



RIVER ACADEMY

Student Bulletin

What's on this week?

27th–31st January 2025

School timings:

Please be reminded of our school timings below:

Mon, Tues & Thurs		Wed		Fri	
09:10-9:35	Tutor	09:10-09:35	Tutor	09:10-09:20	Tutor
09:35-10:35	Lesson 1	09:35-10:35	Lesson 1	09:20-10:15	Lesson 1
10:35-10:55	Break	10:35-10:55	Break	10:15-11:10	Lesson 2
10:55-11:55	Lesson 2	10:55-11:55	Lesson 2	11:10-11:30	Break
11:55-12:55	Lesson 3	11:55-12:55	Lesson 3	11:30-12:25	Lesson 3
12:55-13:35	Lunch	12:55-13:35	Lunch	12:25-13:00	Lunch
13:35-14:35	Lesson 4	13:35-14:35	Lesson 4	13:00-13:55	Lesson 4
14:35-15:35	Lesson 5	14:35-15:35	Lesson 5	13:55-14:50	Lesson 5
		15:35-16:30	Elective	14:50-15:15	Celebration Assembly

Canteen Menu:



RIVER ACADEMY

WEEK ONE



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course	Spaghetti Bolognese Garlic Bread Broccoli	Katsu Curry Basmati Rice Mixed Vegetables	Chicken Burger in a Bun Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Sausage & Mash Carrots Gravy	Chip Shop Friday
Vegetarian	Macaroni Cheese Garlic Bread Salad	Vegetable Korma Basmati Rice Mixed Vegetables	Vegi Burger in a bun Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Quorn Sausage & Mash Carrots Gravy	Cheese & Onion Pastie
Jackets	Jacket Potato Cheese/Tuna/Baked Beans/Salad	Jacket Potato Cheese/Tuna/Baked Beans/Salad	Jacket Potato Cheese/Tuna/Baked Beans/Salad	Jacket Potato Cheese/Tuna/Baked Beans/Salad	Jacket Potato Cheese/Tuna/Baked Beans/Salad
Dessert of the Day	Apple Crumble Custard	Syrup Sponge Custard	Chocolate Brownie Chocolate Sauce	Jam Sponge Custard	Donuts
Dessert Alternative	Yogurt, Fresh Cut Fruit, Fruit Pot, Cookie	Yogurt, Fresh Cut Fruit, Fruit Pot, Cookie	Yogurt, Fresh Cut Fruit, Fruit Pot, Cookie	Yogurt, Fresh Cut Fruit, Fruit Pot, Cookie	Yogurt, Fresh Cut Fruit, Fruit Pot, Cookie

Please ask for more information if you have any allergies.

PE updates:

The students have hit the ground running in PE so far this term with lessons in netball and basketball going really well. The students have maintained their high and strong work ethic from before Christmas and continue to push themselves every lesson. The assessments also went well last week and it was great to see students putting in lots of effort into their revision. We have discussed with the students this week that 70% of their GCSE PE grade comes from written work, either through exams or coursework, so it is important they see the benefit of completing a written assessment in PE.

A reminder of the kit expectations in PE this term:

Trainers, long knee length socks, shorts, River PE top

Please remember layers are encouraged due to colder weather. No hoodies or coats are to be worn

Cross Country Athletics 18th January

Last Saturday, 11 students attended the County Cross Country event at Newbury Showground. There



were lots of schools there and over 100 boys alone in the Y7 boys race. It made me incredibly proud that we fielded the most students in one race and emphasises the appetite that River students have for sport. A massive congratulations to the boys in the picture left who gave 100% and tried their hardest. A special mention to Nabil who was the highest-ranking River student.

Clubs on this term

Tuesday: netball and touch rugby

Thursday: boys' football

Friday: badminton

Rugby Club

This club has restarted again as the Wren are hosting a tournament in two weeks. We are playing an adapted version of rugby called T1, which is an excellent progression from the version we were playing in September. Whilst it is still touch rugby, there is an introduction of uncontested scrums, line outs and rucks which will feed really nicely into understanding contact rugby in Year 8. The students have been great with this so far and show a great understanding of the game. Numbers to the club have also been encouraging and it was great to see 15 there on Tuesday this week.

Netball club

Miss Moore and the netball teams continues their excellent work as they edge ever closer to the season. I have organised some friendlies before half term and it will be great to see where the team are at and what they need to work on moving forward into their competitive league games. Having watched some of the netball training myself, the level of detail Miss Moore goes into and the high standards the girls play at is fantastic and they are going to be a very exciting team to watch.

Boys Football

The turn out at boys' football was fantastic last week and I know how desperate they have been to get going. There is some work needed around understanding positioning on the pitch and how to recycle the ball and be patient, but there is certainly some time left to work on these things before the season starts. This week, we worked on holding a certain position and defined the key roles around those positions, so the boys better understood what was expected from them. This certainly had a positive impact and there was lots of progress made from the previous week. We have our first game next week away at the Wren which will be very exciting.

