

July 2021

Welcome to our final journal of the academic year. As the term comes to a close we can look back with tremendous pride with regards to all we have been able to achieve during what has been an extremely challenging year for all. As you flick through the school's social media pages, you get a real sense of the commitment of all our students and staff, whether working from home or within school, to work hard and achieve their very best. Everyone's response to working together and supporting each other in such a positive manner has been inspiring to see from all.

Despite the challenges all schools have faced over the last few weeks of term, we have been able to celebrate the achievements of so many, and although down scaled compared to our normal celebrations, have been able to hold small assemblies to acknowledge the achievements of all students across all subject areas. Listening to teachers talk about the determination, resilience and drive to make progress by so many students has been extremely positive.

We can quite rightly reflect on many successes, looking forward to September with huge optimism that normality will resume and that many aspects of what has been placed on hold in school can resume. I know that both staff and students are looking forward to further positive times ahead and will be working tirelessly to make every day a great day!

I am very much looking forward to welcoming those students who will be joining us in year 7 in September to our summer school, alongside Year 11 & 13 into school to collect their examination results. As always, can I thank students, staff and families for their ongoing support, wishing everyone a relaxing summer holiday.

Stay safe and we look forward to welcoming you back at the start of the new academic year.

Oldbury Wells

NEWS

TrustEd Update New Sports Partnership





We are pleased to announce that the South-east Shropshire sports partnership will be joining us next year. At present they run very successfully from Idsall School. They are moving as an organisation to run from the TrustEd Schools' Partnership, based here at Oldbury Wells School in Bridgnorth from September, with Idsall School remaining a vital partner school.

"We are very excited to have this wonderful organisation join us in September," said Sarah Godden, CEO of the Trusted Schools' group. "Our local schools have all benefited from the partnership over the years, and it is with great pleasure that we are able to announce that the service will be joining us. I have worked with Chris Jew and his team for many years, and have more recently seen for myself the benefits of the service in our Schools."

"We are so pleased to have 28 schools signed up to work with the partnership next year, with four secondaries and twenty-four primary schools!" said Chris Jew, who leads the service. "The service next year will build on how we have worked historically and will be called the TrustEd Sports Partnership."

The service will still be using a dedicated team of experienced PE teachers from each

of the four secondary schools, to do the work with the twenty-four primary schools. These secondary schools include Idsall School, which will be a highly valued school in the partnership, with strong experience and expertise in community Sports. The other schools are Oldbury Wells School, Bridgnorth Endowed School and William Brookes School.

This service already provides a great range of sporting activities for pupils. They also lead staff training in the primary schools and run a Sports' Leader programme with older pupils. This summer they are running several summer schools for primary aged pupils, alongside ourselves.

"We are really looking forward to working with the TrustEd Sports Partnership next academic year. They have done tremendous work with us historically and we are so pleased they will be building up their work with our school into the future," said Rebecca Lee, Headteacher of Castlefields School.

Lee Tristham said, "The new service will be great for our pupils I am sure, and indeed pupils across all of the schools locally. I am particularly pleased they will be reestablishing the work they do in helping older pupils become Junior Sports Leaders, which was put on hold because of Covid. At Oldbury Wells we look forward to being able to host sports events again, for primary schools which are coordinated by the Sports' Partnership."



TrustEd Bridgnorth Schools Working Together



Teachers across the area of Bridgnorth have worked together this term to share writing examples from their Year 6 pupils. This was part of a range of joint activities local teachers have been involved in.

"When the government announced that there would be no primary tests this year, local schools decided to work together with a joint approach. This has been very helpful for us in secondary schools because we will have the same information from all of our main feeder schools when pupils move up to us in September," said Mr Tristham, Headteacher of Oldbury Wells School.

"Can I express my thanks to all of the Year 6 teachers who have been part of this, and the school leaders who organised it."

"It was such a pleasure to read such high-quality work from pupils across our local primary schools," said Carol Aston, Head of School at St Mary's Bluecoat Primary. "It was also very helpful to be able to work with colleagues across our area on this joint process."

The joint work for reading, writing and maths was coordinated by Claire Gaskin (Executive Headteacher of the Trinity Group), Sarah Godden (CEO of our group, TrustEd Schools' Partnership) and Tom Plim (Headteacher at Highley School).

