Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead – WEEK A

Monday 16th November	Odd Sock Day
Tuesday 17th November	Year 11 Art Mock – All Day
Wednesday 18th November	Winter Enterprise Fayre - Lunchtime Ski Trip Parent Meeting – 4PM-4.45PM
Thursday 19th November	
Friday 20th November	
Monday 23rd November	
Tuesday 24th November	SEND Careers Event
Wednesday 25th November	Art Coursework Day – All Day PE Reward – Glow in the Dark – All Day Parent Voice – 3.45pm – 4.45pm
Thursday 26th November	
Friday 27th November	

Our theme this week has been 'face the challenges' and at Forge we understand that challenges are a natural part of life and that they help us to grow, learn new skills and build confidence. Whether this is by tackling a difficult piece of work, trying something new of overcoming a personal obstacle, every challenge is an opportunity to develop resilience and determination.

We have been encouraging our students to step outside their comfort zones, persevere when things are difficult and to celebrate success along the way. By approaching challenges with a positive mindset and a willingness to learn, our students are developing the confidence and skills needed to succeed in both school and beyond. We are incredibly proud of their courage, effort and determination and how they continue to face challenges and strive to achieve their best.

1. Attendance

We are delighted to share two lucky students have received a **£20 voucher each** as part of our 'In to Win' Fridays. 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 8:20am**, 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. Odd Sock Day

Students are invited to wear odd socks on Monday 16th November to support anti-bullying week.

3. SEND Parent Drop-in

If your child is in Years 7, 8 or 9 and has SEND, we would like to invite you to an informal SEND session on **Monday 23rd November, from 11:30am to 1:30pm**. This session provides an opportunity to discuss your child's SEND support in school, ask any questions, and share any concerns you may have.

To book an appointment, please email **senenquiries@oatforge.co.uk**. We look forward to meeting with you.

4. Parent Voice

We would like to invite parents and carers to attend our upcoming Parent Voice Session, where you will have the opportunity to share your views on what is working well and where you feel we could improve. This informal session will provide an opportunity to meet with Dr Mason and members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), share your suggestions, and help us better understand the experiences and perspectives of our families.

You are welcome to drop in at any time between **3.45pm and 4.45pm on Wednesday 25th November 2026**, and we ask that if you're planning on attending our 'Parent Voice' session, you take a moment to complete our attendance form in advance. This will help us plan accordingly and ensure the relevant Senior Leaders are available to listen to your views and discuss the topics you wish to raise.

Please note that this session is intended to gather feedback about the school as a whole and is not the appropriate forum for discussing individual student concerns. If you have any concerns relating to your child, please contact the school through the usual channels. We greatly value your feedback and appreciate your continued support. Your voice matters, and your contributions help us continue to make Ormiston Forge Academy the best it can be.

5. Uniform Donations

We are currently looking for donations of school uniform to support families within our school community. If you have any uniform items that are no longer needed, we would be very grateful to receive them. Please ensure all donated items are **clean, in good condition and suitable for re-use**. Donations can be dropped off at the school reception during school hours.

6. Work Experience

The deadline for Year 10 students to secure a work experience placement is fast approaching. All placements should be confirmed and completed forms returned by **Friday 4th December**. Students who require support with placements or Unifrog, are encouraged to attend **Careers Club in 6T1**, held at lunchtime on **Wednesdays and Thursdays**, where assistance will be available.

7. Future Skills Questionnaire

The careers team have sent out a Future Skills Questionnaire to all students in year 7, 9 and 11 to complete in their own time. This has been forwarded to student's Forge email addresses and will have come from the Career and Enterprise Company. The questionnaire will take approximately 10 minutes to complete and will allow the careers team to identify what our student need in terms of careers support as they move through the academy and on to future career pathways.

We would welcome support from parents in encouraging your child to complete the questionnaire as the more information we receive the better. Thank you for your continued support.

8. Wheel of Wonder

We are delighted to share that from Monday 16th November we will be launching our 'Wheel of Wonder' initiative for students in year 11. This initiative will allow us to recognise students who are demonstrating excellent effort, attendance, behaviour and focus in lessons in the lead up to GCSE's. Staff will be nominating students and each week 2 students will be selected to receive an Amazon voucher. This drawer will take place each week in assemblies.

9. 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!

10. 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!

11. PRE House-Competition

If you could create the perfect world, what would it look life? Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are invited to take part in our exciting **PRE House-Competition**! This creative challenge asks students to imagine and design their own perfect world, where people can live happy, safe and meaningful lives. Students will need to think carefully about questions such as:

- What laws would exist?
- Would there be crime, illness or disease?
- How would people be treated?
- What rights and responsibilities would people have?
- How would disagreements be resolved?

As part of their entry, students must create:

- A drawing of their world
- A persuasive pitch explaining why people should choose to live there
- A flag and map
- Their laws
- A healthcare system
- A crime and punishment system
- Unique features that make their world special.

The deadline is 4th December 2026 and all entries should be **given to students PRE teacher**