



# Oldbury Wells Journal

## February 2023



Welcome to our February Newsletter which, unbelievably, marks the halfway point of the academic year. In school we have been encouraging students to use this mid-point as an opportunity to reflect on all that has gone well during the first part of the year and focus on key areas of further development for the 'second half'. For our Year 11 & 13 students we know that they are moving even closer towards their final examinations and are delighted to see the significant focus and commitment to their studies at such an important time.

Over recent weeks we have been involved with some School Self Evaluation work which has also involved visits from members of our governing body. My thanks goes to all staff and students who have been involved in any meetings where there has been the opportunity to discuss information about a range of curriculum areas in school and focus on how all students are supported with their learning.

Elsewhere in school it has been fantastic to see students engaging with a range of events outside the classroom, making the most of the opportunities which are available to them. I know students have been excited to get further involved within areas such as Science Club, and

have been active in supporting events linked to our themed days, most recently on Valentine's Day with the 'Blind Date with a Book' offer where students and staff could swap books which were gift wrapped.

We are extremely excited to be presenting our School production – Legally Blonde. I know how hard everyone involved has been working to present what is going to be a fantastic show. Rehearsals have gone well, with the opportunity to bring everything together during extra weekend sessions which have been well received. Good luck to all involved and we look forward to seeing the show in March.

A reminder that after half term, Wednesday 1st March marks the second day of national strikes by the National Union of Teachers (NEU) which means school will be partially closed for some students; this has been communicated to all parents in the letter [here](#).

Can I use this opportunity to wish everyone a restful half term and as always thank all members of our school community for the continuous support they give throughout the year.

**OLDBURY WELLS SCHOOL PRESENTS**

# LEGALLY BLONDE

*The Musical* 

*Music and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin*

*Book by Heather Hach*

*Based on the novel by Amanda Brown*

*And the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture*

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**7pm West Hall**

**Tickets £8 (adult) /£6 (concession)**

**Tickets available from East reception**

**or call 01746 765454**



Legally Blonde JR. is presented through special arrangement with  
and all authorized materials are supplied by  
Music Theatre International, New York, NY  
(212) 541-4684 [mtishows.com](http://mtishows.com)



## Past Pupil Ellie stars in U19 T20 Cricket World Cup

Oldbury Wells Alumni Ellie Anderson has been dazzling the world with her performances in the U19 T20 Cricket World Cup in South Africa.

Ellie's performances have meant that she has been named in the Team of the Tournament having been one of the standout performers in an extraordinarily strong England team, with many setting their sights on the full England team in the coming years.

Ellie, who won the Special Recognition award at Oldbury Wells' Sports Award Evening in 2019 for her sporting successes both in school as well as her outstanding contributions to sport in her local community and playing for the Worcestershire Rapids.

We have been so proud to see Ellie succeeding with the England team, taking 5 wickets against the West Indies in Potchefstroom, in the Super Six stage of the tournament, then following this up with the important first wicket in the Semi Final against Australia.

Well done Ellie, a truly inspiring achievement. We are looking forward to celebrating all of your future triumphs.



## Year 11 Prom committee

Our Year 11 prom committee organised a cake sale to help raise funds for additional items (such as a photo booth!), they managed to raise £109. Well done Year 11, we look forward to seeing what other ideas you have to raise more money!

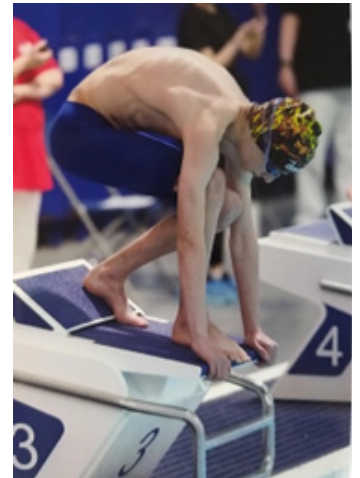


# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## British Schools Modern Biathlon National Championships

### Callum Blower

Callum Blower is set to represent OWS on the National Stage again, after qualifying in 17<sup>th</sup> position against competitors from around the country. Callum finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the Year 10 category in the William Brookes qualifying event where he was competing for the first time over 200m in the pool. He will have to repeat this in the National final in addition to a 1600m run. His times over the 2 disciplines earned him 1963 points, really close to the 2000 point mark!