Badminton


Mr Dukinfield's badminton continues to go from strength to strength and once again numbers were high on Friday last week. The local sports shops in Reading must be running out of badminton rackets such is the enthusiasm and interest shown in this sport. I will try my hardest to get some fixtures in badminton but we are very busy at the moment so this may be a job for the spring or summer.

Upcoming Fixtures

We have several fixtures coming in the next few weeks before Half Term. Whilst the regular season for netball and boys football begins after Half Term, I think it is important that the students play some friendlies to get used to playing with one another and to experience some competition before our league starts. The girls have their first netball fixture next week as Highdown are travelling to us on Thursday next week. We also hope to host Prospect before Half Term too. The boys have two football friendlies against the Wren and Denefield with another planned against Little Heath too. We also have some basketball fixtures too, with Maiden Erlegh Reading coming to us in early February, before we travel to Blessed Hugh Faringdon just before we break up for Half Term. There is also a T1 rugby tournament at the Wren in the next two weeks which I am really looking forward too. There is so much going on and so many opportunities for the students to get involved, please encourage and support them to do so!

CLUBS ON THIS TERM

TUESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Netball with Miss Moore Touch Rugby with Mr Clare	Boys football with Mr Clare	Badminton with Mr Dukinfield
KIT Netball - trainers, long socks, shorts, River PE top Rugby - trainers, long socks, shorts, River PE Top	KIT Football boots, shin pads, long socks, shorts, River PE top	KIT Trainers, long socks, shorts, River PE Top
NOTES All clubs will begin after-school and finish at approximately 430. Students can go home in their PE kit and do not have to get changed back into uniform.		





Time to Write: Creative Writing Competition

Entries for the 2025 Time to Write competition are now open!

What do I need to write about?

The prompt for this year's competition is **light**. You can produce a short story of any genre that is related to this theme. Use your imagination and interpret as you wish.

How much do I need to write?

Year 7 students need to write a story that is approximately 750 words long.

What are the prizes?

Winners will get to see their book illustrated, bound and published. For your school, you will also win an author visit and a selection of books.

What are the rules?

- All entries need to be typed.
- The story should not include any pictures.
- The story should not include the names of real people.
- Make sure your name or the school's name is not in the title or story.

How do I enter?

Send your entry to Ms Myers at
e.myers@maidenerleghtrust.org by
31.1.25.

Language Survey

The University of Reading's Centre for Literacy and Multilingualism is undertaking a survey in an effort to map where different languages are spoken in Reading. Why not get involved? Click on the link below to read the article from BBC Berkshire news and find the link for the survey. Many of our River Academy students and their families speak more than one language. Why not share which languages you can speak?

BBC News - Reading's language use investigated in university study - BBC News

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce9n2ejxr54o>

Mrs Clarke

Holocaust Memorial Day Webinar Event

30th January 2025

3.45-4.45pm, held at River Academy.

You have been invited to take part in a **Holocaust Memorial Day Webinar 30th January 3.45pm-4.45pm, held at River Academy**. This event is free of charge but a sign up is required. Students can sign up by writing their name and form on the list outside room 1.21.

What is the event?

"Our research shows that writing can help children and young people make sense of the world, participate in civic life, and understand others' perspectives."

To mark Holocaust Memorial Day, our event aims to support young people's literacy skills while helping them learn about the past. We hope to inspire them to work toward a future where hatred and persecution are challenged. These resources encourage pupils to engage in non-fiction writing, sharing survivors' stories and their experiences after liberation, with a focus on fostering empathy and understanding. This work is inspired by the writings of author Tom Palmer.

Award-winning writer, [Tom Palmer](#), author of *After The War*, Holocaust survivor [Alfred Garwood](#) and child survivor [Antoinette Mutabazi](#) will join the event to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day.

Attendees will:

Hear from a world-class author and be inspired to write about this important subject.

