



Oldbury Wells Journal

December 2022



Welcome to our festive newsletter. As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, we look back and reflect on what has been an exciting period with so much achieved by students across all year groups.

Having returned to school in September full of positivity of having a 'normal' start to the academic year post pandemic, staff and students have worked hard to ensure that normality can resume. I am extremely grateful to our committed and hard-working staff for the opportunities they provide both within the classroom and beyond, and equally proud of all our students who join in with so much that takes place across the school.

I never cease to be amazed on how much our students give to the school community and the positive difference they make to the lives of others, not only through their impressive charity work, but also through the day to day support they give within the normal school day...well done to all.

As always, our newsletter gives an overview of some of the events which have been taking place, it has been great that we have been able to successfully reintroduce so many school events which have in the past two years been put on hold. What is equally impressive is the hard work and commitment that all students have shown as they develop on whatever stage of the journey they are at with us.

A special mention to our Year 11 students who have

recently completed their mock exams, their approach and maturity in completing these has already set the bar high as they look to the future. I know that on their return in January they will remain focused and continue to work hard in all they do. In addition, a special mention to those in the Sixth Form who are always excellent role models for students across all year groups; the Year 7 disco organised by some of our Sixth Form students is a great example of the commitment they show to support others.

As we approach the Christmas period, we know that although it is a time to rejoice and celebrate, there are many families across the community who will be experiencing challenges around the many issues which are communicated daily within the news and world around us. The cost-of-living pressures remain a challenge for many families and we would encourage all to engage with the Cost of Living help website overseen by Shropshire Council for further support (<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/>).

Can I use this opportunity to thank all families for their continued support and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Whatever you have planned for the holiday period, I know everyone will be grateful for time which will be spent with family and friends to enjoy each other's company and plan for the year ahead.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year!

UPDATES

New menus!

Caterlink

Our food catering provider, Caterlink, have made new menus ready for the start of the new year. The menus were shown to pupils to review and give feedback on. Take a look at what's on offer:

LUNCH WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL #ONE	Classic Macaroni Baked in a rich Cheese Sauce and cooked to perfection	Irish Sausages Served with Chive mashed potato, roasted carrots & gravy	Chicken Pie Served with baby potatoes & Broccoli	Chicken Coronation Curry Served with rice & mango chutney	Battered Fillet of fish served with chips, garden peas or beans & tartare sauce
MAIN MEAL #TWO	A choice of meat & veggie toppers, served with house salad & coleslaw	Plant Based Vegetable Wellington, served with mashed potato, roasted carrots & gravy	Red Pepper & Cheese Frittata Served with baby potatoes & Broccoli	Butternut Squash, Chickpea & potato Served with rice & mango chutney	Chefs American Tgg Mes Tacos Served with chips & Peas
HANDHELD	Ham & Cheese Panini	Chicken Wrap	Cheese & Onion Panini	Jumbo Hotdog	Pepperoni Panini
BOWLED OVER	Street Chicken Noodles	Herby Tomato Pasta	Loaded Wedges	Loaded Nachos	Tomato Meatball Pasta
HOT PUDDING	Lemon Drizzle Sponge	Creamy Rice Pudding	Apple & Cherry Oaty Crumble	Shortbread	Chocolate & Banana Sponge

LUNCH WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL #ONE	Hearty Meatball Goulash Served with herby rice & sauté green beans	Marinated Chicken thigh or drumstick Served with spicy rice & slaw	Roasted Gammon Roast Potatoes Seasonal vegetables & Gravy	Stir fry Turkey in soy & ginger with Noodles Served with prawn crackers	Breaded Fish Fingers served with chips, garden peas or beans & tartare sauce
MAIN MEAL #TWO	Wholewheat Vegetable Pasta Bake Served with sauté green beans	Classic Ratatouille Served with spicy rice	Smoky Vegetable Tostitos Served With Colelaw	Black Bean Noodles & Stir Fried Vegetables	Vegan Bolognese Served with spaghetti & garlic bread
HANDHELD	Authentic Pizza Slice	Half Cheese & Tomato Bagel	Authentic Pizza Slice	Cheese & Tomato Panini	Ham & Cheese Folded Naan
BOWLED OVER	Herby Tomato Pasta	Cheesy Pasta	Sweet Chili Noodles	Vegetable Chilli & Rice	Loaded Nachos
HOT PUDDING	Chocolate & Kidney bean muffin	Syrup Sponge	Plum Crumble	Vanilla Sponge	Oatmeal Cookie