The Championship final takes place this year in a different venue at Abbey Stadium, Redditch on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March. With 37 competitors in his age category, Callum will be looking to try to break the 2000 point score and get into the top 15 positions. We wish Callum all the best for the competition.

## Year 7/8 Rugby

On Tuesday the year 7/8 Rugby team made the short trip to Swancote playing fields to play in the county game qualifier against William Brookes and Idsall.

In the first game the boys combined excellently to run in 41-0 winners. The boys put together some good passages of play and made use of the spaces left by an inexperienced William Brookes Team. Throughout the game strong tackles from Brandon Lewis, Jack Bowen and Murphy Woodcock meant that William Brookes very rarely troubled our back line. The highlight of the game was a 3/4 length of the pitch run from Josh Wyke opening a great turn of speed to run round the outside. A good first game.

In the second game, having watched Idsall already play William Brookes we knew that the game would be a much tighter contest and it would be the ability to stop their strong runners which would make the difference. Idsall raced to a 10-0 lead in the opening 5 minutes making use of space out wide. As the game wore on, we rucked well and came out with some excellent ball from a kick off which Jack Bowen was able to run into the corner. We again managed to score through some solid tackling and rucking of the ball and made some good ground to score again. Both scores were converted which put the scores going into the last 2 minutes at 12-17. Some excellent try saving tackles put us in a good position to try and win the game. One from Harry Ryan, covering the pitch well and tackling into touch gave us an edge for the last minute. Unfortunately, in the resulting restart Idsall stripped the ball and with the last play were able to run the length of the field to put the game to bed.

Sadly, we came up short 22-12. Well done lads you did brilliantly in your second tournament. I look forward to putting some more rugby fixtures on for you in the coming years.

Mr Cowburn



## Jack still striding to success

### Jack Stockton

Year 9 pupil Jack Stockton continues his incredible season of cross country events as he represented the school at the Shropshire Schools' Athletics Association Annual Cross Country Championships in Oswestry on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February. Despite the cold conditions, Jack put in a superb performance once again and was shoulder to shoulder with another competitor all the way around the 5km course before being pipped on the line into 2nd place. This was an incredible performance from Jack, who is developing his ability in each race that he takes part in. Well done Jack!

Mr Farish



## Year 7s star as they complete a double header of wins

The Year 7 football teams have started the new year in great form as they swept aside two teams on the same day.

The day started well with the 'B' Team securing a very tight 2-1 victory over Southall School in a friendly game. They showed real grit and determination to come from a goal down to control the game and finish the game in dominant fashion. As they grew into the game with the defence marshalled excellently by Emma Merrick and Eden Tudge, the attackers began to create more and more chances, with George Pinson showing excellent wing play to create dangerous opportunities for the forward players. It wasn't until an exquisite turn in the area from Jon Arinyedokiari which lead to him finishing well with his left foot low to the keepers left drew Oldbury level.

The game remained tight until the last 5 minutes when Seb Powell showed pace, strength and power as he weaved his way into the area and finished nicely to bring home the win. All staff commented how the game was played in such a positive manner, with both teams announcing who their opposition player of the match was.

The Oldbury 'A' team then made the journey to Lacon Childe where they were taking part in a 6 a side tournament with the host school.

Both teams that we entered produced some outstanding performances, remaining unbeaten throughout. Players grew in confidence as the tournament went on, culminating in an Oldbury vs Lacon 'A' final and the same fixture for 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> . Both teams came away with victory showing that they can play some excellent football. It was great to see all of the work that they have been putting into their football training sessions on a Thursday, being put into their play on the pitch.

Well done to all involved. We are looking forward to the next round of fixtures already!



