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# Oldbury Wells Journal

## May 2023



Welcome to the latest addition of the school newsletter. The sunshine over the last week has brought a bright end to the first half of the summer term and has marked the start of the summer exam season with Year 11 & 13 students now fully engaged with their formal examinations. Half term marks the start of Year 11 & 13 study leave, providing a period where students can work more flexibly between home and school to maximise their preparation and progress. We wish all students continued success throughout their examinations and look forward to celebrating the end of the exam series with the annual Prom and then welcoming all students back in August to receive their final results. Good luck to all!

For all other year groups, we will be using the second half of the summer term to continue maximising progress for all students and to work with students and families to remind everyone of expectations in school. With days lost over the last half term due to bank holidays and industrial action days, we look forward to a half term with uninterrupted weeks; we will be sending reminders of school policy and procedures so that everything is in place for a successful end of year, while also ensuring we look forward to the best start to the new academic year in September.

We will shortly be receiving our full OFSTED report which I look forward to sharing with you. Again, can I say thank you to all students and staff who were able to share the amazing work which is seen throughout the school and took pride in talking about 'their' school. We are

tremendously proud of all our students who talked with confidence throughout the process and were keen to share their views, well done to all.

At this time of year all schools have some staffing movement. I would like to make you aware that one of our Assistant Headteachers, Mr White, will be transitioning to his new role as Deputy Headteacher at Belvidere school. We are delighted that Mr White has had the opportunity to move to a promoted role and extremely grateful for the work he has done to support so many students, families and staff throughout his time working at OWS. His knowledge of all students across our community, together with his wealth of experience on safeguarding and supporting students with Special Education Needs has been at the forefront of so many aspects of his school work. We will be providing updates and contacting families who Mr White works directly with after the half term break to outline transitional activities. Again, thank you to Mr White and on behalf of all the OWS community I wish him all the very best in his new role.

Finally, I hope that you all enjoy the half term break, it has been a busy period and we have lots of exciting opportunities scheduled over the next 7 weeks. We look forward to welcoming everyone back at the start of June and celebrating a successful year for all concerned.

Mr Tristham

## Together we can 'BEE' at Cancer

### Miss Silverstone's 5K race for life run

Our very own Miss Silverstone is doing her bit for charity by raising money for Cancer Research! She will be running a 5K race for life in June and has been asking staff and students for donations for the cause, in return she made her very own pink bumble bee badges for those who donated to wear around school. She will also be dressed as a bumble bee when running the race! £250 has been raised so far, if you wish to donate you can do so using the following link: <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/kelsies-race-for-life-111>

We wish her luck in her race in June!

## Safer School Approved!



West Mercia Police and Shropshire Council support our school with the Safer School initiative. We are an accredited Safer School and proud of our Safer School sign and certificate. The accreditation is reviewed every two years.

The initiative is a holistic, practical and realistic approach to school security and personal safety. It gives our school a clear focus on the subject and turns a negative subject into a positive one. It sets a minimum standard for school security.

## Goodbye Year 11s!

Thank you for making the last 2 years as your Head of Year so memorable. There have been so many highs and you've all worked so hard for your exams. Your resilience has inspired me, through all the difficult times you've always bounced back and given it your best shot. I wish you all the best of luck in whatever you choose to go on and do - you're going to absolutely smash it! All the best, Miss Warner





# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## OWS Athletics Success

Year 7 & 8



A squad of Year 7 and 8 students took part in a District Year 7/8 athletics competition hosted at William Brookes School on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The participants competed in a range of track and field events, from hurdles to 800m and long jump to discus, to gain points for their respective boys' and girls' teams. Some really strong performances for the girls' team resulted in 1<sup>st</sup> place for Immy Leith in 200m, Harriet Haden in 800m, Macey Hand in long jump and high jump and Millie Fretwell in javelin. In addition to these, Harriet Haden also came 2<sup>nd</sup> in shot and the relay team of Millie, Immy, Lucy Courtman and Nyrah Khalil finished in silver medal position. This, plus other solid performances put the

girls in overall 1<sup>st</sup> position, 6 points ahead of their nearest competitors who were Ludlow. In the boy's competition there were also some 2<sup>nd</sup> positions earned by Charlie Hadley in long jump, Alex Foster in high jump and Fabio Pace in javelin. The boys finished in overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Well done to everyone who took part.

# DUKE OF EDINBURGH

## OWS Athletics Success

Year 7 & 8

We would like to extend a massive congratulations to our Bronze DofE students who completed their qualifying expedition on 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> May. Despite the mixed weather, they all kept going with a smile and showed excellent teamwork skills. Well done to all!

