The Week at WOA

Friday 23rd October 2026

Principal's Update

We have had a super last week of the half-term here at WOA and here are some of the highlights for you:

- Pupils in Year 7-11 have received their Spooky Shack rewards this week as a well done for good attendance and behaviours.
- Year 11 pupils have had a fantastic first week of their mock exams and we are really proud of them - they have been rewarded with pizza and samosa's during P5 today. We are hoping for a bumper turn out at Holiday School next week!
- Rehearsals for The Addam's Family have continued...a BIG 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). Get buying your tickets please!!!
- Well done to all pupils involved in enterprise projects, including WOA6 who have been creating and selling Spooky Halloween themed treats!
- A MASSIVE SHOUT OUT to all pupils who took part in WOA's Got Talent last night after school - you are just AMAZING!
- We have had a simply sensational (albeit soggy in the rain!) FOMO Friday today - facepainting, disco and a whole school Quiz! The trolley dash...Wheel of Wonder and all of the prizes were just a great end to the week!
- Year 10 won the best attendance this week - well done to ALL!

A reminder - Next week, Year 11 Holiday School takes place - all resources, links to online sessions and the timetable is on the Google Classroo. Week Two of mocks will take place on our return to school on Monday 2nd November.

We hope you all have a lovely half-term break and look forward to welcoming all pupils back into the academy at 8.45am on Monday 2nd November.

Finally, the Children's Commissioner has asked us to have one final push in supporting 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/

Attend to Achieve

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

7MMU
8HAB
9HOV
10CBE
11PSi

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

Monday 2nd November – School reopens 8.45am
Friday 27th November - INSET Day
Wednesday 2nd December - Y11 Parent's Evening
Friday 18th December – Xmas Holiday Begins

Keeping up to date

We have not stopped using the Gateway APP for school payments. During the holiday all balances will transfer over to Arbor.

Please ensure you have topped up payments for school meals ahead of our return on Monday 2nd November.

Arbor

House Point Leaderboard





1st Place Shakespeare 1376 points
2nd Place Bronte 1353 points
3rd Place Austen 1098 points
4th Place Dickens 1038 points





Well done to 7MMU,, 8SFR, 9SWI, 10JHI, 11CTA 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

What a half term, Year 11! You have worked tremendously hard over the past few weeks and approached your mock exams with maturity, determination and a real desire to do well. We are incredibly proud of the effort and commitment you have shown.

Next week, you have holiday school, with your teachers on hand to support you with vital revision and help you prepare for the exams ahead. You also have online exam crams for English Literature, English Language and History during the holidays. Make the most of these opportunities – every session counts!

After half term, you'll be back and ready to tackle the rest of your mocks, starting with English Language. Remember, it is essential that you attend your exam cram at 8:45 am sharp and arrive ready to focus, learn and give it your best.

You've worked hard to get to this point, so keep that momentum going. Stay focused, make the most of your revision time and believe in what you can achieve.

Glow Up. Show Up. Achieve.

Year 11, now is your time to shine! 🌟

Year 10, you have settled into your KS4 journey really well this half term! You have made a positive start to your GCSE studies and adapted well to your option subjects. We are proud of the way you are beginning to embrace the challenges and opportunities that come with Year 10.

After half term, we will be launching your Raising Achievement Journey – an exciting opportunity to reflect on your progress, build positive habits and take the next steps towards achieving your full potential.

Now is the time to take ownership of your learning, stay focused, work hard and make every lesson count. The habits you build now will make a real difference to your future success.

Remember, Year 10, your GCSE journey is well underway, and every step counts!

STEP UP! 🚀

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