Carol Aston (Head of School at St Mary's Bluecoat) led the session itself and hosted the event. Participating schools were, Alveley School, Beckbury School, Castlefields School, Claverley School, Highley School, Morville School, St John's RC School, St Leonards CE School, St Mary's Bluecoat School, Stokesay School and Worfield School.



Carol Aston (Head of School at St Mary's Bluecoat Primary), with Sarah Godden organising the event.

Staff leaving this year Goodbye to staff and good luck in all you do

This summer we say goodbye to several staff who are either moving on to new opportunities or in some cases retiring following many years of service to the school.

Mrs Whytton-Owen, who has been supporting the Modern Foreign Languages Team and a number of other areas around the school, finishes her time with us, alongside Mr Bridgwater (Science) who is relocating and has secured a new teaching position closer to his new home.

We also say goodbye to Mr Quiney and Miss Arbuckle from the Learning Support team who move on to start their training to become teachers within their chosen area, alongside Mrs Brett who is further developing her own business, good luck and thank you to you all.

We also say good by e to two of our longest serving teachers who are retiring, Mr Mark and Mr Smith. I am sure our whole school community will join us in wanting to wish them every happiness. Mr Mark joined our school in 1982, almost 40 years ago! He worked first as a teacher and then was promoted to become our Deputy Headteacher. Mr Mark is very well known and respected in our community and has taught the parents of many of our pupils. Similarly, Mr Smith has worked at Oldbury Wells since 1988 and spent much of his time with us as Head of History; his work over the years has ensured that students have had fantastic opportunities within and outside of the classroom on the many trips and visits he has helped organise. History has long been one of the most successful subjects in school, no small part down to Mr Smith's superb teaching and leadership.

Mrs Godden said, "What a pleasure it has been to work with Mr Smith and Mr Mark in my time at Oldbury Wells. So many of our students have been inspired by wonderful history lessons with Mr Smith, many of whom have gone on to study



history at University. Mr Mark has taught a number of subjects over the years, including both Geography and Mathematics, although I think the subject he is most passionate about is Geology. Again, many students have left Oldbury Wells going onto careers using geology. Can I wish them both well in their retirement."

Mr Tristham said, "What a pleasure it has been to work with such well respected and capable professionals. On behalf of the school can I thank them for their tremendous work and wish them every happiness into their retirements."

Good luck to all those staff moving on, we look forward to introducing our new staff from the start of September.

School App OWS App Launch!

We are excited to announce the launch of the Oldbury Wells App! If you follow our Facebook page (Oldbury Wells School) you will have already downloaded the app from the Google Play and Apple Store.

Search for 'Appschools' in the search bar, and download the app from Telford and Wrekin Council for quick and easy access to our school website, links to letters home, term dates, parent pay, Satchel One, and much more!

It's easy to use, and no set up required just select Oldbury Wells School from the list that appears and you're ready to go!



Summerpod Summer Work

Summer pod, run by GCSE Pod is your onestop-shop for work and activities to do over the summer.

If you follow us on Facebook (Oldbury Wells School) you will have already had access to register for this opportunity!

Running from the 26th July to the 14th August, it is a free programme of events for parents and students to access. You can find interactive webinars from award-winning speakers, access to interviews with subject specialists, resources, task sheets, podcasts, competitions and more.

To find out more information, use this link: link.

To register, please follow this link: registration.



Caterlink Generation Juice Machines

There has been a lot of talk around school about our two new Generation Juice machines!

In a fight against plastic waste, our new machines hold 500 drinks each, overall saving 1000 plastic bottles!

Students can purchase tokens from the canteen for 85p, and "can the can; throttle the bottle" by bringing their own reusable bottle to school and filling it with a flavour of their choice.

Each drink is 100% school compliant, infused with vitamins and minerals, and promotes hydration through chilled drinks including redberry, apple, cherry, lemon, mango, ginger and elderberry. Each drink is 100% gluten and lactose free, vegan, and use natural flavours and real juice. Each year, every person throws away 34kg of plastic packaging just on their own! Most of this plastic cannot be recycled, causing irreversible damage to our environment.





