



# RIVER ACADEMY

## Student Bulletin

### What's on next week?

### Week 1

### 17th–21th November 2025

#### School timings:

Please be re-  
minded of our  
school timings  
below:

Mon, Tues & Thurs		Wed		Fri	
09:10-9:30	Tutor	09:10-09:30	Tutor	09:10-10:05	Lesson 1
09:30-10:30	Lesson 1	09:30-10:30	Lesson 1	10:05-11:00	Lesson 2
10:30-10:50	Break	10:30-10:50	Break	11:00-11:20	Break
10:50-11:50	Lesson 2	10:50-11:50	Lesson 2	11:20-12:15	Lesson 3
11:50-12:50	Lesson 3	11:50-12:50	Lesson 3	12:15-13:05	Lunch
12:50-13:40	Lunch	12:50-13:40	Lunch	13:05-14:00	Lesson 4
13:40-14:35	Lesson 4	13:40-14:35	Lesson 4	14:00-14:55	Lesson 5
14:35-15:35	Lesson 5	14:35-15:35	Lesson 5	14:55-15:15	Celebration Assembly
		15:35-16:30	Elective		

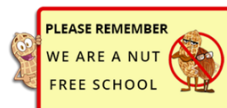


# RIVER ACADEMY

## WEEK TWO



#### Canteen Menu:



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main Course</b>	Chicken Korma Rice & Naan Bread Carrots	Macaroni Cheese with Crispy Bacon Garlic Bread Salad	BBQ Chicken with Diced Potatoes and Vegetables	Tex Mex Beef Chilli Rice & Nachos Peas & Sweetcorn	Chip Shop Friday
<b>Vegetarian</b>	Quorn Korma Rice & Naan Bread Carrots	Macaroni Cheese Garlic Bread Salad	Creamy Vegetable Bake Roast Potatoes Broccoli	Quorn & Mixed Bean Chilli Rice & Nachos	Vegan Sausage Roll
<b>Jackets</b>	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
<b>Dessert of the Day</b>	Pear Crumble Custard	Jam Sponge & Custard	Chocolate Brownie Chocolate Sauce	Pancakes & Syrup	Ring Donuts
<b>Dessert Alternative</b>	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.*

## Monthly Maths House Competition

### Maths Problem of the Month – November 25

Answer the question below. Submit your answer to your form tutor or Mrs Strong by the end of **Friday 28th November**. You can only submit one answer. All correct answers will be awarded 3 merits.

One day 8 people stood in front of you in the lunch queue. There was also exactly  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the queue behind you. How many people were there in the queue?

## Student Librarians

As announced on Friday by Mrs Billingham, we need your help!

- Are you passionate about reading?
- Do you love organising things?

Is 'responsibility' your middle name?

The Library is stocked, but now we need Student Librarians to run it. This will be a great opportunity for students in both Year 7 and Year 8 to lead on a vital area of our school.

Our founding Library Team will have a say in how we organise our systems, will take responsibility for managing the stock, and will be involved in further discussions about fundraising and choosing new stock!

If this sounds like an opportunity you can't miss, come to speak to Mrs Billingham on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November, at breaktime, in the LRC!



# Community Lectures

A new series of FREE public lectures  
Open to all!



Born twenty miles away in rural Hampshire, Jane Austen attended Reading's Abbey School as a girl, and remained a Thames Valley visitor all her life. Her readers have always noticed how odd it is that someone with a regional background and little formal education produced such brilliant, intelligent writing. How did she do it? And why are her novels still so popular after two and a half centuries? Paddy Bullard, who appeared on the recent BBC documentary 'Jane Austen: Rise of a Genius', will attempt to answer the question.

**Professor Paddy Bullard**  
*University of Reading*

**Lecture: Jane Austen:  
how a Reading girl  
invented the modern  
novel**

Free termly  
academic  
lectures for  
the school  
and wider  
community

No need to  
register -  
everyone  
welcome!

