

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead

Monday 27 April	Year 8 HPV Vaccines
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
Tuesday 05 May – Friday 08 May	Charity Week
Monday 04 May	SCHOOL CLOSED – BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 05 May	Year 12 A-Level Art Exam Day 1 GCSE Speaking Exams- All Day
Wednesday 06 May	Year 12 A-Level Art Exam Day 2 GCSE Speaking Exams- All Day
Thursday 07 May	GCSE Speaking Exams- All Day
Friday 08 May	

Our theme this week has been **“take responsibility”** and at Forge, we believe that taking responsibility is not only an essential life skill, but also a core value within our school community. Taking responsibility means being honest about our actions, making positive choices, and understanding how our behaviour affects others. We encourage all students to demonstrate responsibility by:

- Arriving at school and lessons on time, and being fully prepared for learning
- Completing their work to the best of their ability
- Following school rules and taking ownership of their actions, including accepting and learning from mistakes
- Adhering to school sanctions where expectations have not been met

By taking responsibility for our actions and attitudes, we help to create a safe, respectful, and positive environment where everyone can thrive. Thank you for your continued support in reinforcing this important value both at home and at school.

1. Attendance

Our attendance figures for last week are below. Let’s keep pushing towards our 96% target together.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
91.85%	89.8%	89.7%	93.4%	91.6%

2. Call back Time

If you need to speak with a member of staff, you can request a call back by emailing info@oatforge.co.uk or by calling **0184 566 598**, option 1. Please allow **two full working days** for a response before following this up.

3. KS3 ERIC Reading Leaders

Year 9	Khalil A, Daisy-Rose H, Callum P
Year 8	Olivia S, Louise H, Indiana N
Year 7	Deborah O, Jessica B, Ella J, Hoonam K, Ayla S

4. Forge's Got Talent

Last week, we were absolutely delighted to host the House competition: Forge's Got Talent. It was truly wonderful to see so many of our students perform with such confidence in front of their peers and teachers. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who played a part in making this such a fantastic and memorable event. So many staff members came together as a strong, supportive team to bring it all to life.

We would also like to commend all the students who attended throughout the day. Their encouragement for every act, their shared celebrations, and their responsible behaviour during the performances created an uplifting and supportive atmosphere. The feedback from both staff and students has been overwhelmingly positive, and it has been a brilliant way to begin the first week of the final academic term with a real sense of positivity and togetherness.

We were especially proud to welcome back two former students who returned to help host the event and provide the sound and lighting equipment they now use in their professional careers as performers on cruise ships, in theatres, and at social events as part of their "Girl Power Live" tour and tribute acts, all of which began here at Ormiston Forge. A huge thank you to Alexandra Darby and Hayley Brookes for their continued support and inspiration.

This year's winner was Jaden O in year 7, who sang and played guitar to Grenade by Bruno Mars, and ended the show with his own written song.

Finally, a sincere thank you to everyone working behind the scenes whose efforts ensured the event ran so smoothly and successfully.

5. Tesco Stronger Starts campaign

Ormiston Forge Academy will be taking part in the **Tesco Stronger Starts** campaign from **Tuesday 28 April until the end of July**. The school that collects the most tokens will receive **£1,500**, and if we are successful, the funding will be used to purchase exciting new equipment for our PE department. This will help provide our students with new opportunities and promote healthy, active lifestyles.

We kindly ask that you remember to collect your blue tokens and place them in our box as you leave the store. Tokens can be collected at the following Tesco stores:

- Dudley Road Express, B62 8AA
- Rowley Regis Express, B65 9AS
- Hasbury Express, B63 4JS
- Stourbridge Road Express, B63 3UD
- Cradley Heath Extra, B64 5DF

6. Year 8 and 9 Vaccinations Changes

The Sandwell Vaccination Team have made some schedule changes to the vaccinations being administered by them when they visit the academy. Please see the changes below:

- **Monday 27th April** – They will now be holding the catch-up session for **year 9 students with prior consent** of the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (DTP) vaccine, as well as the Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine.
- **Wednesday 13th May** – They will be administering **year 8 HPV vaccinations** and you will have received a consent form via email from Vaccination UK which needs to be completed **before midnight on Tuesday 12th May**. If you have not received this, please contact the vaccination team directly on **0121 592 1110**.

7. Year 11 Information

An email was sent on **16th April** to all parent/carers of **Year 11 students**, outlining key information for the final term. This included details regarding:

- GCSE examinations, including results day
- Prom
- Leavers' Assembly
- Sixth Form Induction Day

If you have not received this email, please check your **junk or spam folder**. Alternatively, you can contact us at info@oatforge.co.uk, and a member of the team will be happy to look into this for you.

8. Reporting Absences, Appointments and Lateness.

If you need to contact the academy regarding your child's absence, to report an appointment, or to provide a reason for lateness, you are now able to **upload this directly through your Arbor** account by clicking the green 'Add Absence' button. This is the quickest and most efficient way for you to provide this information. You are also able to:

- **Call:** 01384 566 598 (option 1) please use the voicemail facility
- **Email:** attendance@oatforge.co.uk

Where possible, we kindly ask that medical and other **appointments are arranged outside of core academy hours**. If your child does need to attend an appointment during the school day, please notify the academy in advance.

We have recently had several parents and carers arriving to collect their child during lunchtime without prior notice. Please be aware that **during the school lunch period, we are unable to locate students** due to the number of pupils who are around site participating in lunchtime activities. By notifying us in advance, we can update our systems accordingly and ensure your child is prepared for collection or leaves the academy at the appropriate time.

9. Charity Week

Starting Tuesday 5th May student council will be leading several fundraising events to raise money for the British Red Cross and student led initiatives and **all events will be cash only**. More information will follow including prices for each event.

- Tuesday 5th May - Year 8 are running a bake sale
- Thursday 7th May - **Year 7 only** will be taking part in a sponsored walk
- Friday 8th May - Year 9 and year 10 student council are running a "soak the teacher" for **all students**, across both lunches.
- Friday 8th May - Year 11 are running a non-school uniform for **all students** with the twist of "wear red" for the British Red Cross.

10. ParentPay Shop

In addition to using www.parentpay.com for lunch and trip payments, we also operate a ParentPay Shop. Through the shop, you can purchase replacement school ties, grip socks and calculators, as well as tickets for internal school events.

To access this, please visit [The Ormiston Forge Academy Shop](#). We recommend saving the shop to your web browser favourites for easier access in the future.