Adrian Ratcliffe (left) Kendall Pitt (Middle) Karen Cook (Right)

Caterlink Congratulations Kendall Pitt

Kendall Pitt from the kitchen was nominated for an award in the Caterlink annual awards, and won the 'Rising Star' award. She was awarded her certificate earlier this half term, along with some Amazon vouchers. Congratulations from all at Oldbury Wells!

Year 8 Boxing Session with Year 8

Heads of Year Staffing Changes

From September, the new head of year 8 will be Mrs Lawson, doing maternity cover for Mrs Morgan. The new head of Year 10 will be Miss Warner. Both members of staff are excited about their new roles and looking forwards to working with students in September. Some of our year 8 students were fortunate to take part in a boxing session with Joe Lockely, who spoke to them about aspirations and achieving.



History KS3 Support School Diversity Week

In assemblies this week, students will be learning about the importance of diversity within school and education, and also celebrating the LGBT+ community.

This month Key Stage 3 students have used some of their History home learning time to find out more about the hidden histories of LGBTQ+ people and their contributions to British and world History.

The department has really enjoyed seeing the quality of research conducted by students and the range of individuals studied. Particularly popular with students was Alan Turing's work during World War II, Sally Ride the first female American Astronaut, as well as Shropshire born World War I poet Wilfred Owen.

If you would like to find out more about the research students have been conducting please look at the Power Point below. Well done to all our young historians.



Geography Year 10 Fieldtrip to Shrewsbury



It was brilliant to have three days of fieldwork taking Year 10 geography classes to Shrewsbury, testing whether the 'Burgess concentric ring theory' can be applied to the town and enabling students to study how the quality of life varies for people who live in different areas of Shrewsbury.

The students and staff walked along a 2km route gathering data all the way. Thankfully the rain held off, lots of data was gathered, and best of all - students could learn geography 'for real' outside the classroom, applying their learning and practising lots of geographical skills.

On the final day one of the students commented "this has been fab Miss, we've had a good time and I've learnt so much.... I wish all lessons could be like this!"

Technology Year 7 Hats

Our year 7's this term have been sewing hats in textiles, completing an initial product analysis task, thinking of a variety of different designs, an end product, and a final evaluation. The hats used a variety of sewing techniques, and I'm sure you'll agree that their outcomes look fantastic! Hat designs included a frog, elephant, mushroom, shark, penguin, cat, and so many more!



Year 8 Bags

Our Year 8's have been linking recycling and re-using to their project of creating drawstring bags. Their designs promote being green and environmentally friendly, whilst following the De Stijl Style. The bags are made from recycled materials and contain storage areas. You can see some of

the wonderful work here:

Year 9 Mugs

Our year 9 students were tasked with a Dragon's den task, to create mug designs based on companies and logos. Their designs were absolutely fantastic, ending with a Dragon's Den style lesson!! They used some new equipment to transfer their designs onto their mugs, and their outcomes were great! Well done to all involved.





Sports Congratulations Dan Galloway

We are pleased to report that our Year 11 Leaver Dan Galloway won the Intermediate Boys 1500m at the English Schools last weekend! He ran for Shropshire, as an Oldbury Wells student! He currently holds the top under 17s 1500m time in the country (03.52.19) which he achieved in April of this year. He also has the 4th fastest time in the UK this year at 800m (01.54.48). His win means that Dan can go onto take part in the Schools International Athletic Board; a competition between England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. Dan is very excited about this prospect, and also about getting an England vest.

As well as these achievements, Dan has been asked to take part in an England Training camp for Triathlon at Leeds University next week, which could lead to more exciting opportunities. We are very proud of Dan's achievements, and know he will go on to achieve great things. Congratulations Dan, and good luck!

Citizenship Sustainable Bridgnorth



Mr Hailes' year 9 group have had a really positive reaction to this environmental campaign, and it has been their chance to make a difference.

100% of students from year 9 have made pledges which is a fantastic achievement. 54% pledge to refill water bottles, 17% will carry reusable shopping bags, and 29% want plastic free lunchboxes.

