



RIVER ACADEMY

Student Bulletin

What's on next week?

9 March – 13 March 2026

Week 2

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
Main Course	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
Vegetarian	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
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 & Cinnamon Crumble Custard	Syrup Sponge Custard	Chocolate Brownie Chocolate Sauce	Chocolate Chip Sponge Custard	Ice Cream Pot
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

February Maths problem, answer was 5p. If your burger is 50p MORE than your onion and BOTH added together are 60p, then the onion CANNOT be 10p, because 50p MORE than 10p IS 60p, and then added together this would be 70p. That was a tricky one for February. Well done if you got it correct.

Maths Problem of the Month – March 2026

Answer the question below. Submit your answer to your form tutor or Mrs Strong by the end of **Wednesday 25th March**. You can only submit one answer. All correct answers will be awarded 3 merits.

A snail wanted to climb up a 10m high flagpole. Each day it climbed 2m, but then slid down 1m each night. It started on Monday morning. When did it reach the top?

LINGUISTICS CLUB
1.66 with Mr Fasham
Friday after school

An informal look at the world of languages and the Linguistics Olympiad

The background features a collage of 'Thank you' phrases in various languages: Paldies, Maururu koe, Teşekkür ederim, Dankon, Kiitos, Ďakujem, Дзякуй, Köszönöm, Faleminderit, பக்கா பெர் fyrir, Hvald, शक्रा, 谢谢, ขอบคุณ, Mulțumesc, Спасибо, Obri, Thank you, and Merci. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a diverse crowd of people with their hands raised.



RIVER ACADEMY
ANNOUNCES THEIR
FIRST SCHOOL MUSICAL

Wizard of OZ



Join us for an enchanting evening
sure to be worth attending.

March 23, 2026 | Show starts at 5:30 PM

River Academy's first-ever musical production!



**RIVER
ACADEMY**

The 12 days of Egg-cellence

Thurs 12th

10 highest
Reader
SRP in March!

10 merits

Fri 13th

1st Tutor Grp
to finish Sparx

Egg Hunt

Mon 16th

Best Invictus
Recital

Badminton

Tues 17th

Tutor Grp with
fewest demerits
in March

Breaktime MUGA

Wed 18th

Best
Line Ups!

Shirt Sleeve Order

Thurs 19th

River Canon
Bronze
Completion

Hot Choc in LRC

Fri 20th

Tutor Grp with
highest average
Science XP

Cookies

Mon 23rd

TutGrp
Highest
Attendance

Benchball

Tues 24th

Yr8 Tutor Grp
with highest
Bacc Score

Movie Lesson

Wed 25th

Greatest
extra-curricular
attendees

All day PE Kit

Thurs 26th

100%
attendance
in March

Easter Eggs

Fri 27th

Tutor Grp
Top Merits
in March

Extended Lunch

EVERY DAY

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

Ski Hire Clothing

All students on the Ski Trip who have hired clothing, this will be arriving to the school on Wednesday the 11th of March. We will be trying on the ski gear to check for fit lesson 3/lunch



Taking place this term:

Make sure you are signing up to these amazing FREE opportunities!

RIVER ACADEMY

Silver Programme

Description		Y7/Y8?	Date	Time
Italian for Beginners		Y7 ONLY	8/1/26	3.45-4.30pm
Linguistics Olympiad		Y7 & Y8	13/1/26	3.45-4.30pm
Community Lecture: Victorian Reading		EVERYONE- including parents, carers, staff, students, members of our community.	20/1/26	4-5pm
Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration		Y7 & Y8	27/1/26	3.40-4.45pm
Classics for All Day (invite only)		Y8 ONLY (invite only)	29/1/26	All Day
How Does Mythology Impact Our Modern World?		Y7 & Y8	3/2/26	3.45-4.30pm
Community Lecture: Planetary Defence		EVERYONE- including parents, carers, staff, students, members of our community.	10/2/26	4-5pm
Villains- why do we love them so much?		Y7 ONLY	2/3/26	3.45-4.30pm
Maths Challenge Preparation		Y7 ONLY	19/3/26	3.45-4.30pm
Science Masterclass: Heart dissections		Y8 ONLY	19/3/26	3.45-4.30pm
What did the Romans do for fun?		Y7 ONLY	DATE TBC	3.45-4.30pm

Speak to Miss Angell if you have any questions.

More details about each session will be shared in the bulletin.

