

Our Ref: LTM/kmd/endofterm

10 July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: General Updates and Important Information for September 2025

As we approach the end of term, please see information below on several key developments in school:

Early Finish on Friday, 18th July: The school day will finish at 12:00pm on the last day of term, with buses scheduled to depart at 12:15pm. Families are asked to put arrangements in place for those travelling on buses to ensure that from drop off, onward journeys home are secure; thank you for your support with this.

Staffing moving on: At this time of year, we say thank you and good luck to staff who are moving on. All have made such a difference within our school community, and we will be forever grateful for the difference they have made:

Mr Brown (Assistant Headteacher) moves on having been a key member of the leadership team alongside working within the Maths department; he has had responsibility for some key aspects of whole schoolwork which have significantly supported student progress and development and he has contributed so much to the wider team.

Mr Parmar takes on a new role in September and has been a key member of the Maths team, whilst also being involved with a range of wider school opportunities. I know he will be missed by both staff and students for the enjoyment he has brought to so many within his lessons and through his wider curricular involvement.

Mrs Kenworthy has been an invaluable member of the team, she has supported across so many subject areas alongside working within the SEND team to support key students. She has made such a difference to so many during her time with us.

Mrs Wild is retiring at the end of the year; she has worked to support so many developments within the English department and deserves to step back and enjoy all she has planned for her retirement ahead.

Mr Gardner-Hart has worked to support the Science team and has brought a vast range of experience with him and we thank him for all his support.

Mrs Lawrence has been with us over the last year and provided additional support within the Language department whilst also organising a range of visits and activities to further promote opportunities within MFL.

Mr Watkins joined the PE team last September. He soon settled in and has supported so many sporting opportunities across the year, thank you to him.

Mrs McGonigle has worked within the teaching Assistant team and has done so much to support our students across the school.

Mr Lee has completed his teacher training and moves on at the end of the year so we wish him all the very best for the future

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A mention also for **Miss Blewitt** and **Mrs Woodward** (retiring) who have both left the school over the last week. Mrs Woodward worked as a HLTA and has done some amazing intervention work to support the progress of so many students, while Ms Blewitt was a member of our cover team.

We wish those moving on all the very best and thank them for all they have given during their time at Oldbury Wells School.

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

A final mention to **Mr Walker** (Head of Year 8 & 9), although not leaving, he does step back from his Head of Year role in September. I know how much staff, students and families will appreciate the support and guidance he has given within school and we thank him for the difference he has made.

Newsletter: We will be sending out the end of term Journal next week which captures brilliantly the range of activities, events and opportunities students have been involved with. Please spend time to take a look and use this to speak to your child about their involvement and commitment to try new things in the new year; there are some wonderful examples of the great work and opportunities students have supported.

Communication: Over the summer we will keep communication to a minimum, although we will of course send out any important reminders when staff are in school on results days. A reminder that we use social media to give an insight into events in school; please look to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep updated with what's going on.

School Uniform: As we look towards September, we ask parents for their support with regards to school uniform. We know that over the summer many items of uniform are updated and parents should refer to the school website which gives clear guidance on uniform requirements (<https://oldburywells.com/parentguardian-information/uniform>)

Although the majority of our students have the correct uniform and wear this with pride, at present we are having to highlight with some student's issues related to footwear which is of a trainer style and therefore not acceptable, alongside an increase in students having facial piercings or multiple earrings which are not acceptable. Our policy is clearly outlined on the school's website, we would ask all parents to look at the information carefully to ensure that all requirements are met.

We have had some questions regarding the type of school tie and skirt so to confirm:

- **School Tie:** Years 7, 8, 9 - Lower school tie (purple); Years 10 & 11 - Upper school tie (grey).
- **Skirt:** The updated style Trutex GST Gisburn Tartan Skirt is the **compulsory** skirt for all students from September 2025.

School Equipment: As students look forward to the new year, just a reminder of requirements around school equipment, details can be found at : [School Shop | Oldbury Wells](#)

Return to School in September: We have the usual staggered start at the beginning of the new term to support everyone's return to school as outlined below:

- Staff PD days Monday, 1st September & Tuesday, 2nd September
- Year 7 & 11 only on Wednesday, 3rd September
- All students return on Thursday, 4th September

You will be receiving further Information from Mr Walker (new Headteacher) and the team in preparation for the new year.

Final Thank You and Goodbye: With the exception of the school Newsletter next week, this will be my last formal communication to parents before the end of the academic year and before handing over to the new headteacher, Mr Walker. I would like to take this initial opportunity to thank all those students, families, staff and members of the community for the support they have given over the last 5 years during my time at Oldbury Wells School.

As you know, I will be moving on at the end of this term but will look back on some wonderful memories of all that has happened within our school community. Oldbury Wells is a fantastic school which is supported brilliantly by our dedicated team of staff who work tirelessly to support our students. Our students recognise the importance of being involved in all aspects of school life while flourishing in all they do by making the most of the opportunities provided; I will be forever impressed with the commitment they show in all they do.

It has been a privilege to be the school's Headteacher, and I would like to thank all those involved in supporting the school and for the difference they make.

I would just like to say thank you to everyone and wish Mr Walker, the school team, students and those across our community all they very best for the future and I look forward to hearing of the school's continued success.

I hope that everyone has a great summer and can take a well-deserved break to recharge ready for the new academic year.

Yours faithfully



Mr Lee Tristham
Headteacher