LUNCH WEEK 3	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL #ONE	Chicken Jambalaya Served with Latin salad & Nachos	50% plant based Cottage Pie Served with green cabbage & buttered swede	Pork Casserole, Potatoes, & carrots.	Piri Piri Chicken Strips Khubz wrap, Salads & sauce options.	Breaded Fishcake served with chips, garden peas or beans & tartare sauce
MAIN MEAL #TWO	Ramirez Wrap served with jallo, salad & nachos	Chickpea & Vegetable hot pot Served with green cabbage & buttered swede	Macaroni Cheese Bake topped with Crispy Sage Stuffing	Falafel & Hummus Khubz wrap, salads & sauce options	Quorn Mince Lasagne Served with chips and Peas
HANDHELD	Hot Filled Baguette	Chicken Burger	Tomato & Cheese Panini	Authentic Pizza Slice	Big Chicken Wrap
BOWLED OVER	Tomato & Mascarpone Pasta	Soy Vegetable Noodles	Loaded Nachos	Herby Tomato Pasta	Sausage & Chips
HOT PUDDING	Cinnamon nachos & chocolate sauce	Oaty Flapjack	Bread & Butter Pudding	Sticky toffee apple crumble	Pancake & Cherry sauce

There is also a daily selection of sandwiches, baguettes, wraps and salads available. Our hot puddings will be complimented with a range of cold desserts etc.



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8JXD showing their support Soroptimist International, The Wrekin

Members of 8JXD have proudly donated toiletries for a registered charity called, 'Soroptimist International The Wrekin.' Soroptimist International is a global volunteer women's organisation working together to transform the lives of women and girls. This charity appeals for toiletry bags and supplies, which once collected will be distributed appropriately to women and girls who are underprivileged or in need.

Mrs Laurie who is co-ordinating school donations, reached out to staff this year and Miss Dangerfield, 8JXD tutor, asked her form group if they would like to donate to this important charity. As you can see, they have put together an impressive amount of toiletries and Miss Dangerfield would like to thank them and their families for their incredible support.



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Christmas Card Competition

Well done to all those who took part in the Christmas card competition 2022. We had some lovely entries and the final design shown here was created from the combination of two entries.

The Winners:

Nina Lavrenko - Year 7. For her amazing digital Oldbury Wells Christmas tree collage.

Merab Walker - Year 9. For her lovely Oldbury Wells robins and the top of the tree "star".

Runners up:

Mischa Gallon Year 9

Chloe Humphreys Year 8

Lottie Mathias Year 7

Amelia Maddison Year 7

You can view the Christmas card here: <https://fliphtml5.com/pjjon/fljs>

or
<http://oldburywells.com/media/46382/finished-card.pdf>





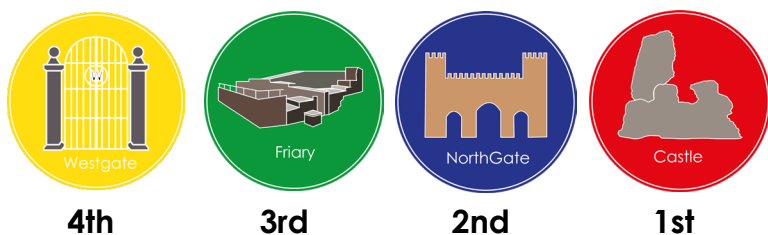
Helping our local area this Christmas

Bridgnorth Food Bank donations

Boxes for each school house had been placed in reception for the last two weeks of term so that students could make donations for the Bridgnorth Food Bank. Students generously brought in non-perishable items that will help support people in our local community that are in need. The house with the most donated items will be the winner and awarded house points.

We collected approximately 250 items, varying from baked beans to hand lotion. Thank you to all who donated!

In regards to houses, the results are in:



Well done also to Sixth Form for their large amount of donations!



£689 raised for Children in Need!

On the 18th November, we helped to raise money towards Children in Need. Form groups drew a Country that was playing in the World Cup at random and students could come into school wearing the Country's representing colours. We even had a human World Cup turn up to school - Ms Barlow! Activities, ran by members of Sixth Form, also took place in the lunch hall for pupils to take part in to help raise additional money.

We raised a fantastic £689.40 for the cause!

Once again, thank you to everyone who donated and



Raising awareness for Men's Mental Health

November

A number of Oldbury Wells staff have taken part in raising awareness for men's mental health charity, Movember. Staff have endured the quizzical looks and sometimes ridicule for their facial fuzz but it was all for a good cause. Mr Cook (Head of Year 8) kicked off the term with an assembly to his year group to explain the origins and importance of bringing the topic of men's mental health to the forefront of student's minds.

It wasn't only the male staff getting involved as Ms Barlow (Key Stage 4 Student Support Worker) donned a different moustache each day throughout November. Secondary to the awareness it was also an opportunity to raise some money for the Movember movement in a month of charity work at Oldbury Wells.

Thanks to all staff involved and to those who donated to this great cause.

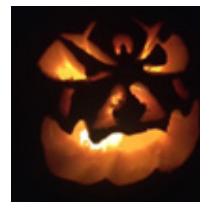
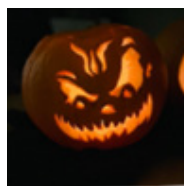
Mr Smith

Lots going on at Oldbury Wells!

