

A Time to Celebrate

Immensely proud of the achievements of all those across our community.

It is with immense pride that I introduce the final OWS journal as Headteacher at OWS. As always it is packed with so much which has taken place over the last few weeks, perfectly capturing the range of opportunities supported across the school by our wonderful staff and which our students actively join in and take part to make such a positive difference.

This will be my last formal communication before the end of the academic year and before handing over to Mr Walker as OWS new Headteacher in September. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those students, families, staff, Governors, Trustees 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 term and 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, my thanks goes to each and everyone in the the team. Our amazing 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 our school and for the difference they make.

I wish Mr Walker, the school team, students, governors 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.

Take care, and to all our students and staff shine in all you do! **Mr Tristham**





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.

Miss 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 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

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.



English

Harry Potter - Warner Bros. Studio Trip

A trip full of magic and merriment!

On 26th June, 40 KS3 students, Ms Silverstone, Mr Marshall, Mrs Rock and Miss Roberts went to the Warner Bros. Studio to visit the 'Harry Potter' attraction and take part in the tour.

This trip was fantastic, full of magic and merriment! The students learned how the books were translated onto the big screen; how set pieces were designed and used and explored the hundreds of thousands of props created for the films. Butterbeer was tasted, broom sticks were ridden and a trip through the Forbidden Forest was undertaken.

The students had a great time and were impeccable in their behaviour. For the staff it was a lovely experience to be involved with; it was a joy to be there and share the opportunity with students.

Hopefully, the magic will commence again very soon with another trip there on the horizon in December.

Miss Roberts















English

Spelling Bee Success

They all did amazingly well

A massive well done to our Spelling Bee students who attended Belvidere School for the Trust Spelling Bee Competition; they all did amazingly well.

We have a WINNER - our year 8 winner was **Heidi Hicklin**. A fantastic achievement and well done to all involved.



Pride Month Big Read Celebrating LGBTQ+ writers and stories

Well done to our students who took part in the Pride Month Big Read Challenge. As a school we have been celebrating LGBTQ+ writers and stories about self-discovery and identity. Some of our students have been busy reading 'The Boy In the Dress' by David Walliams. Time to take a look at these beautiful book reviews written by **Grace Willetts** and **Willow Allen** from 7CHA!

Keep an eye out for future reading competitions and opportunities from Miss Silverstone

Prude Month Dig read A review of... To B Duid Hollians Ranew by: Charming, Surprising and Hilgrices





Maths

On Thursday 13th February, Mr Walker, accompanying staff and 150 Year 7 pupils visited The British Ironworks for a mathematical exploration of endangered species from across the globe!

Pupils engaged in collecting data that linked to the level of threat the species on display were categorised in, as well as then presented their collated data in various forms of charts and tables.



On Tuesday 25th February, Mr Walker, accompanying staff and 160 Year 8 pupils visited RAF Cosford for a mathematical exploration of Robotics and Space system engineering!

 No.64
 Anior

 NO.610
 Match Mark

 NO.610
 Mark

Pupils engaged in various activities such as creating and launching their own rockets, collecting 'asteroids' through utilising and familiarising themselves with various pieces of advanced technology.



Science Department Summer Term Round-Up

As the summer sun sets on another busy term, the Science Department is celebrating a season packed with achievement, innovation and heartfelt farewells.

Farewell to Year 13 – Bridgnorth Sixth Form's Final Cohort

This term marked a poignant milestone as we bid farewell to our final Year 13 students with the closure of Bridgnorth Sixth Form. These exceptional young scientists have left a lasting legacy and we are incredibly proud of their journey. Whether heading to university, apprenticeships or new adventures, we wish them the very best and hope they will carry with them the curiosity and resilience that have been the hallmark of their studies in our department.

GCSE Success and Year 10 Momentum

Our Year 11 students have shown remarkable dedication during their GCSE exams, supported by afterschool and lunchtime revision sessions, as well as online resources. We look forward to receiving their results and wish them all the very best for the future.

Our revision support will continue into Year 11 for our current Year 10s, who recently completed their mock exams with promising results. Consistent revision over the coming year is key to building confidence, deepening understanding and ensuring every student reaches their full potential. We will be there every step of the way to support our young scientists and appreciate the support they receive at home.

KS3 Science Club - Engineering Fun and Discovery

Our KS3 Science Club has been a hive of creativity and exploration! This term, our intrepid investigators have:

- Built robot hands using straws and string
- Designed and tested egg-parachuting vehicles from the top of the science block
- Tackled engineering challenges with household materials, constructing bridges and buildings with impressive ingenuity

KS3 Science club is open to all students in Y-9. Come along and join us when we return in September, you'll be very welcome!





Physics Olympiad Triumph

A huge congratulations to our Year 10 physicists who took part in the Physics Olympiad.

Izzy Davies achieved a gold certificate, with Jodie Ansell, Luke Braviner, Jenson Harris, Nyrah Khalil, Lizzie Dower, Jay Webb, Talia Wood, Aimee Fox, Will Harman, Charlie Blakey, Fin McCafferty, Ollie Tranter, Alex Foster, Max Ward and Evie Prosser earning Silver. Cody Love, Jay Hart, Ruby Pillans, Charlie Wheldon, James Corey, Sam Hodgkinson, Ben Nash, Zak Upton, Liv Jones, Sophie Dorrell, Saidhbh Lyons, Hollie McKenna, Lexi Portik-Lunn, Milly Pitt, Harriet Haden, Lucy Courtman, Kitty Stokes, Laila Rollings, Lola Moore, Ava Burrows, Max McCartney, Anna Pelc, Justin Maneclang, Jess jones, Arthur Howells, Macey Hand, Charlie Hadley, Kerry Griffiths, Hanry Fairburn, Tess Dainty, Ami Brooke, Maisie Boden, Harry taylor and Esther Smith were all awarded Bronze.

