



# ORMISTON SIX VILLAGES ACADEMY



3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find this week's notices below:

### **Yesterday's exceptional school closure**

Thank you for your support with yesterday's closure. I hope it didn't cause too much inconvenience. We got the message circulated to you all on all platforms as early as we possibly could. Work for all students was posted on Satchel One. If your child did not complete all the work set yesterday, please guide them to this for completion this weekend.

Hopefully there will not be any further instances of adverse weather. However, for the benefit of Year 7 parents and carers, it's worth noting that the procedure followed yesterday morning is the one followed in the event of all extreme weather conditions, such as heavy snow, where safety is risk assessed and an update posted as soon as possible on all possible platforms if a closure is necessary. It is normally only possible to decide early in the morning whether it is safe for the academy to open but we do this as early as possible.

### **Year 7 – Music for All**

All Year 7 students have now been allocated a musical instrument as part of our Music for All program. Students have also been provided with a login to an online music platform 'Charanga' in order to undertake some individual practice between music lessons. At this stage we have asked students to undertake a few short practices between lessons by logging in and playing along with the pieces started.

We are looking forward to showcasing this term's work in our upcoming academy Winter Concert on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm in the Gate Theatre. We ask parents and carers to make a note of this date as Year 7 students are expected to attend and play their instruments. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Munt on [dmt@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk](mailto:dmt@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk).

### **Year 11 period 6 revision**

A reminder that there is no period 6 revision for the next two weeks whilst mock exams are taking place.

Period 6 will resume on 20<sup>th</sup> November as follows:

Tuesdays: History and Geography

Wednesdays: Music

Thursdays: Art, Design (2.50pm) and Performing Arts BTEC (3.50pm-4.50pm)

Fridays: GCSE PE

### **Flu vaccinations Academic Year 2023-24**

As advised previously, the Immunisation Service are coming into school on **15th November 2023** to offer your child the Flu vaccination. If you have not completed the online consent form and wish to, the link is [Flu-immunisation-15.11.2023-Parent-letter.pdf \(ormistonsixvillagesacademy.co.uk\)](https://ormistonsixvillagesacademy.co.uk/15.11.2023-Parent-letter.pdf)

If you miss the cut off time to complete the consent form, we will not be able to vaccinate your child in school on the day of the vaccination session. The consent form will reopen one working day after the session, enabling you to submit a form for your child to be offered the vaccination, within one of their catch-up clinics.

### Tutee of the Week

7O	Layla B	8O	Isabelle A	9O	Tyler H	10O	Lily P	11O	Tobilee M
7R	Freya M-W	8R	Ruby K	9R	Grace H	10R	Kitty N	11R	Jack S
7M	Mila D	8M	Sophie H	9M	Chloe S	10S	Mya S P	11M	Janis S
7S	Jake D	8S	Will R	9S	Ellie S	10T	Evie B	11S	Esmee C-E
7T	Patrick S	8T	Jessica C	9T	Finley B			11T	Evie D

### Sparx Superstars

Congratulations to the students below who have achieved the highest amount of XP points in the past week.

Scarlett S	Adam H-W	Dylan L	William T	Rimini N
Reuben W	Oscar M	Layla B	Gracie R	Carla T-B

### Sports Fixtures coming up

Please find below the details of fixtures after half term, with times for collection back at Six Villages:

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
6 <sup>th</sup> November		Year 7 Boys Football (H) vs SPH 4:45 collection	Year 9 Netball @ CHS 5:30 collection	Year 8 Rugby (A) @ BL 5:30 collection Year 11 Netball @ FCC 5:30 collection
13 <sup>th</sup> November		Year 7 Boys Football (A) vs TRS 5:30 collection	Year 9 Netball @ TRS 5:30 collection	Year 7 Rugby (A) @CHS 5:30 collection Year 11 Netball @ TRS 5:45 collection
20 <sup>th</sup> November		Year 8 Boys Football Play-Off (TBC) 5:30 collection Year 11 Netball (A) vs BCC 5:15 collection	Year 9 Netball @ BL 5:30 collection	Year 8-11 X-C @ BL 4:30 collection
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Sports Hall Athletics @ BL 5:30 collection	Year 7 Boys Football 6-a-side @ FCC 6:00 collection		
4 <sup>th</sup> December		Year 8 Boys Football 6-a-side @ FCC 6:00 collection		Girls Badminton @ FCC 5:45 collection
11 <sup>th</sup> December		Year 9 Boys Football 6-a-side @ FCC 6:00 collection		Boys Badminton @ FCC 5:45 collection

### Christmas Raffle

As usual, we will be holding a Christmas raffle. Tickets are £1 each and can be purchased on Parent Pay and are available until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. The proceeds will go towards a much needed new minibus.



### What parents and carers need to know about X

In October 2022, Twitter was purchased by Elon Musk, tech tycoon, which resulted in a number of changes to the platform. Alterations have continued since then with many raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter, now rebranded as X. I'd like to draw your attention to the following:

- X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature which would previously prevent users from viewing your profile or sending direct messages.
- X's posts can feature age-inappropriate content from extreme political views to pornography
- Premium memberships
- Account verification changed increasing the number of celebrity impersonators with fake accounts designed to exploit other users.

Please read the advice provided by National Online Security below relating to X:

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

- PROTECT PRIVACY**  
Unsavoury characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.
- DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT**  
To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.
- STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS**  
Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.
- ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS**  
Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.
- BE READY TO TAKE ACTION**  
If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

### What parents and carers need to know about 'Five Nights at Freddy's'

This is a series of indie point and click horror games set in deserted locations at night with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life. The games are rated PEGI 12 and have disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.



- Frightening themes
- Stressful situations
- In-game spending
- Age-inappropriate content
- Playing in isolation

#### Advice for parents and carers

- Try it yourself
- Use parental controls
- Limit spending
- Monitor to spot warning signs relating to sleep, irritability, concentration, excessive gaming
- Discuss potential risks in the games to ensure child is aware of them.

I hope you find these weekly national online safety updates useful.

Finally, we wish Year 11 luck with the mock exams which start on Monday.

#### Key dates this term

6 <sup>th</sup> November	Start of Year 11 mocks (2 weeks)
24 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET day
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 7 Christmas dinner
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 8 Christmas dinner
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 9 Christmas dinner
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 10 Christmas dinner
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 11 Christmas dinner
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Winter concert
12 <sup>th</sup> December	GCSE presentation evening

Yours sincerely

Paul Slaughter  
Principal