

Message from Mr Daniels, Principal:

I would like to thank the students, staff and parent body for the warm welcome I have received to Rivers this half term. Whilst there is much we can look to build on, what is clear from my first 8 weeks is that this is community that wants to see young people thrive in all they do. I am looking forward to continuing this work when we return in November and I wish you all an enjoyable half term break.

Key events week returning from half term on Monday 8 November 2026:

- **Monday:** Students return from half term holiday. Implementation of the new behaviour for learning expectations as outlined in Mr Daniel's message sent out to parents & carers this week which can be viewed here: [Message from Mr Daniels](#)
- **Tuesday:** Year 8 HPV vaccinations
- **Wednesday:** As a whole school we will be showing our respect for Remembrance Day on 11 November. Students will be outside from 10.55am for ten minutes. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather - coats will be allowed on at this time. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday our Sixth Form Leadership team will be bringing poppies around for sale to tutor groups to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
- **Friday:** Children In Need Non-Uniform Day for all students & staff. A suggested donation of £1 can be made in cash. There will also be a bake sale at break and events at lunch that will be cash entry - further details to follow after half term.

Key Messages:

- **Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge:** This Challenge brings computational thinking to schools worldwide, with students taking on a series of fun, engaging tasks, last year, more than 4 million students from over 80 countries took part. Each student gets 45 minutes to tackle interactive, age-appropriate problem-solving tasks online, marked automatically so everyone, whatever their strengths in maths or computing, has a chance to shine. We will take part from 9th - 20th November and all year 7,8 and 9 students will have an opportunity to complete this in their Computer Science lessons. Please encourage your child to practice over half term and perhaps have a go yourselves. The website is: <https://www.bebas.uk/> then go to challenges. There is no need to log in.
- **Year 11 Mocks:** Personalised examination timetables will be issued to students on Monday 9 November, all students are expected to arrive at school at the normal time of 8:45am and remain in school for the duration of the normal school day. When students are not sitting examinations, they will continue to attend their timetabled lessons as normal. We encourage students to make good use of the October half-term break to prepare for their examinations, establishing a manageable revision routine alongside appropriate rest., to support this, our Revision Hub brings together all subject-specific revision guides, recommended apps, past examination papers and additional resources in one convenient location- this is on our school website within the Curriculum section where you will see Revision Hub
- **Uniform and equipment:** Please ensure that students have all the correct uniform and equipment ready for when they return after half term. If you would like to access the school's second-hand uniform, please contact Mrs Mahoney who will be able to support with this. Students in Key stage 3 (Years 7-9) are not permitted to have false nails or eyelashes and so we would appreciate your support in ensuring these are removed ready for 9th November.

Upcoming Events:

- **16 November to 20th November 2026** - Kindness week
- **16 November to 14 December 2026** - Year 13 Mock Exams
- **23 November to 14 December 2026** - Year 12 Mock Exams
- **Thursday 26 November** - Flu Vaccine session