These results are an amazing achievement and put our students right up there with the best young physicists in the UK. Academic competitions like these are vital - they stretch students beyond the curriculum, foster critical thinking and celebrate excellence. Earlier this year, our biologists also shone in the Biology Challenge, showing that scientific talent runs deep across all disciplines. We're excited to hear about the return of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Top of the Bench competition to Shropshire next year, ensuring exciting opportunities in Chemistry, Biology and Physics for all keen scientists.



New Extracurricular Adventures!

In the science department we take a very holistic approach to education, with all staff members involved with offering opportunities for students to develop beyond their day-to-day lessons. This term saw the launch of two fantastic new clubs:

• STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Club – currently building a full Scalextric circuit, combining engineering, electronics, art, craft and teamwork. We are very excited to see this develop over the next year or so. New members are welcome and should speak to Mr Cox or Mr Shipley in the first instance. If you have any old scalextric track or equipment you would be willing to donate to this project please contact Mr Cox, any donations would be gratefully received.



Tabletop Games Club – a creative space where students dive into strategy and storytelling through Dungeons & Dragons, Star Wars Armada, Gaslands, Warhammer 40K, Warhammer AOS, and more. Our students are already taking the lead in developing ideas for the new club, and we are delighted to see some of our Y7s confidently explaining the world of Dungeons and Dragons to our Y10s! We are also very grateful to have received support from Games Workshop in setting this up. New members from all year groups are warmly welcomed and should speak to Mr MacPhee if interested. If you have a game, you want to play on a tabletop, we have space for you! Mr Cox may even dust off his old Subbuteo set!



Staff News – Celebrating Success and New Beginnings

This term, we're delighted to celebrate the achievements of two trainee teachers, Ms Roberts and Mr Lee, who have completed a year of Initial Teacher Training. Their enthusiasm, creativity and commitment to our students have been outstanding and we look forward to seeing their careers flourish.

We also warmly welcome **Ms Roberts** to the teaching team from September. Formerly our Senior Science Technician, Miss Roberts has now completed her teacher training and steps into her new role with a wealth of practical experience and a deep understanding of our department and our young scientists. Her journey is a testament to her dedication and passion for science education. We also welcome **Mr MacPhee** who has been with us this term on a temporary contract and now joins the team permanently from September, bringing with him a wealth of experience in science education and is already taking the lead in enriching our holistic offer by leading a new extracurricular activity.

At the same time, we say a fond farewell to Mr Gardner Hart and Mr Lee, who leave us at the end of this term. Their contributions to the department and the wider school community have been deeply valued and they will be greatly missed. We wish them all the very best in their next chapters.

As we wrap up the term, we are proud of every students' achievement and excited for what is to come - whether in the lab, the classroom or the clubroom, science continues to inspire, challenge and connect us.

Wishing everyone a safe, sunny and science-filled summer!

The Science Department Team

Finally

The Science Department at Oldbury Wells are creating a poster featuring profiles of science workers in our locality.



If any student has a parent, carer, other relation or family acquaintance who works in science (this can include any work that uses a significant amount of science, e.g. engineering, veterinary/ human medicine, dentistry, etc...) please ask the science worker to complete this short survey - <u>https://form.jotform.com/251882682196065</u>



Students' focus on a range of issues

Population and Migration, Microclimates and coastlines to mention a few

This half term, students in Year 7 have been studying population and migration, which has been very much in the news. They have debated the benefits and issues of migration by investigating the UK and the USA. In class votes, students decided (after considering social, economic and environmental factors) that migration has an overall positive impact. A migration story (based upon real events) which students would like to recommend is 'Boy Overboard' by Morris Gleitzman.

Students in **Year 8** have enjoyed doing some fieldwork, by studying the microclimates around the school site – especially as this involved measuring wind speed and direction by blowing bubbles! Students in **Year 9** have been learning about the varied landscapes and coastlines of the UK, whilst **Year 10** students have been applying their geographical skills during field trips to Shrewsbury. This year the Year 10 GCSE students were extremely lucky with the weather, managing to visit on sunny days which were not scorchingly hot. They gathered data about the quality of life in ten different locations around Shrewsbury and at the start of Year 11 we'll analyse the data to find out why there was such variation.

Here are some photos of students during the Year 10 field trips.











World War I Battlefield Visit to France and Belgium

This term has seen the much-anticipated Year 10 World War I Battlefield Visit

<u>Day 1</u> got off to a flying start with a very smooth journey down to Dover and across on the ferry to Calais. This gave the group more time to get introduced to Ypres and its memorials. The group enjoyed walking the ramparts and learnt the rules of 'reading' British war cemeteries.

<u>Day 2</u> on the History dept study visit to Belgium saw students exploring the Ypres Salient. The soldiers' sanctuary at Talbot House was enjoyed by all. It was lovely to see students playing the piano, enjoying games of chess and sat in the chapel in the same ways soldiers before them would have done. Spirited debate was inspired by the German cemetery at Langemark. Is it disrespectful, appropriate or a reflection of German cultural tradition? Students were moved by the British graves at Tyne Cot - the biggest British war cemetery anywhere in the world. There was shock and respect for the number of nameless graves - 'Known Unto God'. A highlight for many students were the restored trenches at Sanctuary Wood, surprisingly muddy considering the dry season.

That evening the school was beautifully represented by Jay, Flossi and Maisie at the Last Post Wreath laying ceremony. Earlier in the day Princess Anne had done the same thing at the official rededication of the Menin Gate following its restoration.

