



# Oldbury Wells Journal

## October 2020



Welcome to the first edition of this academic years Oldbury Wells Journal. Our first half term is near completion during what has been unprecedented times. With so much uncertainty nationally with regards to how we respond to the COVID pandemic as a country, there is a constant desire to gain clarification on how we as a school and community respond to the most recent updates. What I do know, however, is that during these times within school our students and staff have responded amazingly. I am grateful for the support that families have given to help manage our return since September, with the core aim of Re-Engaging our students and Re-Booting their education in school.

Right from the start of term, our new 'control measures' in response to COVID have been adopted by everyone, quickly adjusting to new ways of working and recognising the importance of the actions we all make to ensure everyone is safe. Alongside this, we have been responding and planning constantly to ensure that the school functions effectively; continuing to provide the full breadth of curriculum which we know our students deserve at this time. It has been amazing to see the commitment and dedication of all our students in responding to the opportunities they are provided by our dedicated staff, even if learning is having to be managed a little differently.

Our new starters in year 7 have been amazing. Mr Smith and the team have done a brilliant job to ensure that everyone has settled in and already feel part of the school community. Students have supported each other in lessons and when making their way around the school site; I have been impressed by their hard work and determination; I know they will go on to achieve amazing things.

For our year 11 and 13 students who will be taking their final exams this year, the message has been simple; "keep working hard and manage the things you can control"; "make sure you respond to what is asked from you in lessons as everything will count"; no time can be wasted. Remain focused on what you can control, everything else will be managed for you.

With mock exams just around the corner, never more has their focus and commitment in all they do been so important.

For all other students, what has been evident is the hard work that was completed when working through lock down in the summer term. As we have progressed into the term and previous learning has been revisited, students' response has been really impressive with knowledge they learned at home really secure. It really has been a positive start to the year in relation to all students' learning and progress.

We know that some students have asked for further support around several issues. I would like to highlight that our website has a whole section focused on Student's Wellbeing which complements the work we do directly in school; a number of students have commented positively on how these resources have helped (<http://www.oldburywells.com/student-information/emotional-wellbeing>)

There have been some wonderful examples of new and exciting projects since September. We have been able to hold our first Virtual TrustEd assemblies with all our Year 7 and 8 students, who were joined by year 6 students across our family of primary schools. In addition, our year 7 students have been sharing their experiences of the start of their Oldbury journey with year 6 students; they showed great confidence in how they communicated everything they have been involved with.

A reminder to all families that you can keep up to speed with school developments and events through our social media platforms, alongside taking a regular look at the school website.

Can I use this opportunity to wish everyone a restful half term and assure all parents that we will provide any further updates as and when required in response to any government announcements during this time.

Thank you for your ongoing support.  
Mr. Lee Tristham  
Headteacher

# NEWS

## Sports Update Update

This has been a very different year for Oldbury Wells PE department. Normally at the end of the half term we are able to share with you all of the extra-curricular success we have had during the most recent half term. Unfortunately due to government restrictions we haven't actually had any fixtures to share the success of. However, this doesn't mean that the students at Oldbury Wells haven't been showcasing their skills and achieving some incredible things in their respective sports.

So keep your eyes on the Oldbury Wells Social media over the course of the next half term as we showcase our amazing students and the incredible achievements they have had over the last year and into the coming year. Look out for our students and celebrate their successes. We will be looking into the rugby achievements of Harry Burrows and Freddie Guest, the equestrian achievements of Georgia Coe, the athletic success of Dan Galloway, the handball representative achievement of Sophie Kinnersley and many more. We will be asking those students to share their experiences and achievements in a weekly sports profile.

## Music Mark School Music

We are delighted to announce that Oldbury Wells School has again been nominated as a 'Music Mark School' for the 20/21 academic year for the third consecutive year. This nomination acknowledges the value our school places on music and our commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum. Music Mark is the UK Association for Music Education who champion access to music for all children and young people. It acknowledges and celebrates the opportunities that Music Mark sees within our school and the commitment of our staff and students, who inspire so many to become even further involved with music at Oldbury Wells and beyond. Well done to Miss Dangerfield and all students who learn music at Oldbury Wells.



PROUD TO BE A  
MUSIC MARK  
SCHOOL

## Year 7 Hats Project Textiles



Year 7 have had a great time designing and making their own hats in textiles! They had to make headwear influenced by the natural world. It is their first time using a sewing machine, and the results are fantastic. Well done to all!