Over the last half term we have had some great times around the school outside of the classroom. Here are some of the winners from the activities we have run:

Monster Mash Pumpkin Competition:

- 3rd - Merab Walker
- 2nd - Amelia Maddison
- 1st - Alex Foster



Guess the number of sweets in the Jar (Children in Need activity):

- Winning number - 147
- Winner - Oliver Tranter 8SDI!

Teacher of the Term:

Students again had the opportunity to vote for the member of staff has made an impact on them over the last term. It was fantastic to see 42 members of staff receiving votes, including Heads of Year, Teachers, Technicians, Teaching Assistants, Support Staff and Pastoral Support workers. Once all of the votes were counted the results were as followed:

- Year 7 - Mr Walker
- Year 8 - Mr Shipley
- Year 9 - Miss Morgan / Mr Parmar
- Year 10 - Mr Cherrington
- Year 11 - Mrs Waldron
- Sixth form - Miss Warner

- Overall
- 3rd - Miss Roberts
- 2nd - Mr Cherrington
- 1st - Mr Walker

Some of the comments from students included:

He has always been a positive and welcoming person during my time at Oldbury and is very easy to talk to. He has helped me when I've been stressed about work during my mock exams which I am extremely grateful for and is overall a great teacher to have.

He has helped me understand maths and encouraged me to work harder.

She is very kind and caring, and is always helpful.

She is really nice and makes science really fun. Her lessons are the best!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

British Schools Modern Biathlon Qualifier

Callum Blower has done it again!

Callum has once again smashed the National Schools Biathlon qualifying event at William Brookes School, finishing in overall 1st place in his age category. He will be hoping to secure a place in the finals again in 2023 against the other best competitors in the Country. As he was moved up an age bracket this year, the swim distance has increased. Therefore, it was Callum's first time competing over 200m in the pool. Despite this being his first attempt at the distance in a competitive race, he won his heat and got the quickest time overall at 2:37.65. He finished 2nd in the 1600m run, just behind a very strong competitor from William Brookes in a time of 5:37.21, an improvement on his time from last year too. All the best for the finals next year Callum!



Netball is back!

Netball is well and truly back at OWS, with the highest attendances at club and competitions for many years! We hosted matches against Bridgnorth Endowed School here, playing 2 Year 7, 3 Year 8 and 1 Year 9 team over the 2 nights, with over 45 students taking part. This was a fantastic experience for all involved and has helped to develop their skills in a competitive situation. Overall, OWS came out winners in all age categories, well done to everyone involved! Pictured are the Year 7 and 8 students from the first games.



Back – Macey Hand, Kerry Griffiths, Millie Fretwell, Phoebe Duffy-Lashley, Lola Moore, Lucy Courtman, Immi Leith, Ruby Pillans, Grace Plant, Harriet Haden, Layla Leather, Holly Scriven, Kitty Stokes, Tamsin Cawthorn and Louisa Hayward.

Front – Pheobe Quinton-Jones, Maisie Harris, Erin Wall, Katie Brown, Amelia Maddison, Emily Wootton, Lucie Green, Lily Jones, Lilly Davies, Esme Round, Apryl Jennings, Leila Ward, Emma Simmons, Poppy Nicholls, Grace Faulkner, Annabelle Stringer and Isla Loveridge.

Cross Country Star

Year 9 pupil Jack Stockton, has been competing in various cross country events over the past few years and put in a great performance, representing Shropshire Schools at the recent inter-county meeting at Himley Hall and Park on Saturday 19th November. Jack ran the 3.4k race around the grounds and was 11th overall, but 2nd for the County – which is an incredible performance. Well done Jack!

'Smash up'!

Several of our pupils have been taking part in East Shropshire badminton tournaments over the past month against well trained teams from Bridgnorth Endowed, Idsall and William Brookes School. Our Key Stage 4 boys team did fantastically well, coming in 2nd against an undefeated BES team, who will advance to the regional finals later in the year. The team were Flynn Summerby, Max Parker, Aaron Cawthorn and team captain Harrison Dexter – well done!



Year 7 and 8 Rugby Tournament

The year 7 and 8 rugby team have had a really positive start to the season and have built towards playing some competitive rugby in the district tournament at Swancote playing fields. We have had a really positive turn out at rugby regularly having between 8 and 10 players turning up each week. This has meant that we have been able to work on technical rucking work so that when it came to game time they were as prepared as they could be.

In the first game against Bridgnorth Endowed, the boys played brilliantly in what was a closely fought game. They rucked really well, turned over the ball successfully on a number of occasions and set up some good link up play down the wings. The tough tackling of Sam Twigg and Tom Underwood really paid dividends as we defended with resolve. We unfortunately conceded and were chasing the game, until combining to score late in the game. At two tries apiece this was an excellent first game and gave us some things to think about going into the second game.