<u>Day 3</u> of the visit focused on two major offensives: the Somme and Arras. Students toured caverns beneath the battlefields. The French guides were impressed by the inquisitive and knowledgeable approach of students as they learnt about the preparations for the Battle of Arras. Later they paid their respects at Thiepval (the memorial to the missing of the Somme) and walked the Somme battlefield at Newfoundland Park. There was shock at how much had been sacrificed for so little land. Students were committed, thoughtful and respectful.

A great end to our World War I experience. As the World War I visit to Belgium came to a close our final stop provided us all with the opportunity to enjoy some much older History, that of Medieval Bruges.

Students saw the Renaissance masterpiece, Michelangelo's Madonna and Child and were rightly praised by museum staff for their conduct and interest. In fact, everywhere we have been, students have shown enthusiasm, understanding and good humour. Well done all, you have been an absolute pleasure to spend time with.

Mr Grainger





Inclusion Month

The experience of LGBTQ+ people

As part of the History department's commitment to helping students to realise that the study of History is the study of our shared past, Years 7 and 8 completed home learning on the experience of LGBTQ+ people.

Some lovely work was produced by Year 7 students on important historical figures such as Alan Turing, Wilfred Owen and Sally Ride.

In Year 8, students used resources produced by the British army to consider the achievements of LGBTQ+ people in wartime.

Well done to all.





MFL

MFL BEST OF 24-25

MF

A round-up of some our best bits over the last academic



MFL



NEWS

In September, 25 Year 11 pupils attended the Casa Naranjo restaurant in Shrewsbury to try some typical Spanish cuisine.

AUTUMN NEWS

They enthusiastically ordered their food in Spanish, practising role-plays for the GCSE speaking exam.



Here are some standout creations from 7SF & 7JXD



Establishing French links for younger learners



Mrs Harvey organised for some real-life practice of ordering food & drink in Spanish.

Primary School Partnerships

This academic year the MFL department has re-established regular visits to some of our local feeder Primary Schools: Castlefields and St.Leonard's, visited by Madame Harvey and Alveley by Madame Lawrence,

The aim of our visits is to enhance the already robust MFL provision in place at these TrustEd academies.

Every other week, KS2 classes take part in song-led lessons designed to encourage the children to have a go at sounding French in a fun and interactive way.



The visits also aim to help the children make a smooth transition into KS3 French at Secondary school.



MFL

NEW YEAR NEWS MFL

Culture - La Galette des Rois



Our Head of Department Mademoiselle Dijoux spoilt students and staff by bringing in her homebaked 'King Cakes' to celebrate Epiphany on 6th January.

Hidden inside the almond cream filling is a fève (once a fava bean), now a porcelain or plastic figurine.

The person who finds the fève in their serving is declared le roi (the king) or la reine (the queen) and gets to wear the golden paper couronne (crown).



Making homework fun and competitive



MERCI ET BRAVO to everyone who took part!

The school reached the 230th place in the whole of the UK against over a thousand of other schools!

Miss Dijoux put her expert French patisserie skills to the test



	Top 3 Year 7	
1	Jayden Moothien	7SF
2	Grace Willetts	7CHA
3	Eva Siegi	7CHA
	Top 3 Year 8	
1	Jake Hammett	BSHB
2	Anna Allcock	BDPE
3	Jesse Bowen	WL36
	Top 3 Year 9	
1	Allie Proctor	9NWT
2	Jonathan Arinyedoklari	9MBR
3	Elis Williams	9ASP
	Top 3 Year 10	
1	Ruby Pillans	10CJ
2	Evie Prosser	10ZMG
.3	Jodie Ansell	10ZMG

MARS 2026

VISITE A L'INSTITUT FEANCAIS

MFL SPECIAL EDITION

A cultural meeting of minds for our Year 10 GCSE French students

E-PEN PALS MEET FACE TO FACE IN LONDON

by Madame Lawrence



Towards the end of last year we successfully launched a Year 10 e-pen pal project with Collège Sainte Jeanne d'Arc in Thiers. If transpired that the French students were coming to London this March, so we arranged for our Year 10 French GCSE students to meet their e-penpal at the Institut Français.

First we did a meet and greet outside the Institut and then we went in to the Cine Lumiere to watch the classic Petit Nicolas, a humorous adaptation of the children's book written by René Goscinny.

Following the tilm, OWS students put their French speaking skills to the test and got to know each other better through directed tasks to aid their learning and graw their confidence. Mrs Lawrence took Yr 10s to meet their epenpals in London



Year 11 Resistant Materials – A Fantastic Finish

Completing their practical projects and final written exam

A huge well done to our Year 11 Resistant Materials students who have now completed both their practical projects and final written exam. Throughout the course, they have shown outstanding commitment, creativity and resilience.

Students designed and made a wide range of innovative and impressive final pieces, using a variety of materials, techniques and processes. Each project demonstrated thoughtful planning, problem-solving and a strong understanding of design principles, reflecting the hard work and skill each student has developed over the last two years.

We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and want to congratulate them on their fantastic effort throughout the course.

We wish all of our Year 11s the very best of luck in their next steps beyond school. Well done and good luck for the future!



Design Technology

Year 7

Year 7 Get Creative with Natural World Hat Project

Our Year 7 students have been busy exploring the theme of the Natural World through an exciting Textiles project - designing and making their very own beanie hats!

This project introduced students to a wide range of new sewing machine skills, from threading and stitching to assembling fabric pieces with care and precision. Many students were using a sewing machine for the very first time and showed fantastic focus and resilience while learning these valuable practical skills.

A huge well done to Year 7 for their creativity, skill and enthusiasm throughout this project. We are looking forward to seeing even more exciting work from them as they continue their journey in Textiles!











