



RIVER VIEW HOUSE NEWSLETTER



March 2026, Newbury



Improvement Updates from Abi Davies (Deputy Headteacher)

We have been working hard as a school to ensure we are a safe, settled, and consistent site.

Across this term we have:

- Introduced new values and daily target sheets to support positive behaviour choices.
- Continued to develop our positive point shop where students can spend their points from the week.
- Introduction of a new anti-bullying policy and procedures made in collaboration with students.

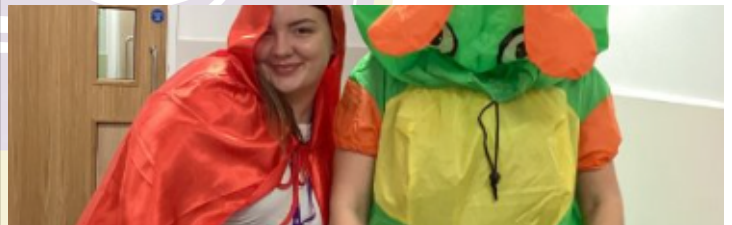
As we move into the summer term, we will continue focusing on building our positive school culture, ensuring that we meet the needs of all our students.



Football Friendly

A small group of students proudly represented River View House in a friendly match against Park House School. They played an excellent game, with the score remaining close until the very end, when a last-minute goal from the opposition secured the win.

Well done to everyone on the team for their exemplary behaviour both on and off the pitch. Thank you also to the staff members who organised the match and supported the students throughout the day.



World Book Day

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day, continuing our commitment to fostering a love of reading among our pupils. Both staff and students embraced the occasion by dressing up as their favourite book characters, creating a vibrant and imaginative atmosphere across the school. During the day, pupils took part in a range of activities, including comic strip writing and a variety of reading and creative writing tasks, all designed to celebrate the joy of books and storytelling.

Careers Termly Takeover

We are delighted to finish this term with another successful termly Careers Takeover Week. During these dedicated weeks each term, every subject area incorporates a careers focus into their lessons. Teachers highlight the wide range of career opportunities linked to their subjects, while offering pupils valuable advice and guidance on how their studies can lead to a variety of roles and the pathways to achieve them.

As we continue to develop and strengthen our careers provision, we are excited to expand opportunities for all students to gain meaningful work experience, both within the school and across our local community. We look forward to sharing more updates as this important area of school life continues to grow.

Key Information

The next term brings us closer to the end of the academic year and marks the beginning of the all-important examination period for our KS4 and KS5 pupils. A GCSE & Entry Level examination timetable is given below (Page 4) and Functional Skills dates will be shared separately very soon. We are also beginning to prepare for our leavers' celebrations, as well as confirming dates for study leave.

In addition, we are looking ahead to our end-of-term trips. Excitingly, these will be linked to our Sleuth Shop, where pupils will be able to work together in tutor groups to earn points towards smaller trips of their choice. Alongside this, we will of course also be organising some larger end-of-term trips for students to enjoy.

We have a new whole school Attendance policy available [here](#) (on the School's website). We encourage you to read through and make yourself familiar with our new procedures and protocols. Please get in touch if you have any questions or queries.



Curriculum Information for Summer 1 - by class



Amazon

Subject	Snapshot
English	Amazon will continue undertaking a project based on <i>George's Marvellous Medicine</i> , delivered through the Jane Considine Writing Scheme. As part of this approach, there is a strong focus on developing pupils' ability to construct effective sentences, with particular emphasis on the accurate and purposeful use of adjectives, adverbs, and nouns to enhance detail, cohesion, and overall quality in their writing.
Maths	Measuring length and perimeter (mm, cm, m)
Science	Science will be practical activities aligned with the theme Amazon class are investigating this term.
PE	In Amazon, pupils will develop their understanding of football by improving their control, passing accuracy, and ability to move into space. They will begin to apply simple tactics, such as creating space and supporting teammates during play. Football will help pupils develop communication, teamwork, and greater consistency in their performance.
Humanities	History - We will look at England under Norman control. Rebellions and their consequences / castle building. In Geography - Amazon will be studying biodiversity across several biomes.
Food tech	Students will explore food presentation and flavour combinations while developing confidence with basic cooking skills and safe kitchen practices through simple practical dishes.
Art & Design	Students will continue exploring 3D form, which will lead into landscape work with a focus on mark-making.