Miss Ransom and Mrs Waldron



# FOOD TECHNOLOGY

## Food fit for a King

### Key Stage 3 and 4 Food

This term in Food Preparation and Nutrition, we have been building up to the Coronation by designing, baking, and decorating biscuits at KS3 and at KS4 making a cake 'fit for a king'. Students have been very busy enjoying the activities and have produced some wonderful creations that reflect the occasion.





# ART & DESIGN

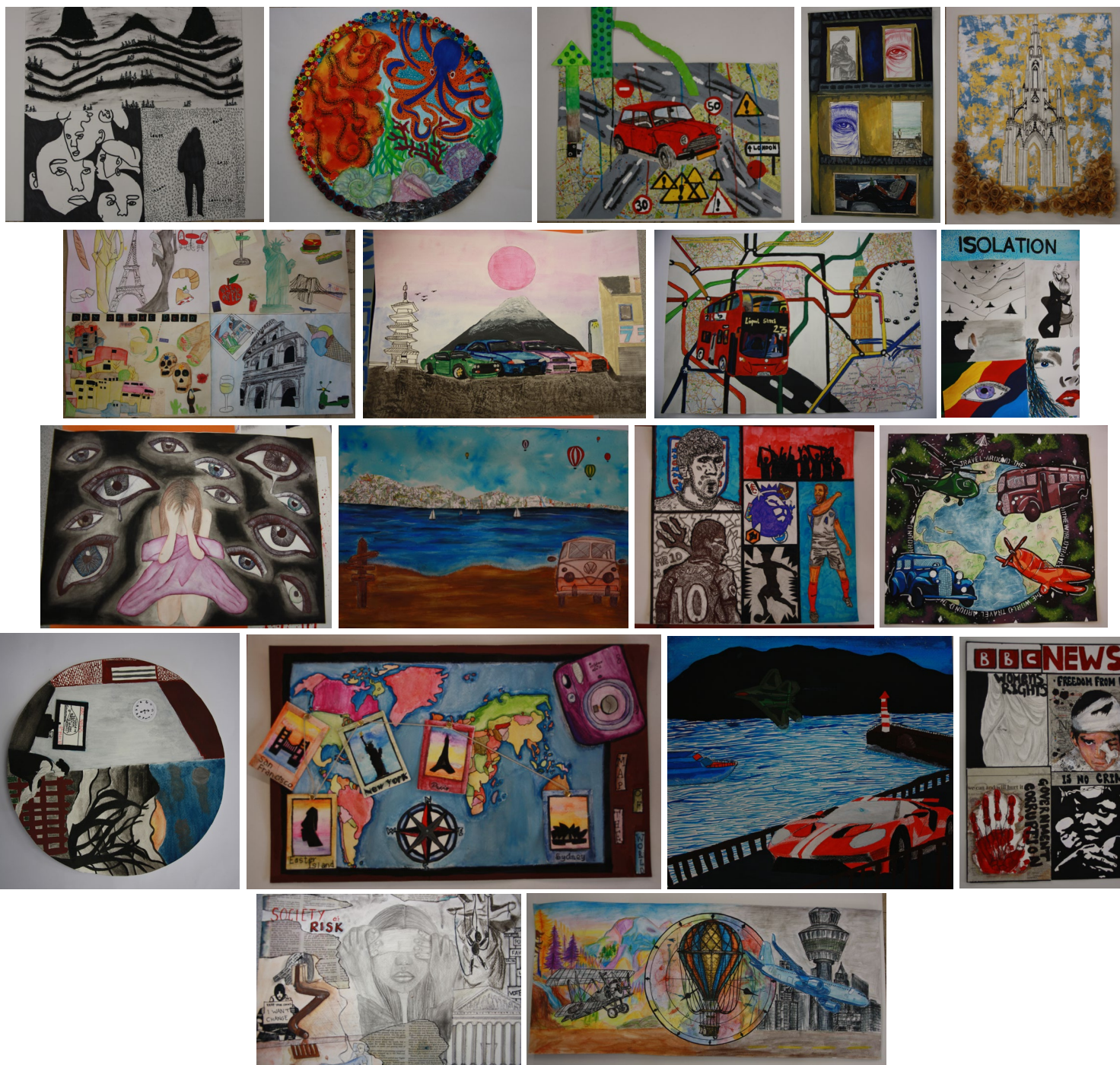
## Year 11 Showcase

Year 11 Art & Design have been working hard this year to develop their personal coursework portfolio and then the final set task exam on the themes of Isolation, Journey, the News, Surface and Texture and Agriculture. Their work is celebrated in a digital art gallery with a fantastic range of mixed media, painting, textiles, 3D and experimental artwork.