Year 7 Mugs

Students have recently completed a fun and engaging Graphics project, where they used digital design skills to create personalised artwork for their own ceramic mugs. Using sublimation printing, they transferred their designs onto mugs with vibrant, professional results.

This project was a great introduction to digital product design and modern printing techniques.

Well done to all students for their fantastic, creative outcomes!







Design Technology

Year 8

Year 8 Celebrate Conservation with Recycled Bird Feeder Project

As part of our ongoing focus on sustainability and conservation, our Year 8 students have been hard at work designing and making their own bird feeders using entirely recycled wood!

The finished bird feeders were fantastic, each one unique in design, carefully built and ready to support birds in students' gardens and outdoor spaces. The project linked brilliantly with our wider school focus on sustainability, following on from our tote bag charity initiative.

Well done to all our Year 8 students for their hard work, creativity and commitment to helping nature thrive.





Year 9 Computer Aided Design

Our Year 9 students have been developing some amazing clocks with Mr Tristham which were inspired by the Memphis Design Movement.

Students completed Design work, modelling and then brought their ideas to life using the Computer Aided Manufacturing technology in the department.

Well done to everyone for producing some fantastic outcomes.

Year 9

Exploring fashion through the decades

Our Year 9 Textiles students have had an exciting and creative term exploring fashion through the decades, designing and screen printing their very own T-shirts inspired by the 1960s, 70s, 80s, and 90s.

Students researched key fashion trends, colours, patterns and cultural influences from their chosen decade before developing bold and eye-catching designs. They then learned how to create stencils and screen print their artwork onto fabric, gaining valuable hands-on experience with textile printing techniques.

The final outcomes were vibrant, fun and full of personality, showcasing a great understanding of each era and excellent practical skills.

Well done to all of Year 9 for embracing this project with such enthusiasm and originality - you've shown great skill and flair.









Year 10

Creative and technically challenging sportswear

Our Year 10 Textiles students have made a fantastic start to their GCSE course with a creative and technically challenging sportswear project. Inspired by the Top 10 National Sporting Events, students designed and constructed their very own hoodies, combining bold themes, thoughtful design and excellent craftsmanship.

Throughout the project, students developed a wide range of new skills, including advanced sewing machine techniques, garment construction, pattern cutting and decorative finishes. Their commitment to the subject has been outstanding, with many showing exceptional creativity and attention to detail in their final pieces.

As you can see from the images, each hoodie is a unique reflection of the student who created it, showcasing a brilliant mix of personal style, inspiration and technical skill. The individuality on display is a testament to the students' growing confidence as designers.

Well done to all of Year 10 for their hard work and enthusiasm. This has been a truly impressive start to the Textiles GCSE and we're really looking forward to seeing what they go on to achieve in Year 11!









Breaking news

OWS has made it into the Guinness World Records!

On Tuesday 1st July, mid-heatwave, in a very hot, steamy classroom, 14 of our Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students, along with two members of staff, took part in the Jamie Oliver's Guinness World Record attempt for the largest cookery lesson, ever!

We were one of over 700 schools taking part, along with other groups from across the UK and internationally, all following a live-streamed online lesson from Jamie Oliver and his team at his Cookery School.

The record attempt was an enormous success, with over 10,500 people simultaneously making fresh

pasta with a tomato and basil sauce. 🎾

Congratulations to our student participants: Reema A, Tamsin C, Henry F, Charlie G, Lousia H, Charlotte K, Maddie L, Max M, Archie O, Grace P, Jessica P, Shae P, Abigail R and Holly S.

You are all RECORD BREAKERS!









Chefs of the Term

Y7 Annabelle Foy Lewis Scott

Y8 Ava Martin Bethany Fyfe

Y9

Jack Bill Phoebe Quintin-Jones

Y10 Thomas Underwood Charlotte King





Year 7 Architecture

Our Year 7 art students have been busy exploring architecture, drawing inspiration from three incredible artists: Ian Murphy, Yoni Alter and Hundertwasser.

Students have looked at Ian Murphy's detailed studies of weathered buildings, learning to observe texture and tone. Then, they shifted to Yoni Alter's vibrant, deconstructed cityscapes, experimenting with bold shapes and colour silhouettes in collage. Finally, Hundertwasser's whimsical, organic and colourful architecture inspired them to design their own fantastical buildings, rejecting straight lines and embracing curves!

This project has broadened their understanding of art and architecture, resulting in some truly inspiring pieces!





Year 8 Imagine yourself half human

Year 8 were set a task to create a half and half portrait - with a portrait on one side and an imaginative 'person', 'creature' or 'character' on other side. They could have been half robot, animal, famous celebrity, film character or it could have been inspired by a character from a song, book or poem or maybe some from History. The key was to use portrait proportion techniques and their imagination.

The year 8s worked hard on this technically difficult topic. Well done to those whose work is now displayed in our digital Yr 8 portrait gallery.



Year 9 Magazine cover

Year 9 students this year have been working hard to create a graphical design by hand or using Photoshop to produce a final magazine cover on personal themes such as Sport, Animals, Music and Fashion. Here are some fantastic examples by hand.





Year 10 Observational drawing

Year 10 GCSE Art and Design students were asked to prepare for a 3-hour mock developing an observational drawing in response to their new coursework themes of Space, Movies, The News, Music, Maps.

The focus was on elements of 2 GCSE assessment objectives OBJ 2 - experimenting with different media, techniques and processes and OBJ 3 - drawing from observation, illustrating what they have learnt this year.

I was amazed by how detailed and intricate the work was and also how some of the students challenged themselves by working on a larger scale or using new media such as charcoal, oil pastels and mixed media. The selection of work here shows the fantastic progress and achievement the students made in the mock exam over the 3 hours.

I look forward to working with my GCSE Art & Design students next year as they move into year 11.



HJT Charity Day

Orange was the colour!!