Thames

Subject	Snapshot
English	Thames will be focusing on instructional writing based on <i>My Strong Mind</i> , delivered through the Jane Considine Writing Scheme. This unit supports pupils in developing clear and structured writing, with an emphasis on giving precise instructions. Pupils will be encouraged to use imperative verbs, time conjunctions, and concise language to ensure their instructions are easy to follow, while also promoting themes of resilience and positive thinking.
Maths	Thames students will develop their understanding of decimals, including addition and subtraction with both matching and differing place values, and applying these skills to problem-solving contexts. They will then move on to properties of shape, where they will identify, measure and calculate angles, as well as explore key properties of 2D shapes. Pupils will also study position and direction, including coordinates in the first quadrant, translation and symmetry. Learning is supported through practical activities and visual representations to build confidence and accuracy.
Science	We will continue to look at reactions of metals. Practicals will involve: reacting metals with acid, metal oxides with acid and metal carbonates with acid. After, we will look at density and pressure, including practicals on calculating density of regular solids and liquids, as well as a practical on floating and sinking. We will explore magnetic materials, attraction and repulsion, magnetic force and field patterns, and how Earth's magnetic field supports navigation, using practical investigations to develop scientific understanding and enquiry skills.
PE	In Thames, pupils will be introduced to football as a team invasion game. They will learn basic skills such as passing, dribbling, and shooting, while beginning to understand simple rules, spatial awareness, and how to work cooperatively with others. Through football, pupils will start to build confidence, enjoyment, and fundamental movement skills.
Humanities	Geography – River studies. Features / processes / flooding / flood controls. History – Tudor studies – lifestyles / punishments / religion / notable monarchs / religion / Navy / Armada.
Food tech	Students will explore food presentation and flavour combinations while developing confidence with basic cooking skills and safe kitchen practices through simple practical dishes.
Art & Design	Students will continue exploring 3D form, which will lead into landscape work with a focus on mark-making.

Ganges

Subject	Snapshot
English	Ganges will be writing a persuasive letter based on the question of whether animals should be fed in national parks, delivered through the Jane Considine Writing Scheme. This unit focuses on developing pupils' ability to construct clear and compelling arguments, using persuasive language techniques such as emotive language, rhetorical questions, and formal tone. Pupils will be supported to organise their ideas effectively and use precise vocabulary to influence the reader and present a balanced viewpoint.
Maths	Thames students will develop their understanding of decimals, including addition and subtraction with both matching and differing place values, and applying these skills to problem-solving contexts. They will then move on to properties of shape, where they will identify, measure and calculate angles, as well as explore key properties of 2D shapes. Pupils will also study position and direction, including coordinates in the first quadrant, translation and symmetry. Learning is supported through practical activities and visual representations to build confidence and accuracy.
Science	We will complete our topic of density and pressure, including practicals on finding the density of solids and liquids, as well as looking at pressure in fluids and floating and sinking. We will then begin our bioenergetics topic, where we will look at photosynthesis and respiration, compare the two, carry out a practical on respiration and exercise, as well as a practical to see where leaves store starch.
PE	In Ganges, pupils will be introduced to football as a team invasion game. They will learn basic skills such as passing, dribbling, and shooting, while beginning to understand simple rules, spatial awareness, and how to work cooperatively with others. Through football, pupils will start to build confidence, enjoyment, and fundamental movement skills.
Humanities	Geography – River studies. Features / processes / flooding / flood controls. History – Tudor studies – lifestyles / punishments / religion / notable monarchs / religion / Navy / Armada.
Food tech	Students will explore food presentation and flavour combinations while developing confidence with basic cooking skills and safe kitchen practices through simple practical dishes.
Art & Design	Students will continue exploring 3D form, which will lead into landscape work with a focus on mark-making.



Curriculum Information for Summer 1 - by class



Mississippi

Subject	Snapshot
English	Mississippi will be focusing on poetry based on <i>The Highwayman</i> , delivered through the Jane Considine Writing Scheme. This unit supports pupils in exploring the features of narrative poetry, including rhythm, rhyme, and vivid imagery. Pupils will be encouraged to experiment with figurative language such as similes, metaphors, and personification to create atmosphere and engage the reader, drawing inspiration from the style and structure of the original poem.
Maths	Mississippi will continue developing their understanding of algebra, including substitution, forming and solving equations, and identifying patterns in sequences. They will then apply their knowledge to geometry, focusing on calculating perimeter, area and volume of a range of shapes. Pupils will also be introduced to ratio, learning to use ratio language and understand the relationship between ratio and fractions. Learning is supported through structured practice and real-life problem-solving to build confidence and fluency.
Science	In science we will complete a module of work on space, exploring how the movements of the Earth and Moon cause day and night, Moon phases and the seasons, and then extend into the life cycle of stars, the role of satellites, and red-shift as evidence that the universe is expanding. We will move onto bonding - this explores how different types of bonding and structure determine the properties and uses of materials, from ionic, metallic and covalently bonded substances to polymers, graphene and fullerenes
PE	In Mississippi, pupils will apply their football skills in more structured game situations, with a focus on decision making, positioning, and the principles of attacking and defending. They will begin to explore tactics such as maintaining possession and transitioning between attack and defence. Football will support pupils in developing resilience, problem solving, and teamwork.
Humanities	History – Workers and women’s rights to finish. WW1 – alliances / battle plans / trench warfare / the war across the wider world / peace / Treaty of Versailles. Geography – population issues with India and Japan as exemplars.
Food tech	Students will explore food presentation and flavour combinations while developing confidence with basic cooking skills and safe kitchen practices through simple practical dishes.
Art & Design	Students will continue exploring 3D form, which will lead into landscape work with a focus on mark-making.