THE EARLY BIRD



#DETERMINATION

**Tuesday, Wednesday and
Friday mornings**

**8:30-9:00am
In the LRC**



CHAMPION'S HOUR



#EXCELLENCE

**Every Tuesday and Thursday
3:35-4:30pm**

In the LRC



Sparx Learning



**RIVER
ACADEMY**



**Sparx
Reader**

**Sparx
Maths**

**Sparx
Science**



Sparx Success!

Sparx Reader: 99.5% 1st out of 1085 schools

Sparx Maths: 99.4% 1st out of 2520 schools

Sparx Science: 99.7%

Kool Keyboards



*Want to learn the piano?
Come along to Kool
Keyboards where you can
learn your favourite
songs and have expert
advice to help you improve!*



*Open to all years
Thursday break times in 0.62*



**AXIOM
MATHS**

Realise your power.

Unlock your power by joining our weekly maths circles! Immerse yourself in a community of passionate peers, where you'll tackle interesting problems, learn new things and increase your love and confidence in maths.

Year 7's

By invitation only

Room 1.65

*Tuesday after school until
4.30pm*

Clubs this term!

BOYS FOOTBALL TRAINING

Boys Year 7 and 8 football training will be held after-school on the following dates:

- Thursday 27th November
- Tuesday 16th December
- Tuesday 6th January
- Thursday 8th January
- Tuesday 20th January
- Thursday 29th January
- Thursday 5th February
- Thursday 19th February
- Thursday 26th February

It will be held on the Rivermead 3G. Please bring in your PE kit, shin pads and football boots.

Year 7 5-a-side tournament @ JMA is on the 2nd December
 Year 8 5-a-side @ Denefield is on the 27th January

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS!
JOIN THE FUN!

TUESDAY
Netball & Badminton
 Sign Up Now!

WEDNESDAY MORNING
Basketball
 8:00am - 8:45am

FRIDAY MORNING
5-a-Side Football & Reading Rockets
 Sign Up Now!

BOYS FOOTBALL
Speak to Mr Clare!

BASKETBALL CLUB EVERY WEDNESDAY 0800-0845



YEAR 7 FIXTURES	YEAR 8 FIXTURES
18 TH NOVEMBER @ OAKBANK	25 TH NOVEMBER @ BOHUNT
9 TH DECEMBER @ BHF-A	4 TH DECEMBER @ BHF
18 TH DECEMBER @ DENEFIELD	11 TH DECEMBER @ THEALE
13 TH JANUARY @ BHF-B	15 TH JANUARY @ PROSPECT
27 TH JANUARY @ BOHUNT	22 ND JANUARY @ DENEFIELD
3 RD FEB @ LITTLE HEATH-A	12 TH FEB @ LITTLE HEATH

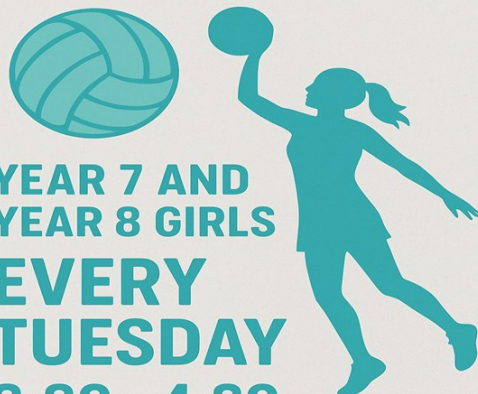
5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



EVERY FRIDAY
 0800-0845
 SPORTS HALL

STUDENTS NEED TO WEAR PE KIT TO SCHOOL, BUT BRING THEIR UNIFORM WITH THEM

NETBALL



YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 GIRLS
EVERY TUESDAY
 3:30 - 4:30
 WITH MISS MOORE

PE Update!

Lessons

I am so impressed by the way our students started their lessons this term. Both year groups have enjoyed a great start to their creative block and thank you to parents and students for being so organised with grip socks. They are a key aspect to our kit this term and provide safety for our students performing movements such as group balances and dance techniques. Year 7's has made a great start to their basketball unit, with Year 8 having an equally strong start to their cricket as well. It's such a pleasure working with young people who are equipped, enthusiastic, and ready to put in 100% effort all the time.