In the second game, the game was a little bit less frantic as we looked to cover more space across the pitch in defence. The boys covered the pitch much more easily and were able to run a couple of tries to put the game beyond doubt. William Brookes scored a late consolation try as we were tiring toward the end of the game, but all in all a very good and strong performance.

In our final game against Lacon Childe, we came up against a team who were well drilled and played a lot rugby together. This meant we were always up against it from the start. The boys gave a really positive performance and put Lacon under pressure on a couple of occasions coming close to scoring in the corner a couple of times. Unfortunately, a lack of awareness of the edge of the pitch meant we lost out on actually scoring. The Lacon boys put in some powerful runs and in the end scored a couple of tries to run out winners. Special mention should go to Murphy Woodcock, Sam Twigg and Tom Underwood for the hard tackling and excellent team work shown.

Really well done boys and I look forward to playing more fixtures across the year.

Year 9 Rugby Club - Members needed

The Year 9 rugby club is becoming more popular and is starting to get 6/7 players there each week. If we can continue to build this moving forward, we will be able to play some fixtures against other schools. If you are keen to play, please come and see Mr Cowburn in the PE office.

Mr Cowburn

ART & DESIGN

Artist of the month - December

Francesca Tams - Year 7

Year 7 have been working on an iTunes design project using their own artwork and Photoshop to create a design for the App. Francesca managed to use the help sheet to create her design unaided using her own creativity. An amazing effort!



Francesca Tams

Max McCartney & Harriet Haden - Year 8

Year 8 are working on their Pop art project with some great homework so far from all the forms. However, the award for Year 8 goes to two students: Max McCartney and Harriet Haden for their superb Pop Art presentation created at home with an imaginative use of materials and superb coloured test pieces. An outstanding commitment to their Art & Design studies.



Max McCartney



Harriet Haden Pop Art work

Ruby Webster - Year 10

Ruby is Year 10's artist of the month, for her observational homework study based on music showing intuitive use of mixed media and her superb acrylic painting for her GCSE coursework



Ruby Webster

Rex Mavir - Year 11

Rex is Year 11's artist of the month, for his use of experimental media, collage and glue gun techniques to create an excellent artist study and creative 3D diorama. Great independent work Rex!



Rex Mavir

ENGLISH

'Twas the Night Before Christmas...

Poetry Competition

Students were given the chance to win house points and a Christmas treat for themselves by writing a poem or story using the famous poem 'A Visit from St. Nicholas' by Clement Clarke Moore.

Using the opening line of the poem, students created an acrostic poem or a 100 word short story based on the festive season.

We had some fabulous entries with lots of descriptions, action, sentiment and even humour about Santa running for Prime Minister!

The winners are:

1st prize - Dylan Thompson in Year 9 for his entry about Santa forgetting to feed the elves so they go on strike!

2nd prize - Katie Lewis in Year 11 for her poem about the magic of Christmas. Well done for sticking with the rhyme scheme of the original poem!

3rd prize - Henry Fieldhouse in Year 7 for his story about an evil Santa Claus.

Year 7 Spelling Bee Contest

On Friday 9 December, ten Year 7 students competed in Oldbury Well's Year 7 Spelling Bee Competition.

The Year 7 forms had nominated their two 'Champions' to compete. These 'Champions' were competing for the honour of their form, a trophy and house points. Students then had a month to learn the fifty spellings, with the help of their forms and as individuals, not knowing which spellings they would get.

During the competition, there were two rounds. The first round consisted of four stages, where 'Champions' spelled their word out loud to their Year 7 audience. Two English teachers, Mrs Griffiths and Miss Silverstone, kept score for which words were spelt correctly. Finally, the second round was designed for the highest scoring 'Champions' to take part in a sudden death 'spell-off'!

The 'Champions' were:

7CHA - Josh Wyke and Harry Ryan

7GS - Arthur Grice and Jack Coley

7JAK - Alex Abi-Raad and Joseph Edwards

7ECH - Ahmad Abubakar and Alfie Proctor

7MBR - Ewan Thomson and Zaine Ullah-Whettall

Into the second round, were Joseph Edwards, Alfie Proctor and Harry Ryan.

The true 'Champion of Spelling' was: Joseph Edwards for 7JAK!

Wonderfully, the competition was a really positive and uplifting event, made even more fantastic by Mr LaCroix hosting the contest.



“READDIT”

READDIT! are getting into the Christmas spirit!

1. Can you guess the wintery novel from the review? It's full of clues.

(Answers at the end)

The book I've chosen is a Christmas favourite. Set in a country forever locked in Winter, it contains a powerful female character – she is evil, but beautiful. There are four children in the novel, who are away from home and staying in a huge, cold, old house. One of the children hides in a large piece of furniture where there are plenty of warm clothes to keep her warm. But the girl (Lucy) falls out and finds herself in an ice-cold land.

