

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead

Monday 08 December	KS3 Assessment Window Opens Year 10 Reading Test – All Students
Tuesday 09 December	Year 11 Art Collapsed Coursework Day Year 9 Envision Trip 9.30AM-1PM Year 7-9 Readathon- All Day Year 7-10 WeWill- Christmas Carols at Apsley House- New Date
Wednesday 10 December	Year 9/10 Women in Construction Talk – 8.35AM-9.15AM
Thursday 11 December	Year 11 Sixth form Taster Day- All Day Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12 December	Year 9 Urban Aid Workshop- All Day
Monday 15 December	
Tuesday 16 December	Buttons: The Pantomime – 6.30PM Start
Wednesday 17 December	Sixth Form Reward Trip – 1.30-5.00PM
Thursday 18 December	
Friday 19 December	Non-Uniform Day – Food Bank Donation End of Term – 1.20PM

Our theme this week has been 'embrace failure' and here At Forge, we believe that failure is not the end, but the beginning of growth. Every mistake is a chance to learn, adapt, and improve. Failure matters because it teaches us problem-solving skills and opens the door to new ideas and approaches.

A reminder to all our students that progress doesn't come from perfection, it comes from perseverance. Keep trying, keep learning, and keep moving forward!

1. Attendance

We are pleased to share that there has been a welcomed improvement in attendance across the school this week which is really encouraging to see. We would like to extend our thanks for your continued resilience and support.

2. Year 10 Reading Test

On **Monday 8th December** all **year 10** students will be completing an **online reading test** in school. This test enables us to identify any need for intervention. It is therefore vital that your child is in school to complete this test, especially as we edge closer to public examinations as it helps to ensure that your child is best supported moving forward.

3. Christmas Jumper Day

On **Thursday, 11th December**, students are invited to wear a **Christmas jumper along with their usual school uniform**. A festive chicken Christmas dinner will be served in the canteen on this day.

- If your child receives free school meals, the cost will be covered by their allowance.
- For students who pay for meals, the Christmas dinner will cost **£2.58**.

4. End of Term

Just a reminder that **Friday 19th December** is the last day of term. The academy will be close at 1.20pm and will reopen on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.

5. Non Uniform Day

On **Friday, 19th December**, Forge will hold a **non-uniform day** for students. In return, we kindly ask **each student to bring a tin of food to donate to a local food bank**. Donations will be collected at the school gates as students arrive.

Students wearing their own clothes on this day should ensure their outfits are **weather-appropriate** and **free from wording, logos, or images that could be considered inappropriate or offensive**.

6. Year 10 Work Experience

The deadline for Year 10 students to confirm their work experience placements has been **extended to Friday, 12th December 2025**.

If your child needs support with finding a placement or uploading details to Unifrog, they should visit the Careers Office during registration or lunchtime on **Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday** in the week commencing **8th December**.

7. Free School Meals: Supermarket Voucher

During December 2025, children who are in receipt of benefit-related free school meals will be receiving a supermarket voucher of **£40**. This covers the 4 weeks of school holidays between October 2025 and February 2026.

If you are eligible, your voucher will be sent **via email or text message**, so it's essential that we have your correct contact details. To check or update your information, please call **01384 566 598 (Option 6)** or email info@oatforge.co.uk.

For more information on this scheme please visit [Ormiston Forge Academy - Free School Meals update - Christmas 2025](#)

8. Forge Thrift Shop

As our 'Forge Thrift Shop' approaches, there is still some availabilities for families who would like to attend. If you have not already done so, please complete the form linked [here](#).

Families who attend this event can choose up to 10 good-quality, preloved items which have been kindly donated by staff. There is no obligation to pay for items, though if families wish to make a contribution, a suggested donation of £1 per item is welcome. **All donations will go directly to Dementia UK.**



9. Readathon

The time is nearly here for 30 of our students to take part in a sponsored Readathon in support of the charity [Read for Good](#). We would be grateful if you would consider donating to our school's fundraiser [here](#). All money raised goes directly to Read for Good and the school will receive a 20% voucher for the amount that is raised, which will be used to buy new books for our own library.

10. Partnership Award

We're delighted to share that the academy has been awarded the **Partnership Award** at this year's Sea Cadets Awards Ceremony, where we were delighted to receive the following message:

"Your continued support provides us not just with a place to operate, but with a home that we truly are proud of. The strong and positive relationship that has grown between Sandwell Sea Cadets and Ormiston Forge Academy is an outstanding example of what partnership should look like, mutual respect, shared values and a joint commitment to providing opportunities to young people."

Thank you for standing behind us, for supporting our mission and for continuing to give us a home where our cadets can learn, grow and thrive. We look forward to strengthening this partnership even further in the coming year."

We're really grateful for this recognition and are looking forward to continuing this partnership and supporting each other along the way.

11. Forge House System Weekly Update