Learn from Alfred and Antoinette about their experiences

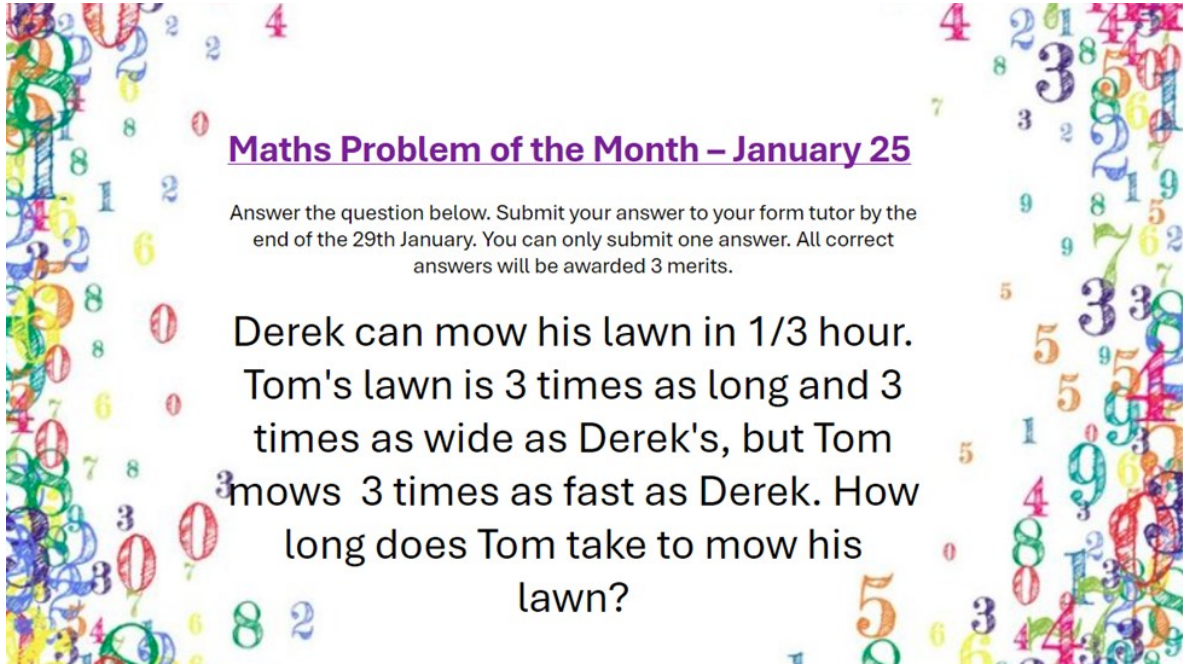
When is Holocaust Memorial Day?

International Holocaust Memorial Day is commemorated on 27 January every year, and this year falls on **Monday 27 January 2025**.

The poster features a dark blue header with the title 'Holocaust Memorial Day' in white cursive, followed by 'Webinar Event - 3:45-4:45pm, Thursday 30th January'. A hexagonal logo for 'RIVER ACADEMY Silver Programme' is on the right. Below are three boxes: a teal box with 'When is Holocaust Memorial Day?' and 'International Holocaust Memorial Day is commemorated on 27 January every year, and this year it falls on Monday 27 January.'; a dark blue box with 'Holocaust Memorial Day Free event!' and 'Tom Palmer in conversation with conflict survivors. Suitable for pupils aged 11 to 14.'; and a teal box with 'This is a chance to learn more about the History of the Holocaust and hear from conflict survivors!' and 'Speak to Miss Angell if you have any questions.' At the bottom, there is a 'Sign up required - outside 1.21 (Miss Angell's Room)' box, photos of Antoinette Mutabazi and Alfred Garwood, and the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust logo.

Monthly Maths House Competition - January

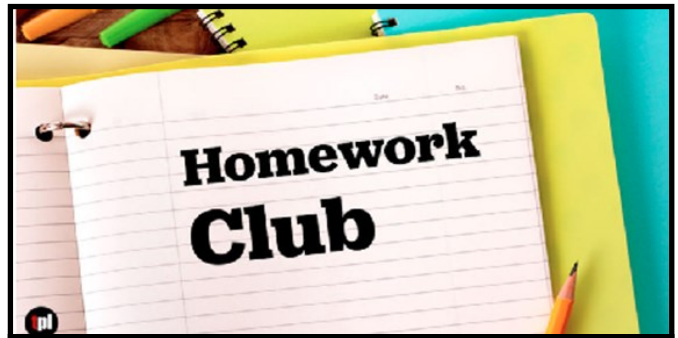
Every month, a maths problem will be posted on the student bulletin and displayed in your tutor rooms. You can give only one answer in the month. The maths team will award every student with the correct answer 3 merits each. The more students that take part, the more merits you have a chance of winning for your tutor/house group.



Maths Problem of the Month – January 25

Answer the question below. Submit your answer to your form tutor by the end of the 29th January. You can only submit one answer. All correct answers will be awarded 3 merits.

Derek can mow his lawn in $\frac{1}{3}$ hour. Tom's lawn is 3 times as long and 3 times as wide as Derek's, but Tom mows 3 times as fast as Derek. How long does Tom take to mow his lawn?



Homework club will run on Tuesday and Thursdays in the LRC from 3:35-4:30. It is a voluntary, supervised, drop-in session each time. Students need to let their parents know in advance that they will be staying and a register will be kept for students to sign in and out. Students need to bring booklets and equipment needed for them to complete their homework independently with adult support available. We look forward to seeing you there!

We have LOTS of bits in lost property!!

Lost your blazer?

Cant find your tie?

Walked home in one shoe?!

Come and look in our Lost Property Box in Reception before or

