



Oldbury Wells Journal

July 2024



Welcome from Mr Tristham

Have a Great Summer

Welcome to the final Journal of the academic year at the end of a fantastic couple of weeks where we have celebrated the achievements of all those across our school community. There have been many parents in school to join us to celebrate the amazing work done across all our year groups, alongside many trips and activities which have taken place giving students the chance to be together and celebrate what has been another wonderful year. Our journal captures a range of amazing things which have taken place, thanks to everyone for their support !

I must start by saying well done to all those students who have completed examinations this summer, who have worked exceptionally hard and modelled brilliantly to the rest of the school the focused approach which is required to make the very best progress. We look forward to welcoming these students back into school on their results days to celebrate their achievements and wish them the very best in all they go on to do.

It has been a real privilege to hear feedback from so many across our school of the fantastic achievements of our students in the many awards and celebration presentations for academic work as well as wider aspects of school life. It is great to hear of students actively joining in, supporting each other and showing real determination in all they do. We are proud of all our young people and look forward to continuing to support them in the new academic year and beyond.

Over recent weeks there have been many highlights; the History Battlefield Trip is always a wonderful experience for all involved, I know that this alongside the other trips and activities taking place – including the Year 8 residential to Rock UK - give wonderful experiences which will always be remembered. Our sporting events including Sports Day and House Tug of War cap off an amazing year of sporting activity throughout the school, with our Summer Showcase showing the amazing performing talents we have across our school.

Thank you to everyone for their support across the many events and activities which take place throughout the year.

Have a great summer

Thank you in advance to parents/carers who have received previous communication ensuring that all students return in September prepared to meet school requirements; areas such as school uniform and students arriving with the correct equipment are all basic requirements which set the right climate for learning. Should you require any clarification, please refer to the school website.

At this time of year, we say thank you and good luck to staff who are moving on, many to posts with leadership responsibilities which enable them to further build on their careers to date. A special mention to **Mrs Warner** (Deputy Headteacher) who moves to her new role at Wolverhampton Girls High School after 22 years of service at OWS. Mrs Warner has been amazing giving so much support to so many students, families and staff over the years. She embodies everything which is special about OWS, and having spent her whole career at OWS now has a wonderful opportunity to further positively influence the lives of others within her new school – thank you and good luck. We also say goodbye to who Mr Cook (English) who has been with us since 2015. Mr Cook has been a valued member of our English and Drama team in school and previously held a role as head of year, he will be missed by all. We also wish Mr Farish all the best for the new year - he is not leaving OWS but will be involved next year with some work within our Trust and supporting developments at Meole Brace School as an Assistant Headteacher. We wish him all the very best over the next 12 months.

Good luck also to other members of our team moving on. From our support team - Miss Roden, Mrs Yeomans, Miss Lea; staff who have worked with us on a temporary basis - Mrs Westbury, Mrs Dunning, Mr Marshal, Mr Johnstone, Miss Loewnau; and colleagues moving onto new positions - Mr Keenlyside, Mr Cherrington, Mr Szwarc. Thank you for all you have done to support students and staff during your time at OWS.

We will be welcoming new members to the team in September and look forward to introducing them at the start of the new term.

Can I use this final opportunity to wish everyone a restful summer hoping that all families enjoy any time away, alongside time at home with friends and family. We look forward to welcoming everyone back at the start of the new academic year and further building on the success across our school community.

Have a great summer everyone, say safe and enjoy !

Mr Tristham



Goodbye from Mrs Warner

22 Years service at OWS

I am tremendously excited to be taking up my new role in September; however, It is with great sadness that I announce that I am leaving Oldbury Wells School after 22 years. It has been a real privilege to work here. I have had many roles during my time – Teacher of History, Head of Year, Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head and finally Deputy Headteacher - I have genuinely loved them all. Oldbury Wells School is a great place to be – the students and staff are what make a school; I am so lucky to have worked with so many amazing people.

Mock Election Information

The democratic process

Oldbury Wells School held their own mock elections last week to coincide with the General Election and raise pupils' awareness of the democratic process!

Students in Year 8 in their English groups, had the opportunity to create a manifesto for school improvement. Popular ideas were a new swimming pool, astroturf and even a common room equipped with games consoles!

Five groups were chosen and the election took place. The winners were Will Morgan and Jack Bill - well done on your election success boys!



The 'Poetry By Heart' Globe Theatre Trip

National competition at the Globe Theatre

On 1st July, 'Poetry By Heart' held the grand finale of their national competition at the Globe Theatre. As a school, we were invited to attend this final because a range of our Year 8 and Year 10 students took part in the competition this year.

Benefits of competing in the 'Poetry By Heart' competition include: increasing confidence, practising speaking skills, developing memory skills, knowing and exploring great poems, engaging on a deeper level with English and just having fun. Therefore, I was extremely pleased that some of our students chose to be involved. Our KS4 'Classic' winner, Maisie Rollings, won the 'Best in the County' award, defeating students from a range of Shropshire schools, which was fantastic. The KS4 and KS3 'Freestyle' winners (Y10: Aggie Thompson, Ella Quinton and Ellowyne Broadhouse, and Y8: Grace Faulkner, Annabelle Stringer and Eden Tudge) all achieved 'Highly Commended', which means they almost made it to the same level as Maisie. Well done to all of them!

The trip to the Globe Theatre was a pure celebration of poetry. We heard the finalists for KS2, 3, 4 and 5, as well as poetry readings from Simon Armitage (Poet Laureate) and Joseph Coelho (Children's Poet Laureate). It was also lovely to be a part of the awards ceremony of the national winners from the four key stage groups. Although, interestingly, we didn't always agree with the chosen winners, which caused a debate amongst ourselves.

It was a lovely experience to organise the 'Poetry By Heart' competition and witness the confidence and techniques of the competitors increase over the year. It is always a joy to go to the Globe Theatre and share the opportunity with students.

Hopefully, this will have inspired them to take part again in the next school year and encourage others too!



Miss Roberts



Creative Writing Workshops

Links with Manchester Metropolitan University

Throughout this school year, Oldbury Wells' English Department has been working on a project with two professors (Chris Hanley and David Cooper) from Manchester Metropolitan University, where the focus is on the natural world, particularly trees and their importance to the world around us. The name of the project is 'Voices of the Future', which is all about exploring students' awareness of their place in the world, different perspectives and ability to develop their English skills, whilst exploring a topic (the natural world) that impacts on their life and surroundings. There are several schools in the North that are associated with the project, and we are the only school in Shropshire to also take part.



