Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead – WEEK B

Monday 9th – Friday 13th November	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	
Friday 13th November	Year 11 Assessment Window Closes
Monday 16th November	Winter Enterprise Fayre- Lunchtime
Tuesday 17th November	Year 11 Art Mock – All Day
Wednesday 18th November	Ski Trip Parent Meeting – 4PM-4.45PM
Thursday 19th November	
Friday 20th November	

Our theme this week has been **Recognising Resilience**, and here at Forge we have been celebrating the resilience shown by members of our school community. Resilience is the ability to keep going when faced with challenges, to learn from mistakes, and to maintain a positive attitude when experiencing setbacks.

Whether it is tackling a difficult piece of work, showing determination in sport, overcoming a personal challenge, or continuing to persevere when things do not come easily, resilience helps us to grow, develop and succeed. We encourage all of our students to:

- Keep trying, even when things are difficult.
- View mistakes as opportunities to learn.
- Ask for help when they need it.
- Celebrate progress, not just results.

A huge well done to all of our students who have demonstrated resilience this week. Your determination, perseverance and positive attitude are helping you to achieve your full potential. Keep up the fantastic work!

1. Attendance

We are delighted to share that this week's **'In to Win It'** winners are L.R year 11 and L.P year 10 who have received a **£20 voucher each**. Congratulations to our lucky winners! Who will be next week's winners?

A reminder that every Friday, all students are entered into our prize draw. If a student's name is selected and they are **in school and on the yard by 8:25am**, they win! If the selected student is not present, another name is drawn until a winner is found. With vouchers and other fantastic prizes up for grabs every week, make sure your child is in school and on time for the chance to be our next **'In to Win It'** winner!

2. E-Ticket Winner

We are delighted to announce that our first **e-ticket winner** has been drawn, with one lucky student winning their choice of **football equipment**! A reminder that the next e-ticket draw will take place in **December**, when another lucky winner will have the opportunity to choose a prize of their choice worth up to **£250**. Keep collecting those e-tickets for your chance to win! Good luck to everyone taking part.

3. Remembrance Day

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

We would love every student to be part of our school Poppy Waterfall display. Poppies can be purchased via Arbor for just £1 and will be available until **1:30pm on Tuesday 10 November**. Students who purchase a poppy will be invited to write their name on it and add it to our growing display of remembrance, helping us create a meaningful tribute to those who have served and continue to serve our country.

Any students who are members of a uniformed organisation, such as Scouts, Guides, Military Cadets or Civilian Cadets, are invited to wear their service uniform on Wednesday 11 November. For safety, students are advised not to travel to and from the academy in their service uniform. We recommend that they arrive in their school uniform and change once they are in the academy.

Together, we look forward to creating a meaningful display of remembrance and reflection within our school community.

4. Arbor Consent

At Forge, we regularly use photographs and videos to celebrate learning, achievements and school life. These may be used on our official school and Trust websites, social media platforms, and in publications such as school prospectuses and promotional materials. We take safeguarding and data protection very seriously. Any images or videos are used respectfully, stored securely, and pupils' full names are never published alongside images or videos shared on public platforms.

To make the consent process clearer and easier for families, we have updated our photography and video consent options, reducing them to a smaller number of straightforward categories. You should have received a notification this week asking you to review and submit your preferences. Please take the time to discuss this with your child before completing the consent section on Arbor by **12 November**.

Please note that once your preferences have been submitted, you can change them at any time by contacting the school office via email at **info@oatforge.co.uk**. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

5. Parent Governor Vacancy

We are delighted to announce that we are seeking a parent or carer to join our Governing Board as a Parent Governor.

This is a fantastic opportunity to make a positive difference, ensure your voice is heard and play an important role in shaping the future of our school. No previous governance experience is required, just an interest in supporting our school community, a willingness to contribute and a commitment to helping our students achieve their full potential.

A letter containing further information about the role and how to express your interest will be sent out on **Monday 9 November**. We warmly encourage parents and carers to consider this rewarding opportunity. Your skills, experience and perspective could make a valuable contribution to our school and help support the continued success of our students.

6. FREE Basketball Coaching Sessions

Black Country Basketball Club are offering FREE basketball coaching sessions every Saturday and Sunday morning from 11.00am until 1.00pm at Bearmore Park, Cradley Heath, B64 6EA. These sessions are for children aged 10 -16 and will run every week until 28th November 2026.

7. Winter Enterprise Fayre

The first Enterprise Fayre of the academic year is fast approaching, and students can now apply for a stall. If your child would like to take part, they should either email **Miss Bennett** at **Bennettc@oatforge.co.uk** or speak to her directly in **Room 19**.

Please note that all stalls cost **£3**, and spaces are limited. We encourage students to contact Miss Bennett as soon as possible to secure a place and avoid disappointment. The **Enterprise Fayre** will take place during lunchtime on **Wednesday 18th November**. We look forward to seeing our students' creativity and entrepreneurial skills on display!

8. Christmas Card Competition

We would like to invite our students to help design this year's Forge Christmas Card. Students are encouraged to create a design that reflects our school values of **respect, resilience and aspiration**, while also celebrating the successes, opportunities and happy moments that take place every day at Forge. All entries should be submitted to their **Head of House** by **Friday 27th November**. We look forward to seeing our students' creativity and festive spirit on display!

9. Lunchtime Meal Accounts

A reminder that 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, and will be offered either a sandwich or a jacket potato, along with access to the school's water coolers and refill stations. Students who are identified as needing accounting topping up will be contacted by our finance team.

Please check meal account balances regularly to ensure students can continue to access the full range of menu options. Further information is available on the academy website. Ormiston Forge Academy - Canteen Menus

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

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.