We had a great Charity day raising funds for one of our school charities the HJT - The Harry Johnson Trust which provides support for children and teens diagnosed with cancer.

A lot of students wore orange, Harry's favourite colour, and we had some great tigers having a Grrrrrrreat time!!

Members of 8EJW helped on the cake sale and worked on events such as keepie uppies competition and guess how many sweets in a jar. Members of 7SDI also organised fantastic stalls with guess the name of the bear and the lolly stick game. We raised a superb $\pounds154$ on the cake sale and charity stalls so well done to all who helped. Thanks also to Miss Dijoux and Mrs Harvey who helped on the day.

With non uniform donations we raised a final total of $\pounds 519$. Thanks to all who supported the charity by donating.







Charity Events

Support Cuan Wildlife Rescue Buy a Student-Designed Tote Bag!

This year our talented students have taken part in an exciting new Textiles and Graphic Design project combining creativity with conservation. Using their art and Photoshop skills, students designed stunning wildlife and environment-themed artwork to promote awareness of animal and environmental charities.

We're proud to announce that six outstanding designs have been selected to be printed onto eco-friendly tote bags, which are now available to purchase through ParentPay. All proceeds will go directly to our chosen charity, Cuan Wildlife Rescue, to support their vital work rescuing and rehabilitating local wildlife.

How to order:

Visit ParentPay to choose and pay for a tote bag.

Bags will be printed and distributed in the new school year (September).

Thank you for supporting both our students' creativity and an amazing local cause!

- 1. Dog
- 2. Bee
- 3. Red squirrel
- 4. Save the sea
- 5. A dog is life
- 6. Giraffe





Exhibition of Art, Design and Textiles really was a collaborative celebration

Visitors sat and enjoyed the music and buffet after viewing students' work

Our exhibition of Art, Design & Textiles really was a collaborative celebration, with a sophisticated programme of live music throughout the evening which entertained our visitors. Students from Years 7-10 performed many genres of music vocally and instrumentally. Selected for the exhibition was a range of GCSE Art and Design, Resistant Materials and Textiles pieces which reflected the high level and creative responses of GCSE Art & Design students in year 10 and 11. Accompanying this also was a showcase of some KS3 Art & Design work.

Many of our exhibition visitors sat and enjoyed the music and buffet after viewing students' work and commented on how special the evening was, and we look forward to this hopefully becoming a regular feature on our school calendar.

Many thanks to David H, Kev and the site team, Susan and Nicole. Also, Adam for organising the refreshments and Claire C for helping set up. The lovely spread and cold drinks were very well received on such a hot evening. Thanks also to staff who supported the event, in particular headteacher Mr Tristham, senior leaders and governors.

A massive thank you to D&T technicians Paul, Naomi and Helen who helped me put up the exhibition and worked hard all day making sure it looked amazing.

A special thankyou also goes to our musicians who were:

Year 10 Louisa Hayward Tess Dainty Abigail Rhymes Amelie Brook Lizzie Dower Grace Parsons

<u>Year 9</u> Luke Massey Sophie Timmington

<u>Year 8</u> Bradley Masefield Xanthia Tonks Georgina Harman

<u>Year 7</u> Zachary Wilson-Dooley

Miss Dangerfield and Mrs Wycherley







Art and Design Exhibition





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YEAR 9

















Art and Design Exhibition





Art and Design Exhibition





















Summer Competitions



Photography Competition 2025

We are pleased to announce the Competition for Summer 2025. When you go out to walk the dog, go for a walk with family/ friends or go on <u>holiday</u> why not take some photos along the way. We thought it would be nice to share the different views, landscapes and the outdoor spaces we visit during the summer holidays. The competition categories are:

SUMMERTIME VIBE

THE SEASIDE

OUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS

RULES:

No people in the shot. No heavily edited or Photoshop photos please. They should be recent photos taken by you.

DEADLINE: Friday 12th September

PRIZES and PHOTO GALLERY:

Prizes will be awarded for each <u>year</u> group. There will be a digital Gallery of student Photos on the school website. Winners will also be celebrated in the termly Newsletter, on Twitter and Facebook. Staff are also invited to submit photos and there will also be a staff Gallery on the website.

COMPETITION ENTRIES:

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS TO MRS WYCHERLEY BY EMAIL: <u>Emma.Wycherley@oldburywells.com</u> PLEASE SAVE THE IMAGE WITH YOUR NAME AND FORM. Please save as a PNG or JPEG.

Good Luck!





YEAR 7 Art & Design SUMMER COMPETITION

To create a piece of artwork around the theme of Signs and Symbols

- It can be in any media and any size.
- You can use any skills and materials used so far in year 7 and anything new!!
- You can pick any theme based on SIGNS or SYMBOLS.
- Think about what kind of piece you want to create: a poster, painting, drawing, 3D object.

Be creative and imaginative and use what resources you can find at home. Can you draw, paint or decorate an old 3D box or object from the garage?

- Use whatever you have at home so if you just have pencil crayons work on paper.
- Use what you have developed in class in the last two weeks.

Commendations and prizes will be awarded for the best artwork in each form in September.

Please hand in to your ART TEACHERS in the new term.

Year 7 Signs and Symbols, Signal, flag, badge, object, emblem, motif, stencil, typography, gesture, character, representation

You are going to create a piece of artwork around the theme of Signs and Symbols:

- It can be in any media and any size. You can use any skills and materials used so far in year 7 and anything new!!
- You can pick any theme based on SIGNS or SYMBOLS. You can use one from this PowerPoint or think of your own.
- Think about what kind of piece you want to create: A poster, painting, drawing ,3D object. Be creative and imaginative and use what resources you can find at home. Can you draw, paint or decorate an old 3D box or object from the garage?
- Use whatever you have at home so if you just have pencil crayons work on paper.
- You are expected to do your own research and find images and pictures to work from for the second lesson.
- Commendations and prizes will be awarded for the best artwork in each form in September to please keep them safe at home.



