

## Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

### Week Ahead

Monday 23 March – Friday 27 March	Year 10 Work Experience Week Year 8 – 10 Spain Trip
Monday 23 March	
Tuesday 24 March	
Wednesday 25 March	Sixth Form Parent Consultation Evening 4-6PM
Thursday 26 March	
Friday 27 March	<b>Breakup for Easter-1.20PM</b>
Monday 13 April	<b>INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS</b>
Tuesday 14 April	School <b>Reopens</b> for Students
Wednesday 15 April	Year 8 Parents Evening 3.45-6PM
Thursday 16 April	
Friday 17 April	Year 7-10 Forge's Got Talent- All Day

Our theme this week has been **remembering together**, and at Forge we believe that taking time to reflect helps us honour the past, appreciate the present and strengthen our sense of belonging. Whether we are remembering a special individual, a significant moment or a shared experience, doing this together reminds us that we are part of something larger than ourselves.

This week our Year 12 and 13 students delivered a moving and thoughtful assembly following their visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Their recent visit to [Auschwitz-Birkenau](#) was part of the Lessons From Auschwitz Project. During these assemblies our students were tasked with sharing their experiences with the school community, sharing lessons about prejudice and hatred.

### 1. Eid

As we approach the end of the holy month of Ramadan, we would like to take this opportunity to extend our warmest wishes to all members of our school community who are celebrating Eid al-Fitr.

We understand that Eid al-Fitr is expected to fall either today or tomorrow. This is an important and joyful occasion for many of our families, and we hope that those celebrating have a peaceful and happy time with loved ones

### 2. Attendance

Our attendance figures for last week are:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
91.3%	88.7%	87.6%	91.4%	89.5%	93.5%	98.2%

### 3. Absences, Lateness and Appointments

We are still receiving a high volume of calls to the school office regarding absences, lateness and appointments. Please note that we have a dedicated Attendance Team who handle all attendance-related queries. You can report any of the above using the following methods:

- **Call 01384 566 598 (Option 1).** If your call is not answered, please leave a voicemail including your child's name, form group and a brief message. The Attendance Team will pick this up.
- **Email:** attendance@oatforge.co.uk
- **Use the MyEd app**

#### 4. Detentions

We are aware of ongoing issues with Arbor and the way detentions are currently being logged. Our team is investigating this and working to resolve the problem.

Please note that you will receive an email confirming how long your child is required to stay for any after-school detention. All detentions take place immediately after the end of the school day.

In the meantime, please disregard any times displayed on Arbor, as these are generated by a prefill system and may not accurately reflect the correct start or finish time for your child's detention.

Please see below the start and end times for our detentions at present. If you have any queries, please email [info@oatforge.co.uk](mailto:info@oatforge.co.uk)

Day of the Week	20 Minute		1 Hour		2 Hour	
	Start Time	End Time	Start Time	End Time	Start Time	End Time
Monday	4.20pm	4.40pm	4.20pm	5.20pm		
Tuesday	3.15pm	3.35pm	3.15pm	4.15pm		
Wednesday	3.15pm	3.35pm	3.15pm	4.15pm		
Thursday	3.15pm	3.35pm	3.15pm	4.15pm		
Friday	1.20pm	1.40pm	1.20pm	2.20pm	1.20pm	3.20pm

#### 5. Ramp Gate Closure

The ramp gate entrance on Waggon Street will remain closed during the week commencing Monday 23rd March while final works are completed. Please remind your child to use either the main entrance on Wrights Lane or the side entrance on Blossom Grove, and to plan their journey accordingly.

Students are expected to be on site and in their **line-ups by 8:35am** each morning. We therefore advise that they aim to be walking through the school gates by 8:30am at the latest.

#### 6. Summer Uniform

To support comfort and wellbeing during warmer weather, the Academy is introducing an **optional Forge branded summer polo shirt** which can be worn **from 13 April to 17 July 2026**. Students may wear the polo **instead of** their shirt, tie and blazer. This is optional, and students who do not choose the polo must follow the normal uniform policy. All other uniform expectations remain the same:

- **Trousers/Skirts:** Plain black school trousers or knee length skirts only (no jeans, leggings, jeggings or lycra styles).
- **Footwear:** All black footwear (no colours, Crocs, sliders or tags).
- **Hoodies:** Not permitted.
- **PE Kit:** Correct PE kit must continue to be worn; the summer polo is **not** allowed for PE.
- The polo must be worn **on its own** (no jumper or cardigan).

The official branded polo t-shirt can be purchased only from **Crested Schoolwear** and should be available from 23 March, we advise you call ahead to check stock levels before visiting.

- Website: [www.crestedschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.crestedschoolwear.co.uk)
- Address: Churchill Shopping Centre, Dudley, DY2 7BJ

**Non-branded or alternative polos are not permitted.**

### 7. Sixth Form Parents Evening

Our **Sixth Form Parents' Evening** will take place on **Wednesday 25th March**, between **4:00 pm and 6:00 pm**. Thank you to everyone who completed the consent form to confirm your attendance. When arriving, please **enter via the Wrights Lane entrance**. **On-site parking** will be available. Please note that **last entry will be 15 minutes before the event ends**.

### 8. Staff vs Sixth Form Charity Football Match

Our annual **Staff vs Sixth Form Students Charity Football Match** will take place on **Friday 24th April 2026** at the **Hingleys Football Pitch** (weather permitted). The gates at **Hingleys will open at 2:00 pm for ticket holders**, and **kick-off will be at 2:15 pm**. The match will last **90 minutes**. Students can attend and watch the event by purchasing a ticket for **£1 via [ParentPay](#)**. Parents and carers are also welcome to attend and can purchase a ticket for **£2**. All money raised will go towards our **chosen school charity and student facilities**. This event is **sponsored by Gaunts Funeral Services** and held **in memory of Phil Corbett**.

There will be **refreshments available to purchase** at the event so please ensure you bring cash with you if you would like to purchase these refreshments.

### 9. Uniform Donations

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.

### 10. The Forge Reading Lounge

We sent out communication last week about our new book club for parents, carers, and staff. We are delighted with the level of interest we've received so far. **If you would like to register your interest, please email [Cunningham-smiths@oatforge.co.uk](mailto:Cunningham-smiths@oatforge.co.uk)**.

Please note that this is a very flexible club with no required meetings or pressure to attend. Our first book is ***The Housemaid* by Freida McFadden**, and we aim to finish it by **29th April 2026**. Once you email to express your interest, all further information will be sent directly to you.

### 11. KS3 ERIC Reading Leaders

Here are the names of our current KS3 leaders in ERIC points:

7B2 - Ayla S with 10 points

8M1 - Olivia S with 10 points

9M1 - Khalil A with 12 points

Well done!