



RIVER ACADEMY

## Student Bulletin

### What's on next week?

### Week 2

### 24th–28th November 2025

#### School timings:

Please be reminded 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		

#### Canteen Menu:



RIVER ACADEMY

WEEK THREE



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main Course</b>	Sweet n Sour Chicken Balls Steamed Rice Stir Fry Vegetables	Cheeseburger with Wedges and sweetcorn	Chicken Fajita Wrap Salad	Beef Lasagne Garlic Bread	Chip Shop Friday
<b>Vegetarian</b>	Sweet & Sour Quorn Steamed Rice Stir Fry Vegetables	Spicy Bean Burger in a Bun Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Vegetable & Bean Fajita wrap Salad	Roasted Vegetable & Feta Lasagne Garlic Bread	Vegetable & Cheese Bake
<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>	Apple & Cinnamon Crumble Custard	Syrup Sponge Custard	Chocolate Brownie Chocolate Sauce	Chocolate Chip Sponge Custard	Ice Cream Pot
<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?



**RIVER**  
**ACADEMY**



# 99.7+%

**Completion Rates**

**Sparx Reader: 100%**

**1<sup>st</sup> out of 966 schools**

**Sparx Maths: 99.7%**

**4<sup>th</sup> out of 2620 schools**

**Sparx Science: 99.7%**

# 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!

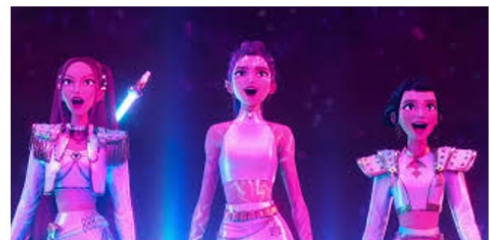
The chance  
to meet  
academics  
and ask  
questions!



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



**University of  
Reading**



## RIVER CHOIR – Tuesday 15.40 – 16.30

**Drama Studio** – All abilities of singing and beatboxing welcome

*We are performing in the Christmas Concert*

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** 3 opportunities for practice left!

## PE Updates – 21/11/25

Read on to find out about which clubs are going on now, lesson updates and how our teams have been faring in fixtures.

### In lesson reminders:

Lessons have carried on in a very positive way so far this term. In year 7, the boys and girls have been studying handball and netball, learning basic positions and core skills such as passing, movement and shooting.

Year 8 have been developing their offensive and defensive game play in netball, whilst studying the role of an official throughout numerous sports. It has been great to see students learning new skills and experiencing sport from a different point of view.

Please remember that the kit expectations are either long **black** socks and shorts or black track-suit bottoms. With the weather turning colder, layers such as jumpers are encouraged.

### Netball club

Miss Moore has held two weeks of netball training now and had well over 30 attendees for both Y7 and Y8. With the River name well and truly out there and us winning the league last year and remaining undefeated, the pressure is surely on the Y8's to continue their great start as well as the Y7's to match last year's record. A reminder netball club is every Tuesday after school from 1535-1630.

### Girls Y7 football fixtures

We have our first week of games this week as the girls make the short journey to Hartland High School (previously JMA) to compete in their local league. Having seen them in training, I am fully anticipating they will be a force to be reckoned with!

### Basketball Club

Basketball club continues to grow in strength and numbers, with the club consistently having above 20 students attend. With our numbers swelling back up to 20. We have been focusing on player-player marking and how it is different to other sports where you might mark space as opposed to an individual. Students have been making good progress with this. Our first Y7 game was unfortunately called off due to the opposition not getting a team together, but our Y8's make the trip to Bohunt next week which will be a stern test!

### Reading Rockets Take Off!

Our Year 8's are now two weeks into their Rockets Program and they have made a great start. Please remember the club will re-open for Year 7's next term after Christmas.

### 5-a-side club

We had our first 5-a-side football club before school on Friday last week and had over 40 students attend, which was amazing to see. They played in a round robin style tournament with some great skill on display. A reminder that the club is every Friday from 0800-0845 in the sports hall.

### Year 8 HAPs session – introduction to sports analysis

Last week we had our first Silver Program session of the year with Year 8 as we looked into some sports analysis in badminton. Whilst most students played, all had a turn at some point at analysing some aspects of performance, such as where each shot was taken on the court, where each player's opponent hit their shot from and we also made use of some iPads to record each other playing in slow motion so we can freeze frame shots and analyse technique. A massive

well done to the 22 Y8's who attended.

### Primary School Outreach

This week, we had EP Collier attend River for an after-school badminton session with myself and some of our sports leaders. A massive thank you to EP Collier for organizing some students to come over and we really hope you enjoyed yourselves!

Here are the upcoming fixtures across the year. Netball and athletics have not yet been released.

### Fixture dates:

U12 Basketball		
Date	Opposition	Venue
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 Girls football		
Date	Opposition	Venue
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Denefield/Prospect/Maiden Erlegh	Denefield
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Wren/Little Heath A and B	Wren

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

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

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

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.

## ✨ Share Your Elective Highlights! ✨



We're down to the last two weeks of our first elective of the year. And I want to hear from YOU! What have you discovered? What surprised you? What did you enjoy the most?

Come chat with Mr. Mo in the canteen in the morning before 9:05 a.m. Share your experience and earn a merit while you're at it!

Don't miss the chance!



This is a **secret** —AT THE END of your DL lesson next week with Mx Bowler say the **secret password "parasocial"** to get a **merit** for reading the student bulletin. **Bonus merit** if you can tell me why it has been in the news recently. :)

# Non-Uniform Day!


Friday 28<sup>th</sup>  
November 2025


It's Non-Uniform  
Day!



Daisy's Dream  
Supporting children through bereavement

Come to school wearing your own clothes!

Please donate £2 to help raise money for Daisy's Dream. This can be paid in cash or via ParentPay 

If you do not wish to participate, please wear school uniform 

## What will you wear?

Check out the email from Miss Stevens for more details on what you can and can't wear!



RIVER ACADEMY



Save the Children

## 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.



## 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.



## 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).

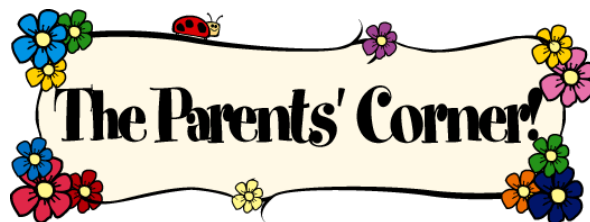
For any attendance-related matters, please contact us at [riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org), rather than [river@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:river@maidenerleghtrust.org)

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