



Our Ref: AWA/kmd/endterm1tr

December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you and your family well.

It has been a truly fantastic first term at Oldbury Wells School, filled with many highlights. Just recently it was fantastic to see the school come together and raise over £800 for MacMillan. Equally, it was wonderful to meet Year 8 parents and carers at the recent consultation evening and to see so many of you at the Year 11 exam information evening - your support is greatly appreciated.

I am especially proud of the commitment and determination shown by our Year 11 students during their mock examinations. Their conduct has been exemplary and it has been inspiring to see so many learners carrying their revision folders and creating flashcards as part of our *Revision Revolution* initiative.

Linked to the above, I would also like to remind you that all learners have access to **GCSE POD**, an excellent online resource purchased by the school. It offers revision and self-guided study across multiple subjects at Key Stage 3 and 4. Please encourage your child to explore this resource and make the most of what it offers.

Having completed my first term here, I can confidently say that Oldbury Wells is a joyful school with fantastic learners. One of my favourite times of the day is break and lunchtime - not just for the great food, but for the chance to see students interacting so positively, whether chatting with friends or playing football, basketball, volleyball, or simply passing a rugby or tennis ball around. Their conduct and camaraderie are exceptional and make Oldbury Wells a truly special place.

When I first joined, many parents and carers expressed a desire for more creative arts opportunities. I am delighted to share that on **16 December 2025**, we will host an evening of celebration with local primary schools. Our *Vocalise* choir will perform alongside choirs from the primary schools in front of around 300 invited guests. We are also continuing discussions with Performers' College in Birmingham to further enhance our creative arts provision.

On another positive note, our whole-school attendance has steadily improved this term. Attendance is vital - if learners are not in school, we cannot help them progress. While a 90% test score might seem good, a 90% attendance rate means a learner has missed one day every two weeks. Please encourage your child to aim for **95%+ attendance**. If they have a mild cold and can manage school, we would love to see them.

Linked to attendance, we have recently strengthened our punctuality procedures. Arriving on time shows respect for learning and helps avoid disruption. Learners who arrive late now trigger a text message home, and we have introduced a 'late gate' system. Students arriving after 8:45am without good reason are required to make up time at lunch. This has already reduced lateness by nearly 70%.

Thank you also for supporting our uniform standards. Wearing uniform correctly promotes equality, belonging and safety. Recently, we have noticed a slight increase in non-uniform items such as jewellery and false eye lashes. Please help us maintain high standards; something common to all high-performing schools and essential to our culture of excellence.

As we approach the end of term, please note:

- **Wednesday 17th December** – Christmas lunch will be served in the West Canteen.
- **Friday 19th December** – School closes at the usual time of 3:15pm. It will be a *Christmas Jumper Day*: learners may wear a festive jumper with their uniform (minus blazer) or their full uniform. Instead of a £1 donation, the Student Council asks for a contribution to the Bridgnorth Food Bank, such as a tin of soup, beans, spaghetti hoops, or a long-life item like pasta or rice. Full details can be found on our website.

On behalf of all staff, thank you for your wonderful support this term. I always knew Bridgnorth was a beautiful place and I am delighted to now be part of this special community.

We look forward to welcoming students back on **Tuesday, 6 January at 8:40am**.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully



Adam Walker
Headteacher

