



RIVER ACADEMY

Student Bulletin

What's on next week?

Week 1

1st–5th December 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 ONE



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course	Pasta Bolognaise Garlic Bread Broccoli	Chicken Teriyaki Noodles Mixed Vegetables	Chicken Burger in a Bun Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Pork Sausage Creamy Mash Carrots Gravy	Chip Shop Friday
Vegetarian	Pasta with a Tomato & Basil Sauce Garlic Bread Broccoli	Quorn & Vegetable Teriyaki Noodles 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 & Raspberry Crumble Custard	Iced Sponge	Chocolate Brownie Chocolate Sauce	Jam Sponge Custard	Jam 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.

Monthly Maths House Competition

Maths Problem of the Month - answer to November was 27 students in total in the queue. - well done for those with the correct answer.

Maths Problem of the Month – December 25

Answer the question below. Submit your answer to your form tutor or Mrs Strong by the end of **Friday 12th December**. You can only submit one answer. All correct answers will be awarded 3 merits.

5 bakers decorate 5 Christmas cakes in 5 minutes.

How many Christmas cakes will 10 bakers decorate in 10 minutes?



School Clubs



Tuesday

Netball Yr7 & Yr8 Girls – 15:35-16:30

Choir- 15:45-16:45 in room 0.62 all welcome.

Homework Club- 15:35-16:30 in the LRC.

Wednesday

Basketball – 08:00-08:45 every Wednesday morning all welcome.

Thursday

Homework Club- 15:35-16:30 in the LRC.

Friday

Reading Rockets Basketball - this is Y8 for this term and is fully signed up.

5 aside Football – 08:00-08:45 all welcome



RIVER CHOIR – Tuesday 15.40 – 16.10

Room 0.63 – All abilities of singing and beatboxing welcome

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



Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 17th December

Save the Children

On **Wednesday 17th 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.



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.

Sparx Learning

RIVER ACADEMY



99.5+% Completion Rates

Sparx Reader:	99.5%	2 nd out of 992 schools
Sparx Maths:	100%	1 st out of 2624 schools
Sparx Science:	99.7%	

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.



Next Elective: Your Ideas WANTED! ✨



We're heading into the final week of electives! After Christmas, we'll be launching brand-new electives, and we want your ideas. 🎉

Think of an elective you'd love to see and tell us how it could benefit our River students. Big ideas, small ideas, bring them on!

Come share your thoughts with Mr. Mo in the canteen before 9:05am, and you'll even earn a merit for your creativity. ★



Fixture dates:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**RIVER
ACADEMY**

The 12 days of Christmas




Thursday 4th

Tutor Group with
lowest demerits:
Lunchtime
Badminton

Friday 5th

 Top Tutor
Group
Reader SRP:
Xmas Movie!

Monday 8th


Top 10 Merits in
each year:
Breaktime Cookie

Tuesday 9th

Top Tutor Group
Science XP: Wear
your PE kit!




Wednesday 10th



Panto!

Thursday 11th

Top Tutor
group
Maths XP: 
Xmas Karaoke!

Friday 12th


Attendance this
week: queue
jump!

Monday 15th

First Tutor
group to
complete
Sparx



Tuesday 16th

 Zero
demerits
in Dec:
Benchball
Tournament

Wednesday 17th

Xmas Jumpers!



Thursday 18th

Top Tutor
Group
Most Merits in
Dec: Lunch Disco!



Friday 19th

End of term
QUIZ

EVERY DAY

Top 3 Merits in the Year Group:
Queue Jump + bring a friend





WATERMILL THEATRE

AUDITIONS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN CHITTY
CHITTY BANG BANG

The Watermill Theatre is looking for young people to play Jemima, Jeremy and the children of Vulgaria in its professional summer musical production of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

- For the roles of Jeremy and Jemima, young people must be aged between 9 and 12 on 13 Apr 2026. They must also be under 4'7" tall.
- For the children of Vulgaria, young people must be aged between 9 and 14 on 13 Apr 2026. There are no height restrictions for these roles.
- Singing experience is helpful; dancing experience is a bonus.
- All boys must have unbroken voices.
- All young people must live within one hour of Newbury.

First round auditions are by submission of a self-recorded audition video. Second round auditions will take place in person at Watermill Theatre on Sun 18 Jan 2026. Young people must be available on this date to be considered.

Full details of how to apply can be found at watermill.org.uk/events/chitty-audition. The deadline for applications is 9am on Fri 11 Dec 2025.



Young people must be fully available for rehearsals and performances between Mon 13 Apr and Sun 13 Sep 2026. There is also some preliminary training prior to this for the roles of Jeremy and Jemima.

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.

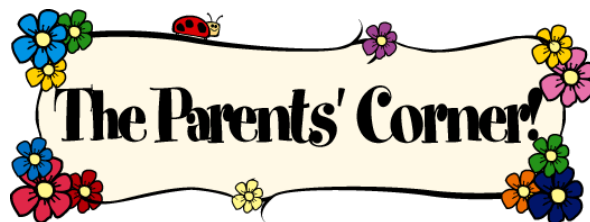
For any attendance-related matters, please contact us at riverattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org, rather than river@maidenerleghtrust.org

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.