



Oldbury Wells Journal

April 2022



Welcome to the end of term Easter edition of our school newsletter. As always, it has been an extremely busy term with so much taking place across the school as we move forward into the post pandemic era. My thanks as always to all students, families and staff for their support in all we do; it has been extremely encouraging to see more trips, fixtures, outdoor opportunities, workshops and much more now common place across the school - well done and thank you to all involved. Particularly positive has been the feedback regarding our students on the various trips and visits which have taken place, with comments about their respectful behaviours, enquiring minds and general enthusiasm in activities always well received.

Following my previous communication, a final special mention with regards to our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Wycherley (almost 20 years service) and Food Technology Technician Mrs Millatt (16 years), who both leave us at the end of term; can I again pass on my thanks to both for all the support they have given to so many students and staff over the years, we wish them all the very best for the future!

Looking ahead we have much to look forward to; Year 11 & 13 will be on their final pathway towards their summer exams. In recent mocks, their focus and commitment has been amazing, they have all been a real credit to the school and their respective year groups who have worked so hard. Our aim now is that they build on the momentum shown and move forward with confidence into the final examination period, good luck to all.

We will shortly be meeting with the families of the children joining us in September, alongside running a range of primary workshops which many of our younger students will be helping support. We are very much looking forward to undertaking some exciting project work and providing opportunities for our students to further develop their leadership skills, alongside meeting those who will be visiting us.

For students in school, we have been talking about our core values of ASPIRE, ENJOY, ACHIEVE; challenging them to think about what goals they can set themselves following our return from the holiday period, to secure further success in the weeks ahead. The summer term will provide an opportunity for all students to take further steps to build on the great work done to date. We will also be working with students to further promote our basic expectations around: preparedness for learning, support of others, being equipped, and being well-presented, which further embed the strong culture of success across the school.

Can I wish all of those across our school community a restful Easter holiday, we hope that you all have an enjoyable break and look forward to seeing you on our return on Monday 25th April.

Happy Easter!

Mr Tristham

UPDATES

A goodbye message from Mr Wycherley...

Back in 2002 I entered the west side reception and if I'm honest I was here for interview practice as I had my eyes on the teaching job in Chester the following week. However, there was something special about the school, its staff, and pupils that very quickly turned my interview practice into something very real. The staff came across as a real team on a journey working together to be the best it could be, but more importantly putting students at the centre of decisions and going that extra mile. The pupils were welcoming yet thrived off the excellent relationships (even laughing at some of my bad jokes) and were willing to try something a bit different in the classroom. It was clear to me that this was a school that I definitely wanted to be part of. My wish came true and nearly 20 years later these principles still exist and I truly believe that these principles make OWS an exceptional school to study and work at.

Throughout my teaching career I always wanted to make a difference. This is my main reason for teaching and still is my main motivation today. Looking back with some geography bias I'm sure that I have done this with many pupils pursuing all sorts of geography related careers. Some even went on to become geography teachers!

There is an old saying: 'the time flies when you're having fun,' and I have no doubt thoroughly enjoyed my time at OWS, and I have so many great memories of pupils and staff, both past and present.

Geography has taken me to many amazing places - Iceland, Milan, the French Alps, North Wales, Llangollen, Hay on Wye, Shrewsbury and of course Carding Mill Valley. These have been great opportunities but what I will always remember is the way OWS students represented themselves. Frequently I would receive comments on how the pupils have been so engaged, polite sometimes funny and a pleasure to teach. It is great when somebody else experiences what I have done over my years here. I will miss this and can really say I've enjoyed teaching geography.

I must also say a massive thank you to the staff. To those who took me under their wings and mentored me through the first few years of my career thank you for all your advice. This has helped me today and I now find myself in the position of Deputy Head and I have drawn on that advice. I now find myself in the role of the mentor rather than the mentee. Without the support of my colleagues, I simply would not be where I am today, and I can't thank them



enough.

Being responsible for quality of education provides me with a unique opportunity to watch lessons across the school and this is never failed to impress me as I see the experiences young people receive at this school. However, it is not just the teaching staff. I've been supported by a great admin team, teaching assistants and of course the site team, who over the years I've had to do some great jobs for me. This includes more than once removing a shoe off the roof or rescuing a bird from a classroom.

I leave to become an Education Manager working in outdoor education across the UK. This allows me to continue to deliver geographical education and have an impact in a new setting. I kind of move from a great classroom at OWS to the best classroom in the world 'the Outdoors' which allows me to bring geography to life in some stunning locations across the whole of the UK. I leave with many mixed emotions as I will miss Oldbury greatly, but I'm also excited about my new opportunities.