She revisits this land, taking her brothers and sister with her. They meet creatures of a fantasy world, including a faun, beavers and a lion; the animals talk to Lucy, her brothers and sister.

Lucy's brother, Peter is the eldest child, brave and resilient. He fights to free the frozen land from the power of its evil, powerful Queen. There is a great battle scene between Peter and the wonderfully named Maugrim, a fierce wolf who is Captain of the White Witch's Secret Police.

Peter's battle and the defeat of Maugrim shows us the difficulty of fighting against powerful forces. The author changed Maugrim's name to Fenris Ulf, but the publishers (like me!) preferred Maugrim.

Most beautiful of all the creatures is Tumnus the faun – the first creature Lucy meets. As in all good children's novels, there is a terrifying scene and that is the arrest of gentle Tumnus by the Secret Police. The White Queen's crimes become personal to the children and to the reader.

In case you haven't guessed the novel yet... it is set in Narnia and there is a lion called Aslan: there are two film versions, but the book is much better – of course!

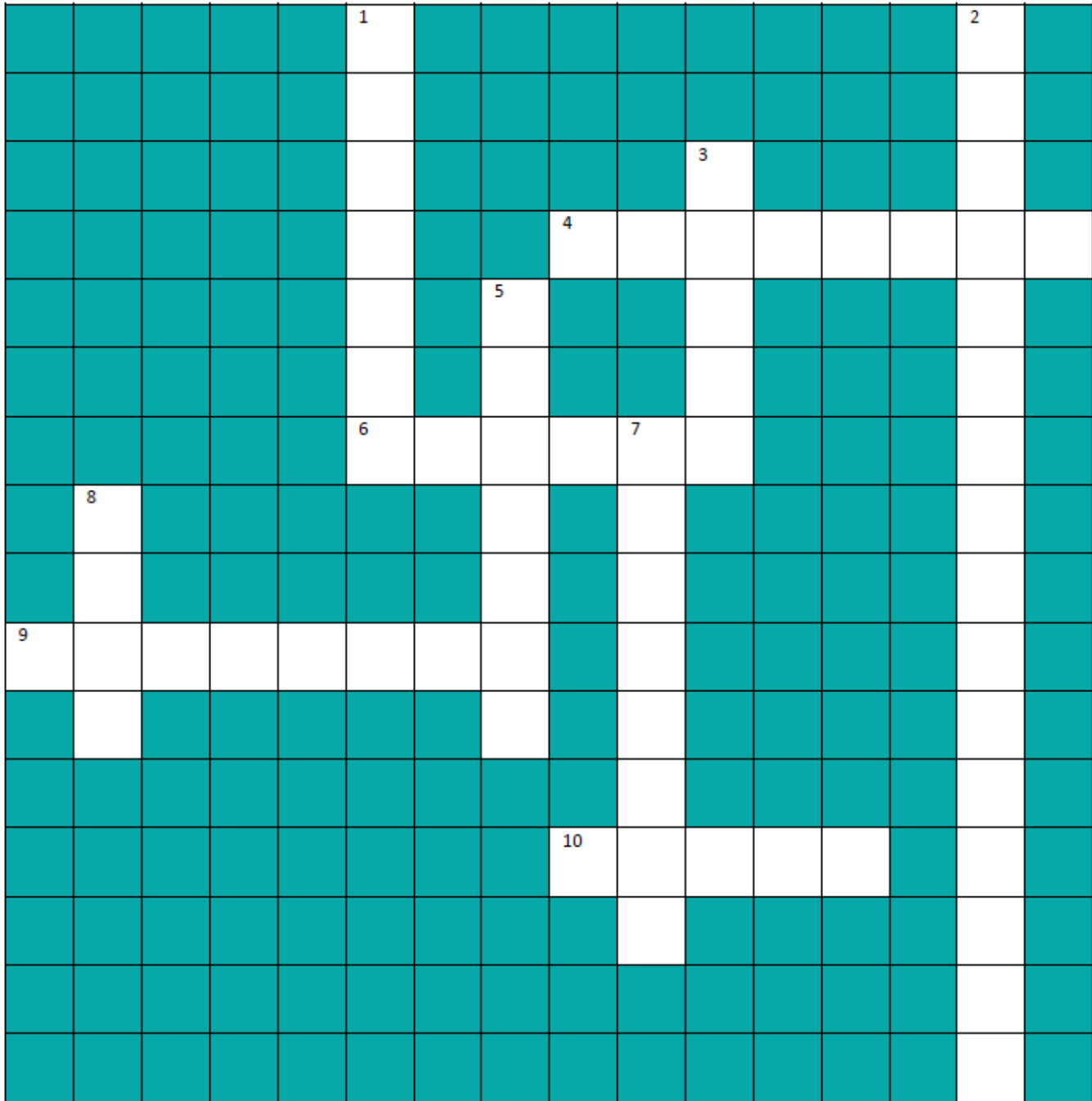
Why not write your own review of a novel you've read and become our first contributor in 2023? Staff and students welcome – send your review to Mrs Wild in D2 (and don't forget to name the book and the writer so others can read the book).

