

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead

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| Monday 23 June | |
| Tuesday 24 June | SEN Transition Day |
| Wednesday 25 June | Year 7 Parents Evening – 3.45pm- 6.00pm |
| Thursday 26 June | |
| Friday 27 June | Keele University Trip |

As we strive for continued success in both academics and personal growth, it's essential to recognise the importance of developing good habits. The routines we establish each day have a powerful impact on our achievements, mindset, and overall well-being.

Good habits help to improve time management and organisation, reduces stress, enhances focus, supports steady academic progress, and builds both confidence and independence. You can support your child in building strong habits by encouraging them to:

- **Use a planner** to keep track of assignments and deadlines
- Set and stick to a **daily study routine**
- **Review notes regularly** instead of waiting until the last minute
- **Get enough rest each night** to stay focused and energized

With consistency and support, these habits can make a lasting difference in your child's success and personal development.

Below are a few important reminders and updates:

1. Phone Options

When you are calling the academy, please listen to all the options and select the most appropriate one for your query. Our phone number 01384 566 598 and our options are:

- Option 1 – Absence and Appointments
- Option 2 – Finance
- Option 3 – Safeguarding
- Option 4 – SEN
- Option 5 – Pastoral
- Option 6 - Reception

2. Prizegiving

We are incredibly proud of the hard work, dedication, and progress our students have shown throughout this academic year. We're excited to celebrate their achievements at our upcoming Prizegiving event. Students selected by our Heads of Department will be recognised for their outstanding academic performance or significant progress—and we can't wait to applaud their success. If your child has been chosen and you are yet to respond, **please complete the form sent via ClassCharts as soon as possible.**

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible as we come together to celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

3. Year 7 Parents Evening

Our year 7 parent evening will take place on Wednesday 25th June between 3.45pm - 6.00pm. If you will be attending parents evening, please ensure you have responded on ParentPay. If you have any queries, please contact the school office. Please arrive no later than 5.40PM. Parking is available on site and staff will direct you where to go on arrival. Please sign in at the bottom of block 1 stairs (next to the lift).

4. Reward System

We are introducing a new reward system in September 2025. We hope the new reward system will be:

- **Simple:** Easy for staff to implement and students to understand.
- **Visible:** Students can track progress and feel motivated.
- **Consistent:** Clear criteria and rewards applied fairly across the board.

More information on this to follow shortly via class charts.

5. Free School Meal Supermarket Vouchers

Sandwell Council have confirmed that school holiday vouchers for children in receipt of benefit-related Free School Meals will resume. Families will receive two vouchers, the first one in July 2025 and the second voucher will be issued in December 2025. For more information on these vouchers including the voucher amounts, please [click here](#).

6. School Meals

We would like to remind parents and carers about the recent changes regarding lunchtime procedures.

For students in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM):

- The daily allowance is **£2.58**
- This allowance can **only be used at lunchtime in the school canteen**
- If your child wishes to purchase food at **breaktime**, their account must be topped up in advance via **ParentPay**
- **Unused FSM allowances do not carry over to the next day**

For students who are **not** in receipt of Free School Meals:

- Please ensure their **ParentPay account is topped up in advance**
- If the account has insufficient funds, your child will be provided with a sandwich, and you will be contacted to top up the account as soon as possible

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

A reminder for all student 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.**

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

7. ParentPay Account Delays

Please note that there is currently a delay between topping up ParentPay accounts and the updated balance appearing at the tills. To ensure your child can access their funds when needed, we kindly ask that you **top up accounts at least one working day in advance**.

We are actively reviewing our processes and aim to have this issue resolved by September. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

8. Warmer Weather Update

As the weather continues to warm up, please make sure your child comes to school with a hat for outdoor activities. We also recommend that sunscreen (SPF 20 or higher) is applied before school. Any updates or adjustments to the school uniform policy due to the heat will be shared with you via ClassCharts.

9. National Book Token Competition

Please could you take 30 seconds of your time to nominate our school for this National Book Token Competition: <https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize>

Five winning schools will receive £1,000 of book tokens + £300 to spend on furnishings for their library - and as a bonus, everyone who nominates will be entered into a prize draw to win £100 of book tokens for themselves! The **Competition closes 31st July**.

Thank you for your support!

10. Recommended Reads

Our recommended reads for students this week are:

KS3: *Escape Room* by Christopher Edge

KS4: *Such Charming Liars* by Karen M. McManus

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.

11. Attendance and House Points

- **Whole School Attendance This Week:** 91.4% (Target: 96% or above – let's keep aiming high!)
- **Top 3 Attending Year Groups:**

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| 1 st | Year 10 – 95% |
| 2 nd | Year 8 – 90.5% |
| 3 rd | Year 9 – 90.4% |

- **House Points Issued This Week:** 9272

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