## Private Tuition Music

We have successfully welcomed back our private instrumental tutors this half term so we are currently delivering face to face tuition for Piano, Violin and Vocals and we await with eager anticipation the return of the Shropshire Music Service to deliver face to face teaching of all of our other instruments from January all being well.

We are busy recruiting students who are interested in starting private or music service tuition and all parents have been contacted with details of the opportunity for pupils to learn to play a musical instrument. You can contact Miss Dangerfield, Head of Music, any time, to request tuition for your child. This is a great opportunity and I urge you all to consider this for your child.

We await with eager anticipation further Covid-safe guidance from the DFE regarding the re-commencement of rehearsals with larger groups of singers and also safe delivery of school ensembles such as our orchestra.

We are excited to inform you that all students have been receiving a full and practical music curriculum since the start of term, with our strict and careful cleaning regime in place, we have enabled students to access the music curriculum they fully deserve.



## Malala's Magic Pencil

### An Inspiring Event!

Many of the pupils in our Trust took part in a competition which ran over the summer. Pupils from Year 5, 6 and 7 wrote a letter or made a poster asking for a wish. The competition was inspired by the book *Malala's Magic Pencil*, written by Nobel Prize Winner, Malala Yousafzai, who is a campaigner for global girls' education.

We held a special virtual ceremony. The winners of the competition were announced by Guest of Honour Zia Yousafzai – who is Malala's father. He was a very inspiring speaker. Congratulations to everyone who participated in the competition and to those awarded a prize. Thanks to our judges and also to Rav Chambers from Be Inspired Films who helped us to run the event.

One highlight ... **"If you participate, you win"**. Well done to everyone.



Zia Yousafzai and Rav Chambers in the studio getting ready for our ceremony.



Mr Tristham, Headteacher of Oldbury Wells School with Yr 8

## Art winners receive prizes

### Art

Over Easter the Art Department launched a photography competition. The main concept was to try and re-create a famous painting or artwork by any artist using household objects, props, family, pets, etc. The project was first started by the Getty museum in LA and over lockdown the project has inspired many people to get arty, have fun and be creative by dressing up as a famous painting or recreating an artwork. This term, students received prizes for their artwork!

#### Year 8

Winner: Max Morgan-The Bean Eater by Annibale Carracci

Runner up: James Morris- A Friend in Need by Cassius Marcellus Coolidge

#### Year 9

Winner: Max Parker-Self-portrait by Van Gogh

Runner up: Dog: Shelby Scriven-His Masters voice by Francis Barraud

#### Year 11

Winner: Beth Hughes -Double portrait by Lucien Freud

Runner up: Ryan Bennet- 'Girl with a book' by Pietro Antonio Rotari

#### Year 12

Winner: Natasha Cains- 'Evening visitor' by Trent Gudmundsen



## An Update from Bridnorth Sixth Form

### Bridnorth Sixth Form 2021

An important part of sixth form and Year 11 work now is making sure Year 11 have the information, advice and guidance they need to make their important next steps. To support this we have been inviting Year 11 form groups into sixth form for coffee, cake and a chat about future options. It has been a pleasure getting to know the Year 11s better and answering their questions about sixth form and next steps. We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 11 students to our sixth form open evening on the 5th November and launching our new prospectus. Keep an eye on our website for further sixth form news.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

### Sixth Form Committee Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning

The sixth form committee have been raising money for Macmillan Cancer support by running a coffee morning with a twist to reflect the times we are in now. Busy staff placed orders for coffee and biscuits online, and students delivered them to designated collection points at specified time slots. The event was a real success raising £128.68 due to the hard work of Year 12 committee members and sixth form team. Thanks also to Adrian and Caterlink for their generous support.



## Year 7 off to a flying start with History!

### History

This half term in History Year 7 have been developing their enquiry skills by investigating 'What is History?'.

This has involved creative home learning tasks such as our figures from history book marks and a time traveller's guide to Bridgnorth. The department has been hugely impressed by the quality of students' learning and are very much looking forward to seeing their work on 'Black History Month' later this month.

Congratulations on a wonderful start to your time at OWS!