2. Can you solve the puzzles? The letters are jumbled, but all these words have something to do with reading books

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. YROPET | Usually written in stanzas; it might rhyme |
| 2. VONTLIES | Someone who writes fiction; an author |
| 3. BORGYHAIP | Someone else's life story... |
| 4. ACKNMISSNDA | A reading skill used to find details quickly |
| 5. SHRBUSPILE | Like Penguin, they print books |
| 6. PCHEART | Part of a novel |
| 7. CRAVALYUOB | Words, words, words! |

3. Challenge Corner: Something in the jumbled words (2) is a quote from a play. Who wrote the play and what is its name?

4. Ten names from A Christmas Carol! CHALLENGE: Find the names without reading the answers! SUPER CHALLENGE: Find the names without reading the clues...



DOWN

- 1 The clerk's little son
- 2 A Spirit and also a gift
- 3 The sister of the main character
- 5 The main character in the novel
- 7 The main character's first name
- 8 The nephew of the main character

ACROSS

- 4 The poor clerk, with a large family
- 6 The partner that becomes a door knocker
- 9 A good employer who holds a party
- 10 The fiancé who leaves him

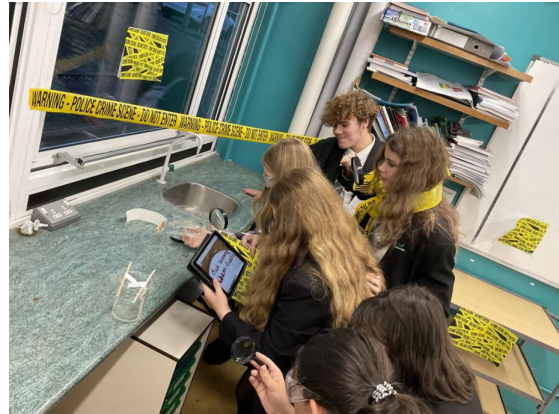
Answers:
 1 The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by CS Lewis
 2 Poetry; novelist; biography; skim and scan; publishers; chapter; vocabulary
 3 Words, words, words! Hamlet says this to Polonius in Shakespeare's Hamlet.
 DOWN: 1 Tiny Tim; 2 Christmas Present; 3 Fanny; 5 Scrooge; 7 Ebenezer; Fred
 ACROSS: 4 Cratchit; 6 Marley; 9 Fezziwig; 10 Belle

SCIENCE

Forensic Scientists in the making!

Science Club (Thursdays afterschool)

The sleuths of the Science Club have been busy putting their forensic skills to work as they get to the bottom of the Mystery of Oldbury Wells! If you are in Year 7-9 and are interested in Science Club, or becoming a Key Stage 4 Science Leader, please see Ms Allsop for further details



Year 9 Prosthetics STEM class

Students in 9xy/Sc1 participated in a special STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths) challenge in the final week of term, organised by the Smallpiece Foundation, in which they were challenged to make a prosthetic hand. This construction project involved cutting and attaching small pieces together to make a working hand, in a limited amount of time. The students rose to the challenge wonderfully and there were many excellent models made. Prosthetics is a field of STEM which is growing very rapidly and the technology can be used not only to replace injured or missing limbs, but also as a way of augmenting our strength. This was a fascinating insight into this field – if you are interested in finding out more, there are currently only two University courses in this subject (BSc Prosthetics and Orthotics) at Salford University (in Manchester) and Strathclyde University (Glasgow).



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Chef of the Term!

Well done all

Over the last two terms, students have been working hard learning about Food Preparation and Nutrition and there has been some outstanding work and contributions demonstrating creativity, effort and a variety of treats cooked up. Thank you to everyone who have worked hard in lessons.

New to Oldbury Wells is the Chef of the Term Award, created in recognition of students who have excelled themselves within Food and this has gone to a number of students who have demonstrated excellent performance. A huge congratulations to the following for outstanding performance in Food Preparation and Nutrition:

Year 7:

Lara Neale
Amber Sutton

Year 8:

Harriet Haden
Mitchell McShane-Edwards

Year 9:

Ryan Twigger
Tazkia Ahmed

Year 10:

Emily Gilmour
Molly Preece

Year 11:

Ruby Waterhouse
Isabelle Hobday



HISTORY

World War I Poetry Competition!

Some great literature skills shown...

Humanities and English held a joint competition to support our Year 10 and 12 study visit to the First World War Battlefields in July 2023.

OWS will be laying a wreath at the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. In English lessons, Key Stage 3 students wrote poems on the theme of remembrance, with the winning poem becoming the label for the school's wreath, which will be seen by people from around the world who will be visiting the Menin Gate at that time.