All of Year 9 have been involved and as a school, we have designed a unit of work called 'Place' to allow students to work creatively on Shropshire and narrowing this down to Bridgnorth. The students have been using a variety of different types of writing, from historical, poetry, informative, narrative and descriptive, all to develop their understanding of 'place' and their response to this. There have also been a variety of different activities to support the development of their writing.



One of the activities consisted of students participating in a creative writing workshop in July that took place both in a classroom and outside in the copse, adjacent to the playing field. There were three workshops a day working with twenty Year 9 students in each one. The Wednesday groups, working with Shropshire author Kate Innes, focused on perspective and the students had to create a piece of writing which considered different perspectives within the setting of the copse. The Thursday groups, working with Shropshire writer and lecturer Paul Evans, focused on zooming in on the small, less noticeable objects and bringing them to life through investigating their place in the bigger picture of the setting.



After a curious start from all groups, the students began to find their confidence and creative voice through the guidance of the visiting writers and professors. Even Oldbury Wells' Science Department helped, as they loaned us their magnifying glasses to help investigate the copse! The work produced was beautifully varied and allowed the students to explore the natural world in a way that was different from anything they've done before. The workshops were a great success.



Oldbury Wells, and the English Department, will be acknowledged in the research developed from this project. Furthermore, some of the work produced by the students will eventually be a part of an anthology of creative pieces and will be published. The department is looking forward to reading these and observing what our students are capable of.

Miss Roberts

The OWS Summer Reading Challenge!



- Complete as many of the challenges as you can.
- Take photographs or collect evidence for some of the activities.
- Bring your sheet and evidence back in September and collect your achievement points.

HAVE FUN!

Collect a sheet from Miss Silverstone E10.

Read in an unusual place and take a photograph.	Listen to an audiobook	Re-read a book you have read before.	Rewrite the ending of a book you have recently read.	Write a book review and bring in to put in the English area or library.	Design a costume for your favourite character. Make sure you say which book it's from.
Read a newspaper.	Join your local library and take out a new book.	Read a website for a local landmark.	Read a non-fiction text (eg: a magazine)	Read a recipe and then follow it to create a meal/dessert. Take a photograph of your creation and recipe.	Design a book cover for the book you are currently reading.
Design a bookmark.	Read a book from a genre you don't normally read.	Read a poem.	Create a hero for a book. Write a short description.	Create a villain for a book (a foil to your hero). Write a short description.	Read the OWS Summer Journal.



A big thank you to Le Monde Wolverhampton

A big thank you to Le Monde Wolverhampton for donating over 100 folders for our staff and students to use across an array of subjects this term.

Opportunities Galore in Science

Well done to students for all their hard work

It has been a busy term in the Science Department. Our Y11 & Y13 students have done their GCSE and A Level exams and we wish them all the very best for their future studies and careers. We look forward to receiving the results of all their hard work in August. Our Y10s have taken their mocks, which they have completed reflections on and will be completing some tasks during the summer to fill any gaps identified, before they hit the ground running in September for the all-important Y11. Our Y9s have selected their options for next year and we are currently analysing their end of year assessments before deciding which classes to place them in for Y10.

We are constantly trying to improve the education provided for our Oldbury Wells Scientists and this year we have worked with other departments within the Trust to form an ENTHUSE partnership, to provide training, teaching and extracurricular activities across the curriculum. I have recently attended training on curriculum development, Mr Johnson has been on a course on teaching and learning and our technicians Mr Lee and Ms Roberts, have also received training to help them support our practical- rich curriculum. You will read in these pages about a number of exciting extra-curricular opportunities that we have been able to provide for our students and we are excited to be welcoming 2 trainee teachers into the department who will be with us throughout the coming academic year. All of these activities contribute to pushing the science department forward and to offering great opportunities to our young scientists.

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to some colleagues as the term ends and wish the very best to Mr Keenlyside, who is going on to a new role in North Shropshire, Mr Johnstone, who is retiring after serving as head of Belvidere for many years and as Deputy CEO of TrustEd, and Mrs Westbury, who is relocating to the south of England. We will miss them.

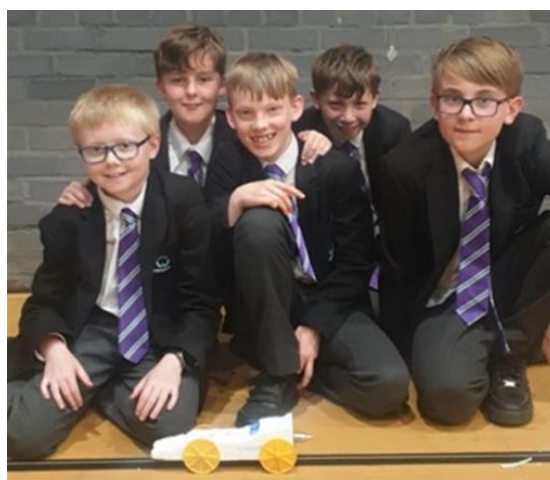
KS3 Science Club

Students go from strength to strength this term

Our intrepid adventurers have gone from strength to strength this term, investigating the reactivity of metals, energy in foods and making marble runs! They have recently investigated the impacts of vaping on the health of young people and the results of this work will be on display in the new year. KS3 Science club is open to all.

Race to the line

A small group of Yr7 engineers took on a number of schools from Shropshire in a rocket car competition. Using basic materials, they had 1 hour to design and build a car that was being propelled by a carbon dioxide cannister. The cars were then timed over a 15m straight track to determine the winner. Our year 7s were awarded 4th place with only 10ths of a second separating the top 4 cars. A fantastic result.



KS4 Science Success!!!

UK Biology Challenge

Recently, 31 of our KS4 Scientists took part in the UK Biology Challenge. This prestigious competition is run by the Royal Society of Biology and this year over 47,000 students took part from 705 schools and we were delighted with the results our young scientists achieved! All students acquitted themselves really well but the following students achieved remarkable results:

COMMENDATIONS: Oliver Aubrey, Bryce Brookes, Taylor Davies, Daniel Langdon, Nikki Msasanure, Sophie Rafferty, Jack Stockton, Merab Walker.

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Hugo Brechtmann, Ellowyne Broadhouse, Chayce Hill, Oliver McComb.

BRONZE AWARD: Josie Burt, Nicole Burrows, Camren Farrington-Hyrons, Toby Gibbons, George Illidge. Receipt of a Bronze award puts students in the top 15% of students in the country, so is a great achievement. I would also like to mention Aimee Fox, who was our sole Y9 entrant. She did a brilliant job, scoring more highly than many of the Y10 entrants, so well done to her and to all the participants.