## Lessons with the Deputy Mayor

### Citizenship

Sarah Barlow, deputy Mayor, came in to the Year 10 citizenship classes to share with them how local government, and specifically the Bridgnorth Town Council, operates. The students were engaged by this, and inspired to ask perceptive questions about the democratic process, and were keen to explore the possibility of a youth council in Bridgnorth. Our thanks go to Sarah Barlow for such a professional and insightful presentation, which included her giving them an exclusive opportunity to talk to their local council representative.



## Kit For Your School Bag

### Equipment

As the sharing/ borrowing of equipment is no longer possible, we need to ask our students to bring more of their own items to school than they would have in the past. We therefore ask students to bring the following items:



To help Parents we have made up 200 pencil cases with ALL of the equipment in them. They are priced at £9. We have been able to keep the price down because we have bulk bought the items. To order your pencil case please make a payment through ParentPay, the packs will then be distributed to your child when they return to school in September. Any questions please email [finance.ows@oldburywells.com](mailto:finance.ows@oldburywells.com)

## Free Food Donations from Aldi

### Food Collections

ALDI Bridgnorth are offering free food donations. Foods available on the scheme are: Fruit and Veg, Bakery Goods, Non perishable food items, Flowers. Collections are available Tuesday's, Wednesday's, Thursday's, Saturday's and Sunday's, until noon.



# SHROPSHIRE LARDER

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**SHROPSHIRELARDER.ORG.UK**

# Oldbury Wells School Uniform

## Reminder

The majority of uniform is marked with the school logo and is of a specific style and colour. This applies to the blazers, sweaters, trousers and skirts. We therefore strongly advise these items should be obtained only from listed suppliers who have gone to great lengths to source garments of durable quality and which are very competitively priced. Items such as white shirts can be obtained from other sources.

**Girls Uniform:** Fitted black blazer with school logo, white shirt, pleated/plain mid-grey skirt (no more than 2 inches above the knee), or plain mid-grey trousers. Years 7 & 8 - lower school tie. Years 9, 10 & 11 - Upper school tie. Socks - black, grey or white. Tights - grey, black or natural. Flat black polishable shoes - no boots or trainers and no branded logos.

**PE Kit:** PE T-shirt with school logo, Black PE skirt or shorts, Purple knee length PE socks. Also required are swimsuit, trainers, football boots, shin guards and a gum shield

**Boys Uniform:** Black blazer with school logo, white shirt, flat/pleated front mid-grey trousers. Years 7 & 8 - Lower school tie. Years 9, 10 & 11 - Upper school tie. Socks - Black, white or grey. School-type polishable black shoes, no logo showing, no boots or trainers.

**PE Kit:** Rugby/football top, PE T-shirt with logo, Black PE shorts, Black with white top PE socks. Also required are swimming trunks, trainers, football boots, shin guards and a gum shield.

**Outdoor Clothing** - A black or grey waterproof coat/jacket may be worn to and from school and, if wished, crossing the road between East and West sites (but not to be worn indoors). Sweatshirts, hoodies or other such tops are not classed as outdoor wear and should not be worn to school.

### THREE IMPORTANT SUPPLEMENTARY POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

**Hair:** 'Grade One' haircuts or other extreme cuts and unnatural hair colours are unacceptable. Should this be the case, parents/guardians will be contacted as this is not an acceptable appearance to be allowed in school or the classroom.

**Jewellery:** Years 7-11: a maximum of one stud or small earring in each ear. No other facial piercings or different types of piercings are allowed. Should this occur students will be asked to remove the piercing whilst in school. There are separate rules for the Sixth Form.

**Make-up:** This is not allowed in Years 7, 8 and 9. Older girls may use it modestly. Nail Varnish should be of a clear or pale colour but no nail extensions, acrylic or shellac varnish are permitted. False nails are also not permitted. Students may be asked to remove any inappropriate colours.

### Where to purchase uniform:

BRISTOWS SPORTS AND LEISURE  
157 Victoria Road  
Bridgnorth  
WV16 4LL  
Tel: 01746 761701  
Email: bsleisure@aol.com  
Web: www.schoolwearfactory.co.uk

RON FLOWER SPORTS  
28 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 3JW  
Tel: 01902 429490  
Email: sales@ronflowerssports.com  
Web: www.ronflowerssports.com

STITCHES OF BRIDGNORTH  
Roshan House  
Hollybush Road  
Bridgnorth, WV16 4AY  
Tel: 01746 761177  
Email: info@stitchesofbridgnorth.co.uk  
Web: www.stitchesofbridgnorth.co.uk