May I finally also thank parents and students for your support over the many years.

As students know I always finish my assemblies with a quote, and it would not be the same to finish this article without one. It is a real simple quote, and it will serve you well. It simply sums up my time at OWS.

'Aspire, Enjoy and Achieve' Oldbury Wells School.

Assemblies

Behaviour

During assemblies last week, pupils and staff have been reminded about OWS Expectations. Pupils have been instructed that staff are focusing on the following things:

- Punctuality to school and to lessons – Pupils who are late more than once will be put into a HOY afterschool detention. We will be notifying parents via text message.
- Following instructions given by staff first time
- Respecting the learning of others – by not calling out
- Uniform – pupils must have their blazers on at all times, unless they are instructed that they can remove it, shirts must be tucked in. Hoodies should not be worn in school.
- Electrical items – including mobile phones, ear phones (Air pods) should be off and away 8.40am-3.05am. Staff have been instructed to confiscate these items if they are seen.

After Easter we will be having a focus on pupils having the correct equipment in school. Form tutors will be checking that pupils are ready to learn each week.

Please see <https://www.oldburywells.com/student-information/equipment-for-learning> our website for the details of what equipment a pupils should have. Please could you check what items are missing.

We also have a school shop where missing items can be bought.

PSHE

Year 11

This term in PSHE some Year 11 classes were taught by some gynaecologists. They spoke in detail about the reproductive system, fertility, and contraception. Students also looked at how they treat their body now may impact their fertility opportunities in the future. This also provided Year 11 with some valuable Science revision.

School Shop

If your child needs to purchase equipment for use in class, you can use this order form to order supplies from the school: [Access Form](#)

Once you have completed the order form, your order will be processed and any monies will be added to your ParentPay account. When payment is received any items will be passed on to form tutors to hand out.



Equipment Reminder

Can we remind all students to bring a refillable water bottle to school.

- Black pens
- Green Pens
- Red Pens
- HB Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Scientific calculator
- Spanish/French Dictionary
 - Highlighter pens
 - Pritt Stick
- Colouring Pencils
 - Compass
 - Protractor
 - Earphones

Physics

Oxford Uni Physics Trip

A group of year 9 students took part in a physics event at Oxford university on 31st March. The day comprised of 3 workshops, Superconductors, physics of toys and chemical clocks.



In the Superconductors workshop the students cooled a special ceramic to -200 deg C using liquid nitrogen. At this super cool temperature the ceramic became a superconductor and the students investigated its magnetic properties.

In the 'physics of toys' workshop the students demonstrated their knowledge of the scientific method and were able to plan investigations to determine the physics behind mirrors, heat transfers, rotating objects and electrostatics.

The final workshop 'chemical clocks' the students were given 3 different clear liquids which when mixed, produced an opaque liquid after a certain amount of time. Their task was to experiment to find the correct mixture so that the liquid changed colour after exactly 45 seconds. One group managed to change theirs in 47 seconds which was much closer than their teachers 57 second attempt.

The day finished with a science show all about particle accelerators, charting their history, their uses in medical treatments and what the future holds for them.

The girls were amazing and the feedback from the scientists at Oxford University at how impressed they were with them shows we have some physicists of the future.

Physics

Quiz Winners

Every few weeks, Mr Johnson's KS4 and KS5 Physics classes are challenged to a quiz, with questions at quite a high level.

Each correct answer awards each student a raffle ticket, and at the end of term, a winner is announced. For last term, the winner was Holden Williamson! Here you can see him holding his prize - a Stirling engine!



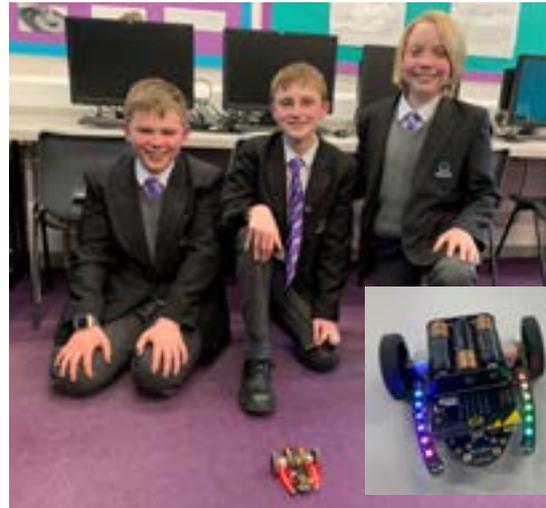
Code Club vs STEM Club

The Robot Challenge on!