Physical Education

Sporting Superstars!

Students participate in sport outside of school to a high level

Grace Faulkner

This year, Grace has been selected to play for Nottingham Forest Netball U15 squad, the top level that she can perform at for her age, even though in Y9 she is still technically U14! She travels to Nottingham after school for training twice a week with the squad and is then competing in matches against the likes of Loughborough Lightning, Manchester Thunder, Leeds Rhinos, Birmingham Panthers - all the teams in the NSL (Netball Super League) at U15s level.

She has been training with them since February which will run through to August this year when there is an end of season tournament against all of the NSL teams. Hopefully, Grace gets the chance to take part in such an amazing experience and gets to compete against the best teams in the country.

Well done Grace and we wish you all the best for the end of this season .. and beyond!

Macey Hand

In the last year, Macey has progressed amazingly in her chosen sport of athletics. At the end of the 2024 season, she had won the High Jump event in the Telford Open with a height of 1.41m, breaking into the top 240 U15 girls in the UK.

In May 2024, Macey obtained her para classification of a T64,

enabling her to enter para events. Unfortunately, her preferred

event, the High Jump, is not a female para event. As a result, Macey entered the 100m, 200m and Long Jump in her first competition at the Activity Alliance Para Championships in Coventry on July 24, winning all her events for her category!

In August 2024, Macey was selected to run the para 100m and ready as the runo numerical and compared to compare the complete the comple

Earlier this year she was invited to join the England Athletics Para Academy for the next 12 months. This program aims to develop para-athletes and support their future progress in the sport. In January, she competed indoors at the Senior Para Championships at National level in Sheffield, smashing her PB in the long jump reaching 4.30m.

In February Macey took part in The Keely Klassic – World Athletics Indoor Tour at Utilita Arena in Birmingham in the 60-meter para race. The event was shown in full on the BBC and Macey competed in front of thousands of people in the arena. She set her 60m PB of 9.19 secs.

Macey has just competed again at the National Activity Alliance Junior Para Championships in Coventry, winning in the U16 category in 100m, 200m and Long Jump events as well as winning the Outstanding Female Award!

What a fantastic year for Macey and she is back in action again at Alexander Stadium in Birmingham in both the Senior and Junior Para events during the Summer.

Good luck Macey!





Physical Education

Sports Awards 2025

Sports Awards Presentation to recognise the sporting achievements

On Tuesday, 8th July we held our Sports Awards Presentation to recognise the sporting achievements of OWS students in the last academic year. We invited over 100 students as award winners in a range of different categories. Certificates and awards were given for the Victor and Victix Ludorum for each year group based on times and distances achieved in athletics this year. This also led to the captains of the winning forms from Sports Day being recognised.

Interhouse trophies were awarded to the students who either won individual events throughout the year or were the most influential members of winning teams.



Team and individual successes were celebrated where students competed for OWS in competitions with other schools at partnership, Trust, district and county level, again either individual winners or the most influential member of a winning team was selected to receive the award on their teams' behalf.

Sports colours were awarded to those students who took part in the highest percentage of sports available to them throughout the year, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd colours receiving a badge for their blazer and 4th colours being awarded the sports tie.

The presentation was then closed with the awarding of this years Leadership Award to the two leaders who stood out for their commitment and enthusiasm for the leadership programme. This year's winners were **Sam Twigg** and **Leila Ward**. The 'Stars of the Future' was awarded to two Y7s, **Eva Siegl** and **Oscar Wilson-Dooley**, who we feel have demonstrated all round excellence in PE this year and are destined for great things. Then finally the Legacy award for the two Year 11's, **Josh Bill** and **Amy Connelly**, who have for the last 5 years, really epitomised the ethos of our PE department and have fully supported us at all times.

Well done to all of the winners!







Physical Education

Sports Day 2025

A very competitive day of action packed fun!

This year Sports Day looked slightly different, it saw the house system taking a sabbatical break and we trialled a form-based system where students participated as forms across Y7, 8 and 9.

One form in each year were grouped together to represent a specific colour – Red, Green, Blue, Yellow or Purple teams. This years' format allowed Y7, 8 and 9 to compete head-to-head against peers in different forms, making for a very competitive day of action-packed fun!

There was action on both the track and in the field with events ranging from 80m Hurdles, 100m, 200m, 300/400m, 800m, 1500m and relay taking place at the same time as high jump, long jump, shot, discus and javelin competitions in each year group.

There were some very tightly fought battles in 100m, 1500m and relay events as well as in the field but a winning form was decided from each year group, and they were...

<u>Year 7</u>

7SDI - captains Ollie Broster and Saskia Fellows.

<u>Year 8</u>

8SHB - captains Jack Barby and Katie Steadman.

<u>Year 9</u>

9MBR – captrains Felix Davis and Emma Merrick.











Year 7 and 9 leader support KS1 event

On Tuesday, 24th June Year 7 and 9 sports leaders from OWS supported a Trusted Sports Alliance Key Stage 1 Multi-Skills Festival at Bridgnorth Cricket Club. The leaders planned and delivered striking and fielding games based on cricket and rounders. Nearly 200 pupils attended from 10 different schools. Leaders performed very well with large groups and the younger pupils had a fabulous time!



Y7 and Y9 leaders work together at golf event!