The chance  
to meet  
academics  
and ask  
questions!



**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November**  
**4-5pm**  
Arrive by 3.45pm



**University of  
Reading**



**RIVER CHOIR – Tuesday**  
**15.40 – 16.10**

Room 0.63 – All abilities of singing and beatboxing welcome

# Remembrance Day Event

Tuesday 18th November, 3.40pm.  
Room 1.20 (Miss Angell's Y7 room)



Free online Event!

## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2025

Why do we remember the Second World War?

### ON LOCATION!

Mr Dilly on-location at the D-Day Story museum

### IN THE STUDIO!

Mr Dilly chats with history author Tom Palmer

### FOR SCHOOLS!



For Y7 and Y8!

Sign up required – outside Miss Angell's room

Speak to Miss Angell if you have any questions.

In this special episode:

- On location at **The D-Day Story Museum, Portsmouth**.
- Explore artefacts and personal stories from D-Day and the wider war.
- Special guest **Tom Palmer** (award-winning author of *After the War*, *Arctic Star*, *DDay Dog*) joins Mr Dilly in the studio.
- Plus: see Mr Dilly's celebrated short film commemorating WW2 and VE Day 80 — a creative retelling of the war, featuring Mr Dilly in multiple roles from the period.

# Introduction to Sports Analysis

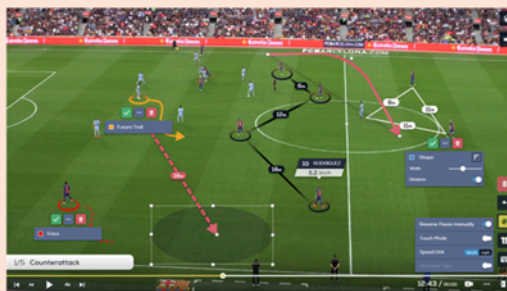
PE Masterclass/3.45–4.45/Room 0.75, 13th November



Free event!

Sports analysis is like being a detective for your favorite games! It's all about breaking down the details of how teams and players perform, figuring out what works well, and spotting areas that need improvement. By studying things like statistics, player strategies, and game trends, you can predict what might happen next in a match or even help coaches make better decisions.

Whether you're into basketball, badminton, football, or any other sport, sports analysis helps you understand the game at a deeper level and can even give you an edge as a player or fan.



Sign up required – outside 2.45 (Mr Clare's Room)

Speak to Mr Clare if you have any questions.

In this session, we will look at videoing performance and then how to slow it down, pause it at the right points and then give feedback to our performers.

From this, we can then go on to create training plans and next steps for our performers to work on.

The sports analyst in every team is one of the most important and well paid positions!!

## YEAR 8 NEWS!

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, we are privileged to have a group of Reading Borough Council-funded performers called "Hooked" coming in to for a theatrical workshop on the vaping and smoking. This is a one hour performance that will take place in the hall and aims an increasing students' understanding the dangers involved and strategies to manage influences including peer-pressure. The project aims to address health challenges, empower through knowledge and information, investigate the long and short term effects of smoking/vaping, and the addictive nature of nicotine.

3 SIMPLE STEPS FOR

# BICYCLE SAFETY

Every year thousands of people are injured and hundreds of people are killed while riding bicycles.



## 01 PROTECT YOUR HEAD

Always wear a helmet.

02

## EQUIP YOUR BIKE WITH WORKING FRONT AND REAR LIGHTS

As its getting darker in the mornings and after school please have working lights so you can be seen



03

## WEAR YOUR BACKPACK ON BOTH SHOULDERS

Keep yourself evenly balanced when you are riding your bike

RIVER ACADEMY

As the evenings are getting darker, we are reminding all students who cycle to school that their bikes must have working front and rear lights for safety.

Please ensure your child's bike is fitted with lights by Monday, 17th November. After this date, any students without proper lights may be asked not to cycle to school until their bike meets safety requirements.

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe on the roads.

