

**Our Ref:** AWA/kmd/halfterm

24 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

As we reach the end of the first half term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly fantastic start to the year at Oldbury Wells School. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the school community and I must say, your children have been nothing short of tremendous.

One of the most noticeable improvements so far this year has been in the standard of uniform. Since my first visit to the school in April, there has been a clear and positive shift. Thank you for your continued support in helping us raise expectations, it has made a real difference and is very much appreciated.

I am also delighted to share some excellent news. The provisional Shropshire school league tables have been published and Oldbury Wells School has been identified as the highest performing school in Bridgnorth and the surrounding areas. This is based on both our Attainment 8 score (which reflects how well students perform across up to eight qualifications) and the percentage of learners achieving a grade 5 or above in English and Maths — the equivalent of a strong GCSE pass. In fact, this latter measure places us in the top five state schools across Shropshire. A huge congratulations to all involved — staff, students, and of course, families.

Naturally, we are not standing still. We are already implementing a number of changes to further support our Year 11 learners as they prepare for their exams. This includes enhanced in-class support, targeted intervention and a growing programme of after-school sessions. It's been fantastic to see such strong engagement with over half of our Year 11s regularly attending after-school Maths support, and some groups seeing attendance rates above 70%. Thank you for your commitment in helping make this happen, we know the logistics can be tricky and your efforts are truly valued.

We are also looking forward to welcoming many of you to our Year 11 parent/carer information, advice and guidance evening on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, which gives us a great opportunity to share key information and support strategies.

Earlier this month, we held our annual Open Evening and Open Morning tours. These events were incredibly well attended, with families visiting not only from Bridgnorth but also from Broseley, Ironbridge, Telford, Shifnal, Pattingham, Wombourne and southwest Wolverhampton. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and visitors spoke warmly of the dedication of our staff, and were charmed by the confidence and kindness of our learners.

A special thank you to:

- The singers of *Vocalise*, who performed an excellent rendition of Rag'n'Bone Man's *Giant* after just three rehearsals.

- Eva in Year 7, who spoke so confidently about her early experiences at Oldbury Wells.
- Alex and Louisa in Year 11, who shared their reflections on five years of learning and growth.

### **In other news - a busy and brilliant half term!**

- We've hosted a fantastic series of careers assemblies, including an inspiring talk from former boxer Matt Sen, a visit from the Royal Marines, and continued support from Greenhouse on apprenticeships and careers in HR.
- We were honoured to welcome Mrs Jane Trowbridge, High Sheriff of Shropshire, who described our learners as "wonderful, smart and engaging."
- Our partnerships continue to grow, including links with Performer's College in Birmingham and Eton College in Windsor.
- A new School Council has been elected and is already making a positive impact — what a committed and thoughtful group!
- Our student leadership team raised £150 for Shropshire-based youth charities through a recent charity event.
- Our 'Tea and Talk' event for World Mental Health Day was a huge success, with hundreds of learners engaging in activities to raise awareness and promote wellbeing.
- We've handed out hundreds of sweets and cookies to celebrate and encourage excellent attendance — because every lesson, everyday counts!
- Our Year 9 Sports Leaders ran two brilliant events for local primary schools, with one visiting teacher commenting: *"Oldbury Wells leaders have been excellent – some of the best I have ever seen!"*
- A number of Year 7 learners tackled a challenging cross-country course at Carding Mill Valley — a muddy but magnificent effort!
- Our Year 9 footballers played out an exciting 3–3 draw against Bridgnorth Endowed — both teams were a credit to their schools.
- Over 20 clubs are now running at lunch and after school — and they're thriving!
- Plans are already underway for a Christmas event with local primary schools — more details to follow shortly!

Thank you once again for your continued support. It has been a pleasure to see the school community come together so positively this term. I hope you and your family enjoy a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Yours sincerely



**Adam Walker**  
Headteacher