Extra-Curricular Clubs and Teams

This is arguably our busiest term of the year, with two netball and two football matches going on every week until Easter. That means that there is no longer netball on a Tuesday after-school as well as there being no basketball on a Wednesday morning either. These decisions have been made simply to look after staff workload and wellbeing but will continue again soon. Badminton on Tuesday, 5-a-side and Reading Rockets on Friday will still be going ahead as normal.

Year 7 football

Final Score: River Academy 0–2 Denefield

River Academy were beaten 2–0 by a strong Denefield side in a challenging fixture that tested the squad's resilience and character. While the scoreline reflected Denefield's control for large periods of the game, there were still positives to take from a determined River performance.

Denefield started on the front foot, pressing high and moving the ball quickly. River found it difficult to settle into rhythm early on, with Denefield dominating possession and creating several chances.

In goal, **Kacper** delivered an outstanding performance to keep River in the contest. He produced a series of important saves, showing sharp reactions and bravery in one-on-one situations to deny Denefield an earlier breakthrough.

Across the back line, **Charlie** stood out defensively. Calm and composed, he made key interceptions and strong tackles, helping to organise the defense under sustained pressure.

River looked to respond after the break and began to compete more effectively in midfield. **Fynn**, operating in the centre of the park, worked tirelessly to regain possession and drive the team forward. His energy and determination helped River enjoy their best spell of the game, as they pressed higher and looked to create openings.

River created a couple of promising moments, but Denefield remained disciplined and dangerous on the counter. As River pushed forward in search of an equaliser, Denefield capitalised on space late in the game to score their second and seal the 2–0 victory.

Final Score: River 0–3 Highdown

River were well beaten as a strong Highdown side secured a deserved 3–0 victory in what proved to be a largely one-sided contest.

From the opening whistle, Highdown showed their quality, moving the ball quickly and controlling possession. River struggled to gain a foothold in midfield, with Highdown dictating the tempo and applying constant pressure in the attacking third.

Highdown took the lead midway through the first half after a sustained spell of pressure. Despite River's efforts to stay organised, the visitors' sharp movement and precise passing made it difficult to contain them. The second goal followed before the break, giving Highdown a commanding advantage at half-time.

In midfield, **Kendrick** worked tirelessly to try and disrupt Highdown's rhythm. He showed determination and composure on the ball, attempting to drive River forward whenever possible. Despite being outnumbered at times, his effort and work rate stood out in a difficult game.

In goal, **Kacper** produced several important saves to keep the scoreline from becoming even more severe. Facing a high volume of shots, he demonstrated bravery and strong handling under pressure, making a number of impressive stops throughout the match.

Highdown added a third goal in the second half to seal the result. Although River continued to battle and showed moments of resilience, Highdown's overall quality and organisation made the difference. They were sharper, more clinical, and deserved their win.

While this was a tough result, there is an immediate opportunity to respond. River now turn their attention to next week's fixture against **The Wren and Willink**, where the focus will be on re-grouping and getting back to winning ways.

Year 7 Netball

River's Year 7 netball team enjoyed a positive set of fixtures this week, producing a hard-fought win against **BHF** and a competitive draw with **Highdown**.

Final Score: River 2–1 BHF

River started strongly against BHF, controlling the game with composure and intensity. **Alicia** was outstanding at **GA**, converting chances with precision and linking well with her teammates to maintain attacking pressure.

In the midcourt, **Ria** provided excellent drive and support at **Centre**, feeding the shooters accurately and helping River maintain possession under pressure. **Maya**, playing at **WA**, worked tirelessly to create space and support transitions from defence to attack.

Defensively, **Rijona** was a standout at **GK**, making key interceptions and challenging BHF's shooting opportunities, ensuring River held on for a narrow 2–1 victory.

Final Score: River 3–3 Highdown

The second game against Highdown was an evenly contested match. River matched Highdown throughout, showing great determination and teamwork across all areas of the court.

Alicia continued her excellent form in the shooting circle, while **Renee** rove the team forward in Centre with energy and composure. **Maya** maintained her hard-working performance at WA, constantly supporting attacking moves, and **Inas** was relentless at GK, challenging Highdown's shooters and helping keep the scoreline level.

The game ended in a 3–3 draw, reflecting a strong and competitive performance from River against quality opposition.

These results highlight River's resilience, teamwork, and developing cohesion. The squad now looks forward to important upcoming matches against **Kendrick** and **Little Heath**, where they will aim to build on these performances and continue their strong start to the season.