## Merits on Sparx Homework

### 1. Early Completion Award (5 merits)

- completing the compulsory part before 8am on Tuesdays

### 2. Extra Miles Award (5 merits)

- Maths: completing XP Boost and Target

- Reader: earning more than 300 extra SRPs

- Science: completing the Independent Learning Challenge





## Fourbears Reading Challenge! Year 7 - 9

Choose minimum *FIVE* boxes to complete by *1<sup>st</sup> December*. Once you have completed this, pop into Fourbears Books to collect your prize!



**PRIZE** - a free ticket to a private event at Fourbears where we will be decorating Gingerbread Men with free hot chocolate!

If you purchase your books at Fourbears, we will provide a 10% discount



Read a book about a character from a different background	Read <i>"When We Were Lost"</i> by Kevin Wignall	Read your parents favourite book from when they were a teenager	Read <i>"The Martian"</i> (young edition) by Andy Weir
Read <i>"Skulduggery Pleasant"</i> by Derek Landy	Read a book recommended by a teacher	Read <i>"Eragon"</i> by Christopher Paolini	Read a book from a genre you have never read before
Read a book published this year	Read <i>"Murder on a School Night"</i> by Kate Weston	Read a classic book	Read <i>"A Box Full of Murders"</i> by Janice Hallett
Read <i>"Robin Hood"</i> by Robert Muchamore	Read a non-fiction book	Read <i>"Silent Sister"</i> by Megan Davidhizar	Read a book with a colour or food in the title



info@fourbearsbooks.uk



0118 948 1747

## Year 8 Book Club

**Do you love to read and talk about books?**

**Come along to the Year 8 book club!**

**Where?** 1.24 (Ms Myers' Year 7 classroom)

**When?** Thursdays from 3.40-4.30

**Our first book will be *The Blue Book of Nebo* by Manon Steffan Ros.**



# Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

## Save the Children

On **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** we will be inviting students to come to school in their Christmas jumpers to raise money for Save the Children. Please bring **£1 cash** to support the charity.

School uniform must be worn, but blazers may be replaced by a festive Christmas jumper!

There will also be a Christmas lunch served in the canteen which **must be pre ordered by 1st December** here. It will cost £3.50 and you can pay on the ParentPay shop unless you are entitled to Free School Meals.



# 98.9+% Completion Rates

<b>Sparx Reader:</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> out of 966 schools</b>
<b>Sparx Maths:</b>	<b>98.9%</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> out of 2546 schools</b>
<b>Sparx Science:</b>	<b>99.5%</b>	

## Year 7 Pantomime Trip!

A reminder that Year 7 are going to see Beauty and the Beast at the Hexagon on the **10th of December.**



We want every Year 7 student to attend, so if you have not filled out the permission form (it has been emailed home) then please do so ASAP.

If you have any questions or need support filling out the form, please get in touch.

## Year 8 Matilda Trip!

Year 8 have the chance to go and see the award-winning production of 'Matilda' in London on the **12th February 2026.**

The deadline for payment/to get the permission form filled out is the **27th November 2025.** All the information has been emailed home.



This is a **secret** —AT THE END of your DL lesson next week with *Mx Bowler* say the **secret password "emphasis"** to get a **merit** for reading the student bulletin.



## Fixture dates:

U12 Girls football		
Date	Opposition	Venue
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Oakbank/Maiden Erlegh/Bohunt	Oakbank
20 <sup>th</sup> November	JMA/Abbey/Maiden Erlegh School	JMA
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Denefield/Prospect/Maiden Erlegh	Denefield
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Wren/Little Heath A and B	Wren

U14 Girls football		
Date	Opposition	Venue
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Highdown/Oakbank	River
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Wren/Bohunt	Wren
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Blessed/Reading Girls	Blessed High
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Denefield/Little Heath-B	Denefield

U12 Netball		
Date	Opposition	Venue
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Highdown and BHF	River
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Prospect, Little Heath, MER	River
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	MER, DF and Kendrick	River
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Reading Girls	River
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Finals	TBC