Sports leaders from OWS supported the primary school 'Tri-Golf Festival' at Oldbury Wells. The event had to be moved from Bridgnorth Golf Club due to a road closure, so the leaders had to adapt their planning to make a 9-hole golf course on OWS playing fields! Year 7 leaders accompanied groups of 4 around the golf course keeping score and making sure they were safe. Year 9 leaders led and scored different chipping, driving and putting skill games during the afternoon. 26 teams of Y3/4 and 5/6 pupils from 8 different schools attended the event and had a fabulous time!!

The team were also busy supporting a primary school basketball tournament and a Y5/6 tennis and outdoor activities festival! Mr Jew said "once again the Year 9 leaders have performed excellently as referees and leaders in very different activities! Well done to all involved!"



Celebrating Students Achievements

All Star World championships

An invitation only for the best teams in the world

One of our students, Chelsea-May, had the amazing opportunity to compete at this year's All Star World Championships in Florida. This was invitation only for the best teams in the world. Chelsea-May took part in a competition last year placing 1st in all categories, winning a bid to go to Florida. A lot of time was spent fundraising and Chelsea-May started her own jewellery making business to help, as well as studying for her mock exams!

We are very proud of her determination and dedication to her Cheerleading. This has been not only an amazing achievement for the team but also for her personally to overcome her anxiety and issues with her confidence.

This was their first year at the All Star World Championships, competing against 21 other countries. They were placed 4th for Senior Pom - the 4th best team in the world for their sport!

This result makes her the best in England for her age, category and sport as part of the number 1 Cheerleading Senior Pom Team.

Chelsea-May competed against teams from Mexico, America, Scotland, and other English teams to win this place.









Thank You for Your Uniform Donations! Recycling Initiative

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the families who have donated school uniform items as part of our Student Parliament's recycling initiative. Your generosity has allowed us to launch our Uniform Swap Shop, a fantastic resource of freshly laundered, good-quality pre-loved items available for all students.

Thanks to your swift response, we've been able to get the Swap Shop up and running much quicker than expected. It's already making a meaningful difference to families in our community, and this is just the beginning!

The scheme will run indefinitely, as long as donations continue to come in. We are committed to making schoolwear more accessible, reducing waste and promoting sustainability - values that our Student Parliament champions with pride.

Looking ahead, we are exploring the idea of a broader resource facility for parents and students. This exciting development is still in the works, so please watch this space for more information coming soon!

Once again, thank you for your continued support - let's keep the momentum going!



Student Parliament Coordinator





The students that made it happen

Zaine Ullah-Whettal, Kyle Clemson, Eva Siegl and Willow Allen





Trust Student Parliament Leads the Way in Sustainability Initiatives

This year, the Trust Student Parliament has shown tremendous leadership and initiative, championing several meaningful projects that have made a real difference across our schools, particularly in the area of environmental sustainability. One of the Parliament's major achievements has been the successful rollout of a Trust-wide recycling initiative. Following the introduction of new government legislation in March 2025 requiring schools to separate recyclable waste, the Parliament acted swiftly. Working closely with site teams and senior leaders, student representatives helped to introduce clearly labelled recycling bins in classrooms, communal spaces, and dining areas. These efforts have already seen a measurable reduction in general waste and an increase in materials being properly recycled. In addition to this, the Parliament identified single-use plastics as a key area for improvement. As a result of their campaigning and collaboration with suppliers, some schools across the Trust have now switched to recyclable glue sticks, reducing non-recyclable classroom waste significantly. This change not only supports environmental goals but also helps raise awareness among students about the importance of everyday sustainable choices.

Another outstanding initiative has been the creation of school uniform clothing banks, providing families with access to pre-loved uniforms in good condition. This not only promotes sustainability but also ensures inclusivity by supporting those who may find the cost of new uniform items a challenge. These clothing banks have been well received by parents and carers, and the Parliament is exploring how to expand and sustain this work in the years to come.

The Student Parliament has also championed litter picking events across Trust schools, encouraging students to take pride in their local environment. These events have empowered students to take direct action, improving the cleanliness of school grounds and nearby community areas. Many schools have even incorporated regular litter picks into their eco-club or form-time activities, creating a strong culture of environmental responsibility. Overall, the Trust Student Parliament has set an inspiring example of what young people can achieve when they come together with a shared purpose.

Their initiatives have made a real impact, not just environmentally, but socially as well, demonstrating that student voice is a powerful driver for positive change.

We look forward to seeing what the Parliament accomplishes next!



Student Parliament Update



1. Staying Safe Online:

- **Privacy Settings:** Review and adjust privacy settings on social media and other platforms to avoid oversharing personal information, especially when traveling or going to events.
- **Online Safety:** Report any harmful, abusive, or illegal content or behaviour. Only communicate with people you know in real life. Be cautious of online scams and verify the identity of those you interact with online.
- Online Resources: Utilize online safety resources and hubs provided by organizations <u>CEOP</u>
 <u>Safety Centre</u>, and Childline.

2. Staying Safe in the Real World:

- **Physical Safety:** Be aware of your surroundings, especially when visiting new places. Use trusted transportation services and always verify driver details. Keep your phone charged and location services enabled.
- **Emergency Situations:** Know how to contact emergency services (999 for emergencies, 101 for non-emergencies). Learn the local emergency numbers if traveling abroad.
- Water Safety: Be cautious near water, especially rivers and lakes. Avoid swimming under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Follow safety guidelines at designated swimming areas and be aware of potential hazards like currents, rocks, or weeds.
- **Sun Safety:** Protect yourself from the sun by using sunscreen, wearing protective clothing, and seeking shade. Be mindful of UV levels and weather conditions.
- **Substance Use:** Be aware of the risks associated with drugs and alcohol, which can impair judgment and increase the risk of accidents.
- **Personal Safety:** Be aware of your personal space and boundaries. Know who you can trust and how to report any concerns. If you feel uncomfortable or unsafe in a public place, use the "Ask for Angela" system at participating venues.