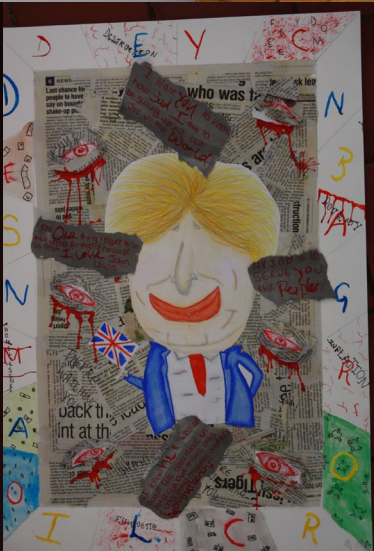
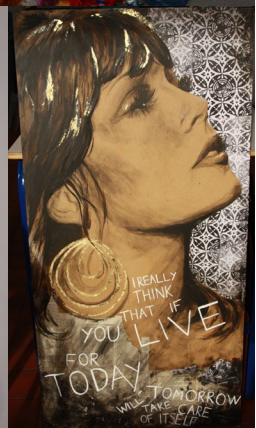
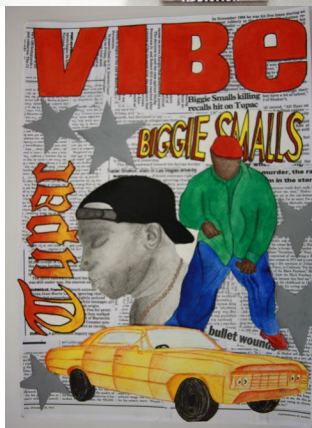
We would like to thank our groups for being such fantastic students to work with and congratulate them on the work they have produced in class, at Art club and more independently at home.

We wish them the best of luck in their exams and best wishes for the future.

Mrs Wycherley and Mrs Laurie







# “READDIT”

This month, Readdit have been putting together some Kingly ideas and Royal reading. For example, do you know King Charles wrote a book for children – called “The Old Man of Lochnagar”. Lochnagar is a place in Scotland – the Old Man lives in a cave near the Balmoral Estate, where King Charles spent many holidays as a boy.

So first, a quiz about Scotland and the monarchy...

1. Which Scottish train station is named after a novel by Sir Walter Scott?
  - A Glenfinnan Railway Station
  - B Edinburgh Waverley
  - C Bridge of Orchy
2. Munros are Scottish mountains of more than what height?
  - A 2000 feet
  - B 2500 feet
  - C 3000 feet
3. Who was the Scottish schoolteacher created by author Muriel Spark?
  - A Ms Valerie Frizzle
  - B Miss Jean Brodie
  - C Mr John Kimble
4. Can you finish the quote from Robert Burns' poem To A Mouse (which was also the title of a novel by John Steinbeck)? Of mice and ...
  - A Rats
  - B Cheese
  - C Men
5. Which Scottish football team plays at Pittodrie Stadium?
  - A Aberdeen
  - B Pitlochry
  - C St Johnstone
6. What is the National Animal of Scotland?
  - A Loch Ness Monster
  - B Kelpie
  - C Unicorn
7. What would you do with a rowie?
  - A Eat it
  - B Wear it
  - C Play it
8. Macbeth was a real King of Scotland from 1040.
  - A True
  - B False
9. Margaret, Maid of Norway was Queen of Scotland from 1286. Which is true?
  - A She became Queen at 2 years of age and died when she was 7
  - B She became Queen at 2 years of age and was married to a horse
  - C She became Queen at 12 years of age and was never married
10. Robert the Bruce's son became King of Scotland. His name was:
  - A James I
  - B Edward X
  - C David II

How did you do? Are you well informed about Scotland and its Kings?

## Now going further north...

Here's a wordsearch to remind you of our weather so far this year!

FREEZING	SUNSHINE	ICICLES	RAIN
CLOUDY	GALES	SHOWERS	RAIN
STORMS	SNOW	HEAT	ICE
RAIN	RAIN	RAIN	RAIN

## Weather in England 2023

L U G F Z Z S N O W  
F S I R D R A I N F  
U U C E C G A L E S  
R N I E R L H A Y F  
A S C Z W R O E M E  
I H L I V E A U A M  
N I E N I C E I D T  
U N S G R A I N N Y  
J E S H O W E R S N  
R A I N S T O R M S

## Outstanding written work

This month, students have been writing descriptive pieces about weather. Here are two excellent examples from Year 8. Imagine you are an explorer in the far north – near Finland. You will be away from home for months.