# ART & DESIGN

## Artist of the Month

### Emily Wootton - Year 7

Emily has shown outstanding dedication to Art at Oldbury Wells so far, she is always working hard and puts 100% effort into all of her work. Emily is always helping others with their work in the class, giving ideas and inspiration and is a key member of 7MBR. These 3 pieces of work Emily has completed are of an extremely high standard and has shown various skills across the architecture project. Well done!



### Nyrah Khalil - Year 8

Nyrah worked very hard to develop and improve her Pop Art unit before the final assessment. She worked on her targets for the theory research project to achieve a level higher, completed a very creative final piece and entered this fantastic Pop Art stereo for the Year 8 3D competition. Well done Nyrah and outstanding effort.



### Evie Corteen - Year 9

Evie has worked hard on her Art unit in Year 9 both in class and at home to develop some lovely imagery using a range of techniques and her final Magazine design on her theme of Music is excellent. Well done Evie.



## Poppy Griffiths - Year 10

Students in Mrs Wycherley's Art group are working on Photoshop, industry standard software, using artwork they have produced to create a series of adverts, posters, book covers or fliers for their coursework portfolio. The group are working brilliantly showing great skill with Photoshop design but I can only award 1 winner. Well done to Poppy who has created an imaginative and creative series of graphic designs based on her theme of Mental Health.



## Luke Bennett - Year 11

Luke has just handed in his GCSE Art Coursework project based on the theme of horror and has created a great folder of work. We are awarding him artist of the month as he spent the whole weekend creating these objects and sculptures to show a wider range of processes and add more creativity to his portfolio. Well done Luke a superb effort.



## Year 7 Projects



Year 7 have been working hard in Art this year on Still life and Architecture projects to develop their confidence when drawing from observation, use of media and developing their creative work.

Pictures here are members of 7GS who have just finished their amazing Hundertwasser Architecture final piece:

Poppy Nicholls  
Maise Harris  
Grace Fellows  
Jack Kinnersley



# “READDIT”

Readdit is anticipating pancakes and considering Easter celebrations; sharing ideas about courage and creativity; examining what February means.

There's a hidden message in the word search. Give the message to your English teacher to receive House Points!

K E S S E N I P P A H E M P P  
Y O U M E R P A N C A K I E S  
S O F O E V F T H E C E L P I  
I L I S N A O F L O U R K A R  
G O Y S X Z S R O H J X Q N C  
V Q K O K B I T H L Q Z K T S  
R I V L V T A N E S U E U Y C  
L A M B S E G G S R D E A H T  
S P R I N G L O W Y S D O X A  
Y T F N Y B V X D D I C H Q S  
H M N K W V H V A L O J F W T  
R Z M E E C M Y O L D A J G Y  
N D H U L Q A H A P Y C J B H  
A W H V Y X J T R A B B I T S  
F A Y T V R E W I P R A G U S

blossoms

easter

happiness

lambs

pan

spring

tuesday

chocolate

eggs

holidays

lent

rabbits

sugar

yummy

crisp

flour

jam

milk

shrove

tasty



**February** is probably the best month of the year. Cold, fog, rain; it's dark early and it doesn't get light early; there's mud all over the field. But... pancakes!

**How did February get its name?** It's named after an ancient festival, which was held in honour of "cleansing" (in spite of all the fog and mud around). In the picture, you can see Februa (the spirit of February) being pulled by two fishes, in a sea shell. In case you can't see the small print, the artist is John Samuel Agar who lived from 1773 to 1858.



**Word of the Week** Don't forget to look out for the WOTW! Using it in your written work will lead to a House Point. On the other hand, being garrulous in lesson might be a hindrance to House Points (did that sound facetious?).

## Library Competition

Now we (almost) have the library ready, we are looking for some inspiring ideas in a poster. There are two noticeboards outside the library and we would like one to contain a poster created by you – something to show what reading means to all our OWS readers. A prize will be given to the three winners and their work will be on display (great for any aspiring artists to add to their portfolio!).

