

THE WEEK AT WOA

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2025

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE



It has been a fabulously festive week at WOA and we are so excited to share some of the highlights with you:

- Year 8 pupils gave their final presentations for Just Give - well done to all involved and an even bigger well done to the winning team from class 8a2 who have been awarded £1000 for their chosen charity James Brindley Foundation (an organisation set up to tackle youth violence and knife crime). All involved were rewarded today with a lovely pizza lunch!
- Wednesday was Christmas Dinner Day and 100 pupils had a lovely festive lunch with gifts and a visit from Santa.
- We have held celebration assemblies with many pupils receiving certificates in recognition of their effort and hard work and Santa's Grotto has been open all day today giving out treats for good attendance and behaviour.
- WOA Christmas song - well done to Stas, Lily and Amelia and Mrs Nicholls for correctly guessing the singers!
- Today we enjoyed a Fabulous Festive FOMO Friday which included a disco in the canteen and many pupils won vouchers and prizes on the Wheel of Wonder. Lot's of pupils have also won subject awards and 'Catch them being good' prizes.
- 5 lucky pupils with tickets for 100% attendance have won £100 vouchers of their choice in our 100% for £100 prize draw! Well done to Sam, Yusra, Ethan, Rohit, and Olek! #gottobeinittowinit

We hope all pupils and their families have a lovely Christmas break and we look forward to welcoming all pupils back at 9.30am on Monday 5th January 2026.

Thank you as always for your continued support of all that we do at WOA and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

#gottobeinittowinit #attendtoachieve #fomofriday #believeachieversucceed #changinglives #jinglebells #hohoho



ATTEND TO ACHIEVE

Our top attending tutor groups of the week are ...



Year 7 HAB
Year 8 ROR
Year 9 THN
Year 10 MBA
Year 11 ARO



Each will collect their attendance winner trophy full of sweets to share on Monday 5th January.

Well done to all our FOMO Friday winners taking part in, Santa's grotto trolley of Joy and wheels of wonder!
Be in school to join in on the fun!

Every Friday is FOMO Friday so make sure you are in school!

Year 9 are the most improved attenders' week on week and will collect their treat during the wheel of wonder today.

#attendtoachieve

START OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

The school closes for the Christmas break on Friday 19th December at 2.30pm.

The school will reopen on Monday 5th January 2026 at 9.30am.

All students will be expected to report to their form rooms for 9.30am.

This delayed start will allow staff to complete additional training on our new MIS system, Arbor.

The SIMS Parent App will not be updated at the end of the Autumn term and will be replaced in 2026 by Arbor.

HOUSE POINT LEADERBOARD



Our House point leaderboard is back!

1st Place – Austen 5108 points

2nd Place Bronte 5021 points

3rd Place Dickens 4505 points

4th Place Shakespeare 3229 points.

Remember you can earn house points every day!

Top earning tutor groups are: 7LBR, 8EWT, 9JHI, 10CTA and 11ARO! Well done everyone.



RAISING ACHIEVEMENT

New intervention groups and set changes have now taken place following the first round of mock exams.

There will be no session 6 during the first week back.

Keep up your revision ready for the next round in February. You can never revise too much!

Year 10 – we continue with our Stepping Up programme and staff will be visiting your lessons to check on your learning and progress.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

This half term we are focussing on ensuring our students are dressed to impress in their WOA Uniform. A reminder of our expectations for uniform are below. If you need support with uniform please do contact us.



WE CARE – USEFUL INFORMATION

Reminders:

1. Only talk to people you know on line
2. Only organise to meet people in safe places
3. Walk each other home – don't stay out too late!
4. If you see anything that concerns you – don't forget to run, hide, tell!

If you have a concern out of school hours please contact:

Police – 999 (emergency) 101 (non-emergency)

NSPCC – 0800 800 5000 (Text 88858)

Sandwell Children's Services team – 0121 569 3100

For support, please contact:

ChildLine – 0800 1111

Samaritans – 116 123