### Here's a diary entry from Aimee Fox:

*The day always begins unknown; sometimes the unknown can't hurt you, especially when the world can be so cold and contain cold-hearted people. All I feel is the cold, all I can see is the cold, in a think, white, snowy blanket.*

*A blanket is always a weird way to describe the cold. When I feel this way, I have no other choice than to explore the place surrounding me. I raise my head to look at the icicles above me. They are so clear; everything is clear for them. They shine and shimmer, just to make us feel warm inside: the cold is a mystical, magical thing. If only I was an icicle – clear and free, reaching for the ground: ankle deep snow.*

### Brrrr! And here's a letter written home by a nineteenth century traveller:

*My beloved Margaret,*

*It's a bleak and miserable wasteland. For miles lie only spiralling towers of ice and snow, clambering their way out of the depths of the bitter sea. From my ship, I am queasy and on edge, well warned of the dangers out there, all patiently waiting for us: their prey.*

*I long to see my family once more, but alas this trip must be done in the name of research. My crew and I will return home with the control of*

*this crisp landscape. We will persevere through impossible times and will not be querulous or fretful.*

*The surroundings are, however, not pleasing. All the trees, blooming with colour back home have been replace with icy counterparts. No grass will ever have touched the murky waters we sail on. How I long for sweet sunlight to shine upon me once again. For scented petals to drown me in their smell.*

*A beautiful comparison of home and away for the intrepid traveller, by William Harman.*

### And finally...

*I told my crew of Wonder to drop the anchor and pull up the sails as we slowly and deliberately come to a stop.*

*I stare over the side of the ship, seeing the desert of ice and snow. The abyss below us, rippled as the sun shone through the corrupt sky.*

*I love the image of a "corrupt" sky – as if the blue is torn by ragged clouds. Thanks to James Corey for that one.*

*As always, you could contribute to Readdit and have some amazing work published – just send or pass it to the English team.*

# ENGLISH

## 'Persuasion' Homework

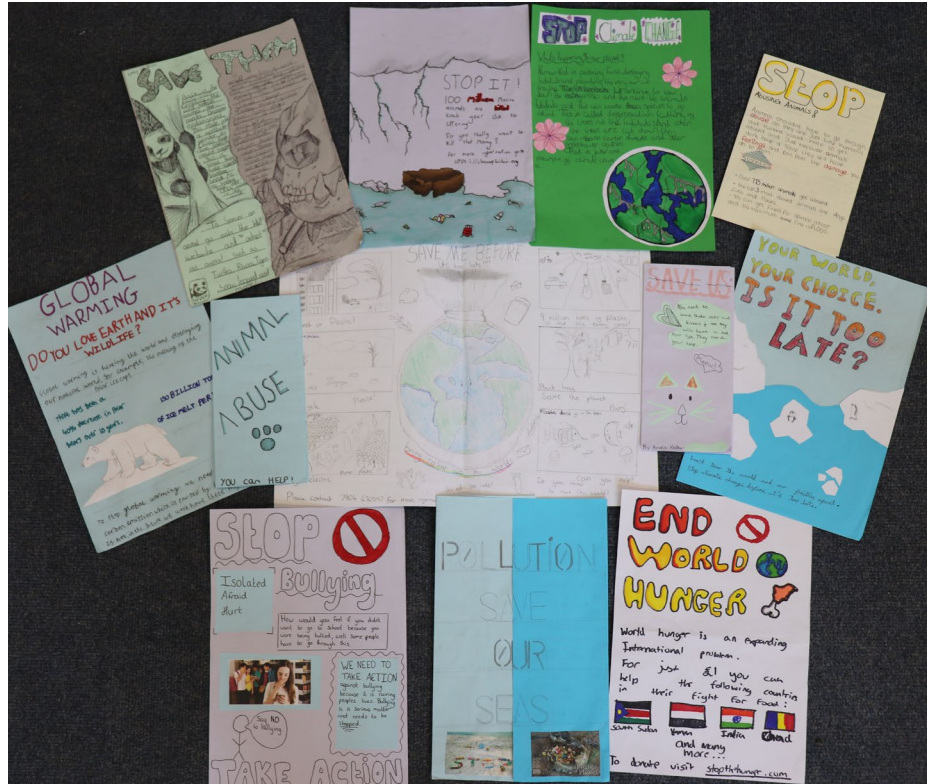
### Year 7

This term, Year 7 have been studying the unit of 'Persuasion'. As part of their home learning time, students needed to choose an issue in the world that would love to change and persuade people to do something about the issue. The Year 7s chose a range of topics from environmental factors, promoting animal welfare to the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. This was then presented as either an advert or a leaflet; the only rule was the students had to show off what they have learned so far, with regards to persuasive and presentational methods.