We hope to increase our participation in academic competitions in the next year so watch this space for further opportunities!



In addition to this our Y12s have also taken part in academic competitions which you can read about in the Sixth Form area.

We wish all of our Oldbury Wells Scientists and their families a happy and restful summer break.

The British Physics Olympiad

Award Winners

Five of our Year 10 students entered the British Physics Olympiad competition this year and did extremely well with 4 bronze awards and a silver achieved.

The competition was tough with over 14,000 students across the U.K. that sat both test papers, so a huge congratulations to Roma, Evie, Hugo, Camren and Morgan.



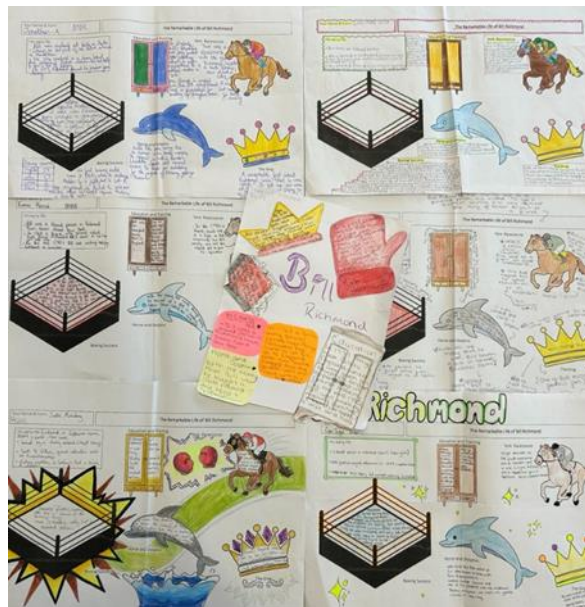
History and Global Citizenship

A year in History!

This year in History, students have enjoyed a variety of exciting opportunities to study a wide range of themes to enhance the curriculum and deepen their understanding of this nation's past. Here is a small sample of our wonderful young historians at work. Well done all, what an incredible year!

October: Black History Month and Big Pit Visit

As part of KS3 home learning History students investigated the lesser known life of Bill Richmond. This former enslaved person became a successful boxer, entrepreneur and even an usher at King George IV's coronation!



Year 8 students enjoyed the visit to Big Pit in Wales, to enhance their understanding of 19th Century coal mining as part of their work on the Industrial Revolution.



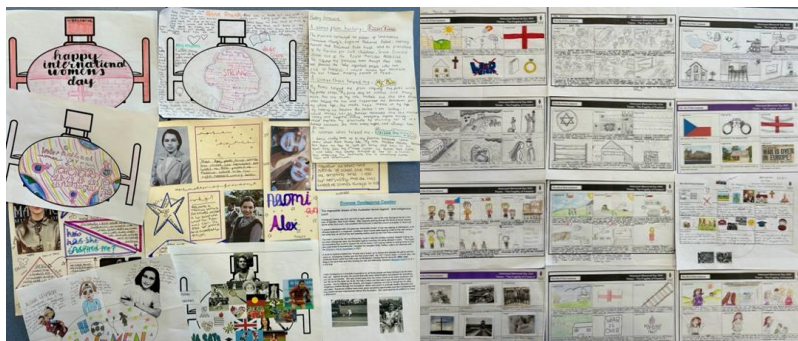
November: Remembrance Day & World War II Workshops

The most poignant time of the year for the History department is Remembrance Day. This year KS3 students carried out their own research into the lives of local men who fought in the wars, turning their stories into beautiful poppies. This work was complimented wonderfully by Mr Shipley's World War II arms and warfare workshops with Year 9.



January: Holocaust Memorial Day

As part of the theme 'The Fragility of Freedom' students remembered the Kindertransport that saved the lives of children like Vera Lowyova from Nazi persecution.



March: International Women's Day and Warwick Castle

To mark International Women's Day this year, students designed their own dinner party and considered the question, which inspirational women of the past and today would they like to share a meal with?

Year 7 students also enjoyed a visit to Warwick Castle to enhance their work on Medieval and Tudor England.



June: The 80th Anniversary of D Day and Inclusion Month

The 6th June 2024 saw the 80th anniversary of D Day. As part of their home learning KS3 students researched the voices of veterans and the witnesses to this momentous event. As part of our inclusion month students investigated the hidden voices of LGBTQ+ figures in history, particularly those in the armed forces.

MFL



SUMMER NEWS



Language Nut Winners

Thank you to all students who participated in the recent competition to raise the profile of the school, as OWS reached **164th out of over a thousand schools!** Which means we are in the **top tier in the UK!**

COMPETITION PRIZE WINNERS

3 students collected a prize from Mademoiselle Dijoux for being the top scoring student in their year group. Bravo!

Year 7 - William Sawyer 7EJW

Year 8 - Alfie Proctor 8ECH

Year 9 - Hollie McKenna 9SDI



Les Jeux Olympiques

Taking place for the 3rd time in Paris & will be the biggest event ever organised in France.

The Olympic rings are based on a design created by Pierre de Coubertan, who pioneered sport in education in France. In 1894 he proposed to resurrect the Olympic Games, which became the modern event as we know it today.



Madame Lawrence recently visited Thiers to attend the annual Twinning Association get-together. The next one will be held in Bridgnorth in Summer 2025. Get in touch with bridgnorthtwinningassociation@gmail.com if you'd like to host French or German visitors.



Twinning News



The May half-term break saw OWS welcome 2 football teams from Schrobenshausen who played Bridgnorth Spartans.

There was victory for both Bavarian teams; 7-6 for the U12s and 0-1 for the U14S.

Of the match, Rob Woodcock, Chair of Bridgnorth Spartans, said:

"It was a superb evening of football. We were treated to some sun, rain and a colourful end to the evening with a rainbow. What a lovely event and so special to see so many Spartans and our friends from Schrobenshausen, young and older, enjoying themselves. The football was played in great spirit and to a high standard."

Summer Competition 2024.....It's Back

Recreate a famous painting or artwork

Re-creating famous Art

Oldbury Wells School Art Competition July 2024

Some ideas from teachers and their families.

Ever thought about what it would be like to put yourself as the main character in a famous painting?

We thought this would be a fun task to do over the Summer. Here is your chance to get the creative juices flowing, use your imagination and have some fun!!

Can you try to recreate a famous painting or artwork by any artist using just what you have at home. Use props, household objects, yourself, family and even your pets! Then take a photo.

