Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead – WEEK B

Monday 23rd November	KS3 SEND Parent Event – 11.30AM- 1.30PM
Tuesday 24th November	Year 11 SEND Careers Event – West Bromwich Albion Football Grounds
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	Year 9 and 10 House Benchball – 3.20pm – 4.15pm Annual Lockdown Drill
Friday 27th November	
Monday 30th November	
Tuesday 01st December	Art GCSE Moderation Day- All Day
Wednesday 02nd December	Art A Level Moderation Day – All Day Year 10 Parents' Evening 3.45PM – 6.00PM
Thursday 03rd December	Year 12/13 Cambridge University Trip- All Day
Friday 04th December	

Our theme this week has been **'Have Courage'**, and at Forge we believe courage is about doing the right thing, facing challenges and embracing new opportunities, even when we feel nervous or uncertain. Every day, our students demonstrate courage in a variety of ways, whether that is answering a question in class, standing up for what is right, trying something new, or persevering through a difficult task. These acts of bravery, however big or small, help our students develop confidence, resilience and strong character.

We encourage all students to reflect on how they can show courage this week and to remember that many of life's greatest achievements begin with a single brave step. Together, let us continue to challenge ourselves, support one another and strive to be the very best versions of ourselves.

1. Attendance

We are delighted to share that this week saw **5 lucky winners** who have received a **£20 amazon voucher each** as part of our 'In to Win' Fridays. Congratulations to our lucky winners **L.D year 10, N.W year 11, A.S year 8, S.R year 7 and R.M year 10**! 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. Wheel of Wonder

We are delighted to share that this weeks' 'wheel of wonder' winners are E-J.B and E.S both winning an £10 amazon gift voucher. Who will be next weeks' lucky winner?

The wheel of wonder is our exciting new 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.

3. Annual Lockdown Drill

At Ormiston Forge Academy, the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is our highest priority. As part of our regular review of safeguarding and emergency procedures, we will be carrying out a **lockdown practice drill on Thursday 26th November**. A lockdown is a standard safety procedure, similar to a fire drill, and would only be used in the unlikely event of a situation where it is safer for everyone to remain inside the academy rather than evacuate.

During the drill, students will remain in classrooms under staff supervision, registers will be taken, and classrooms will be secured in line with our procedures. Students will be briefed beforehand to ensure they understand the purpose of the exercise and feel reassured throughout. This practice is simply to ensure that, in the unlikely event of a real incident, both students and staff are fully prepared and able to respond safely and effectively. If you or your child have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

4. School Gate Opening Times

A reminder that all students should arrive on site by **8:30am** each morning to ensure they are in line-ups ready for **8:35am**. All three school entrances remain open until 8:30am.

Students arriving after 8:30am must enter via the **Wrights Lane** gates and use the intercom system to gain access to the site. If you drop your child off at school, or they walk independently, please ensure they do not attempt to use the other two entrances after 8:30am, as these gates will be locked until the end of the school day. Thank you for your support in helping students arrive punctually and safely.

5. Year 10 Parents' Evening

On **Wednesday 2nd December, from 3:45pm to 6:00pm**, we are delighted to invite parents and carers of our Year 10 students to attend the academy's Parents' Evening. This is an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and explore the expectations and support available as they prepare for their GCSE examinations. It will also provide an opportunity to raise any questions or concerns you may have with staff. Parking will be available on site. However, if you choose to park within the local community, we kindly ask that you do so considerately and adhere to all parking restrictions and regulations. To help us plan for the evening, please complete the Year 10 Parents' Evening form to let us know whether you will be attending. We look forward to welcoming you into the academy. **Please note, parent evening will end promptly at 6.00pm.**

6. Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

On **Thursday 10th December**, our canteen will be serving a traditional Christmas dinner for students. To help ensure there are enough meals available and to allow our catering team sufficient time to prepare for any dietary requirements, we would be grateful if you could complete 🎄 Ormiston Forge Academy Christmas Dinner 2026 ✨ Students. Please note that the deadline for submitting your response is **Friday 27th November**.

As well as serving a festive Christmas dinner, we are delighted to invite students to wear a **Christmas jumper** on this day alongside their normal school uniform. Instead of making a monetary contribution, we kindly ask students who take part to donate a non-perishable food item for our local food banks. These donations will help support individuals and families within our community during the festive season.

7. SEND Parent Drop-in

A remind that 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.

8. SEND Career Event

Students in year 11 who have been invited to attend the SEND Careers Event on Tuesday 24th November should arrive at school at the usual time of 8:30am, wearing full school uniform. Students should report to the school canteen at 10:15am. Students should return to the academy during period 4 and will leave the academy as normal at 3.15pm.

9. Parent Voice

A reminder that our next **Parent Voice Session** will take place on **Wednesday 25th November 2026, from 3.45pm to 4.45pm**. This is an opportunity to meet with Dr Mason and members of the Senior Leadership Team, share your feedback, and discuss ways we can continue to improve our school. If you plan to attend, please complete this attendance form in advance to help us plan accordingly. We look forward to hearing your views and thank you for your continued support.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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!