U13 Netball		
Date	Opposition	Venue
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Reading Girls, Highdown	River
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Kendrick and Little Heath	River
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Denefield and Wren	River
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Prospect and BHF	River

U12 Basketball		
Date	Opposition	Venue
19 <sup>th</sup> November (requested to 18 <sup>th</sup> )	Oakbank	Oakbank
9 <sup>th</sup> December	BHF-A	River
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Denefield	Denefield
13 <sup>th</sup> January	BHF-B	River
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Bohunt	Bohunt
3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Little Heath-A	Little Heath

U14 Basketball		
Date	Opposition	Venue
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Bohunt	Bohunt
4 <sup>th</sup> December	BHF	River
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Theale	River
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Prospect	River
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Denefield	River
12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Little Heath	Little Heath

U12 Boys Football		
Date	Opposition	Venue
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Denefield/Highdown	Denefield
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Wren/Willink	Wren
17 <sup>th</sup> March	BHF/Little Heath	River
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Prospect/Theale	Prospect
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Finals/TBC	TBC

U13 Boys Football		
Date	Opposition	Venue
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Denefield/Highdown	River
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Willink/Wren	Willink
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Little Heath/BHF	Little Heath
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Prospect/Theale	River
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Semi's	TBC

## **REPORTING ABSENCES**

If you need to report an absence, please do so **daily by 8:00 a.m.** via the **Class Charts App**.

If you are unable to log the absence on Class Charts, please send an email to [riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org).

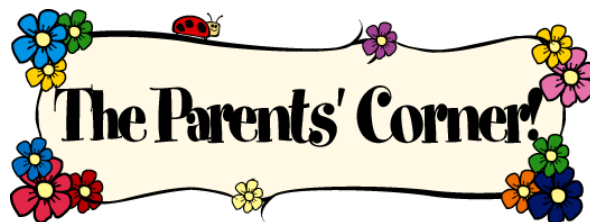
For any attendance-related matters, please contact us at [riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org), rather than [river@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:river@maidenerleghtrust.org)

## **MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS**

If you need to book a medical appointment for your child, please try to arrange it **outside of school hours** whenever possible. If this isn't possible, aim to book appointments **early in the morning** or **towards the end of the school day**. This helps ensure students miss as few lessons as possible.

If your child is unwell, please refer to the **NHS guidance** when deciding whether to keep them at home: [Is my child too ill for school? – NHS](#)

If your child has an appointment during the school day, please bring them to school before or after the appointment -even if it is just for one period. Every single period counts, as each lesson missed is valuable learning time lost.



## Common Illnesses and What to Do

Condition	Should They Stay Home?	When Can They Go Back?
<b>Chickenpox</b>	Yes	When spots have crusted
<b>Cold sores</b>	No	Can attend – avoid sharing cups, kissing
<b>Conjunctivitis</b>	Usually no	Unless very unwell
<b>COVID-19</b>	If mild, can go	Stay home if fever or too unwell; if positive, stay home 3 days
<b>Ear infection</b>	Yes, if fever/severe pain	When feeling better
<b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth disease</b>	No, if feeling well	Can attend
<b>Head lice/nits</b>	No	Can attend after treatment starts
<b>Impetigo</b>	Yes	Until sores crusted/healed, or 48 hrs after antibiotics
<b>Measles</b>	Yes	4 days after rash appears
<b>Ringworm</b>	No	Once treatment starts
<b>Scarlet fever</b>	Yes	24 hrs after antibiotics
<b>Slapped cheek (fifth disease)</b>	No	Once rash appears, they're no longer infectious
<b>Sore throat</b>	No, unless fever	Return when fever gone
<b>Threadworms</b>	No	Can attend after treatment
<b>Vomiting/diarrhoea</b>	Yes	Stay home 48 hrs after last episode/ You may bring them back to school once you feel they have fully recovered.