It is open to staff and students! Have a look at some of our ideas from a few of our teachers. There are lots of ideas online or you could pick your favourite artwork.

DEADLINE : MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2024

Please put entries in Sharepoint - Student resources - Students in - Photo Competition

We look forward to seeing what you can CREATE!

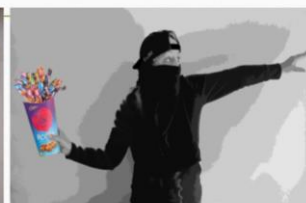
Birth of Venus: Botticelli



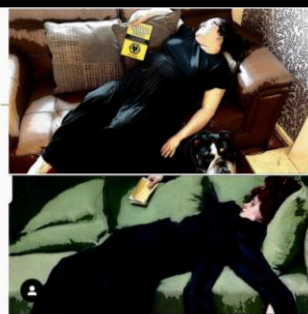
Flower Thrower
2015: Banksy



Roses Thrower 2020



Two Cherubs: Raffaello Sanzio Raphael



Jove Decadent
by Ramon
Casas 2020/

Van Gogh: The
Potato Eaters



Johannes Vermeer's
Girl With The Pearl Earring

July Art Dept Artist of the month

Amazing work!!

Year 7: Zoe Burr

For super commitment to Art and the first student to complete her amazing entry for the Yr7 Signs and Symbols competition.

Results to be announced in September.

Year 8: Ellis Williams

Ellis has worked hard this term to complete a really intuitive and imaginative Zentangle design inspired by the Natural world. A brilliant idea.



Year 9: Luke Braviner

Luke developed some lovely artwork in class on his music theme and then showed a great level of skill with Adobe Photoshop to design a fantastic magazine cover.

Year 10:

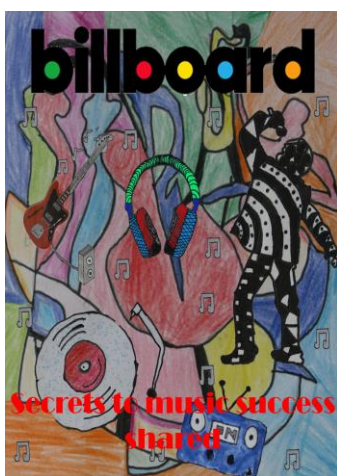
It was hard to pick two winners as the year 10 class had worked so hard on this task but it is awarded to:

Sam Watkins

Sam worked hard to create a 3D design in the mock exam for his artist presentation reflecting an excellent contextual understanding of his chosen artist.

Josie Burt

Josie developed a multimedia Vivienne Westwood inspired art piece with superb use of research, materials and imagery.



Year 10 Art and Design: 2D or 3D contextual presentation

The students are a great group to teach and were given a challenging task for the mock exam to create a 2D or 3D contextual presentation within the 3 hr Art exam.

Before the exam the students had time to prepare and construct the shape of the design, complete the contextual research and a transcription of the artist work.

During the exam they created their own artwork inspired by the artist and then mounted and presented the work. As you can see they produced some amazing pieces. Well done Year 10 for your work in Art and Design this year and I am looking forward to seeing what you can create next year!



Amazing Work in Art

Fantastic pieces from Year 7

These are fantastic pieces from **7EJW**. These are the abstract architecture final pieces inspired by the artist Hundertwasser. Well done to:

- Fynn Spinks
- Katie Labaniego
- Ruby Rose Mould
- Darcy Webb
- Izzy Bradley
- Zoe Burr

Amazing work and effort by these students, congratulations and well done



Intuitive Artwork studying

Well done Year 8

You may remember in the last newsletter students were developing their own creative and intuitive Artwork studying the Art of Zen angles. Here are just a few of their final pieces created.

Well done Year 8.



DofE Expedition Time !

Bronze D of E expedition

Recently 32 Year 9 students successfully completed their Bronze D of E expedition by completing a two-day walk between Tasley, Much Wenlock and Ironbridge. They all showed great teamwork, map and camping skills and plenty of grit in some hot weather and we are really proud of them. Pupils worked in groups of 6 or 7 and had to carry all their own equipment for the two days, including tents, stoves and of course food. Some of the paths were overgrown and tricky to follow but, by working together, they were able to find their way to their destination and will have that section of the Award recorded as complete.

With that quarter of the Award finished, the pupils are busy working towards completing the physical, volunteering and skill sections over the summer. We are hopeful that we will be able to present certificates for fully completed Awards soon.

The Bronze Award is an introduction to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and asks participants to show commitment to their personal development in the four ways outlined. We are hoping that lots of our new Year 9 pupils will want to sign up next year. Watch out for information and letters later in September with all the details.

If you'd like to ask any questions, talk to Mr Pollock or Mr Smith.



D&T's Year of Creativity and Innovation

Talent throughout all aspects of D&T

Here are just some of the fantastic projects completed by our students this year.

Year 7s have made some wonderful hats, developing their sewing machine skills. Mr Tristram's groups have been busy soldering circuits and designing acrylic shades using 2D design and the mugs have been a great success with the students' creative approach to designing and CAD.



Our year 8s have also been busy continuing their skills with 2D design producing bags and repeat patterned fabrics. They have also skilfully produced some fantastic containers.

Our showstoppers have been the amazing T-shirts produced in Year 9 where they have produced some brilliant, screen-printed t-shirts using our past decades of design for inspiration.

Next year D&T will be researching wildlife conservation and focusing on recycling materials. To help us produce some innovative and fun projects please can we ask you to save and send in your washed-out plastic milk 2 litre bottles and any plastic bottle tops.



Wishing everyone a fun filled Summer, from the D&T department.

Year 7 D&T – Mug Design Project

Talent throughout all aspects of D&T

This year in D&T, Year 7 pupils have been given the opportunity to design their own decorative mugs, showcasing their creative skills by designing either a pattern or a scene in their sketchbooks, followed by digitising their design proposal and using Photoshop to create their final image in vibrant colour. This could then be permanently transferred onto a ceramic mug by using dye sublimation printing followed by heat pressing.

Pupils were tasked with creating a range of designs and asked to select their favourite based on how much they liked it, but also to consider any potentially wider appeal that could effectively make their mug design a commercially viable business proposition.



As such, pupils responded with individual and exciting design work that interested both them and their peers but was also not overly personalised to keep the levels of interest from a range of people high. Pupils were also informed that their designs could be used for a competition entry and staff would choose the Oldbury Wells Mugs of the Year.