Code Club and STEM Club are going head to head for "The Robot Challenge". The challenge is to create a robot that can push their opponent out of a ring.

This term students have been busy programming the Micro:Bits and Bit:Bots to create a remote controlled robot. Next term students will design and create the armour for their robot.

To the right you can see Alex, Finn and Luke!



History

International Women's Day

International Women's Day was March the 8th, and this year the History department chose Amy Johnson as the theme, who was the first woman to fly solo from England to Australia in 1930.

She is an inspirational figure, and KS3 were asked to make planes or moths filled with information about her. The best ones won housepoints!

The winners were:

- Nyrah Khalil - Friary
- Rihanna Chin - Westgate

Runners Up:

- Agatha Thompson - Friary
- Imogen Painter - Northgate
 - Kim Kendall - Castle
- Imogen Baker-Lellow - Castle
 - Harry Stafford - Castle

Food Technology

Fresh Pasta

Year 10 GCSE Food & Nutrition group made fresh pasta for the first time a couple of weeks ago. They worked independently to produce fresh tagliatelle, tagliarini or farfalle and flavoured their dough with spinach and tomato puree to create stripes and other patterns in their pasta.

They then cooked their pasta as well as making a marinara sauce to serve with it. Great fun was had by all and the results were certainly worthy of any Italian restaurant.



French

Year 7 Idioms Competition

Year 7 have been busy in languages, discovering how people speaking different languages also may perceive the world around them in different ways. Idiomatic expressions often give us a glimpse of those differences, for example in French, instead of saying 'it's raining cats and dogs!' they say 'il pleut des cordes!' which means 'falling ropes!'.

Year 7 were tasked with creating posters based around idioms comparing character traits and animals. They had a list of examples to choose from such as:

- Doux comme un agneau (as soft as a lamb)
- Fier comme un coq (as proud as a cockrel)
- Fort comme un bœuf (as strong as an ox)

- Heureux comme un poisson dans l'eau (as happy as a fish in the sea)
- Malade comme un chien (as ill as a dog)
- Malin comme un singe (as shrewd as a monkey)

You can see some examples of their work below, and we're sure you'll agree they did a great job! The winners were:

- Millie Fretwell
- Ava Thomas
- Kaden Smith
- Harriet Haden
- Daisy Parfitt
- Olivia-Rose Jones



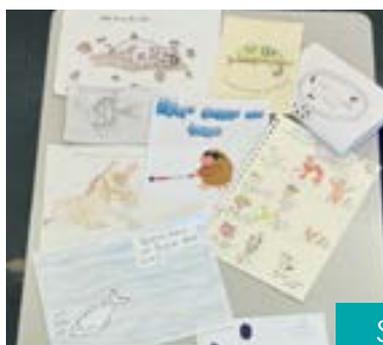
DCO



SDI



SRS/DSR



SF



JXD

Art

Artist of the month Year 7

The year 7 artist of the month is Nancy Fowler, for producing an excellent still life piece with strong observation and good creativity with the background pattern and use of colour theory. Well done, you worked really well on this.

Mrs Kenworthy



Nancy Fowler

Artist of the month Year 8

The year 8 artist of the month is Harry Stafford, for his superb final piece created digitally using Procreate. An excellent response with the design and an amazing Pop Art Feel to the piece.

Well done Harry you worked so hard on this especially as it was the first time you tried to do anything as ambitious on your iPad.

The image was drawn on a piece of paper using the grid method, then photographed and inserted into procreate developing the design with layers, colour and different effects.

Mrs Wycherley



Harry Stafford

Art

Year 7 Art Club

Thank you to all students who attended year 7 art club this term. They have had the opportunity to try different and exciting techniques including: canvas painting, bottle top collage and pencil sharpening collage. You can see some examples of their work below. We are really excited to start some new projects next term - remember Art Club runs every Thursday lunchtime in W24!



COMPETITIONS

Art

Year 7 Photography Competition

Last half term, the art department set a photography competition for year 7, with two different categories:

ARCHITECTURE PROJECT

Brief: Take some interesting photos or create a piece of artwork of local views, buildings, famous local landmarks, your village or town, or tourist spots.

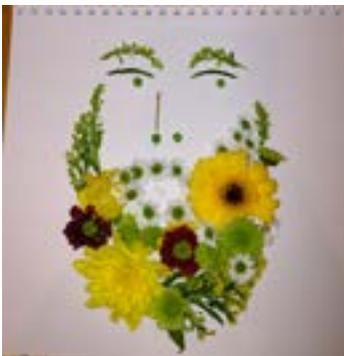
STILL LIFE PROJECT

Brief: Set up an interesting still-life set-up of objects at home with interesting lighting effects, or create a picture made from real fruit or vegetables inspired by the artists Arcimboldo and Carl Warner.



