

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead

Monday 16 June	Year 11 Leaving date (For those students who do not have a Spanish exam)
Tuesday 17 June	Year 11 Leaving date (For those students who have a Spanish exam) Start of the Year 10 Mock Exams
Wednesday 18 June	Year 11 Thorpe Park Trip
Thursday 19 June	Year 7 The Big Bang Fair Trip
Friday 20 June	Year 11 Prom Year 8 Birmingham City University Trip

Here at Ormiston Forge Academy, we encourage every student to ***dream big***—because your ideas, goals, and passions matter. Whether you want to be a doctor, a dancer, a coder, a coach, or something the world hasn't seen yet, it all starts with **believing in yourself**. A reminder to all students that no dream is too big, no idea is too small, and you are never too young to start chasing your dreams.

Below are a few important reminders and updates:

1. Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers

To our incredible Year 11 and 13 Students: **Goodbye Exams, Hello New Beginnings**

You've reached a major milestone. After months of hard work, revision, and determination, your GCSE, A level and BTEC journey is nearly complete—and we couldn't be prouder. You've shown resilience, courage, and commitment. Now it's time to look ahead—to college, apprenticeships, university, new adventures, and the next exciting chapter. We look forward to welcoming many of our year 11 students back to continue their journey with us in Sixth Form. For those who will not be continuing their journey with us, and for our year 13 students remember—you'll always be a valued part of the Forge family, wherever life takes you next. **Good luck - the future is yours!**

2. Assessment Dates

- KS3 (Y7 - 9) Assessment Window - Monday 2nd June - Friday 27th June
- Y10 Mock Weeks - Monday 16th June - Monday 30th June
- Year 12 Mock Weeks Monday 9th June – Friday 20th June

During this period, we would like to remind you of the importance of good attendance. We kindly ask that any appointments be scheduled outside of core academy hours whenever possible.

3. Free School Meals Allowance (FSM)

We would like to remind you of how the Free School Meal (FSM) allowance works for eligible students.

- Students entitled to FSM currently receive **£2.58 per day**
- From Monday 16 June, this allowance will only be available to spend **from 12:00pm each day** and can be used at the school canteen tills during lunchtime.
- **Please note:** Any unused allowance **does not roll over** to the next day.

Therefore, if your child wishes to:

- Purchase food during **breaktime**, or
- Spend more than the daily **£2.58** allowance at lunchtime,
then their account will need to be **topped up in advance** via ParentPay

If you have any questions or need support with your child's account, please don't hesitate to contact us. A reminder also for students to **bring in a refillable water bottle**. Students have access throughout the day to water. **Energy drinks and fizzy drinks are not allowed on school grounds.**

If you are currently not in receipt of FSM but wish to check your eligibility, please visit [Free school meals | Sandwell Council](#)

We would also like to remind you that the school provides a **FREE** breakfast in partnership with Magic Breakfast. This is available from the canteen from 7.30am.

4. Year 11 Prom

The year 11 prom is fast approaching. If your child has not picked up their ticket yet, please remind them to do so as soon as possible from the pastoral office. A reminder that Prom will take place at The Village Hotel. Students can arrive from 6.30pm and the event will finish at 11.00pm.

5. INSET Days

Following the correspondence sent on ClassCharts regarding the additional INSET days for the 2025/2026 academic year, please see below a list of all INSET days for your diary:

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- Friday 17th October 2025
- Friday 5th December 2025
- Monday 5th January 2026
- Monday 23rd February 2026
- Monday 13th April 2026
- Monday 20th July 2026

Please note on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 the academy will be open for students in year 7 and year 12 ONLY. All students will be expected in as normal on Thursday 4th September 2025.

6. Collecting Students

If you are collecting your child at the end of the school day, please wait for them outside of the school gates. We can only have parents/carers in the office if they have an appointment.

7. Pre-loved Uniform

If you have any school uniform that you no longer require such as blazers, trousers, shirts, and PE kits, we would be grateful if you could donate them to the academy. Your donation will make a big difference to another student and support our school's efforts to reduce waste and help one another. Please make sure that any items you donate are in a good and clean condition.

8. Communication List

Subject	Details	Contact
Safeguarding	Any safeguarding concerns	Teamsafeguarding@oatforge.co.uk
Attendance and Absences	Report any absence, lates or inform of appointments	attendance@oatforge.co.uk MyEd app
Academic Progress and Subject-Specific Questions	For enquiries about your child's progress or specific subjects	info@oatforge.co.uk
Pastoral or Well-being Concerns	For pastoral care or well-being concerns including behaviour & detentions	Pastoral@oatforge.co.uk
General School Information	For general queries about school policies, events, or other information	info@oatforge.co.uk
Admissions	Any information regarding admissions and joining the Academy	Contact Sandwell Admissions 0121 569 6765
ParentPay & Classcharts	Any queries relating to online accounts	info@oatforge.co.uk

Staff will endeavour to respond to all queries within 48 hours. To promote staff wellbeing, responses should not be expected outside of working hours or during weekends.

9. Recommended Reads

Our recommended reads for students this week are:

KS3: *The Boy With Big Decisions* by Helen Rutter

KS4: *A Tempest of Tea* by Hafsah Faizal

Both are available to loan from the library.

We would be grateful if you could encourage your child to bring an age-appropriate book with them each day to the academy.

10. Attendance and House Points

- Whole School Attendance This Week:** 87.8% (Target: 96% or above – let's keep aiming high!)
- Top 3 Attending Year Groups:**

1 st	Year 10 – 88.3%
2 nd	Year 8 – 88.2%
3 rd	Year 7 – 87.6%

Fantastic effort—great attendance means better learning!

- House Points Issued This Week:** 11091

Thank you to all students showing our school values through hard work, kindness, and positive behaviour.