Special mentions go to Georgina Harman, Elisa Roggenbach, Bradley Masefield and Lily Lloydbottom for their excellent designs this year, amongst many others of course!

Due to all of the excellent work across Year 7, deciding upon our winners was very difficult! Ultimately, four pupils were shortlisted: **Betty Ravenhall**, for her heart themed mug (the strongest visual pattern design), **Max Whiteman**, for his wonderful coastal village seascape, and the dynamic duo of **Holly-Ann Glaze** and **Ruby-Rose Mould** for their extraterrestrial themed intergalactic designs.



All four received a tote bag printed by Miss Roden (whom all pupils also thanked for helping them to print their final mugs) with their winning designs on.

Ultimately, if I had to choose only two mugs as the official Oldbury Wells Mugs of 2024, I would possibly go with Holly-Ann's and Max's designs, but it really is almost impossible to choose between them!

Which would you choose as your favourite design?

Which do you think would sell the most? One thing I'm sure we can all appreciate is just how fantastic they all are, so well done and congratulations to Year 7!

Mr Szwarc

Chefs of the Term

This terms winners

The Chefs of the Term are:

YEAR 7

- Raina Raikhy
- Georgina Harman

YEAR 8

- Grace Faulkner
- Amelia Maddison

YEAR 9

- Justin Maneclang
- Holly Scriven

YEAR 10

- Kimberley Kendall
- Josie Burt



GCSE Geography

Fieldtrips

In the last weeks of term Geography GCSE students have been enjoying fieldwork trips to Shrewsbury. We have been investigating how the quality of life changes across different areas of Shrewsbury and testing how well Shrewsbury matches the 'Burgess Model', by collecting lots of data and practising fieldwork techniques in many different locations.



CRAZY Geographers!

Birmingham University

In many GCSE lessons we show short videos made by a Birmingham University geography ambassador called 'Geography in Action'.

A lot of our Oldbury Wells GCSE students have enjoyed playing 'find the stickers' in the geography rooms as staff and students have participated in Geography in Action version of 'Find Wally'!

Evie Evans and Roma Russello in Year 10 have taken things one step further – having socks made with the star of the videos!

Music Department: 'Summer Showcase Success'

Audience were treated to polished performances

We celebrated a wealth of performance talent on Monday 8th July in our 'Summer Showcase' production where students from all years performed a broad range of music and some drama sketches.

Our audience were treated to polished performances from a range of musical genres from Handel to Rap to Musical Theatre to Pop and Rock, with students demonstrating their excellent instrumental and vocal skills to an enthusiastic and supportive audience. The drama sketches included an emotive scene from Willy Russell's Blood Brother's and a classic comedy sketch from the Catherine Tate Show.

Many months of work and commitment has gone into producing the show and we are very proud of our students' professionalism. A fitting celebration at the end of our school year.

J Dangerfield
Head of Music

Please can all students in Years 7,8,9 and those who will be studying GCSE Music in September ensure they have a pair of 'mini jack earphones' with them for every music lesson from September.

This is essential school equipment please.



Empowering Futures

Girls in Computing Visit to RAF Cosford: Ready Player One

On Tuesday 9th July, a group of talented Year 8 girls had the unique opportunity to explore RAF Cosford and participate in a computing challenge. The visit is part of 'I Belong', an initiative organised by the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) and STEM Learning, aimed to inspire the next generation of girls in computing.

RAF Cosford, known for its cutting-edge aviation technology and training, proved to be the perfect setting for this educational expedition. The day began with a tour of the Aerospace Museum, where the girls marvelled at the historic aircraft and learned about the evolution of aviation technology. From early biplanes to modern jets, the intricate blend of engineering and computing was evident at every turn.

Following the tour, students took part in a workshop where they harnessed the power of the Micro:Bit to program buggies for an expedition on Mars. These small yet powerful computers enable students to control the motors of their buggies, bringing their code to life and providing them with hands-on experience in robotics and programming. The workshop demonstrates the potential of STEM education to inspire and equip future engineers and computer scientists for the challenges of interplanetary missions.

The trip to RAF Cosford was more than just an educational outing; it was a transformative experience that ignited a spark of curiosity and ambition. Throughout the visit, the message was clear: computing skills are not only essential, but also incredibly empowering. The girls were encouraged to see themselves as future innovators and problem solvers. The visit provided invaluable insight into the critical role of computing in aviation and encouraged these bright minds to pursue their studies in computing.

Oldbury Wells School is committed to empowering girls through education and exposure to STEM fields. Stay tuned for more exciting opportunities and initiatives aimed at inspiring the next generation of female tech leaders.



Fund Raising & Reward Trips & Trips

The Harry Johnson Trust

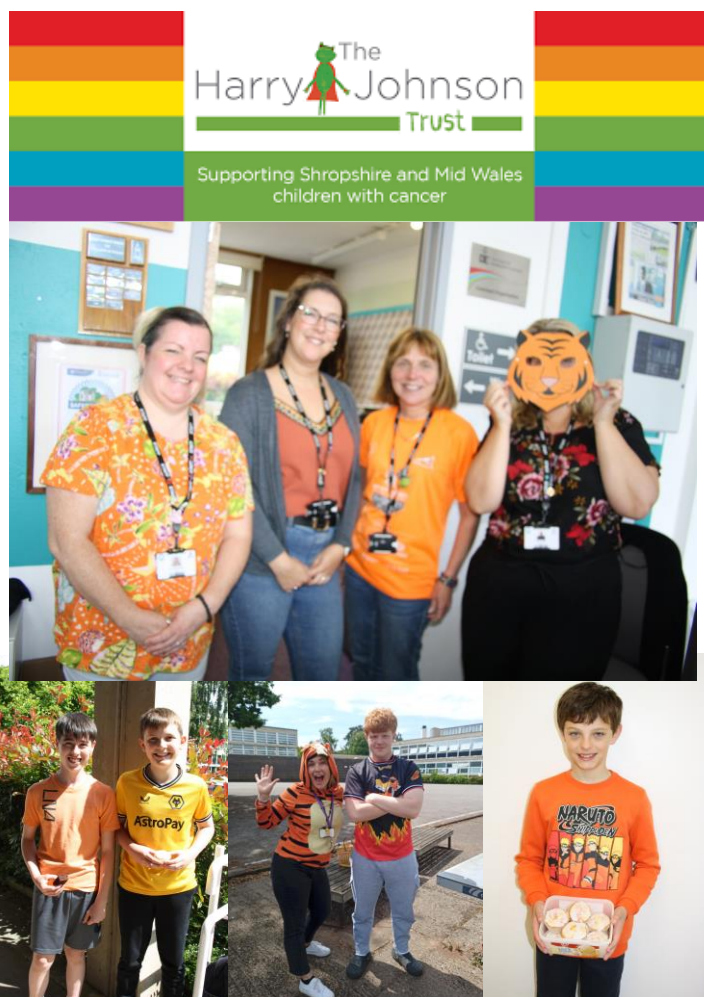
An amazing £628 raised

We held a Charity Non-uniform Day and cake sale on Friday, 14th July for the Harry Johnson Trust. The Trust offers help and support for children and teenagers who receive care from the Oncology team at the Princess Royal Hospital in Shropshire.