## Your work using the OWS Character Traits

This short poem was contributed by a student who had been looking at the character traits poster. There's inspiration everywhere!

### Being Brave

Courage – he said – is facing the fight  
and not running away;  
Courage – she said – is being without  
you through another day;  
Courage – they said – is being afraid  
but still being there;  
Courage – he said – is telling the truth  
to those that care.  
Enough said  
Be brave.

I love the excellent structure of this piece. Well done to the writer!

If you have an idea inspired by one of the OWS character traits – a story, a poem, some drama – send it to Mrs Wild in D2. House Points available and you could be published in the next Newsletter!

## Quote of the Month

*"Writing, to me, is simply thinking through my fingers."* (Isaac Asimov)

## **Love is in the air!**

### Valentine's day themed activities

This month in English we got into the Valentine's Day mood by launching 2 events.

Students and staff were invited to wrap up a book for 'Blind Date with a Book.' The genre was written on the cover to give everyone a clue as to what the book would be about.

Sixth form students Lara Goulding and Saffron Rowton hosted the event on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February and students were able to drop in and swap their old books for a new reading book ready for the half term holidays.

A House Competition was also launched. Students were encouraged to design a dating profile for a character from a novel. Students were able to think creatively about where their character's ideal date would be. For example: where would Harry Potter take his blind date? What would Katniss Everdeen's ideal date be?

Congratulations to Lydia Walker in Year 10 who was announced our winner of the competition!

Well done to everyone who took part in both events!





Follow our Twitter Careers page!

[@owscareers](https://twitter.com/owscareers)

STILL THINKING ABOUT YOUR POST-16 CHOICES?

## BRIDGNORTH SIXTH FORM

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- ◇ The option to study a combination of A Levels and BTEC/OCR Nationals.
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### A Level

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Biology  
Business  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
Drama & Theatre  
English Literature  
French  
Geography  
History  
Mathematics  
Physics  
Product Design  
Psychology  
Sociology  
Spanish

### Our Courses for 2023

#### BTEC

Health & Social  
Care  
(National Extended  
Certificate)

#### OCRs

Sports & Physical  
Activity  
(Cambridge Technical  
Award)

#### ICT

(Cambridge Technical  
Extended Certificate)

Head of Sixth Form: Mrs April Bishell  
Bridgnorth Sixth Form, Oldbury Wells, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 5JD



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



## 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](mailto: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**



## 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 Year 7 and 8 All Years	Football (Mr Smith) Rugby (Mr Cowburn) Girls Rugby (Mr Farish)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
All Years	Badminton (Miss Joiner)	Wednesdays (lunch time)
Year 9 and 10 Year 8 and 9	Rugby (Mr Cowburn) Football (Mr Smith)	Wednesdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Year 7 All Years (Girls)	Football (Mr Smith) Netball (Miss Joiner)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:15pm)
Food (Year 11)	W56 (Mrs Griffiths)	Thursdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
French (Year 10 and 11) Open to Year 11 up to Christmas	W34 (Miss Dijoux)	Tuesdays (3:05 – 4:00pm)
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](mailto:school@oldburywells.com)





### Have you got a super duper helper at home?

- ★ Do you suffer with an ongoing physical or mental illness?
- ★ Does your child provide you with support or help at home?
- ★ Is your child helping to look after their siblings or supporting you in completing housework? ★



If you think your child may be a young carer, please get in touch today to see what support we can offer.

☎ 07801 57632 or 07990 045045

✉ shroptyc@crossroadstogether.org.uk

www.crossroadstogether.org.uk



Do I look like I care?

Many young carers go unnoticed, don't struggle in silence!

If you are or you know somebody under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled, has mental health issues or misuses drugs or alcohol, you are classed as being a young carer.

Get in touch with our Shropshire young carers team today to find out how we can support you:

☎ 07801 57632 or 07990 045045

✉ shroptyc@crossroadstogether.org.uk

www.crossroadstogether.org.uk



National Trust



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

### 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!

Alex, Welcome Volunteer, Dudmaston

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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