Congratulations to Leila Ward (Year 7), and runners up Darcy Grice and Josie Burt (Year 9) on their lovely poetry skills!

Runner Up

Poppies by Darcy Grice

Soft, delicate, red,
The poppies sway to the ground,
Slowly, steadily withering away.
Soon to be forgotten,
Soon to be part of something much greater,
But contributing in its own way
To make the soil stronger each day.



Winner

Remembrance Day by Leila Ward

Silence falls on the battlefield once loved,
Soldiers resting have time to be proud.
People that fought for our future and past,
Our gratitude to them will forever last.
Those that stayed until the end,
Those that were fighting beside a friend.
Yet as the guns stop and the war is done,
It's finally over, but was it won?
We will always remember those who shed their blood,
Who fought as long as they possibly could.

Runner Up

That Night by Josie Burt

For every star upon the sky,
Is one for every soul that lies.
For every firework that sparks so bright,
Is one brave soldier who fought that night.
For every leaf that falls with grace,
Is one young man who lost the race.



GEOGRAPHY

Wild, windy wonderful Wales

A level Geography fieldtrip

Our Geography residential trip for Year 12s and 13s began early on a November morning at Oldbury Wells from where we travelled up to Adventure Parc Wales to experience for ourselves one of our A level case study locations. This diverse regeneration project includes a Hilton hotel, a spa, indoor ninja assault courses and caving, zip lines and the world's first artificial surfing lake. Usually, this unique tourist destination is a hive of activity, but sadly we were unable to see it in full swing, or enjoy our planned lunch at the Hilton. Just a few days before our visit, the government had taken over the resort to prepare it for housing asylum seekers. Talk about geography in action! None the less, the resort's seemingly unflappable sales manager and the chief engineer still gave us a great tour around. We made up for missing out on the Hilton highlife by playing ping pong and retro Pacman, with one student discovering the delights of pinball for the very first time!

In the evening we stayed at Bangor University halls of residence - with some sixth formers cooking elaborate creations for each other in 'Come dine with me' style, whilst others were a little less adventurous, resorting to the student staple – Pot noodles!

Thursday saw us travel up to the stunning coastline around Rhosneigr to study the beaches and sand dunes, supporting our A-Level students with their geography fieldwork skills. It was a bit wild and windy, but thankfully the rain held off and it was relatively warm so we had a busy day collecting lots of data.

On the last day the wild Welsh weather was in action again! We stopped off first at the easy to pronounce town of Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch for some souvenirs (including a Christmas sheep!) and a quick photo, then onto the beautiful Newborough beach. Whilst the sun did make an appearance, the wind was unrelenting. It certainly meant our A-Level students could see for themselves how the wind causes the movement of sand and the creation of dunes, however too much sand was getting blown onto us – so after recording some incredible wind speeds on the anemometers, we beat a hasty retreat back to the minibus. We journeyed back to school via other A level case study locations such as Zip World and the Rhug Estate, which was on TV a week later in 'Britain's Poshest Farm Shop', however the Year 13s appreciated it for their bison themed slides!



MUSIC

Legally Blonde Jr, the Musical

"You must always have faith in people. And, most importantly, you must always have faith in yourself."

Rehearsals are well under way and the excitement is building for our musical production of 'Legally Blonde Jr' which takes to the stage at Oldbury Wells School on Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 March 2023. Information about ticket sales will be released in the new year. Well done to everyone involved in the show for their excellent commitment to rehearsals and for taking the opportunity to be a part of our first post-covid production.



Vocal and Instrumental Tuition at Oldbury Wells!

We are very excited to have secured the expert vocal teaching of Beatrice Floyer-Acland, a professional singer and vocal teacher who has relocated from London to Shropshire. This is a most fantastic opportunity for our students to have singing tuition with an outstanding vocalist. We have some vacancies for vocal lessons so please contact Miss Dangerfield for further information on how to sign up for tuition.

Instrumental Tuition

We have some vacancies also for Brass, Wind and String instrument tuition and it would be wonderful to get some more students started on their journey to learning to play an instrument. Students can learn for fun or learn to take graded exams. There are also opportunities to play in our ensembles once you can play a few notes.

Special Offer

We have some brass instruments available for free hire in the music department so if you would like to have tuition on either cornet or trombone you don't have to have the additional hire cost of an instrument - just the tuition cost per term.

Again, please ask Miss Dangerfield for details. It is never too late to learn and it is such a good social thing to do.

Sixth Form Christmas festivities

We have celebrated the end of term with a bowling trip and Sixth Form played an active part in all the end of term festivities including hosting the Year 7 Charity Christmas Disco on Tuesday 13 December, where we raised around £250 that will be donated to the Make a Wish Foundation - well done Sixth Form students!



Year 10 & 12 Work Experience

We are launching work experience with Year 10 and Year 12 after Christmas. All parents of Year 10 should have received a letter outlining our approach using Unifrog this year. We are hoping that this will be a valuable experience where students can gain an insight into the world of work as well as the opportunity to begin to develop some key employability skills.