Students wore non uniform or orange (Harry's favourite colour) contributing a £1 donation. As you are aware local charities really struggle financially so we hoped to raise quite a lot on money.

We raised £504 and made £124 on the cake sale. An amazing total!!

Thanks to 7EJW, members of Year 7 and staff who donated cakes. Also to staff and parents for their help and donations.



Rewards Trips

Well done!

Well done to all students who have been involved with rewards trips at the end of the year.

Alongside having a brilliant time, you have represented your school fantastically well; we've had such amazing feedback from all visits which have taken place.

Well done everyone.

'Below The Belt'

This half term some Y10 pupils had the opportunity to take part in an innovative three-day workshop called 'Below The Belt'. The workshop focused on male identity and male social and emotional wellbeing, encouraging young men to talk about feelings and mental health.

Run by qualified youth workers from the local area, the relaxed atmosphere gave the boys a safe place to discuss those sensitive topics that are sometimes off-limits in school or at home.

Ian and Tom from Shropshire Youth said how positive, engaged, open, honest and brave the lads were in the workshop with their self-disclosure, self-reporting and curiosity. They described them as a credit to Oldbury Wells School and even suggested that their banter and humour was "razor sharp"!

The boys themselves have given positive feedback too.

"It helped me to see things differently".

"I really enjoyed it. It was a laugh but it covered some serious topics".

"I felt comfortable to share my feelings. The youth workers created a safe place".

"All lads should do it".

We hope to be able to offer the opportunity to more pupils in the coming school year.

Mrs Goodison

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Whole School Approach

This term, staff have been meeting with the Mental Health Support Teams who have been supporting us to develop a 'Whole School Approach' to supporting emotional wellbeing and mental health within the school. They have been working to embed strategies and ideas that can be implemented at a whole school level to help support each and every student with their mental health and wellbeing. The MHST's will also start work from September meeting with our young people and delivering research-based interventions for mild to moderate health difficulties. They will also be coming into school delivering year group assemblies to small group workshops.

From September, Oldbury Wells will also be focussing on Mental Health and Wellbeing during tutor times. Every Monday morning, all students will be involved in research-based mental health and wellbeing activities designed to improve mood and confidence and develop lifelong strategies to help and support our young people.

If you would like any more information regarding MHST's and how your child or yourself as a parent or carer can access their support, or any information surrounding the work we do at Oldbury Wells around Mental Health and Wellbeing, please get in touch.





Our Amazing Trusted Student Parliament 2024

What a start to our Student Parliament

Well, what a start to our Student Parliament!

Set up in January, we finally got the ball rolling in March where we met up as a group and decided on the two charities **Papyrus**, prevention of young suicide and **Birmingham Children's Hospital**.

All our brilliant representatives set to work on organising fund raising events and we end the year with a fantastic grand total of £3000.



Evie Pawson from Belvidere School came up with the superb idea of the 'Just Giving' site to enable the Parliament to reach as many people as possible.

The links have been a great success and we intend to keep them running until our Student Parliament decide on their next project, so please continue to spread the word and share the links below to keeping raising funds for these well deserving charities and get them as much money as possible.



Papyrus - https://www.justgiving.com/page/trusted-schools-1714142188296?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Ftrusted-schools-1714142188296&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share



Birmingham Childrens Hospital - https://www.justgiving.com/page/trusted-schools-1714134410377?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Ftrusted-schools-1714134410377&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

On Thursday, 11th July some of the St Leonards Student Parliament Representatives were able to proudly present a cheque to Birmingham Children's Hospital's representative Ashleigh Adams at St Leonards School.

We are extremely proud of our students and what they have achieved in just this short space of time. Also, thank you for all your support from home.

See you next year - Trusted Student Parliament

Sports Day 1

Oldbury Wells Sports Day 2024

On Friday, 12th July we held our annual sports day. With the weather looking good for the afternoon and only one moment of concern with some building black clouds we got through the event unscathed with the weather. There was a buzz of excitement from the students as they headed down to participate and an eagerness to perform well for their houses. Mr Smith got everything started and accompanied the afternoon with a soundtrack to match the tension of some tight races.



The first event was the hurdles, the 6 races went without a problem, with some really good runs and technique on show, demonstrating everything they have learnt in lessons over the past 2 months. In Year 7 **Brad Masefield** and **Veronica Richards** led the way and set the tone for both Friary and Northgate for the rest of the afternoon. Some excellent running and impressive commitment.



Throughout the day the students performed brilliantly putting in some excellent performances. If I asked any of the teachers who were officiating events, they would highlight different students who performed excellently. In the long jump **Fin Watson-Dudley** saved his best jump to last jumping 3m72cm to win the Year 8 boys competition. In a close fought contest the other students pushed him close. In the 100m races **Jack Bowen** won a close race in the Year 8 boys race, being pushed to the line by **Sam Twigg** and **Jonathon Arinyedokiari** who was pipped on the line by Sam - a really engaging race.



In the girls' events there were some stand out performances from **Kerry Griffiths** and **Imogen Leith**. Special mentions should go to **Holly Rossookh** who managed to complete the much-coveted win in the 1500m having come 3rd in Year 7, 2nd in Year 8 and finally getting the win in Year 9. The engagement and enthusiasm of every student involved meant that the day ran well with excitement throughout. The way in which every student got behind each other to cheer and encourage was amazing.



Sports Day 2

As always, we finish the day with the relays and there were some strong performances again from everyone.

The whole of Year 7, 8 and 9 lined the track to support and cheer for their houses. In Year 7 **Friary** girls and the Year 7 **Castle** boys won some strong races with some excellent performances, with each house taking some advantage at some point through the race. In year 8 **Westgate** girls and **Westgate** boys took a clean sweep of the event and in Year 9 the races were keenly contested.

