

16th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have had a variety of activities taking place in the Academy. On Monday we ran a workshop for Year 12's focussing on resilience, independence and organisation. This was a drop down day tailored to the students' needs following feedback from lessons. Year 11's were also informed this week whether they had been successful in becoming a Prefect, which is a real privilege, and I am pleased that over thirty students have been awarded this role within our academy. On Wednesday I presented Tyler May (Year 11) with her Jack Petchey "Speak Out Challenge" Award, which took place virtually in July. On Thursday we had our first virtual Governors meeting; it was good to discuss the school improvement plan and to feedback on how the first half term has gone.

Following on from the Parental Survey sent out recently, and in order to assist you in continuing to support your child's education, we provide all parents/carers a Curriculum Map for each year group. This details the different areas and topics that are being studied each term in each subject. This information is available on the school website, the link for which is below: <https://www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk/academics>

The year overview can be used as a stimulus for discussions with your child about what they're currently covering in class, or as a guide for future areas that will be covered, should you wish to discuss the areas with your child to give them some background understanding before a topic is covered in school. Small amounts of prior knowledge of subjects, no matter how vague, can be a great ignition for whole class discussion when the area is covered, facilitating fantastic learning and enjoyment for all.

Also this week, our Vice-Principal, Mrs Bennett met with year groups to discuss teaching and learning during this half-term. It was great to hear students' feedback on how things are going so far and what suggestions they have for next term. Their feedback and suggestions will be incorporated into the staff CPD session next week.

Can I please remind parents/carers about dropping off and collecting their child/children in the morning and afternoon. I appreciate that there has been an increase in the number of parents/carers collecting their child, however I must stress that it is imperative that you safely drive into the school grounds. Unfortunately, the academy doesn't have large waiting bays and therefore the car park gets full very quickly. As students arrive and leave, we have had some near-misses as parents are double parking and blocking students from the crossing. Some are also blocking the disabled bays or using these spaces which are designated for students and staff who have a badge only. Can I please ask that you ensure that these spaces are kept accessible for those that need them.. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Emma Baker
Principal