If you have any questions about work experience or would be able to offer a placement please get in touch.

Follow our Twitter Careers page!

@owscareers



This term, we have welcomed in a wide range of employers and careers speakers including; The Fire Service, Navy/marines, Crossbar Coaching, Coaching Connections, Greenhouse Motors, RAF, Keele University, Wolverhampton University, Telford College & Chester University.

Please do get in touch if you would like to speak to our students about a particular industry/career or if you have any feedback on our careers programme.

We are still receiving applications for Bridgnorth Sixth Form! Thank you to all who have applied so far, we look forward to having another fantastic group of individuals joining us to begin their A-Level or equivalent journey in Year 12.

NOTICEBOARD



<http://oldburywells.com/media/45929/haf-winter-2022-whats-on-compressed.pdf>

Equipment Reminder

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

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

Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

Starts - Thursday 5 January 2023 (Week 1)

Half-term - Monday 20 - Friday 24 February

2023 inclusive

Ends - Friday 31 March 2023

PD Days - Tuesday 3 January and Wednesday

4 January 2023

Summer Term 2023

Starts - Monday 17 April 2023

Bank Holiday - Monday 1 May and Monday 8 May 2023

Half-term - Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June 2023 inclusive

Ends - Friday 21 July 2023

Clubs!

What	Where	When
English (Year 10 and 11)	E33 (Miss Roberts)	Wednesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Maths (Year 11)	W64 (Mr Walker – Higher) W66 (Mr Parmar – Foundation)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Science (Year 11)	E32 (Miss Allsop)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Drama (Year 11)	W22 (Miss Morgan)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:30pm)
Drama (Year 7 and 8)	W22 (Miss Morgan)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:05pm)
Music – Encore	Music Room (Miss Dangerfield)	Thursdays (3:15 – 4:00pm)
Music – Orchestra	Music Room (Miss Dangerfield)	Fridays (3:05 – 4:30pm)
PE (See website for more details)		
All Years	Volleyball (Mr Cowburn)	Mondays (lunch time)
All Years	Basketball (Mr Smith)	Tuesdays (lunch time)
Year 9, 10 and 11	Football (Mr Smith)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Year 7 and 8	Rugby (Mr Cowburn)	
All Years	Girls Rugby (Mr Farish)	
All Years	Badminton (Miss Joiner)	Wednesdays (lunch time)
Year 9 and 10	Rugby (Mr Cowburn)	Wednesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Year 8 and 9	Football (Mr Smith)	
Year 7	Football (Mr Smith)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
All Years (Girls)	Netball (Miss Joiner)	
Food (Year 11)	W56 (Mrs Griffiths)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
French (Year 10 and 11)	W34 (Miss Dijoux)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
Open to Year 11 up to Christmas		
Spanish (Year 7 and 8)	W32 (Mr Cowley)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
Homework Club (Year 7) Open after October Half-Term	W55 (Miss Docker)	Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (lunch time)
Sign Language Club (Year 7 and 8)	W33 (Miss Perks/Miss Kenworthy)	Wednesdays (lunch time)
Marvel / Comic Club (All Years)	W64 (Mr Walker)	Every Monday Week 1 (lunch time)

LGBTQ+ Club

Years 9, 10 & 11 welcome!

All genders, sexualities, and pronouns respected ☺

A place to chill out, play games, ask questions, and meet others!

Thursday Lunchtimes

Ask your form tutors for further details.



Follow us on social media:

- Oldbury Wells School
- @OldburyWells
- oldburywellsschool

Contact Us:

Oldbury Wells
Bridgnorth
Shropshire
WV16 5JD

Tel: 01746 765454

Email: school@oldburywells.com

NOTICEBOARD



National Trust



'As a volunteer, I have been able to develop transferable skills that are highly sought after by today's employers'

Alex, Welcome Volunteer, Dudmaston

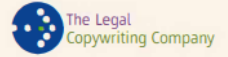
Are you aged 14-25?

Life is one long adventure and we'd love to join in with your next one. Looking to boost your CV, build new skills or just something to do over the holidays, then we have a role for you!

Ready to get involved?
Email: dudmaston@nationaltrust.org.uk or call us on 01746 780866.

For other details, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/volunteering

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University Centre Shrewsbury's Young Nature Photographer Of The Year!

A competition to inspire the next generation of nature photographers!

Send in your best wildlife photographs by midnight, **Sunday 8th January 2023** to naturephoto@chester.ac.uk

Prizes across four ages categories (5-18 years) include:

- Wildlife Camera Traps
- Shropshire Wildlife Trust Memberships
- Other wildlife essentials including nature guides, bug hotels, bird feeders and nest boxes

Prizes will be presented in Shrewsbury on **Wednesday 15th February 2023** by BBC Springwatch's **Iolo Williams**



Merry Christmas!