



ORMISTON SIX VILLAGES ACADEMY



12th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find this week's notices below.

Celebration Assemblies

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up to share our end of term celebrations next week.

As a reminder, parents and carers are invited to join us for our end of term Celebration Assemblies next week. In these assemblies we will celebrate the achievements of all students and present them with their 2024 Certificate of Achievement. We have made the decision to run these at the start of the day in the hope that many of you will be able to join us. Please arrive at 8.20am for an 8.30am start. The assemblies should take no longer than an hour.

The dates and times are as follows:

Monday 15 th July	Year 9 Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 16 th July	Year 8 Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 17 th July	Year 10 Celebration Assembly
Thursday 18 th July	Year 7 Celebration Assembly

To ensure we have adequate seating available, please click on the link above to confirm your attendance and the number of seats you require.

Photography and Video Consent Links - Reminder

You will recently have received an email inviting you to complete a consent form for photography and video consent for 2024-25. The email explained that OAT now require us to obtain consent annually. If you do not wish to provide consent, we still need you to complete the form, to that effect.

Many of you have already completed the form – if you have, you do not need to take any further action; please don't complete it again, unless you wish to change your consent.

Please can those of you who have not yet completed the form, click on the link of the relevant year group and complete it. It should only take a couple of minutes. The forms are labelled with your child's current year and the year they are moving into in September, to avoid confusion. The links are as follows:

- [Year 7 into Year 8 photography and consent form 2024-25](#)
- [Year 8 into Year 9 photography and consent form 2024-25](#)
- [Year 9 into Year 10 photography and consent form 2024-25](#)
- [Year 10 into Year 11 photography and consent form 2024-25](#)

INSET days

A reminder of the INSET days on 22nd and 23rd July. This means the last day of term will be Friday 19th July. As we end at the end of a full week, please note that **all children** are required to attend right up to the end of the last day. If your child tells you they are not doing anything that week or on the last day, this is not true!

Unauthorised absence from school – important update

You will already be aware that the current law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child out of school during term time, eg. for a holiday, for shopping, for a birthday treat, to visit relatives.

This is because the government continues to hold attendance as an absolute priority in schools. With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. For example, 3 siblings absent for term time leave would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be: £160, per parent, per child paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be: **£160** per parent, per child paid within 28 days

Third Offence and any further offences within 3 years

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, a Penalty Notice will **not** be issued.

The case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's Court. Magistrate's fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to: **"failure to safeguard a child's education"**

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 weeks period. Unauthorised absence can be a G code (holiday during term time), a U code (unauthorised lateness to school after registers have closed) or O code (failure to provide a reason for absence, absence for a reason that the Principal cannot authorise)

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. INSET days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

The Education Act 1996 places a legal responsibility upon parents to ensure their children attend school as required, and failure to do so is an offence. The offence is one of strict liability and this means there are only certain reasons accepted in law as to why a child can miss school and the onus is on the parent to be able to prove the presence of one of these to the satisfaction of a court. These reasons are as follows:

- The child was unfit to attend due to ill health – please note having a health issue does not automatically mean a child is unfit.
- The child was engaged in a religious observance – this must be a day stipulated in the calendar of the religion as a day for observance.
- The child is in receipt of transport provided by the Local Authority, and this has failed.
- The child was prevented from attending due to an unavoidable cause – this is something akin to an emergency, for example the house burnt down.

Please note that student absences which are reported as illness, but are subsequently found to be due to holiday, will also be recorded as unauthorised and a referral for a WSCC Fixed Penalty Notice (fine) will be submitted if the criteria are met. The criteria are 10 sessions/5 days of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

Please note that headteachers have been directed by the Government not to authorise any absence from school unless there is an 'exceptional circumstance'. What a parent considers exceptional may not be considered exceptional by me.

Instrumental lessons

Invoices are on Parent Pay for students who currently have, or who have requested instrumental lessons in the Autumn term. Payment will ensure students are placed on the timetables in advance of incoming Year 7 students who will joining in September.

Further details on instrumental lessons and application form are on the academy website:

<https://ormistonsixvillagesacademy.co.uk/key-info/extracurricular/music-tuition>

Parking

Arun Vets have asked me to highlight to you that their car park is for use of customers only. I have been advised that some parents are parking there at drop off and pick up times. They only have a small car park and cannot accommodate non-customer vehicles.

Tutee of the Week

7O	Issac K	8O	Ollie H	9O	George B	10O	Jennifer R
7R	Amelia L	8R	Evie M	9R	Elsie F	10R	Molly E
7M	Lucas W	8M	Leon O	9M	Callum P	10S	Rose-Marie M
7S	Freya T	8S	Liam B	9S	Mia H	10T	Madeleine H
7T	Julia S	8T	Huxley T	9T	Leon H		

Sparx Superstars this week are those with the most XP points achieved over the year.

Will A	Conor C	Ben R	Oscar B	Jacob P
Toby B	Hayden M	Riley M	Zak H	Ryan B

Key dates for 2024-25

Autumn term 2024	INSET days: Monday 2 nd September – INSET day Tuesday 3 rd September – INSET day First day of term for Year 7 and Year 11: Wednesday 4 th September All Students: Thursday 5 th September Half term: Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November Last day of term: Friday 20 th December
Winter break 2024-25	Monday 23 rd December to Friday 3 rd January
Spring term 2025	First day of term: Monday 6 th January Half term: Monday 17 th February to Friday 21 st February Last day of term: Friday 4 th April
Easter break 2025	Monday 7 th April to Monday 21 st April Bank Holidays: 18 th and 21 st April
Summer term 2025	First day of term: Tuesday 22 nd April Bank Holiday: Monday 5 th May Half term: Monday 26 th May (Bank holiday) to Friday 30 th May Last day of term: Friday 22 nd July

INSET Days 2024-2025

2nd September
 3rd September
 29th November
 24th February
 21st July
 22nd July

Key dates for the remainder of this term

15 th July	Year 9 Celebration Assembly, 8.20am for 8.30am start
16 th July	Year 8 Celebration Assembly, 8.20am for 8.30am start
17 th July	Year 10 Celebration assembly, 8.20am for 8.30am start
18 th July	Year 7 Celebration Assembly, 8.20am for 8.30am start
19 th July	Last day of summer term
22 nd July	INSET day – academy closed to students
23 rd July	INSET day – academy closed to students
20 th -22 nd August	Six Villages Summer Experience (Year 6 into Year 7)
22 nd August	Year 11 GCSE Results Day, 9am-10am

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Slaughter', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Paul Slaughter
Principal