Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead – WEEK A

Monday 2nd November	Year 11 Assessment Window Opens
Tuesday 3rd November	Year 7 Settling in Evening- 3.45PM – 5.15PM
Wednesday 4th November	Year 10 PRE Coventry Cathedral Trip – All Day
Thursday 5th November	
Friday 6th November	P.E Reward- Glow in The Dark Sports – All Day Craft Club Trip to NEC – All Day
Monday 9th – Friday 13th	National Enterprise Week
Monday 9th November	
Tuesday 10th November	Year 10 Rock Climbing – All Day
Wednesday 11th November	Year 10 Rock Climbing – All Day
Thursday 12th November	Parent Voice: 4.30PM-5.30PM
Friday 13th November	Year 11 Assessment Window Closes

Our theme this week has been 'being Kind' and at Forge we believe that even small acts of kindness can make a big difference. Whether this is helping a classmate, including somebody in a conversation, offering words of encouragement, or showing respect to others, kindness helps create a positive and supportive school community.

We encourage all students to think about how their words and actions affect those around them and look for opportunities each day to show kindness both in school and beyond. By treating others with respect, empathy and understanding, we can all play a part in marking Forge a welcoming place for everyone.

1. Attendance

IN TO WIN FRIDAY IS HERE!

Today saw the launch of our very first 'In To Win' Friday, and what a fantastic way to celebrate great attendance and punctuality!

Each Friday, every student's name goes into the generator. If your name is selected and you're in school and on the yard by 8:25am, you're a winner! If the selected student isn't present, we spin again until we find a winner. There are vouchers and other prizes up for grabs every week, so make sure you're in and on time to be in with a chance.

And don't forget, when we return on Monday, we'll be holding our E-Ticket Draw, with a prize of choice worth up to £250 waiting for one lucky winner!

Every day counts. Every lesson matters.

2. Uniform Arrangements

When students return to the Academy on **Monday 2 November 2026**, they will be expected to wear **full Academy uniform**, including their shirt, tie and blazer. **Please note that the summer polo shirt should no longer be worn.**

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain the high standards of uniform, dress and presentation that we expect from all students across the Academy.

3. Year 11 Assessment Window

A reminder to all Year 11 students, parents and carers that the Year 11 Assessment Window will take place from **Monday 2 November to Friday 13 November**. A letter containing further information, along with your child's assessment timetable, has been sent via email. Please ensure you have reviewed this information carefully and are aware of the dates and times of each assessment.

Attendance during this period is extremely important. We ask that all students attend school every day, arrive punctually, and come fully equipped with the correct equipment for their assessments. Being organised, prepared and on time will help students perform to the best of their ability and make the most of this important assessment period.

We wish all of our Year 11 students the very best of luck with their assessments.

4. Year 7 Settling in Evening

We are delighted to invite parents and carers of Year 7 students to our **Year 7 Settling in Evening** on **Tuesday 3 November, from 3:45pm to 5:15pm**.

This is a great opportunity to meet a member of our Senior Leadership Team, to discuss how your child has settled into life at Forge, and ask any questions you may have.

- **Students in Bredon and Clent are invited to attend:** 3:45pm - 4:30pm
- **Students in Malvern and Snowdon are invited to attend:** 4:30pm - 5:15pm

Please complete the form here to confirm or decline attendance.

5. Poppy Waterfall Appeal

As we approach Remembrance, we take time to honour and remember the bravery, sacrifice and service of all those who have served, and continue to serve, our country.

This year's Poppy Appeal theme reminds us that remembrance is not only about looking back, but also about recognising the impact of conflict on people, families and communities today. Through the simple act of wearing a poppy, we show gratitude, respect and support for the Armed Forces community.

We would love every student to be part of our school Poppy Waterfall. For just **£1 via Arbor Pay**, students can purchase a poppy, write their name on it, and add it to our growing display of remembrance. Together, we can create a powerful visual tribute that shows our respect, gratitude and commitment to remembering those who have made sacrifices for our freedom.

We encourage all students to get involved and help our Poppy Waterfall flourish as a symbol of reflection, unity and remembrance. We also encourage our students to reflect on the values of courage, service and compassion, and to remember those whose sacrifices help protect the freedoms we enjoy every day.

Buy a poppy. Add your name. Become part of our Poppy Waterfall. Remember together.

6. Christmas Fundraising: Birmingham Children's Hospital Book Appeal

Reading opens minds, sparks creativity and builds confidence. As part of the **National Year of Reading 2026**, we are collecting **new books** for **Birmingham Children's Hospital** to support children who will be spending time in hospital over Christmas.

If you would like to donate, you can contribute via our GoFundMe page and we will purchase books on your behalf, or donate a **new book** through reception or your form tutor. Books can be suitable for any age from **0-16 years**.

All donations must be received by Friday 20 November. Thank you for your support in helping more children discover the joy of reading.

7. Year 11 Revision Guides Reminder

A friendly reminder that the deadline for purchasing **Year 11 Revision Guides** is **Saturday 31 October**. Please place your order through **Arbor** before the deadline to avoid missing out. For any questions, please email **finance@oatforge.co.uk**

8. Lunchtime Meal Accounts

From after half term, students whose meal accounts do not have enough credit available will still be provided with a lunch to ensure that no child goes without a meal.