Mr Hailes is very impressed and proud of the initiative used by the Year 9 students. Their proactive nature in committing

to their pledges and supporting one another has shown resilience, and a real care for the environment and their local community.

Pictured are some Oldbury Wells students and Castlefields students alongside our very own Mrs Barlow (Bridgnorth Mayor).

Sustainable Bridgnorth is a volunteer group working towards reducing our impact on the environment. They are supporting Plastic Free July to reduce the use of plastic items and are encouraging 5000 households in Bridgnorth to replace one plastic item to encourage sustainability.

Some of their top tips for reducing plastic usage are:

- Use reusable shopping bags
- Avoid bottled water try to refill your bottle
- Carry a reusable cup
- Don't use cling film
- Buy loose fruit and veg
- Refill your cleaning products
- Use soap and shampoo bars
- Avoid using wipes

Plastic pollution has huge impacts on the environment, with 7.7 billion plastic bottles being used in the UK alone per year.

Their website has more information: <u>https://shropshireagainstpointlessplastic.org.uk/</u>



PE The year in review

Welcome to the summer, this has been a challenging and eventful year for so many reasons. You have had to overcome strict procedures during lessons, lock downs and then the reopening of your clubs and societies. I am sure the reopening of clubs was a major relief for you as you were able to socialise and play the sports and things you love.

Through the year we have been really impressed with how you have approached your lessons, the fitness sessions, cricket, table tennis, rounders and softball with enthusiasm and energy. The work you done through both lockdowns and the achievements in the distance challenges set by Miss Joiner have been brilliant. Well done to all those who won those challenges and earned points for your houses.



As we move into next year, hopefully a return to some more contact sports and team sports will allow the students to show case their ability in those sports they have missed out on.

Athletics season

Since returning to school following easter we have thrown ourselves into the athletics season. For most of the students this was the first taste of throwing a Javelin, shot put and discus and again the approach to those lessons was fantastic.

When it comes to athletics season, the events are used as part of our sports days, which although unfortunately haven't been able to happen this year, has given the students a good way to show their competitive side. There have been some stand out performances which have come close to the school records, hopefully next year we will be able to see those students in action in sports day and we can put some of those school records under pressure.

We will look to celebrate with those athletes in the early part of next year.

End of Year Events

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the end of

year sports events which would have happened in the final week of term. We will hopefully be able to pick these back up in the new year. We will be completing a traditional sports day with track and field events while the year 9 and 10s (or 10 and 11 as they will be) will hopefully be able to complete some interhouse competitions to contribute to their overall house points totals.

Sports Profiles

Due to the way the year has happened we have also taken this opportunity to celebrate successes outside of school. We have looked to highlight those who have had successes in regional, national and international competition.

We have celebrated with Georgia Coe for her international equestrian eventing, Freddie Guest being selected to play for Worcester Warriors, Sophie Kinnersley representing Shropshire at handball and Freya Cates for reaching a regional academy for netball.

These are still available to view on the school social media sites, as we move into next year we would still love to celebrate these with students. If there is anyone who would like to be involved in a sporting spotlight please get in touch with Mr Cowburn.

terry.cowburn@oldburywells.com. Oldbury Wells PE Department



Music Spotlight On...Instrumental Success

Although the pandemic disrupted instrumental tuition in all schools for a few months we were really proud to resume 'business as usual' as soon as we were allowed to and the response from our instrumental tutors and all students has been fantastic. We have even recruited new students to add to our list of students who were already receiving tuition and who showed fantastic resilience by adapting to online tuition throughout the lockdowns.

I would like to congratulate all of our instrumental students below on their commitment and success through this tremendously difficult year, many of whom are preparing for examinations and some students who have taken recent examinations.

> Keyboard with Karen Kirkland Luke Bennett Taylor Davies

Cello with Jane Magee Anya Sarpal Katie Fairclough

Saxophone with Karen Kirkland Lily Hickman

Violin with Margaret Wright Mark Jones

> Trumpet George Darby Joshua Leith

Vocal with Bev Wightman

Ambar Sarpal Georgia Pratley Paige Pratley Neave Beddow Evie-Jean Bartley Jodie Boughey

Piano with Oliver Clark

Oliver Aubrey Bethany Robinson Georgia Pratley Holly Turner Camren Farrington-Hyrons Phoebe Hadley

Guitar with Andrew Jones

Morgan Rodgers Ambar Sarpal Becky Peters Toby Steadman Harry Fellows Megan Farrington-Hyrons William Sievwright Bryce Brookes Sean Newton Dylan Williams Leo Mountford

Drumkit with Mark Banks Jacob Jones Imogen Painter



We also have many students who have continued to receive private instrumental tuition outside of school and we applaud your continued commitment - well done.

