

## Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

### Week Ahead

Monday 01 December	Here4You Nurses- Drop in Sessions
Tuesday 02 December	GCSE Art Moderation Day
Wednesday 03 December	Year 11 H&C Mock Practical Exam- All day <del>Year 10 Parents Evening 3.45PM-6PM POSTPONED</del>
Thursday 04 December	Year 11 H&C Mock Practical Exam – All day
Friday 05 December	<b>INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Monday 08 December	KS3 Assessment Window Opens
Tuesday 09 December	Year 11 Art Collapsed Coursework Day Year 9 Envision Trip 9.30AM-1PM Year 7-9 Readathon- All Day
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
Friday 12 December	Year 7-10 WeWill- Christmas Carols at Apsley House Year 9 Urban Aid Workshop- All Day

This week's theme is ***Appreciating the Small Things***. In the rush of everyday school life, it's easy to miss the little moments that make each day meaningful. A smile from a friend, a kind word from a teacher, these simple gestures often bring the greatest joy.

We encourage all students to take time to notice one positive thing each day and share it with someone. And remember to say *thank you* for any act of kindness you receive, no matter how big or small it may seem.

Let's make gratitude part of our daily routine.

### 1. Attendance

A number of students have been sent home unwell over the past few days, and we understand that this has led to some speculation and rumours circulating among students and on social media.

We want to reassure you that, at this stage, there is no evidence of anything more serious than a common seasonal illness. We are working closely with the guidance from UKHSA and Sandwell Heath Protection Team, and Ormiston Academies Trust are continuing to monitor the situation carefully.

As a precaution, enhanced cleaning measures are already underway across the school, including targeted deep cleaning of high-touch areas, toilets, and communal spaces. Additionally, there will be no face-to-face assemblies for students next week. These steps are being taken to help reduce the spread of germs and maintain a safe environment for all students and staff.

Please note that students who are well enough to attend school should continue to do so. However, if your child is experiencing symptoms such as vomiting or diarrhoea, please keep them at home until they are symptom free.

We will keep families informed should there be any further updates.

## 2. Year 10 Parents Evening

The Year 10 Parents' Evening scheduled for **Wednesday 3rd December** has unfortunately been postponed. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. **The new date for this event will be Wednesday 28th January 2026 (15:45 - 18:00).** We look forward to welcoming you into the academy to discuss your child's progress.

## 3. Inset Day

Just a reminder that **Friday 5th December** is an inset day. The academy will be closed to all students.

## 4. Forge Thrift Shop

A reminder that families can now register their interest for our 'Forge Thrift Shop' event taking place on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. The event will offer good-quality, pre-loved items kindly donated by staff. Families will have the opportunity to choose up to 10 items with optional donations going to Dementia UK. To attend, please complete the form linked [here](#). Once submitted, your allocated time slot will be confirmed via email.

## 5. Readathon

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 30 students will be taking part in a sponsored Readathon, in support of the charity [Read for Good](#). Students will be trying to achieve their own personal reading goal by spending the day in the library reading, whilst asking for donation.

We would be grateful if you would consider donation to our schools 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.

## 6. Risk Assessments

If your child requires a risk assessment after an injury or operation, this can be completed without a parent present.

- **If you are happy for your child to attend alone**, they may see Mr Parker from 8:00 a.m. each morning.
- **If you would like to accompany your child**, please contact the office to book an appointment, as our first aider can no longer accommodate walk-in assessments for parents and carers.

To book, please email [info@oatforge.co.uk](mailto:info@oatforge.co.uk) or call **01384 566 598 (option 6)**.

## 7. Asthma Form

If your child has asthma and uses an inhaler, we kindly ask that you complete the [Parental Consent Form](#) for the use of the school's emergency salbutamol inhaler. This will allow trained staff to administer the inhaler if your child's own is unavailable or not working during an asthma attack.

## 8. Buttons: The Pantomime

On **Tuesday 16th December 2025** the school will be hosting a performance of "Buttons: The Pantomime". The show will start at approximately **6:30pm** and each ticket costs **£3.00**. If you would like to attend this performance, please purchase your ticket via ParentPay before **Wednesday 9th December 2025**. If you are yet to sign up to ParentPay or have any queries, please contact [finance@oatforge.co.uk](mailto:finance@oatforge.co.uk).

## 9. We will care fundraiser

Our *We Will Care Champions* will be visiting Apsley House to celebrate Christmas with the residents. During the visit, students will sing carols, play games, and enjoy listening to residents share their Christmas stories.

To help fund this special event, we've been running a raffle and there are still a few tickets left! The **final day to purchase tickets is Monday, 1st December**. Prizes include:

- Gingerbread Man Cuddly Toy
- Tub of Chocolates
- £10 Amazon Voucher

Tickets cost just **50p each** and all funds raised will go towards food and drinks, decorations and any other additional items needed to make the celebration as festive as possible. If you or your child would like to buy tickets, please ask your child to see **Miss South in Room 93**, or during break or lunch while she is on duty. The **raffle draw will take place next week** after ticket sales close.

## 10. Sandwell Libraries warm clothing and coats

All libraries within Sandwell have a warm clothing and coat rail. If you need any warm clothing or a coat, please pop along to your local library to see what they can provide for you.

## 11. Period Products

We still have several period products available free of charge. If your child requires products whilst at school, they can be collected from the school office, safeguarding, the pastoral office and first aid. If your child requires any products to take home, please complete [this form](#) and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

## 12. Forge House System Weekly Update