Students in this situation will be offered either a sandwich or a jacket potato, along with access to the school's water coolers and refill stations.

As account balances are only identified when students reach the till, there may be occasions where a student has already selected a meal before it becomes clear that there are insufficient funds available. Unfortunately, these meals cannot be re-served and must be discarded. Whilst we recognise this may initially lead to some food waste, this change is necessary to help us manage our catering service fairly and sustainably.

The student's details will be passed to our Finance Team, who will contact parents/carers regarding payment for the meal provided and the need to top up the account.

We kindly ask parents and carers to check meal balances regularly and ensure accounts remain in credit so that students can continue to enjoy the full range of menu options available.

Please visit the academy website for more information. Ormiston Forge Academy - Canteen Menus

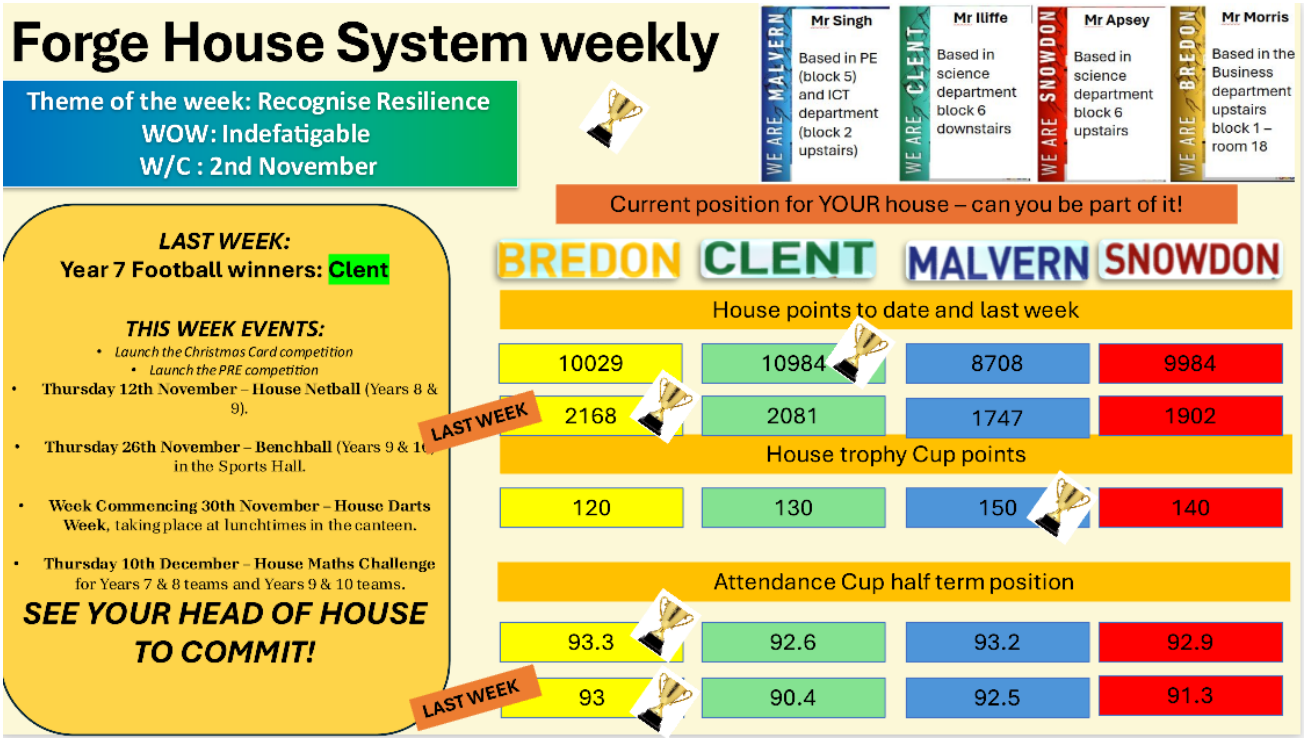
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10. Forge House System

The first half term has seen some fantastic house spirit and determination across the Forge House System. Well done to all students who have represented their houses positively. There is still plenty to play for as we head into the next half term.



11. Contacting Us

During the half term holiday, our phone lines will be unavailable. Please contact us via email at **info@oatforge.co.uk**. We will respond to all enquiries as soon as possible. If you need to contact us regarding a safeguarding concern, please email **TeamSafeguarding@oatforge.co.uk**.

If a child is at immediate risk call 999, If you are concerned about a child, please contact:

Sandwell Children's services - 0121 569 3100
Dudley Children's services - 0300 555 0050
CAMHS crisis line
Dudley - 01922 607000
Sandwell - 0121 612 6620
Support can also be accessed through
NSPCC - 0808 800 5000
Childline - 0800 11 11

For Mental Health Support
Shout - text 85258
Samaritans - 116123
Papyrus - 0800 068 4141
Young Minds - text YM to 85258
NHS – 111
Warm Regards
Ormiston Forge Academy Team