

Oldbury Wells, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 5JD

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Headteacher: Mr A Walker



Dear Parents and Carers.

Our Ref: AWA/kmd/htletter

17 November 2025

I am delighted to share an update on what has been a very positive start to the new half term at Oldbury Wells School.



Remembrance Day

We recently marked Remembrance Day with great respect and reflection. Learners rose to their feet to observe a two-minute silence across the school at 11am. Students from our RAF and Army cadet forces led a poignant dedication honouring those who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces. Many assemblies across the school have recently focused on the



importance of remembrance, and our learners contributed to a stunning poppy collage.



This display, located in the West Hall, features the personal reflections of learners, highlights family connections and provides heartfelt messages of thanks to those in our community who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Trips to Paris and Black Country Museum

Oldbury Wells has enjoyed two highly successful trips in recent weeks. The first was a half term visit to France. Learners in Year 10 and 11 enjoyed the sights of Paris and spent time visiting popular tourist attractions such as the Eiffel Tower. They soaked up French culture, cuisine and the trip provided plenty of scope to refine their spoken language skills. Learner behaviour was impeccable and the group received compliments on their politeness and general good conduct.









As part of their history curriculum, learners were provided with the opportunity to visit the Black Country Museum, where they toured the numerous historic buildings and met a number of historical characters. The learners almost unanimously agreed that their favourite part of their visit was the underground mine experience – to see the conditions that miners in the 1800s faced provided chance for powerful reflection. Again, I am pleased and proud to report that all of the Oldbury Wells groups in attendance were praised by members of staff and the public for their excellent conduct.



Year 7 Parent Survey Feedback

We are pleased to share feedback from our recent Year 7 parent/carer survey. Out of the respondents who responded affirmatively to each question:

- 95% agreed that their child was happy at Oldbury Wells School.
- 90% agreed that Oldbury Wells ensured learners behaved well.
- 93% agreed that their child felt safe at Oldbury Wells School
- 98% agreed that Oldbury Wells had high expectations for their child.

It is important to note that where details have enabled us to follow up, and school have felt this is necessary, we have. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in helping us to create a positive and nurturing environment for all learners.

Alongside this, we have also completed a staff survey, which reflects positively on the changes introduced since I joined in September. It has been a pleasure to refine our practice in several areas, and we continue to grow as a reflective and outward-facing team of practitioners.

Reading for Pleasure Partnership

We are excited to announce a new partnership with Wolverhampton Grammar School to promote reading for pleasure. This collaboration will provide opportunities for our learners to take part in local and national reading challenges, attend inspiring author events, and work together with peers from both schools to foster a lifelong love of reading.



In addition, I recently met with Michael Penn, Headteacher of Bridgnorth Endowed School, to explore ways our two schools can work more closely together. We have begun to forge some exciting initiatives that will bring mutual benefits to both communities.

Year 11 Form-Time Exam Intervention Programme

Our Year 11 form-time intervention sessions have started strongly. Learners have been attending punctually, engaging fully with tasks and demonstrating excellent effort. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with learners praising the high level of support provided by subject staff.

On the topic of exam preparation, a big thank you to our Year 11 parents and carers who attended our Year 11 Exam Information evening last week. Your fantastic turnout made the event a real success! The evening began with a keynote on the importance of strong partnerships between home and school and the importance of teaching learners how to revise. Mr Cowburn, Head of Year 11, then delivered an inspiring talk on effective revision strategies, Willingham's Memory Model and Ebbinghaus' Forgetting Curve. Following this the Heads of English, Maths and Science provided 'golden nuggets' of revision tips and other key course information. All parents/carers/learners left with a booklet outlining how best to revise in each subject. Several parents stopped behind at the end to thank me and the wider team for our efforts in preparing learners for their exams and the continued positive strides they feel the school is making. I relayed some of the messages in staff briefing on Monday - we appreciate your support and positive feedback immensely.

Attendance Reminder

As outlined above, your support to the success of our school is vital. In view of this, we kindly ask that learners only remain at home if they are genuinely unwell. Without wishing to present as condescending, regular attendance is vital to ensure continuity of learning and progress, and even short absences can have an impact on achievement. If your child is feeling slightly under the weather but is well enough to attend, we encourage them to come into school so that we can support them. Thank you for working with us to support excellent attendance across our school community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing commitment to our school and we look forward to sharing more successes with you as the half term progresses.

Yours faithfully

Adam Walker Headteacher