Lochy

Subject	Snapshot
English	Lochy will be focusing on developing key skills across GCSE English Language and Functional Skills (Level 1 and Level 2), aligned with the requirements of the AQA and Pearson Edexcel exam boards. This provision places a strong emphasis on building confidence and competence in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Pupils will engage with a range of texts to develop comprehension and analytical skills, while also practising clear, purposeful writing for different audiences and purposes. Opportunities for discussion, presentation, and collaborative tasks will further support the development of effective communication skills in preparation for assessment.
Maths	Lochy class will develop key Functional Skills Level 1 maths needed for everyday life and work. This includes managing money (such as calculating simple interest and discounts), converting between common units, and solving practical problems involving measures like area, perimeter and volume. Pupils will also interpret and use information from plans, diagrams and scales, as well as apply their understanding of angles and shape in real-world contexts. The focus is on applying maths confidently and independently in realistic situations. Some students in this group will be continuing with a GCSE pathway, focusing on preparation for their summer examinations. This will include topics such as simultaneous equations, collecting, representing and interpreting data, and working with percentages and interest. Pupils will develop their problem-solving skills and exam techniques <u>while</u> building confidence and readiness for GCSE assessments.
Science	As we have now finished the Entry Level content, we will be revising biology and chemistry and physics in preparation for the written exams. These will take place the week before May half term or the first week in June.
PE	In Lochy, pupils will refine their performance in football by developing more advanced skills and tactical awareness. They will focus on improving the quality of their passing, movement off the ball, and decision making under pressure. Football will also provide opportunities for leadership, communication, and evaluating performance.
Humanities	Entry Level History is now completed. The students have chosen WW1 as their study topic – alliances / battle plans / trench warfare / the war across the wider world / peace / Treaty of Versailles.
Food tech	Students will explore food presentation and flavour combinations while developing confidence with basic cooking skills and safe kitchen practices through simple practical dishes.
Art & Design	Students will continue exploring 3D form, which will lead into landscape work with a focus on mark-making.



River View House School Summer 2026 Examination Timetable

Date	Time	Exam Board	Exam Title	Length of Exam
20/04/2026	10:00 am	AQA	Entry Level Science - Physics	45 minutes
21/04/2026	9:15am	IGCSE	IGCSE Art and Design	4hours (8 hours)
22/04/2026	9:15am	IGCSE	IGCSE Art and Design	4 hours (8 hours)
22/04/2026	10:00 am	AQA	Entry Level Science - Biology	45 minutes
27/04/2026	10:00 am	AQA	Entry Level Science - Chemistry	45 minutes
12/05/2026	1pm	AQA	Combined Science: Trilogy – Biology Paper 1	1 hour 15
13/05/2026	9.15am	AQA	Geography Paper 1	1 hour 30
14/05/2026	9.15am	AQA	Mathematics Paper 1 Non-Calculator	1 hour 30
15/05/2026	9.15am	AQA	History Paper 1	2 hours
18/05/2026	9.15am	AQA	Combined Science: Trilogy – Chemistry Paper 1	1 hour 45
21/05/2026	9.15am	AQA	English Language Paper 1	1 hour 45
02/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Combined Science: Trilogy – Physics Paper 1	1 hour 15
03/06/2026	1pm	AQA	Geography Paper 2	1 hour 30
03/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Mathematics Paper 2 (calculator)	1 hour 30
04/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	History Paper 2	1 hour 45
05/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	English Language Paper 2	1 hour 45
08/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Combined Science: Trilogy – Biology Paper 2	1 hour 15
10/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Mathematics Paper 3 (calculator)	1 hour 30
11/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Geography Paper 3	1 hour 30
12/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Combined Science: Trilogy – Chemistry Paper 2	1 hour 15
15/06/2026	9.15am	AQA	Combined Science: Trilogy – Physics Paper 2	1 hour 15



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