Congratulations to all those who took vocal exams this term!

We congratulate our vocal students who are taught by Bev Wightman and who have taken vocal exams this term:

 Paige Pratley Year 7 – Awaiting results for Associated Board Grade 1 Performance exam Jodie Boughey Year 9 – Awaiting results for Grade 2 Music Theatre exam Evie Bartley Year 9 – Awaiting results for Grade 3 Music Theatre exam
Georgia Pratley Year 12 – has recently achieved a DISTINCTION in her Grade 6 Associated Board Performance exam. Huge congratulations Georgia and good luck to everyone awaiting their results.

Congratulations to all those who took guitar exams this term!

We congratulate our guitar students who are taught by Andrew Jones and who have taken guitar exams this term:

Charlie Callaghan Year 11 - An outstanding achievement of GRADE 8 with a Merit Toby Steadman Year 9 - Awaiting results for Grade 4 exam

If anyone would like to start learning to play an instrument in September or if you used to plat an instrument and would like to start again or try something different, please have a chat with Miss Dangerfield and we can organise this for you.

'Encore' came back for more!

'Encore', our school vocal group enjoyed returning to rehearsals in June. It had been 16 months since we last sang together due to the government banning singing for covid safety through the pandemic and although we were blighted by absences due to self- isolations, we still managed to have a couple of fabulous and fun rehearsals together before the end of term after the restrictions on singing were loosened-reminding us of the power of live music and singing together for good mental health and making us feel great.

We really look forward to meeting every Thursday after school from September, 3.15-4pm and the opportunity to join Encore is extended to anyone at all with an enjoyment of singing from across all year groups. There is no audition and no pressure to sing solo. Just come and enjoy singing pop, musical theatre and gospel, as a group.

Art Artist of the Month Year 7 - Harry Stafford

Harry has worked exceptionally hard both in Art and his recent Tech project. He has developed a great sketchbook in Art and designed some strong imagery and final CD covers for his Graphics project.

He works well independently and has recently created a superb portrait study in his own time. Well done Harry a proud form tutor!! EJW







Artist of the Month Year 9 -Lacey Hickman



Lacey worked incredibly hard on her final year 9 Fine Art project creating this fantastic panel inspired by her Life and Death theme. She showed a real commitment to her Art studies as most of the

final piece was completed at home. A superb effort Lacey and a great end to Year 9.

Artist of the Month Year 8 -Megan Farrington-Hyrons



Megan has worked well and made superb progress in her Art studies over the last few months in class and at home during distanced learning. The portrait study she create is very striking and she showed a great understanding of the Zentangle technique with the artwork she created. Well done Megan.

A focus on Year 8

Year 8 have been working on two very contrasting end of year projects. The first was a more observation-based unit learning about facial proportion, drawing from real life and the developing a final more creative self -portrait where they imagined themselves half human and half a creature, character, animal or a person they admire.

The second unit was more imaginative and intuitive where they used inspiration from Zentangle patterns to create their own artwork.

The work has been celebrated with a Digital portrait gallery <u>https://youtu.be/VmYr2ll1dXs</u> and a display of Zentangle artwork in the Art Department. Well done to all those whose work has been selected.

Year 7 Architecture Project

Well done to 7 LK for a fantastic effort with your final Architecture piece. The class produced creative designs and all worked hard in class to finish their final pieces. We thought the work here showed great use of media, pattern, colour and a fantastic understanding of Hundertwasser's style interpreted in very individual ways.

Mrs Kenworthy.



