

THE WEEK AT WOA

FRIDAY 17TH JULY 2026

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

WOW! What a fantastic end to the school year! Exciting highlights from the week are:

- We are proud and excited to announce that we have been awarded National Inclusion Champion status via the Inclusion Quality Mark - we are one of only 8 schools nationally to achieve this accolade. Thank you and well done to all who have made this possible for us!
- FUNDAY MONDAY was a fabulous way to kick start our final week and pupils had fun engaging in Nerf Gun battles, Laser Tag, Silent Disco, Zorbing and inflatables on the field.
- Year 8-10 pupils completed their community walks, raising money for Ethan's Legacy and school and raised over £1500! Well done to ALL!
- 80 Year 7 pupils have been to Dudley Zoo and had an amazing time.
- Dickens House were the champions on Sports Day and they are also the overall House winners for the year - well done to all!
- Sports Day was a MASSIVE success and we rewarded all pupils with an ice cream from the van,
- Year 7 pupils have raised almost £2000 for Ethan's Legacy during their Colour Run supported by the Albion Foundation. THANK YOU and well done to everyone who took part and contributed!
- Well done to Preet who won the 19 day Attendance Streak Competition!
- We have had a fabulous FOMO Friday today with many prizes to reward our pupils for their attendance and great attitudes to learning. The trolley dash and Wheel of Wonder this afternoon were great fun too!
- Year 7 won the most improved attendance this week - well done to ALL!

A reminder - The DfE have asked us to share with families their plans for as many people as possible to have a Great British Summer: From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom. *See link.*

<https://news.service.education.gov.uk/3805AC26CA63D0C487A7C5B1B204EB28996573F9CCF95EC1C78AC4CA8A608BAE/1EB74572C3920206B40D5D1B15417475/LE35>

Finally, we wish you all a safe and happy summer break and look forward to welcoming pupils back to school in September - please see our letter for details: <https://woacademy.co.uk/key-info/letters-home/>

ATTEND TO ACHIEVE

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



7HAB
8FLE
9JHi
10JLG



The Year group with the most improved attenders' week on week and have collected their treat during the wheel of wonder this afternoon.

#attendtoachieve

#missitmissout

#FOMOfriday

KEY DATES – RETURN TO SCHOOL

Tuesday 1 September and Wednesday 2 September will be **Staff Training Days**, and the school will be closed to students.

Students will return to school as follows:

- Year 7 and Year 11: Thursday 3 September, 8.45am
- Years 8, 9, 10 and WOA6: Monday 7 September 8.45am

KEEPING UP TO DATE

Parents and carers have received an email invitation to set up access to the Arbor Parent Portal and App.

This will become the main way the school communicates with families. Through Arbor, you will be able to:

- View key information about your child
- Receive school messages and updates
- Check attendance information

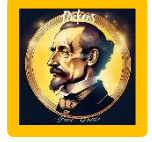


HOUSE POINT LEADERBOARD



Final Scores for the year

- 1st Place **Dickens** 8756 points
- 2nd Place **Bronte** 8541 points
- 3rd Place **Austen** 7775 points
- 4th Place **Shakespeare** 6197 points.



Our House champions for 2025/2026 are Dickens!

Well done to everyone for your brilliant contributions to the house point competition this year.

RAISING ACHIEVEMENT

What a year it has been in Raising Achievement!

Year 11, you have done us proud with the hard work, determination, and resilience you have shown throughout your GCSEs. We hope all of your efforts pay off when you collect your results on **Thursday 20th August, from 9:00–10:30am**.

Year 10, your journey is only just beginning. As you finish Year 10 and prepare to start the important chapter of Year 11, remember that the work you put in now will make all the difference. As your Step Up journey comes to an end, it's time to build on everything you've learned and head into Year 11 with focus, determination, and confidence. It is time to Glow up, Show up and achieve!

Have a fantastic summer, enjoy a well-earned break, and come back refreshed, motivated, and ready to learn. We can't wait to see what you achieve next year!



PHONE-FREE WOA



A PHONE FREE REMINDER - Communications, routines and plans are in place and have been shared with families, students and staff.

We truly believe that going phone free will have a massive impact on the mental health and well-being of all our pupils and are thankful for your support in enabling us to achieve this. Please reach out if you have any questions or queries: phonefree@woacademy.co.uk

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 – 0808 800 5000 (Text 88858)
 Sandwell Children's Services team – 0121 569 3100

For support, please contact:

ChildLine – 0800 1111
 Samaritans – 116 123