



Our Ref: LTM/kmd/updates

31 March 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Updates

As we approach the end of term, I wanted to use the opportunity to thank all students, staff and families for their support and commitment since the start of the calendar year. This term has passed exceptionally quickly and been full of exciting developments in school as we start to move towards further normality following the pandemic. To our students in particular, your efforts in raising funds and support of each other is something we are exceptionally proud of, alongside your commitment to your academic and personal development. A particular mention to our Year 11 & Year 13 students who are currently in the middle of their final mock examination window; your hard work, dedication and desire to achieve the very best are an inspiration to all; really well done.

While acknowledging the efforts of those in school, I also write to inform you that our school Deputy Headteacher, Mr Wycherley, will be leaving us at Easter. After almost 20 years of service to the school, Mr Wycherley is moving into a leadership position for an outdoor education provider with education centres throughout the country who support residential, day, outreach and virtual school trips for all ages. As a specialist in Geography he will be strategically leading the educational element of their centres, while supporting colleagues to provide the very best educational opportunities. As stated by Mr Wycherley himself, it is a job which is a perfect match for him, enabling him to further promote his passion for Geography, while utilising his exceptional leadership skills to support and develop both staff and young people; it is a tremendous opportunity for him for which we wish him the very best.

From schools' perspective, on behalf of those students, families, staff and school partners currently with us, alongside the many who have progressed through the school over the last 20 years, I would like to publicly pass on my gratitude for everything Mr Wycherley has achieved in his time at the school. Since his arrival in 2002 as a newly qualified Geography teacher, Mr Wycherley has inspired many young people to pursue further qualifications and careers in his specialist area, alongside playing a key role in students' wider educational and personal development. Every student I have spoken to outlines their enjoyment of the learning he delivers and the opportunities he provides, recognising his commitment to make a real difference to the lives of every individual.

His work as a senior leader has been central in the success of the school, he has played a key role in ensuring the school is in the extremely strong position it is today. He is exceptionally well regarded by all those who have had the privilege to work alongside him, recognising his relentless focus to ensure the work we do in school is of an exceptional standard.

Oldbury Wells School has been a significant part of his life and I know he has thoroughly enjoyed his journey with us. He knows every part of the function of the school, meaning his input in all developments is always well received. Most significant, is his drive and determination to shape educational opportunities for our students, no more so than over the COVID era, where he has led on many areas, including distance learning, to ensure that all students are always supported.

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His professionalism within his role, alongside his care and support for those around him is something we will all remember of him, together with his passion for supporting and working with young people, which we know is where his drive and ambition lies.

We will all miss his presence around school but know that he is going to be a huge success in his new role. I am sure you will want to share in my best wishes for the future, and thanks for all he has done within our school community, good luck Mr Wycherley!

A final reminder that the school term ends at the end of the day on **Thursday, 7th April**; we will be circulating our end of term newsletter next week and look forward to sharing with you some of the activities which have taken place over recent times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Tristham', written in a cursive style.

Mr L Tristham
Headteacher