The results from each form are now in! The winners were awarded prizes, and you can see their entries below. The runners up were also recognised on our website and social media channels through a photo gallery! You can view it here: https://youtu.be/oaT_McfqNuo

Well done to the winners from each form: Leyton Yates, Frankie Wright, Zak Baldwin, Charlie Jeavons, Harriet Haden, and Murphy Woodcock.



Leyton Yates



Frankie Wright



Zak Baldwin



Charlie Jeavons



Harriet Haden



Murphy Woodcock

Art

Pop Art Competition Winners

We were so impressed to see all of the pop art 3D art entries by Year 8! You can see the winning designs below.

- Sophie Rafferty: For her amazing mixed media 3D face.
- Izzabelle Evans: A brilliant Pop Art cake baked and decorated!!
- Anya Sarpal : A superb Pop Art television.
- Mischa Gallon: For her creative Pop artwork design.

Runners Up: Ella Quinton and Callum Davies

Commendations: Morgan Rogers and Dylan Williams

Well done all for your amazing efforts.



English

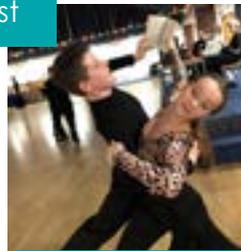
Extreme Read Competition



Over half term the English department launched the Extreme Read inter-house competition! The challenge was for students to take a photo of themselves reading a book in an exciting place!

Our socials and screen around school displayed all of the brilliant and unique photos that we received – judging them was really difficult! You can see the winning entries (right):

1st



Finlay Walker

2nd



Max McCartney

3rd



Nyrah Khalil

3rd



Holly Rossookh

- 1st Place – Finlay Walker Y9
- 2nd Place – Max McCartney Y7
- 3rd Place – Nyrah Khalil & Holly Rossookh Y7

CHARITY

£2888 raised for Ukraine Non-Uniform Day

On Friday 11th March we held a non-uniform day in school to raise funds for the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

We are so pleased to announce that in total we raised £2888.84, which has all been sent to the DEC – the Disasters Emergency Committee who are an umbrella group of 15 charitable organisations specialising in humanitarian aid.

We encouraged students to wear blue and yellow to school to show support and solidarity for Ukrainian people, and we also invited year 7 and 8 students to create Ukrainian flags and posters to be displayed around Bridgnorth.

We saw such an interesting range of designs, from colouring, crayon, paint, collage, polystyrene, heart shapes and laminated! It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, and we are very grateful for the generosity and support of our parents and school community.

Well done everyone!



Comic Relief Fundraising Red accessories day

Comic Relief was on Friday 18th March, and to raise money we asked students to wear red accessories with their school uniform.

We raised £370!

Thank you to everyone who donated and turned up wearing something red! Comic Relief raises money for people in the UK, and around the world including Ukraine.



SPORTS

Year 8 Boys Football team dominate the district!

Huge congratulations to our Y8 football team who showed absolute domination at the recent South and East Shropshire tournament hosted at Lacon Childe school, including schools such as Ludlow, Bridgnorth Endowed and Lacon Childe.

We entered 2 teams into the competition and through sheer grit and determination managed to gain both first and second place in the competition. Great work boys – what an end to the season!



Girls u14s Fantastic Victory!

Oldbury Wells girls u14s had a fantastic victory against a very strong Hadley Learning Community team.

Oldbury who eventually came out as 4-1 winners, showed excellent skill, teamwork and commitment to drive into the net round of the Shropshire County Cup.

Freya Jones lead from the front with 3 goals, with Mayah Hill, who was at the heart of a strong midfield, chipped in with an excellent solo 4th goal to wrap up the win.

Both teams battled well in difficult conditions with the weather constantly trying to play its part.

Well done to all involved.
Mr Smith

Girls Rugby

Girls' rugby has been really popular this year with the girls showing some excellent ability to progress their skills. The highlight of this has been a training session with a current Scottish international Caitly Mattinson coming into school to work with the girls and give them an amazing experience.



The girls were working through lots of passing and possession games focussing on maintaining forward movement and supporting each other, before having a go at contact and tackling drills to perfect their techniques.

The session was amazingly well received by the girls, and they all commented on how fun the session had been. Moving forward we will be looking to keep a strong connection with Bridgnorth rugby club to increase the numbers of girls enjoying and playing rugby through the year.

Hopefully the girls will use this experience to inspire and move them forwards in their rugby journey.



