



Headteacher's Update

10 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

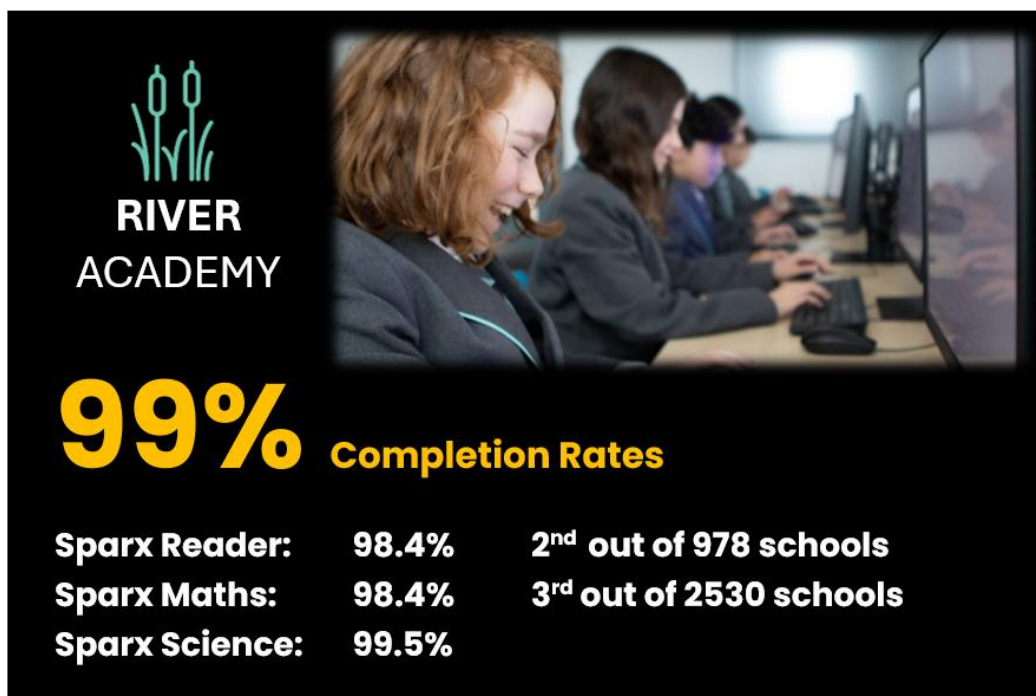
We're nearly there! It's been a long half-term, but what a fantastic one it's been. The energy, enthusiasm, and achievements of our students have made it a truly rewarding few weeks.

Assembly Spotlight

This week, Ms Powell—our science teacher and a qualified therapist—delivered a powerful and insightful assembly on mental health. Her message was both compassionate and practical, helping students understand how to care for their wellbeing and support one another. We're incredibly lucky to have staff who bring such depth and expertise to our school community.

Sparx Success

Our Sparx homework statistics continue to impress! The graphic below shows just how committed our students are to their learning. Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support—every bit of practice adds up, and it's making a real difference to student progress.



Welcoming Visitors

Over the past couple of weeks, we've welcomed several educators to River to see our school in action. Their feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. One visitor shared the post on the right:

It's always affirming to hear such praise from fellow professionals.

Sporting Highlights

Our students have been shining on the sports field! On Tuesday, our rugby team triumphed over Maiden Erlegh, and our Year 8 rugby team showed great spirit in defeating Theale Green School but came up narrowly short against St Crispin's School. Although our girls' team faced a tough match against Highdown's Year 8 and 9 squad, the support from their classmates was heartwarming. Well done to all involved!

Open Morning Success

We've now completed our final Open Morning of the season—nine mornings and one Open Evening in total! Over 500 families have visited River, and we're hopeful for another full intake in September. A reminder: the deadline for applications is **October 31st**.

Half-Term Dates

Please note:

- **Last day of term:** Tuesday 21st October
- **School reopens:** Monday 3rd November

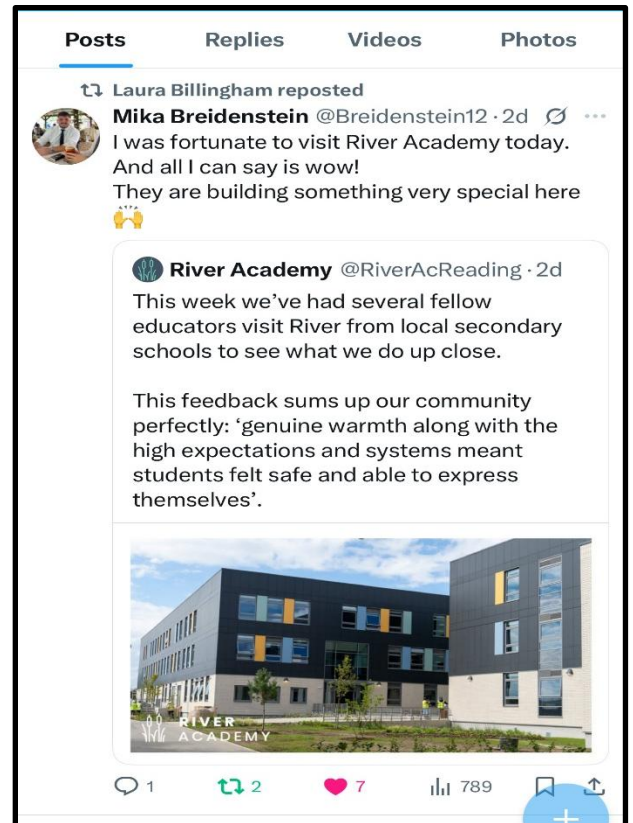
We hope everyone enjoys a well-earned break!

PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting is on **Tuesday 14th October at 6pm at school**. The PTA plays a vital role in supporting school projects—from sports equipment to trip funding—and it thrives on parent involvement. If you're able to join us, we'd love to see you there.

Parent Event: Building Resilient Teenagers

Don't forget our special event on **Tuesday 21st October at 6pm: *How to Build a Resilient Teenager***. We'll explore key topics including navigating adolescence, managing screen time, and supporting



emotional wellbeing. It promises to be an informative and supportive evening. [Please click the link here to register your attendance.](#)

Sunrise Moment

We couldn't resist sharing this stunning sunrise photo of the school from Wednesday morning.



Warm regards,

A. Hartley

Andy Hartley

Headteacher