3. Building Positive Relationships:

- **Open Communication:** Maintain open communication with trusted adults, such as parents, teachers, or counsellors. Talk to them about any concerns you have or if you feel unsafe.
- **Safe Spaces:** Identify safe spaces and trusted adults in your community. Ensure that young people know who they can turn to for support.
- **Building Trust:** Develop strong, trusting relationships with young people to encourage them to share their concerns and seek help when needed.

4. General Summer Safety Tips:

Be Aware: Be mindful of your surroundings and potential hazards.

Stay Hydrated: Drink plenty of fluids, especially in hot weather

Supervision: Ensure that young children are supervised, especially near water or in public spaces.

Group Safety: If unsupervised, young people should be in groups of at least three.

Stay Connected: Keep in touch with friends and family and let them know your plans.

By following these tips, teens can enjoy their summer while staying safe and healthy.

Have a great summer!

Attendance Guide for Parents/Carers

What YOU must do:

- Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
- Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance, then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

Please contact your Head of Year if you want to discuss your child's attendance. Tel no. 01746 765454

Year 7 Mr C Smith <u>chris.smith2@oldburywells.com</u> Year 8 & 9 Mr J Walker <u>joe.walker@oldburywells.com</u> Year 10 & 11 Mr T Cowburn <u>terry.cowburn@oldburywells.com</u>

Education Welfare Officer (EWO): An Education Welfare Officer is a dedicated professional who plays a crucial role in promoting regular school attendance. EWOs visit schools to meticulously monitor attendance patterns. Their focus extends beyond mere numbers; they keenly observe signs that may indicate underlying challenges.

By collaborating closely with school staff, parents and students, EWOs provide invaluable support to enhance att to recognize that improved school attendance not only impacts academic outcomes but also contributes significantly emotional well-being.

Should you have any inquiries regarding attendance or seek guidance, I encourage you to engage with your school, as they are well-equipped to assist you.

Our EWO is <u>Emma Chafer</u> and you can find her in school on Wednesdays.



School Shop

Equipment

Be well equipped for the school day

We require students to be well equipped for the school day. Suggested equipment includes:

Pencil case, scientific calculator, French or Spanish dictionary (please see your MFL teacher), 2x black pens, 2x green pens, 1x highlighter pen, HB pencil, 150mm ruler, glue stick, colouring pencils, compass, protractor, pencil sharpener, rubber and earphones.

Please use this form to order any supplies from the school - Equipment Order Form

Once you have completed the form, your order will be processed and payment will be requested via ParentPay. Once we have received payment a text confirmation will be sent to you confirming that your order is ready for your child to collect from East Reception.

If you have any queries regarding the payment please email: finance.ows@oldburywells.com



£14.00

green pens, compass, pencil & sharpener, ruler, protractor, eraser, pencil crayons, highlighter, alue stick, scientific calculator.

The Grab & Go



A clear pencil case, 2 black pens, 2 blue pens, 2 A clear pencil case, 2 black pens, 2 blue pens, 2 green pens, compass, pencil & sharpener, ruler, protractor, eraser, pencil crayons, highlighter, alue stick.



£2.00

The basic equipment to refill a pencil case including: 2 black pens, 2 blue pens, 2 green pens, pencil & sharpener, ruler, eraser, highlighter and glue stick.



£1.00

The basic equipment needed for most lessons: 2 blue pens, 2 black pens, 2 green pens, 2 pencils, eraser and ruler.

Maths Equipment



£11.00 Casio FX - 83GT X Scientific Calculator

Creative Kit



£11.50

Pencil Crayons (water soluble), fine liner, 2b pencil, water colour set, brush, pencil sharpener and eraser



Advice and Support





NOTICEBOARD

Term Dates

<u>Autumn Term 2025</u>

Starts	Wednesday, 3 rd September 2025 - Year 7 & Year 11 only
	Thursday, 4th September 2025 - All students in school

Half-term Monday, 27th October - Friday, 31st October 2025 inclusive

Ends Friday, 19th December 2025

(PD Days Monday, 1st September 2025 Tuesday 2nd September 2025 Friday, 24th October 2025)

Spring Term 2026

- Starts Tuesday, 6th January 2026
- Half-term Monday, 16th Friday, 20th February 2026 inclusive
- Ends Friday, 27th March 2026

(PD Days Monday, 5th January 2026)

Summer Term 2026

- Starts Monday, 13th April 2026 (Bank Holiday Monday, 4 th May 2026)
- Half-term Monday, 25th May Friday, 29th May 2026 inclusive

Ends Friday, 17th July 2026

(PD Days Monday, 20th July 2026)



Community Opportunities at OWS

Martial Arts Club comes to Oldbury Wells School

As featured in assemblies for years 7, 8 and 9 - Mr. Luke is running a Freestyle Martials Arts class at Oldbury Wells School

Freestyle Martial Arts Oldbury is a contemporary blend of Karate, Taekwondo, Kung-Fu and Kickboxing.

Classes run in the East Hall on Thursdays at 5 pm (term time only).

Ages 7 to 70+. (First class is free-of-charge)

Visit <u>www.freestylemartialarts.com/oldbury</u> or contact <u>oldbury@freestylemartialarts.com</u> for more information





What Can Martial Arts Do for Me?

- Mr. S. Luke (Science Technician)
- Freestyle Martial Arts Chief Instructor
- Krav Maga (FEKM) Level 1 Instructor
- Qualified (BTEC Level 3) Self-Defence Instructor

Bridgnorth



Martial arts – definition and examples



Demonstration of some martial arts techniques



Benefits of learning/practicing martial arts

lemartialarts.com/oldbury Chief Instructor

Steve Luke (4th Dan)



Questions and answers



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