Rugby Roundup

Year 7

The year 7's have taken to rugby really well over the last two terms and have really started to show some promise moving forward into year 8. The schools' games tournament which they were due to take part in unfortunately didn't materialise due to covid, however the group are really keen to get involved in fixtures and will be looking forward to this next year.

Year 8

The year 8 rugby team similarly have been putting together some really strong training sessions and looking forward to next year we will be looking to enter them into the county cup competition to show how they can perform against more schools in the area. In the county games qualifier at Swancote playing fields the boys put together some really strong performances, following their first game with some new players finding their feet. They showed some excellent tackling and forward play to run out as competition winners. It was particularly pleasing watching players like Josh Bill who hadn't played a competitive game of rugby before, putting in some really strong performances and holding his own.



Girls u14s Fantastic Victory!

It has been fantastic to see so many students involved in extra-curricular activities this term. Students from all year groups have been taking part in football, netball and rugby after school sessions as well as a variety of sports during lunchtimes.

The sports that have been available to all years at lunchtime have been:

Monday – Dodgeball

Tuesday - Basketball

Wednesday - Badminton

Thursday – Ultimate Frisbee

Friday – Table Tennis

We are really looking forward to seeing more students next half term as we again offer more sporting chances to get involved.

County Football Honours

The PE department would like to congratulate members of the school who have managed to be included in the county football teams this year.

Indi Robertson in year 11, Alex Clarke in year 10 and Lawrence Wood in year 9 have spent the year with the county squads.

We hope they have had a successful season and wish them luck with their continued participation in these squads.

Calling all Swimmers!

In May there is a county swimming gala which we would like to put as many swimmers into as possible. There are entry times which must be met, please contact Mr Cowburn, terry.cowburn@oldburywells.com if you are interested and the information can be sent out to you. This will also be made available after Easter in school.

Sixth Form Update

Easter Greetings

Easter Greetings from Sixth Form! This term has seen Year 12 visit Worcester University for the annual UCAS fayre. Students got the opportunity to explore options after sixth form and talk to representatives from a range of universities.

We have also welcomed speakers in from Wolverhampton University and a recruitment agency, preparing students for next steps. This term we have a business mentor beginning to work with our students who will be looking to start Apprenticeships after their studies. She will be working one to one to highlight opportunities and prepare students for the recruitment process.

Year 13 have been working hard on their mock exams and completing course work. We hope Easter provides us all with the opportunity to recharge our batteries and focus on those important exams in the summer term. Enjoy the holidays! The Sixth Form team.

IT

Results are in for Y13 IT



Congratulations to Kyle Oakes and Rachen Torjaroen. Both students sat their Unit 2, Level 3 IT exam in January and both achieved the highest grade a distinction.

Congratulations and a big well done both for your hard work and dedication to your studies.

NOTICEBOARD



CARNIVAL SEEKS YOUNG ROYALS!

Organisers of this year's Bridgnorth Carnival are looking for a team of youngsters to represent the event as 'Carnival Royalty'.

Applications are invited to fill the roles of four 'Royals' aged between eight to 11 and 12 to 16 years and the successful candidates will lead the Carnival Procession on Friday June 3.

This year's Carnival will coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee week and so the carnival committee has decided to appoint young 'Royals' to play a major part in the celebrations.

There will be a girl and boy in each age group and all entrants have to do is answer one simple question – 'Why would you like to be Carnival Royalty?'. "

Applications, including name, address, age, telephone number, email address and the answer to the question, should be emailed to bridgnorhtowncarnival@yahoo.com and the deadline for entries is April 15.

Encore

Come along and join the school vocal group 'Encore'! Every Thursday after school until 4pm in the music room. All voice, years and abilities welcome. It's free, fun and feel good.

Term Dates

Summer Term 2022

Starts - Monday, 25 April 2022

(Bank Holiday Monday, 2 May 2022)

Half-term - Monday, 30 May - Friday, 3 June 2022 inclusive

Ends - Friday, 22 July 2022



If you would like to find out about other services the Parenting Team offers please email Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk



PARENTING HELPLINE

Call 01743 250950

Tuesdays and Thursdays

9am to 12.30pm

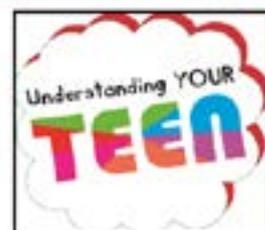
Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. Shropshire Council's Parenting Team is here to support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.

Do you have any questions around child development and parenting?

Why not call our Parenting Helpline where one of our trained

Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen.

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being please call
First Point of Contact 0545 678 9021



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