opportunity to support pupils at a local primary school's Teddy Bears' Picnic. The students represented the school brilliantly, helping to organise activities, engage with younger children and ensure everyone had a fun and enjoyable experience. Their enthusiasm, care and professionalism were a credit to both themselves and the school. Well done to all involved.

Several of our pupils took part in the first-ever Staff and Pupils Golf Competition held at Burnham Golf Club. The event was a fantastic success, with a very close contest between all players and a great spirit of competition throughout the afternoon. After some excellent golf, the competition could not be decided in regulation play, resulting in an exciting playoff between Jack G and Jack B.



Congratulations to Jack G, who held his nerve to win on the playoff hole and claim first place. A special mention also goes to Alfie M, who won the Nearest the Pin Competition with an outstanding shot. We look forward to making this a regular fixture in the school calendar.

As we look ahead, many students will be undertaking their work experience placements next week. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to gain first-hand experience of the workplace, develop new skills, and explore potential future career pathways. We wish all students the very best and hope they make the most of this valuable experience.

As students move into Senior Year (Year 11), it is important that they maintain good study habits over the summer holiday. To support this, Summer Learning Packs are available for all GCSE subjects and should be completed during the summer and brought to students' first lesson back in September. These packs have been carefully designed to review key Year 10 knowledge and introduce important skills that will be built upon throughout Year 11. Merits will be awarded for completed packs. Although the summer break is a time to relax and recharge, spending a small amount of time each week on learning can help students retain knowledge, build confidence and return to school well prepared for the challenges ahead.

Senior Year is a crucial stage in every student's education, with GCSE examinations fast approaching. Completing the Summer Learning Packs will help students develop effective independent study habits, identify areas for improvement and reduce pressure later in the year. In addition, students will be placed into Tutor Intervention Groups from September, focusing on English, Mathematics and Science to provide targeted support and revision opportunities throughout Year 11. We encourage all students to make the most of this opportunity and return in September ready to achieve their full potential. Summer Learning Packs can be accessed via the school website: For Students → Year 11 Support-Summer packs. We wish all students a restful and enjoyable summer and look forward to welcoming them back for a successful Senior Year.

Finally, as we approach the summer break, I would like to thank our Year 10 students for their hard work and commitment throughout the year. The holiday provides an excellent opportunity to rest and recharge before returning for the important challenges and opportunities that Year 11 will bring.

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



# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

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

As we reach the end of another fantastic academic year, it has been wonderful to reflect on everything our students have achieved. Our penultimate week has been incredibly busy and full of memorable moments. We began the week by celebrating the successes of our Rivers Sport Academy footballers at their Presentation Evening, before watching many of our talented Sixth Form students take to the stage in our spectacular Avatar Gym & Dance Show. It was particularly special to see our Year 13 students perform for the final time as part of the production. A huge thank you also goes to our wonderful Year 12 students, who represented the Sixth Form brilliantly by welcoming guests and serving refreshments throughout the performances.

The excitement continued as we launched our inaugural Rivers Games, bringing students together through sport, teamwork and fundraising, before rounding off the week with our Honours Assembly, celebrating the achievements, commitment and successes of so many of our students. Congratulations to everyone who received an award, your hard work and dedication have truly paid off.

Wishing you all a wonderful, restful and well-deserved summer break. We look forward to welcoming our returning students back in September and wish our Year 13 leavers every success as they begin their next exciting chapter.

## **Student Shout Out**

**Head of Year Award** - Molly H has embraced every opportunity available to her and has become an outstanding role model within our community. She has volunteered as a Reading Buddy, supported younger students through peer tutoring, successfully taken part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and is always one of the first to offer her help at Sixth Form events.

**Principal Award** - Charlotte B - Since taking on a leadership role, Charlotte has embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and maturity, becoming an outstanding ambassador for the Sixth Form. Whether volunteering at whole-school events, representing the academy or stepping forward to help wherever needed, she consistently goes above and beyond without hesitation.

## **What's Coming Up**

- Sports Day - Monday
- Thorpe Park Trip - Tuesday
- Last Day - Wednesday

# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

## Sport Academy News

### Rivers Sport Academy Football Presentation Evening

On Monday evening, we were delighted to welcome our players and their families to the annual Rivers Sport Academy Football Presentation Evening. The event was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate another successful season, recognising not only the achievements of our teams on the pitch but also the dedication, resilience and commitment shown by every player throughout the year.



The evening reflected everything the Rivers Sport Academy stands for. Throughout the season, our students have represented the academy with pride, displaying outstanding teamwork, determination and sportsmanship in training sessions, fixtures and tournaments. Their willingness to support one another, embrace challenges and continually strive for improvement has been a credit to both themselves and the school.

It was wonderful to see so many families join us to celebrate these achievements. The evening was made even more special by the support of our fantastic Year 12 Sixth Form students, who volunteered to welcome guests and serve refreshments throughout the event. Their professionalism, friendliness and willingness to help ensured the evening ran smoothly and provided a warm welcome for everyone in attendance.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of our individual awards, recognising students who have gone above and beyond throughout the season.

**Most Improved Player – Max** - Max has shown exceptional dedication and determination this year. Through hard work, a positive attitude and a desire to continually develop his game, he has made remarkable progress and thoroughly deserves this recognition.

**Clubman of the Year – George** - The Clubman Award celebrates the player who truly embodies the values of the Rivers Sport Academy. George has been an outstanding ambassador, demonstrating commitment, leadership and selflessness both on and off the pitch. He is always willing to support his teammates, represents the academy with pride and leads by example in everything he does.

**Player of the Season – Vik** - The Player of the Season award recognises exceptional performances, consistency and influence throughout the year. Vik has enjoyed an outstanding season, producing high-quality performances while inspiring those around him with his work ethic, determination and leadership. His contribution has been invaluable, making him a thoroughly deserving recipient of this year's top individual honour.

# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Congratulations to all of our award winners and every member of the Rivers Sport Academy. We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved this season and look forward to seeing what you accomplish next year. Thank you to our dedicated staff, coaches and families for their continued support in helping our young athletes thrive both on and off the pitch.



## Rivers Games Takes Over ORA!

This week, we hosted the first-ever Rivers Games, a week of fun, friendly competition and fundraising organised by the Rivers Sport Academy.

Students from across the school got involved in a range of exciting lunchtime events:

-  Arena Football (Year 7 & 8 Inter-House Tournament)
-  Nut-Free Bake Sale
-  Dodgeball Showdown – Sixth Form vs Staff

A huge thank you to our Sixth Form students who took the lead in organising and delivering Rivers Games. From planning events and officiating competitions to encouraging younger students to get involved, they demonstrated outstanding leadership, professionalism and enthusiasm throughout the week.

Their hard work helped make the Arena Football tournament, fundraising bake sale and Dodgeball Showdown a fantastic success, while raising valuable funds for the Rivers Sport Academy. Thank you to all of our Sixth Form leaders for being such positive role models and creating an exciting end to the school year.



## 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.

# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

## 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!

## 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.

## 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.

### The Rivers Sixth Form Team

 [mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)  [sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)



Absent reporting to Mrs Penberthy: 01621 787882



Follow us on Instagram: @RiversSixthForm



Visit: [www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](http://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](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'.