Year 8 Netball

River's Year 8 netball team produced two outstanding performances, recording impressive victories against both **Reading Girls** and **Highdown** in a highly successful set of fixtures.

Final Score: River 8–3 Reading Girls

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Year 8 Netball

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Final Score: River 8–3 Reading Girls

River started the day with confidence and intensity, quickly establishing control of the game. **Hazel** was outstanding in **GA**, showing excellent movement, sharp decision-making, and clinical finishing to keep constant pressure on the Reading Girls defence.

In the shooting circle, **Saanvi** delivered a strong performance at **GS**, converting chances consistently and working well with Hazel to build a solid attacking partnership. River's defence remained disciplined throughout, limiting Reading Girls' scoring opportunities and ensuring a comfortable 8–3 victory.

Final Score: River 9–4 Highdown

Carrying momentum into the second match, River produced another assured display against Highdown. The team moved the ball with speed and accuracy, creating numerous scoring chances and maintaining control across all areas of the court.

Once again, **Hazel** impressed—this time with her tireless work rate at **Centre**, linking play superbly between defence and attack. Her energy and vision helped River dominate possession and dictate the tempo of the game.

Defensively, **Zhanica** delivered a series of strong performances at **GK**, applying constant pressure, making key interceptions, and restricting Highdown's shooters effectively. At the attacking end, **Saanvi** continued her excellent form in **GS**, finishing calmly and confidently as River secured a deserved 9–4 win.

These were two very impressive team performances, highlighting River's growing confidence and cohesion. The squad now looks ahead to important upcoming fixtures this week against **MER** and **Little Heath**, where they will aim to build on this momentum and continue their strong run of results.

Year 8 football

In their season opener this year, our Year 8's make the short journey to Tilehurst to play against Denefield and Highdown. With high expectations, we will hear about how they fared next week.

School field

I am so happy to say that the school field is now ready to use and has been cut and lined up to have two 11-a-side pitches as well as two 9-a-side pitches on there. This means we can now use it for lessons, interhouse, clubs and fixtures. It's such an asset to the school and I am so excited to get on it and use it.



RIVER ACADEMY

Upcoming Fixtures

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

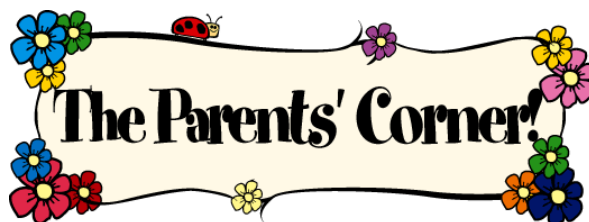
U13 Boys Football		
Date	Opposition	Venue
5 th March	Denefield/Highdown	River
12 th March	Willink/Wren	Willink
19 th March	Little Heath/BHF	Little Heath
26 th March	Prospect/Theale	River
16 th April	Semi's	TBC

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



RIVER ACADEMY



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@maidenerlegustrust.org.

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



Information for Parents/ Carers

NHS

Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Outbreak of Measles Virus



There has been 130 confirmed cases of measles in the UK since the beginning of January 2026. The outbreaks are occurring in areas where the number of children not vaccinated against measles is high. If your child has not received two doses of the MMR vaccine, they will be vulnerable should they encounter the Measles Virus.

If your child has not had the MMR vaccination, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Team, who can support with them receiving it, alternatively contact your GP Surgery.

@ westschoolimms@berkshire.nhs.uk



Scan me



0300 365 0077 (Mon to Fri 9am – 4pm)

Please contact the Service for a BK code when filling out the consent form in scan me



Getting your child to school really matters..... Did you know?.....

If in a school year your child is late every day by.....	Your child would have lost approximately.....	Or they would have missed approximately
5 minutes	3 days from school	20 lessons
10 minutes	7 days from school	41 lessons
15 minutes	10 days from school	55 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days from school	82 lessons
30 minutes	22 days from school	123 lessons

Absence = Missed opportunity



Getting your child to school really matters..... Did you know?.....

If Your child's attendance during the school year....	Your child would lose approximately.....	Or they would have missed opportunity
<u>Was</u> 95%	9 days from school	50 lessons
<u>Was</u> 90%	19 days from school	100 lessons
Was 85%	29 days from school	150 lessons
Was 80%	38 days from school	200 lessons
Was 75%	48 days from school	250 lessons

Absence = lost opportunity