Wonderfully, their works were a joy to view and read. I was very proud of what they managed to achieve with their independent work. Well done to my students.

Here are a selection from my classes.

Miss Roberts



# SIXTH FORM



BRIDGNORTH SIXTH FORM

## Ready for take off!

Kieran Wellings

Kieran Wellings in Year 12, passed his Private Pilot Licence (PPL) skills test back in April. Having completed his first solo flight in the week of his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, he has now got his license at just 17!

Well done Kieran on this huge achievement, we look forward to seeing what else you are capable of!



## Goodbye Year 13!

We will be sad to see Year 13 leave at the end of this half term, however, wish them all the best of luck with their A-level and equivalent exams. We all look forward to celebrating their successes this summer and hearing about their exciting plans for the future. Goodbye and good luck Year 13 and thanks for all the memories!!



# NOTICEBOARD

## PAPER CRANES

Bereavement support  
for young people

**2023 dates**  
**Saturday 29 April**  
**Saturday 10 June**  
**Saturday 15 July**  
 more dates to follow

10:30am-12:30pm (school years 3-6)  
 1:30pm-3:30pm (school years 7-11)

The Bridge Youth Centre, Bridgnorth  
 FREE EVENT but BOOKING ESSENTIAL  
 via **EventBrite**

any enquiries to [laura@laj.me.uk](mailto:laura@laj.me.uk)

## Clubs!

What	Where	When
English (Year 10 and 11)	E33 (Miss Roberts)	Wednesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Maths (Year 11)	W64 (Mr Walker – Higher) W66 (Mr Parmar – Foundation)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Science (Year 11)	E32 (Miss Allsop)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Drama (Year 11)	W22 (Miss Morgan)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:30pm)
Drama (Year 7 and 8)	W22 (Miss Morgan)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:05pm)
Music – Encore	Music Room (Miss Dangerfield)	Thursdays (3:15 – 4:00pm)
Music – Orchestra	Music Room (Miss Dangerfield)	Fridays (3:05 – 4:30pm)
PE (See website for more details)		
All Years	Volleyball (Mr Cowburn)	Mondays (lunch time)
All Years	Basketball (Mr Smith)	Tuesdays (lunch time)
Year 9, 10 and 11	Football (Mr Smith)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Year 7 and 8	Rugby (Mr Cowburn)	
All Years	Girls Rugby (Mr Farish)	
All Years	Badminton (Miss Joiner)	Wednesdays (lunch time)
Year 9 and 10	Rugby (Mr Cowburn)	Wednesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Year 8 and 9	Football (Mr Smith)	
Year 7	Football (Mr Smith)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
All Years (Girls)	Netball (Miss Joiner)	
Food (Year 11)	W56 (Mrs Griffiths)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
French (Year 10 and 11) <small>Open to Year 11 up to Christmas</small>	W34 (Miss Dijoux)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
Spanish (Year 7 and 8)	W32 (Mr Cowley)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
Homework Club (Year 7) <small>Open after October Half-Term</small>	W55 (Miss Docker)	Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (lunch time)
Sign Language Club (Year 7 and 8)	W33 (Miss Perks/Miss Kenworthy)	Wednesdays (lunch time)
Marvel / Comic Club (All Years)	W64 (Mr Walker)	Every Monday Week 1 (lunch time)

**PLEASE CAN YOU LET SCHOOL KNOW IF THERE IS A CHANGE TO YOUR CHILD'S MEDICAL CONDITION OR IF THEY HAVE A NEW DIAGNOSIS.**

## Equipment Reminder

- Black pens
- Green Pens
- Red Pens
- HB Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Scientific calculator
- Spanish or French Dictionary
- Highlighter pens
- Glue Stick
- Colouring Pencils
- Compass
- Protractor
- Earphones

Can we remind all students to bring a refillable water bottle to school.

## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2023

**Starts** - Thursday 5 January 2023 (Week 1)

**Half-term** - Monday 20 - Friday 24 February

2023 inclusive

**Ends** - Friday 31 March 2023

**PD Days** - Tuesday 3 January and Wednesday

4 January 2023

### Summer Term 2023

**Starts** - Monday 17 April 2023




**Bank Holiday** - Monday 1 May and Monday 8 May 2023

**Half-term** - Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June

2023 inclusive

**Ends** - Friday 21 July 2023

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-  oldburywellsschool

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