We finished the day with the staff and 6th form relay, with students packing the finishing straight to cheer everyone on. The race started dramatically with **Mr Cook** taking a fall but managing to catch up and put his team in a strong position. **Mr Farish** leading his team home with a healthy advantage.

The whole PE department would like to thank all the students for the way they performed and made their jobs easier at the start and end of each race.



Throughout all this the students who were spectating and supporting their houses were brilliant and made sure that their athletes in their houses felt the support to produce the results they did.

The encouragement and support were brilliant.

I want to finish off by saying a massive thank you to all the students involved in the day and the way they approached it; the teachers spectating and supporting all commented on how nice it was to see some many students buy in and engage with the day. I am sure that the students would also like to extend a massive thank you to every member of staff for their hard work, running the events and ensuring they made it to their events on time.

A special thank you to Mr Farish, Miss Joiner, Mr Sango, Miss Loewnau and Mr Smith for their work in the run up to and organising the event.

Mr Cowburn

	1	2	3	4
Year 7	Friary	Castle	Northgate	Westgate
Year 8	Castle	Friary	Northgate	Westgate
Year 9	Westgate	Friary	Castle	Northgate
Overall	Friary	Castle	Westgate	Northgate

Tug of War

Tug of War Champions

On Friday, 5th July our annual Tug of War event took place. This involved all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 competing in their houses to see which house could be crowned Tug of War Champions in each year group.

The participation was fantastic from all involved and everyone got behind their house to try to cheer them on to victory! There were some very tightly contested battles in both the male and female competitions and friendly rivalry seen between teams! Well done to everyone who participated and did so in the spirit of the occasion!

Within each winning house two representatives were selected based on their excellent contribution to their team throughout.

Y7 – Westgate – Jamie Banner and Ellie Williams

Y8 – Castle – Henry Rollings and Amelia Maddison

Y9 – Friary – Lucy Courtman and Archie Grove.



Sports Team Photos

A celebration of all of the teams

In celebration of all the teams that have been represented by the students of OWS this year, we dedicated a day to taking Team Photos for students to then have a memento of their participation during the year. More than 150 students were involved in the photos, having represented at least one sporting team and these spanned 25 different teams in total.

The photos are available for students to purchase at £3 per photo or £10 for 4 photos. They will need to collect an order form from PE and select the number of the photo(s) they wish to purchase and then return the form and the money to the PE office by Friday, 20th September.

The money raised will be used towards the purchase of more team kit for the following season.



Physical Education

Sports Awards Assembly

The OWS PE Department celebrates

On the morning of Monday, 8th July, the OWS PE Department celebrated the successes of students in the 2023-24 academic year with the annual Sports Awards Celebration. More than 80 students were rewarded for their commitment to the school through participation in sporting events throughout the year. These awards ranged from Tug of War captains, Victor and Victrix Ludorum for our most successful athletes in each year, the most influential players in Interhouse Competitions and those who gained team and individual success in District, Partnership and County events in a wide variety of sports.

School colours are awarded for the students who have committed to the widest range of sporting fixtures throughout the year and represented the school in terms of their effort and attitude to competition. Then finally the leadership, star of the future and legacy awards. This year these awards went to:

Leadership: **Harriet Haden** for her dedication to the leadership course and events for younger students this year.

Star of the future: For the two Y7 students who have shown the most potential to be a star in both performance and attitude going forward. This was awarded to **Will Millington** and **Georgina Harman**.

Legacy: To the Y11 students who have left the biggest impact on the PE Department through their 5 years at OWS. This was awarded to **Hattie Preston** and **Callum Blower**.

Congratulations to all who received an award and let's aim for even more next year!



Sports Photos

Ready to order

If your son/daughter has represented the school in a sporting fixture this year, sport team photos were taken yesterday. These can be purchased in a 7x5 print by students coming to the PE office, to collect a slip and record the number of the specific photo(s) they would like. They then need to return the slip with the payment of £3 per photo or 4 for £10 to the PE office by Friday, 20th September please. The money raised will be used to put towards new team kits next year.

Student Voice & trust Awards



Year 8 Assemblies. To promote student voice, Year 8 students have presented assemblies to the whole year group on a range of topical issues and ideas. School uniform, the importance of good attendance and punctuality, the positive impact of therapy dogs in school, and challenging racism in sport were just a few of the topics looked at in detail. Well done to everyone involved, great to hear our students views on such a range of important issues.

#studnetvoice



Trust Awards

Congratulations to all our Trust award nominees, you have been amazing and deserve all the acknowledgement and praise you have received.

Oldbury Wells Nominated Winners



- Amelia Maddison
- Anna Allcock
- Camren Farrington-Hyrons
- Charlie Veal
- Georgina Harman
- Grace Faulkner
- Izzy Davies

- Josh Wyke
- Kitty Stokes
- Leon Lloyd
- Lucy Courtman
- Max McCartney
- Oliver Tranter
- Tazkia Ahmed



Opportunities for all

Supporting our teachers in Professional Development.

Just like our students, the staff here at Oldbury Wells are life-long learners and many have been working hard this year to achieve externally accredited teaching qualifications called 'NPQs'. NPQs require teachers to commit a considerable amount of their own time to completing training and assignments over a period of 18 months.

This year **Mrs Warner** and **Mrs Morgan** have both successfully completed the National Professional Qualification in Leading Behaviour and Culture. **Mx Farrington** and **Miss Brindley** have both passed the National Professional Qualification in Leading Teaching. **Miss Roberts** has successfully completed the National Professional Qualification in Leading Teacher Development, and **Mrs Barlow** has successfully passed the National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership.

We congratulate these staff on their hard work and the commitment that they have shown to their ongoing professional development.

Frictionless Futures

Price Waterhouse Coopers

A group of 17 of our Year 10 students have been taking part in a pilot project with Pricewaterhouse Coopers and Shropshire Council. Oldbury Wells School and Lakelands School in Ellesmere were the two schools selected to take part.



As part of the project, we visited Pricewaterhouse Coopers office in Manchester. The focus of the visit was to look at how digital technology is used in the 21st Century. They learnt about 'Frictionless Futures' – how AI technology is used in retail and sporting venues. They also got to learn about the use of VR headsets. They had the opportunity to try these out - there was some great virtual dancing and boxing.

They experienced what life was like in a major corporate office, including using their table tennis tables and table football. We were also lucky enough to experience the roof terrace which afforded an excellent view across the Manchester skyline.

Finally, the students had to work in groups and to create a presentation about how they would use AI. The two speakers delivered their ideas.