Year 11 Art and Design

The GCSE students created some fantastic artwork for their GCSE portfolio with diverse themes, the use of a wide range of media and inspiration from their contextual artists studies. As can be seen here with a selection of the work the students produced some very successful and imaginative outcomes for their coursework Portfolios. You can view the digital art gallery here: <u>http://www.oldburywells.com/news/year-11-digital-art-gallery</u>

A celebration of Year 13

Yr 13 students worked very hard this year showing a superb commitment to their studies to complete their personal study portfolio and produced creative final pieces in response to their chosen theme. The students designed mixed media pieces using a wide range of techniques and processes from fine painting, wood transfer, clay, lino print, textiles, wire work and the use of Pyrography. We would like to wish the students well in the future in their chosen pathways. EB and EJW.

You can view their digital gallery here: <u>http://</u> www.oldburywells.com/news/year-13-digital-<u>art-gallery</u>

If you follow our Facebook and Instagram pages, you'll get sneak peaks at work like this!





Oldbury Wells Awards Afternoons Achievement Prize

We are sad that we couldn't celebrate our end of year awards in our usual way, however we are still incredibly proud of our students for what they achieved this year under such challenging circumstances. This week, we held awards afternoons for each bubble on each day, to celebrate the achievements from each subject area.

It was a wonderful afternoon listening to the lovely comments that teachers had written about their students. Well done to everybody who received awards. You can see a few of our winners below:



Oldbury Wells Wellbeing Summer Bucket List

How many can you tick off?

The holidays are a great to time to unwind and relax. You can find lots of ideas below of things to do. The Anna Freud Foundation also has a great booklet about self-care and wellbeing ideas over the summer break: https://www.annafreud.org/schools-and-colleges/ resources/selfcaresummer-secondary-pack/



SIXTH FORM

An Update from Bridgnorth Sixth Form

Despite the constraints of lock down, the Sixth Form Committee have been busy fundraising and celebrating diversity in schools. They raised £84.78 for Schools Diversity Week through a coffee and cake sale to sixth form and staff. They also help to spread the message that we are all different and it is ok to be yourself whilst at our school and sixth form.



We were really pleased to be able to invite our prospective new Year 12s in for two induction days, one in school and one at The Edge in Much Wenlock for a day filled with outdoor events and competitions, including axe throwing and archery. It was a pleasure to meet our new students and they impressed teachers with their positivity and enthusiasm.

We are still accepting applications to Bridgnorth Sixth Form and the sixth form team and others will be available to give Year 11 help and advice on Results Day. Good luck to all Year 11s collecting their results in August.

Wishing you all a great summer, from the Sixth Form Team.



Apply to Us

Visit our website to find out more information: www.bridgnorthsixthform.com

Head to our Virtual Open event page to see our prospectus, the subjects we offer, and discover what Sixth Form life is like.

Follow our Facebook Page to keep up to date with Sixth Form life and activities: **@bridgnorthsixth**

Follow our new school Careers Twitter for career and post 16/18 opportunities: **@owscareers**



NOTICEBOARD

Equipment List:

All students need to bring to school:

Pencil Case	12 Colouring Pencils
Scientific Calculator	Compass
Language Dictionary	Protractor
2 Black Pens	Pencil Sharpener
2 Green Pens	Rubber
HB Pencil	1 Highlighter Pen
150mm Ruler	Earphones (for Music lessons)
Pritt Stick	

School Shop

Don't forget you can purchase equipment from the OWS School Shop. Follow this link for more information: http:// www.oldburywells.com/student-information/school-shop



Follow us on social media:



- @OldburyWells
- oldburywellsschool
 - @owscareers

Contact Us:

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RSPA Photography Competition

Mrs Wycherley would like to promote the RSPA Photography Competition. You will need to register an email address and password to enter - please always check with a parent or guardian before sharing any personal details online. The deadline for entries is the 16th August. You can find out more information by visiting their website: https://young. rspca.org.uk/ypa/about?



We would like to promote a message from Little Bags of Kindness...

They are a Shrewsbury based charity that aim to bridge the gap between shoe poverty and shoes going to landfill in our county! They have cleaned, polished and sanitised good quality second hand shoes and trainers that children have grown out of over lockdown, and that have been donated to them.

They are all in good condition, in a selection of sizes and styles and available for collection - no questions asked.

For more information, please visit their page or email shrewsburykindness@ gmail.com