The Week at WOA

Friday 20th November 2026

Principal's Update

We have had another fantastic week at WOA! Here are some of the highlights from the week:

- Year 7 and Year 8 students enjoyed engaging STEM Days this week, working alongside the Army and taking part in a range of exciting activities designed to develop teamwork, resilience and problem-solving skills.
- Year 11 students have restarted Session 6 as they continue their preparations for the summer examinations. A huge well done to everyone for their commitment and determination.
- On Monday, we marked the start of Anti-Bullying Week with our Odd Socks Day. It was fantastic to see so many students taking part and celebrating individuality while reinforcing the importance of kindness and respect.
- On Thursday, we welcomed SHAPE and a range of local community agencies into school to work with our students and deliver important workshops focused on anti-bullying, positive relationships and staying safe.
- Thursday also saw our GTA Thursday attendance incentive. Congratulations to our lucky winner who went home with a brand-new Android tablet!
- Rehearsals for *The Addams Family* continue to go from strength to strength. A MASSIVE well done to all of the students and staff involved. We cannot wait to see the final production in February 2027. Rehearsals take place every Monday and Tuesday in The Arena from 3.15pm-4.30pm. If you have not already done so, make sure you get your tickets!
- As always, Friday ended on a high with another brilliant FOMO Friday. Students enjoyed the disco, face painting, Wheel of Wonder, quiz and, of course, the ever-popular Trolley of Joy. A fantastic way to celebrate another successful week.
- Year 7 were our attendance champions this week. Well done to all students for their efforts and commitment to being in school every day.

On Monday, we launch our **Attendance Advent Challenge**. Every student who achieves full attendance across the final 19 school days of term will be entered into our prize draws, with opportunities to win a TV, BMX bike, smartwatch, speakers and shopping vouchers. Parents and carers will also have the chance to win one of five £50 shopping vouchers. **Remember, you've got to be in it to win it!**

Don't forget that the school is closed to Students on Friday 27th November for a Staff training Day.

#gottobeinittowinit #attendtoachieve #fomofriday #believeachievesucceed #changinglives #glowupshowupandachieve #antibullyingweek #attendanceadvent

Attend to Achieve

Our most improved attendance tutor groups of the week are .

7EHE
8HAB
9LBU
10JHI
11MBA

The Year group with the most improved attenders' week on week are year 7 and they have collected their treat during the wheel of wonder this afternoon.

#attendtoachieve

#missitmissout

Key Dates – Autumn Term

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. All balances will transfer over to Arbor.

Please ensure you have topped up payments for school meals..

Arbor

House Point Leaderboard





1st Place Bronte 1798 points
2nd Place Shakespeare 1735 points
3rd Place Austen 1482 points
4th Place Dickens 1452 points





Well done to 7EHE, 8SFR, 9ROR, 10TDA, 11JKN 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

Year 11 – Keep Pushing!

Well done, Year 11, for another week of hard graft! We are getting back to normality, with interventions restarting and Session 6 back underway.

A reminder that next week is Week 1 for Session 6, with History on Monday (not Maths). Make sure you know where you need to be and arrive prepared!

We also have some BTEC and Vocational drop-down days planned next week to support you with your coursework. Make the most of this extra time, ask questions, seek support and use it wisely to get your coursework completed to the best of your ability.

Teachers are busy marking your mocks and going through them with you in lessons. This is your opportunity to reflect, identify gaps and understand exactly what you need to do to improve. Remember, mock exams are there to help prepare you for the real thing.

📅 Parents' Evening – 2nd December
You will receive your mock results and have the opportunity to discuss your progress and next steps.

Attendance and punctuality are mega important. If you aren't in school or arrive late to lessons, you are missing vital learning, key knowledge and topics that could come up in your sum… s. Every lesson matters, so make sure you are making the most opportunity.



Remember, 92% and above is the magic number! Make sure you are:

✨ Glowing up – showing positivity and pride in your learning.
🙌 Showing Up – being in school, on time and ready to learn.
🎯 Achieving – working hard and making progress towards your goals.

Keep pushing, keep showing up and keep believing in what you can achieve. Every day counts!

Year 10 – Step Up!

Year 10, your Raising Achievement journey continues! This week you had your second assembly, focusing on your upcoming mock exams and careers. It is important that you start thinking about your future, your goals and the steps you need to take to get there.

Your mocks are an important opportunity to see what you know, identify areas to improve and begin building positive habits ahead of Year 11. Don't wait until the exams are around the corner to start putting in the **effort.**

Now is the time to start!

Attendance Advent Competition



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