



February 2025

Dear Families

## February Half Term 2025 Letter

### Keeping in Touch

To stay up to date with the most recent news and events from the Academy, please follow our social media channels and regularly check our website for news and events. Here, you will see plenty of highlights from the term's activities:

**Facebook:** WestBromCA – with regular updates from all areas of the academy, we have almost reached 1000 followers.

**Instagram:** westbrom\_ca – we are fairly new to this platform but will be regularly adding new content.

**Website:** [wbca.school](http://wbca.school) – our main permanent source of information.

We have a new section on our website where we will share lots of opportunities for students, families and other members of the community.

[Our Community Archives - West Bromwich Collegiate Academy](#)

### Family Forum – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

We invite you to our next Family Forum, taking place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

We are holding two sessions to hopefully suit as many families as possible.

**2:30pm – 3:30pm to suit parents and carers who are collecting students from the academy, and 5:30pm – 6:30pm, hopefully to suit working parents.**

Come and join this session to find out about some recent developments and exciting updates. We will also be focusing on community engagement and how you can support your child with home learning.

### Arbor Parent Portal and App

We are now on 86% of parents and carers who have signed up to Arbor.

If you sign up to Arbor we can communicate with you more easily via the app messaging system. It is free for us to message you in this way, whereas it costs around £50 for each whole school text that we send. Emails are free to send, but we would very much prefer to use the in-app message system as it is more convenient for you. You can also contact the school using the in-app message facility.

*What can you see in Arbor?*

- You can view homework assignments that are set on Arbor and monitor the completion rate of your child's homework.
- School trips and clubs will be organised through Arbor.
- You can view academic reports, attendance and behaviour for your child.
- You can give consent for different areas, and update your contact details straight through the app.
- Soon, Arbor will replace Parent Pay for payment for lunches, trips etc.



Arbor is now our main method of communication so please sign in or contact the school if you need any help.

[Visit this link to view help and support with logging into Arbor as a parent or carer.](#)

Alternatively, scan this QR code to access the help links.



### **Arbor Student Portal and App**

Arbor has recently developed an app for students to use. Students will be emailed with details on how to download and log in to the app. This is something they can have on their phone to use outside of school, as phones are not permitted in school (unless they are switched off and in bags). They will be able to access their timetable, homework assignments and more using the app. This has been launched with students already but you can [visit this link for information regarding the new Arbor Student App.](#)

### **Y11 Mock Examinations**

The second set of mock exams for Year 11 on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. They will last for just over two weeks and the overall timetable can be seen on the next below.

Morning exams begin at 9am sharp and afternoon exams at 1:30pm.

Students must be seated and the exam regulations read out before the exam can start so it is important that they arrive at 8:40am each day.

All students have been given an individual timetable with their seat location.

Day	Date	Reg	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon	24-Feb-25		English Lang		Drama Coursework	Geography & History 1	
Tue	25-Feb-25		Maths 1			Business	
Wed	26-Feb-25		RE Paper 1/ Music Coursework		PE Paper 1	DT	
Thu	27-Feb-25		Science Bio			Geography & History 2	
Fri	28-Feb-25		Maths 2			HSC	

  

Day	Date	Reg	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon	03-Mar-25		Science Chem		Drama Coursework	German L+R Foundation	
Tue	04-Mar-25		Maths 3			Music & Comp Science	
Wed	05-Mar-25		RE Paper 2/ Music Coursework		Y11 Theatre Trip		
Thu	06-Mar-25		Science Physics			German L+R Higher	
Fri	07-Mar-25		English Lit		PE Paper 2	History paper 3	

  

Day	Date	Reg	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon	10-Mar-25		German Writing (F&H)		Drama Coursework		
Tue	11-Mar-25				Art Coursework 11D		
Wed	12-Mar-25				Art Coursework 11C		
Thu	13-Mar-25						
Fri	14-Mar-25						

Please refer to this section of our website where all information relating to exams can be found, including all rules and regulations. We apply the official rules and regulations to our mock examinations, so that students get used to how they have to be carried out. [External Examinations - West Bromwich Collegiate Academy](#)



### **Y9 Options Deadline**

Year 9 students were given a paper copy of the Options form before the holiday. In the next few weeks they will complete a Careers theme in L4L that will support them with their choices. They should hand in their options form to their form teacher at the end of the theme, on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Places on courses are not allocated on a first come, first served basis so handing the form in early does not give an advantage. The most important thing is that students carefully consider which courses will suit them best for their future pathways.

### **Y10 Work Experience: Monday 30th June – Friday 4th July 2025**

A reminder that Year 10 students should be looking for a work experience placement. **The deadline for finding a placement and handing in the form to Mrs Evans (was Miss Adams) is Friday 11 April 2025.** New forms can be collected from main reception or can be downloaded from the WBCA website.

### **Uniform**

Please ensure that any uniform issues are corrected before term begins.

[Details of our uniform can be found on our website.](#)

*Key points to note:*

- Blazers must be worn at all times. Jumpers are optional, blazers are compulsory.
- Trainers are not allowed – shoes must be smart, leather type and polishable.
- Hoodies and tracksuit tops are not allowed.
- The only jewellery permitted is one stud per ear, one nose stud. Other jewellery must be removed.

**Our policy is that if a child is without correct uniform, including footwear, for any reason, we will provide them with school items to borrow, and we will work with you to put it right as soon as possible.**

### **Reminder – We are a Nut Free Academy**

We have a number of children with severe nut allergies. Please do not give your child any snacks or lunch items that contain nuts.

### **Finally**

Please refer to the calendar on the next page for some key dates and activities. As always, we thank you for your support and look forward to the new term.

Kind regards

Mrs M Henderson  
**Associate Principal**

Mr G Faux  
**Executive Principal**  
**Director of Secondary Education**



## 2024/25 Spring Half Term 2 – Calendar

**Back to School: Monday 24 February 2025 at 8:40am for all students**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>New term begins</b>	<b>Mon 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>
Year 11 Spring Mock Examinations begin	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Year 9 Vaccinations	Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Year 11 Theatre Visit – Jekyll and Hyde	Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Family Forum 2 – Community and Family Liaison Focus 2:30pm – 3:30pm; 5:30pm – 6:30pm	Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> March
World Book Day – activities to be confirmed	Thu 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Year 9 Options Form Deadline	Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Y7 Robotics Workshop	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Visit to see Macbeth in London – selected Y9 students	
Y10 DofE Silver Practice Expedition	Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Scholastic Book Fair	Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
WBCA Literature Festival	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
& Juliet Performance Showcase Y8 & Y9 Evening Performance	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
<b>INSET DAY (Eid ul Fitr) – Academy closed to students</b>	<b>Mon 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025</b>
Year 10 Parents Evening	Thu 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2025
Y9 DofE Practice Expedition, Cannock Chase	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Focus Day all years including Y7 Trip to Carding Mill Valley	Thu 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Deadline for handing in Year 10 Work Experience Forms	Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
<b>Spring term ends – half day for students. Easter holiday begins at 12:30pm.</b>	<b>Fri 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b>
<b>Summer term begins</b>	<b>Mon 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b>
Y8 Trip to Weston Super Mare	Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025
<b>Academy Closed due to May Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Mon 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>
Y8 Vaccinations	Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Y11 GCSE Examinations Begin	Thu 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2025

*Events may be subject to change and more may be added as the term goes on.*