The Week at WOA

Friday 24th September 2026

Principal's Update

We have had a fantastic week at WOA and we are excited to share some of the highlights with you:

- We have been out and about this week issuing BANDS OF GOLD to pupils who working hard, thinking deeply and trying their absolute best in lessons - every one who was awarded a golden band has had a dip in the Trolley of Joy this afternoon.
- We want to thank and say how proud we are of all pupils who took part in auditions on Tuesday for our school show - The Addam's Family...we cannot wait to see it! (Rehearsals will take place on Monday's and Tuesday's in The Arena, 3.15-4.30pm.
- Well done to all pupils who haver been working on their £5 challenge plans this week - a shout out to The Hub who were selling ice creams and sweet treats on Thursday to raise money for enrichment and Ethan's Legacy.
- Year 11 pupils successfully completed Week Two of their Session 6 timetable - well done to all for showing such commitment and dedication to their learning.
- We have had a simply sensational second FOMO Friday of the new school year - facepainting, disco and Bingo! The trolley dash...Wheel of Wonder and game of 'Where's Wagstaff' this afternoon were great fun too!
- Year 10 won the best attendance this week - well done to ALL!

A reminder - Next week Year 11 pupils will move on to Week One of their Session 6's, please can you support us in supporting your child to attend all sessions so that we can maximise their chances of success in their GCSEs (Mock Exams start in 3 weeks....).

A reminder for our next Parent Drop-in Clinic is scheduled to be held at 11am on Tuesday 29th September.

Next week is another BAND OF GOLD WEEK AT WOA - every child that is in school, caught being good in lessons or around the site will receive a golden wristband which they can use to claim a prize from the Trolley of Joy on Friday 2nd October.

#gottobeinittowinit #attendtoachieve #fomofriday #believeachievesucceed #changinglives #session6 #bandofgoldweek

Attend to Achieve

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

7AWA
8SAH
9LRE
10BGR
11MBA

The Year group with the most improved attenders' week on week are year 10 and they have collected their treat during the wheel of wonder this afternoon.

#attendtoachieve

#missitmissout

Key Dates – Autumn Term

Wednesday 7th October - Y7 Settling IN Evening
Y11 Raising Achievement Evening
Friday 23rd October - Half Term Begins
Friday 27th November - INSET Day
Wednesday 2nd December - Y11 Parent's Evening
Friday 18th December – Xmas Holiday Begins

Please check your emails for our full Key Dates letter for this academic year

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

Arbor

House Point Leaderboard

1st Place Bronte 497 points
2nd Place Dickens 472 points
3rd Place Shakespeare 437 points
4th Place Austen 440 points

Well done to 7ARO, 8KCH, 9LBU, 10JHI, 11PSI for being our top point earners of the week!
You can earn points every week through good attendance to school and enrichment clubs, and by taking part in our competitions and activities.

Raising Achievement

Another week of your Year 11 journey is complete, and you have now finished a fortnight of Session 6. It has been wonderful to see how engaged and focused you have been during these sessions.

You have also had colleges and apprenticeship providers visiting you in assembly to talk about the different courses and apprenticeship opportunities available to you. Remember to check the dates for college and sixth form open days. If you are unsure about where to look or need any support, please see Miss Atkins.

Next week, we will be on **Week 1 of Session 6**, with Maths. We also have an **EAL Parent Information Evening next Wednesday**, so please make sure your parents and carers are aware.

Keep remembering our Year 11 message: **Glow Up. Show Up. Achieve.**

Year 10, you are continuing your journey into Key Stage 4, and it has been great to see you working hard in your lessons. Keep it up!

Remember that **punctuality to lessons is really important**. Every minute matters in Key Stage 4, so make sure you arrive to every lesson on time, ready to learn and make the most of every opportunity.

Keep working hard, stay focused and continue to make us proud!

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

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