



ORMISTON SIX VILLAGES ACADEMY



1st October 2021

Dear Six Villages Community

Attendance

There is a growing trend of students in West Sussex having days off school for minor ailments. At Six Villages, we aim to prepare our students for life beyond the academy and good attendance habits and resilience developed now will serve them in the work place later. There are a number of ailments for which a student can take medication and soldier on. Please encourage resilience in your child. There is a proven link between attendance and attainment and all students should aim to attend school every day. May I remind you also that medication can be stored at the academy if needed.

Year 11 Parent Information Evening – 6th October 2021 – save the date

A reminder of this important evening. We look forward to seeing you then.

Year 7 Tutor Meetings – 20th October

The booking system for appointments with your child's tutor will open on 4th October at 4pm and full details of how to access it will be forwarded beforehand. Meetings will be virtual. Please save the date in your diary as it is essential that, as we approach the end of the first half term for your child at Six Villages, you hear how your child has settled, what we need you to do to support them and ask any questions you may have. Parents not attending their appointment will be contacted and asked to attend a meeting at the academy.

Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11

Please find a letter from the NHS Immunisation Team attached. If you have any questions, please email ehl@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk who can liaise with the team as necessary.

Buses

In the event of a bus breaking down, which is rare thankfully, please remind your child of the need to remain at the bus stop. The bus company will always send a replacement bus to ensure students are safely delivered to school.

Coats

With the weather becoming progressively more inclement currently, please ensure your child has a coat to avoid them arriving at school soaked or cold. Blazers must still be worn during the school day.

School Photographs

Yellow have asked me to remind parents and carers of Year 7, 9 and 11 students that the closing date for orders is **Tuesday 5th October**. If you wish to purchase your child's photo and haven't placed an order, please do so by the closing date.

Topical Talk – Years 7,8 and 9

Topical Talk is a weekly discussion led enrichment about current affairs. Each week the group has a headline to debate and discuss as well as taking part in an ongoing project, all linked with current affairs. Students also have access to an online hub where they can extend their debates and discussions to schools all around the world. Here are three good reasons for your child to sign up:

REASON #1

A visible impact on your students: Topical Talk discussions give children the knowledge and skills to succeed at school and beyond. They make significant progress in communication skills so they become better listeners

and more confident speakers. A focus on critical-thinking also helps their creativity and problem-solving. We use a research-backed universal skills framework to help you track your students' progress.

REASON #2

Discuss complex issues with confidence: Topical Talk gives students the confidence to have discussions about complex and sensitive issues. Our teachers work with The Economist's journalists to make sure facts are presented accurately. We have a decade of teaching experience in creating resources that are appropriate, accessible and inclusive for all learners.

REASON #3

Build cultural capital from the classroom: Our resources open students' eyes to matters of global importance and nurture their awareness of different perspectives. Through Topical Talk discussions, students develop open minds and informed voices. It helps them think for themselves about the stories that affect us all.

Please encourage your child to take part. Sessions are Thursdays after school in Hums 2. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Rondel on rrl@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk.

Talking About Communication at Ormiston Six Villages Academy

The English Department are delighted to organise the 'Talk The Talk' event. Expert trainers from Talk the Talk will be coming into school on 20th and 21st October to work with students in Year 9. Talk The Talk's mission is to develop students' oracy skills and communication confidence to support positive interaction in all life situations and improved social outcomes.

Talk The Talk has trained over 115,000 students to be confident communicators across England and Wales since they began in 2013.

The Talk About Communication workshop is an exciting and engaging master-class developing speaking and listening skills within a creative learning environment. The workshop provides numerous speaking opportunities and students are coached and supported throughout the day to deliver a structured two-minute presentation to their peers, on a topic for which they have a genuine passion.

'We demonstrate that speaking out should be an experience that we CAN do – and one that is nowhere near as daunting as we might think. One of the keys to the success of the Talk The Talk programme is creating an environment of mutual respect with a supportive ethos so that when students stand up and voice their opinions, share their thoughts and present their ideas – their skill and confidence grows.'

To learn more about Talk The Talk's work visit them at: www.talkthetalkuk.org.

Key Dates

A reminder of key dates for the remainder of this half term:

Date	Event
6th October	Year 11 PPE preparation & careers, 6pm
11th October	Year 7-11 flu vaccinations
12th, 13th & 14th October	Open Morning for prospective families (by appointment)
20th October	Year 7 Tutor meetings (virtual)
w/c 25th October	Half term
w/c 1st & w/c 8th November	Year 11 Pre Public Examinations (PPE)
3rd November	Year 10 PPE Information Evening

Yours faithfully



Paul Slaughter
Principal

Principal: Mr Paul Slaughter

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