



RIVER ACADEMY
Issue 10

Headteacher's Update

29 November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Richfield Garden Centre



With Christmas just around the corner, we are thrilled to announce that our newsletter for the upcoming weeks is sponsored by Richfield Garden Centre. Harry and his team have generously provided River Academy with a beautiful Christmas tree, and we are incredibly grateful for their kindness. Please consider visiting the garden centre for your Christmas tree and other festive decorations!

School Portal

We encourage you to use the MCAS portal and ensure your child checks their school emails regularly. This will keep you informed about all school activities, including lessons, ingredients, required kits, and more. Secondary school requires more organization from both students and parents, but by using these resources, you will have a clear insight into upcoming events and requirements. Thank you for your continued support!

Social Media

As a new school, we are proud of the systems we have in place, though some still need fine-tuning. We always listen to feedback and respond to messages promptly. It is important to address any issues directly with us rather than letting them fester. If you have a concern, please raise it civilly with us instead of using social media to complain without first contacting the school. We value your input and are here to help!

Kit Sponsorship

As we begin to play more fixtures, we are excited to offer local companies the opportunity to sponsor our kits. In return, we will promote your company through social media, newsletters, and exposure at school events. Please contact me or our Head of PE, Joe Clare, at river@maidnerleghtrust.org to discuss further. We look forward to partnering with you!



Panto



As you will know, we are going to the pantomime on Wednesday 11th December. The final details will be e-mailed out next week and, in the meantime, Ms Stevens who is our Office Manager, is chasing the last few permissions. As it stands 184 out of our 187 students are signed up to go which is fantastic and I hope it proves to be what we have intended; that it is a feel good, fun, cultural and community experience.

Assembly

This week's assembly was incredibly engaging and conveyed a powerful message about kindness. We emphasized that once things are said, they cannot be unsaid, and we should take the time to help and support each other in our community and beyond. Below are a couple of photos from the presentation, showing our students actively participating and embracing the message.



Celebration Assembly



Last week, Bruna received the Headteacher's Award for her wonderful act of gratitude during lunchtime on Thursday. She thanked Ms. Moore and her teammates for their support during the previous evening's football match. The Head of Year award was won by Aaiza for her excellent work on the school council. Congratulations to both Bruna and Aaiza!

Electives

On December 6th, students will select their Elective for after Christmas. We have an exciting selection of opportunities, including fitness, rowing, creative writing and drama, knitting, chess, and archaeology. This is a fantastic opportunity for everyone to get involved in new activities that develop skills such as fitness, creativity, or confidence. We can't wait to see what our students choose!

Sparx



We are adjusting Sparx days to better support everyone in completing their work. Until Christmas, Sparx will be set on Monday and due by Friday. From January onwards, it will be set on Saturday and due by Friday. Students currently have a Sparx lesson to complete much of their work, and we offer Homework Club in our Library each Tuesday and Thursday for those needing extra help or time. Students who have

not finished their work by Friday morning will stay after school on Friday to receive support from staff. It is vital that no student falls behind, and this adjustment will help ensure that more students complete their work.

PTA

We are having a 'set up' meeting for our PTA on Tuesday at 6pm. Please come along if you can help us form a committee and contribute ideas to raise money for our school. Your involvement is greatly appreciated!

School Advisory Board

The deadline for nominating yourself to be a member of our governing body (SAB) is approaching. You will work with other community members to support the school and help guide us to even higher levels of performance. We welcome your participation!

Stay safe and enjoy the weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Hartley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Andy Hartley
Headteacher