The Week at WOA

Friday 16th October 2026

Principal's Update

We have had a fabulous week at WOA and here are some of the highlights for you:

- Our Year 11 geographers have been out on fieldtrips to Carding Mill Valley - well done to all for your positivity and engagement!
- Rehearsals for The Addam's Family have continued...well done to all who are involved...we cannot wait to see it in Feb 2027! (Rehearsals are Monday's and Tuesday's in The Arena, 3.15-4.30pm).
- Well done to all pupils involved in enterprise projects, including WOA6 who have been creating and selling Halloween themed treats!
- We have had a simply sensational FOMO Friday today - facepainting, outdoor disco and a whole school game of Play Your Cards Right! The trolley dash...Wheel of Wonder and all of the prizes were just a great end to the week!
- Year 11 won the best attendance this week - well done to ALL!

A reminder - Next week, Mock Exams start for our Year 11 pupils (WB 19/10) and it is absolutely essential that all pupils are in school and attending the Exam Crams and Session 6 in preparation. We have issued details of Holiday School and Online Blasts to help pupils with their revision and studies.

Next week we are excited to announce our end of half-term SPOOKY SHACK where we will be rewarding our pupils for good attendance and behaviour.

Finally, the Children's Commissioner has asked us to support them with one final push for pupils to complete The Big Future Survey. Please support and encourage your child to complete this via the following link:
https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/

#gottobeinittowinit #attendtoachieve #fomofriday #believeachievesucceed #changinglives #session6 #spookyshack #thebigfuture

Attend to Achieve

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

7MMU
8SFR
9GMA/SW1
10JH1
11MBA

The Year group with the most improved attenders' week on week are year 11 and they have collected their treat during the wheel of wonder this afternoon.

#attendtoachieve

#missitmissout

#FOMOfriday

Key Dates – Autumn Term

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

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 998 points
2nd Place Austen 976 points
3rd Place Shakespeare 959 points
4th Place Dickens 902 points





Well done to 7EHE,, 8KCH, 9LBU, 10TDA, 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

Well done, Year 11! Another week done and dusted!

It's been another busy week, with interventions, Session 6, extra intervention/revision sessions and a trip to Carding Mill Valley to support your preparation for that vital Geography Paper 3. Well done for all your hard work and commitment!

Next week is a BIG one! You will be sitting your first full set of Year 11 mock exams, so it's really important that you prepare well, make the most of your revision time and, just as importantly, look after yourselves. Make sure you get enough sleep, eat well and give yourself time to relax.

📚 **Sunday Evening Exam Blasts**

Remember, this Sunday at **6pm**, Mr Wagstaff will be running an online English Language Exam Blast, followed by Miss Moore's online History Exam Blast. These are fantastic opportunities to sharpen your exam skills and boost your confidence ahead of your mocks, so make sure you join in!

⏰ **Monday Morning Reminder**

Don't forget to arrive on time for your **Arena Cram** before your English Language paper. It's a great chance to get focused, recap key knowledge and get yourselves in the right mindset for the exam.

📝 **Option 1 Mocks**

If you study Option 1, you will also be sitting your **History and Geography mocks during Lessons 3 and 4**, so make sure you're prepared for these too!

🗓️ **Session 6 Update**

Please remember that your Session 6 timetable has changed. On Monday, the sessions will be for **Spanish, Geography, BTEC or Vocational subjects**, so double-check where you need to be.

Good luck, Year 11! 💪

You've worked incredibly hard to get to this point, and now it's time to show what you can do. Stay focused, give every exam your best effort and remember that your teachers are here to support you every step of the way.

We're all rooting for you — go out there and **SMASH those mocks!** 💥



Phone-Free WOA

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