

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead

Monday 20 April	Year 10 Assessment Window Opens (Full Mocks) Year 9 Army Day (All Day) - CANCELLED
Tuesday 21 April	Year 13 D&T Moderation Day Year 9 Forward Thinking Trip
Wednesday 22 April	
Thursday 23 April	Computer Science Moderation Day
Friday 24 April	
Monday 27 April	
Tuesday 28 April	Year 7/8 Apsley House Visit 10AM-1.25PM Year 11 GCSE Art Exam – Day 1
Wednesday 29 April	Year 11 GCSE Art Exam – Day 2
Thursday 30 April	Year 13 A-Level Art Exam
Friday 01 May	Year 10 Assessment Window Closes Year 7 Warwick Castle Trip

We hope you all enjoyed a restful Easter break. Our theme this week has been **“Keep Learning,”** and it has been wonderful to see so many of our students returning to the academy with such positive attitudes and a real eagerness to learn.

We would like to remind students that learning does not stop at the classroom door. Every day presents an opportunity to discover something new and to develop skills that will support them throughout their lives. We encourage our students to:

- Read regularly at home
- Ask questions and stay curious
- Practice their learning little and often
- Try their best, even when learning feels challenging

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students develop a lifelong love of learning.

1. Attendance

As we head into the final term, we want to remind everyone how important great attendance is. Every day in school matters — it helps students learn more, grow in confidence and be the very best version of themselves. Our whole school target is 96%, and we’re aiming for every student to be in, every day, ready to learn.

By showing respect for their learning, demonstrating Aspiration in their goals and using *Resilience* to overcome challenges, students can make everyday count. Let’s finish the year strong, support one another and keep pushing towards our 96% target together.

2. Change to Absence Reporting

Gentle reminder: absences should now be reported via Arbor, as **MyEd is no longer used** for reporting student absences.

Thank you to those who have used Arbor this week to report their child's absences. To do this, please use the green "Log Absence" button and include the date, time, and reason for the absence. Although this feature is primarily for same-day absences, you are also able to request an absence for a future date. To do this, please keep the date as today, but clearly specify the exact date and time of the absence in the comments section.

If you need to send proof of a medical appointment or any other supporting documents, please email these to the attendance team at attendance@oatforge.co.uk.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with Arbor, please email info@oatforge.co.uk.

3. Forge Staff vs Student 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). **If you wish to attend, you must purchase your tickets by Thursday 23rd April.**

The gates at **Hingleys** will open at **1:45 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 www.parentpay.co.uk. 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.

4. Year 8 and 9 Vaccinations

The year 8 HPV vaccinations will take place on Monday 27th April. You will have received a consent form via email from Vaccination UK which needs to be completed **before midnight on Sunday 26th April**. If you have not received this, please check your spam or junk folder. If you still can not find this or you have any further questions, please contact the vaccination team directly on **0121 592 1110**.

On **Wednesday 13th May**, the **Sandwell Vaccination Team** will be in the academy to carry out a catch-up session for the **Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (DTP) vaccine**, as well as the **Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine**. These vaccinations will be offered to students in **Years 9** where consent has already been received.

5. School Menus and Prices

This week has been the start of our updated menus, and we have been overwhelmingly please with the response from students regarding the changes and new options. It has also been wonderful to see so many of our students using our new outdoor food hut which opened on Tuesday 14th April. To see our amazing menus please [click here](#).



6. Summer Uniform

Our optional **Forge-branded summer polo shirt** is now available. We recommend checking stock levels before visiting the Crested Schoolwear store to avoid disappointment. Polos can be ordered in the following ways:

- **Website:** [Forge Academy Summer Polo – Crested School Wear](#)
- **Store Address:** Churchill Shopping Centre, Dudley, DY2 7BJ

Students may wear the summer polo **from 13th April until 17th July 2026**. It may be worn **in place of the usual shirt, tie and blazer**. Please note that **non-branded or alternative polo shirts are not permitted**. This item is optional, and students who choose not to wear the polo must continue to follow the standard uniform policy. **All other uniform expectations remain unchanged:**

- **Trousers/Skirts:** Plain black school trousers or knee-length skirts only (no jeans, leggings, jeggings or lycra styles).
- **Footwear:** All-black footwear only (no colours, Crocs, sliders or tags).
- **Hoodies:** Not permitted.
- **PE Kit:** Students must continue to wear the correct PE kit; the summer polo is *not* allowed for PE lessons.
- **Additional layers:** If your child wishes to wear an extra layer with their summer polo, please ensure the **school logo remains visible at all times**. Students may wear their summer polo with their school blazer. If a plain black V-neck jumper is worn with the summer polo, it must be removed on site so the logo is visible unless worn in addition to the school blazer. **Please note that hoodies and zip-up jackets are not permitted.**