The final celebration event took place at Shrewsbury Town football club. A group of our students, **Izzabelle Evans**, **Dylan Thompson**, **Freya Turford**, **Halle Morgan** and **Conor Galley** won the competition for the best presentation. Our students took part in a careers fair with many local employers, apprenticeship providers and local colleges.

All students involved have been excellent in all parts of the programme. The staff at PwC and Shropshire Council have praised how well our students have engaged. A big well done to all involved.

Sixth Form update – Summer 2024

A busy half term

Sixth Form students have finished a busy half term of mock exams and work experience placements.

Thank you to local employers who have supported Sixth Form and Year 10 placements this year; this has provided OWS students with a valuable insight into the world of work.

Our Sixth Form placements have included Booka Bookshop, David Dexter Motor Vehicle Repairs Ltd, Christ Church Junior School, PJM Installations Ltd, Morville Primary School, TI Fluid Systems, University of Birmingham Healthcare Technologies Institute and Perry and Phillips Funeral Directors.

This work experience placement will help our Year 13s determine their Post-18 plans. Many have begun university visits and UCAS personal statements, whilst others have begun to research into apprenticeship opportunities.

Well done to our Year 13 students this year, they have continued to be positive role models for our younger pupils.



Biology Olympiad

Earlier in the term, our Y12 Biologists took part in the Biology Olympiad, organised by the Royal Society of Biology.

Over 15000 students from 722 schools took part in this prestigious and challenging competition which requires students to apply their knowledge to solve a series of biological problems.

We are very proud of our cohort, who all passed the assessed part of their challenge and were presented with certificates from Mr Cox in our awards assembly last week.

We would especially like to congratulate **Kyron Brookes** who received a commendation, placing him in the top 20% of students nationally, and **Thomas Wenham** who received a Bronze award, placing him in the top 15% of students nationally. These are phenomenal achievements and we congratulate all who took part.

For the end of the school year!

In this edition, a Word of the Year word-search; news about the Reading Group (OWLS) and the Reading Room; a Summer Reading competition and a Poster Competition to promote Reading at OWS.

Plus, news of a National Competition running from September to December.

First, the word search! Hope you remember the meaning of the words you've been given!

WORDS OF THE YEAR!

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

- | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| ASUNDER | PALLID | GREGARIOUS | EXIGENT | LIMPID |
| QUEST | TACITURN | FACILITATE | INCIDENTAL | NOISOME |
| RESTIVE | VOLATILE | ZOOMORPHIC | JUVENILE | ONOROUS |
| HALCYON | INCEPTION | JAUNT | FLOURISHING | |
| LACHRYMOSE | BENEVOLENCE | CHARISMATIC | DAPPER | |

READING GROUP – OWLS

If you're not already part of OWLS, you should be!

The writing section of the group have been on trips, entered competitions and enjoyed success with great writing skills. The group meet in Miss Roberts' room on Wednesday lunch times.

The reading section began a few weeks ago on a Thursday lunch time in the Reading Room. We are currently putting the room to rights – see our Amazon wish list! And we are having a Reading Competition and a Poster Competition over the Summer holidays (see below).

Look out for more trips, tips and competitions from September and let us know if you are looking for a particular title or genre in the Reading Room: we can help!

SUMMER READING COMPETITION and BEYOND!

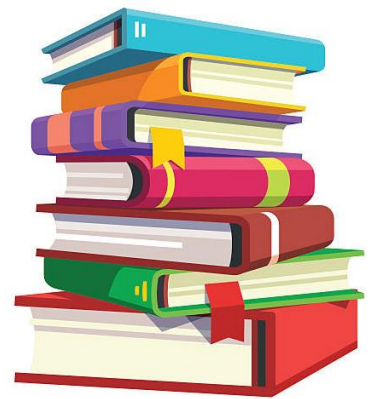
We have entered a competition for reading Graphic Novels – you will gain a certificate for just taking part, but you could win Outstanding Prizes! Look for more details in September and get ready to read (you could try some Graphic Novels over the Summer!). The closing date for the competition is in December 2024, with the results published in January 2025.

OWS Competition: Read two novels over the Summer holidays.

Complete one of the tasks below for each novel and win Achievement Points, a Praise Text, a Certificate and a Prize!

When you've read each novel, you could:

- 1 write a short, 50-word account of the story;
- 2 create a story-board for the main events
- 3 make a "Role on the Wall" for the main character
- 4 design a book jacket for the novel
- 5 write a review to explain your feelings about the plot and characters.



Bring your two pieces with you to the Reading Room on Thursday lunch-time to gain Achievement Points immediately!

Good luck!

READING GROUP – OWLS

Poster Competition

Over the Summer, make a poster about Reading and why it is so important to us all.

Some of the facts below might help you design a persuasive poster! Don't forget to use colour and image. Prizes will be given in September and your poster will be seen around school, as well as entered in a National Competition.

- 1 How many students in the UK do you think have at least one book at home?
a) 1 in 10 b) 1 in 15 c) 1 in 20
- 2 What does research prove about children and teens who read regularly?
a) They are more likely to be suffering poor mental health
b) They are just as likely to suffer poor mental health
c) They are a little more likely to enjoy good mental health
d) They are three times more likely to enjoy good mental health
- 3 Children born into communities with the most serious literacy standards (ones who read and write less confidently) are:
a) more likely to live longer
b) just as likely to live longer
c) far less likely to live longer
- 4 How many children in the UK enjoy reading?
a) 20% b) 60% c) 50% d) 10%
- 5 How many children in the UK enjoy writing?
a) 20% b) 30% c) 40% d) 50% e) 60%

SUMMER READING COMPETITION

Read two books of your choice through the Summer. When you return to OWS in September, come along to Thursday's Reading Room group (lunch-time, Thursdays) and gain your Achievement Points, Certificate, Prize and Praise Text. Simple!

POSTER COMPETITION:

Use your imagination to create a poster about Reading – for the Reading Room and for all OWS (the more colourful, the better!). Bring it with you in September, or submit on Satchel with your name and tutor group, for Prizes, Certificates and Achievement Points!



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

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024

Monday, 2 nd September 2024	PD Day (staff only)
Tuesday, 3 rd September 2024	PD Day (staff only)
Wednesday, 4 th September 2024	Year 7 & Year 11 only
Thursday, 5 th September 2024	All students in school

<u>Half-term</u>	Monday, 28 th October – Friday, 1 st November 2024 inclusive
<u>End of Term</u>	Friday, 20 th December 2024

<u>PD Days</u>	Monday, 2 nd September 2024
	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
	Friday, 25 th October 2024

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