

To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

26 September

European Day of Languages
Open Evening, 6-8pm

27 September

INSET DAY

28 September

Open Morning 1,
9-10.30am

29 September—30

September

Duke of Edinburgh Final
Expedition

01 October

Open Morning 2,
9-10.30am

02 October

London Galleries Art Trip

03 October

Whole School Photographs
Netball match v Ralph
Allen, away

04 October

National Apprenticeships
Show

Term 6 House Reward
Event

Acceleration Programme
Information Evening

09 October—12 October

Yr 7 trip to Wild Place,
Bristol

15 October

Yr 10,12 Tech Trip to V&A

17 October

U14s Girls Football, away

24 October—26 October

Yr 13 Trip to CERN, Geneva

25 October

Parent/Tutor afternoon/
evening

26 October

Yr 10, 12 Product Design
trip to Thorpe Park
END OF TERM 1

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to the start of a new school year; I hope that you and your families have had a very enjoyable summer. In particular, I would like to welcome our new families, it was a pleasure to meet some of you at the Year 7 barbecue and disco last week. A full newsletter will follow shortly but I wanted to write to you early in the term to introduce our new teaching and support staff and to share the outcomes of the GCSE and A level results this summer.

I was delighted with both the GCSE and A Level results as they exceeded our already high expectations. The GCSE results were excellent; with almost 80% of all grades being Grade 4/C or better and 73% of students achieving the previous benchmark of 5 or more A*-C grades including English and maths. With regards to the new benchmark of Grade 5+ in both English and maths, this was 52% which is a significant improvement on last year and 10% higher than the national average. 27% of all GCSE grades were 7-9s (previous grade A-A*s), a fantastic achievement. I was also delighted to see that individual subjects' results were very impressive with many of our GCSE subjects recording some of their best ever performances at GCSE. Over 80% of grades in science and English being grade 4 or higher, in the case of English almost 90% of students achieved a grade 4 in English or English Literature. You will know that as a school we are proudly comprehensive and place a high emphasis on our inclusive ethos and values so it is hugely satisfying to see that so many students have achieved to such a high standard. There is nothing quite as rewarding as being in school on results day when you know that students have achieved or exceeded their potential.

One of the happy consequences of these excellent GCSE results is that a large number of our Year 11 student have decided to join the sixth form at Oldfield, over 100 students in fact. While the sixth form is still small relative to some schools, it is noticeably much larger than in previous years and this is already having a very positive impact around the school. We have made a commitment to high quality teaching at A Level and the results from this summer illustrate this. Quite simply they are outstanding with 90% of grades being C or better and an average grade of B-. We benchmark our A Level results using a national database of outcomes at A Level and this places us in the top 10% of schools and colleges nationally, which is a further improvement from what were excellent results last year when we were in the top 25%.

I want to take the opportunity early this term to welcome new staff to the school. We have appointed a number of new teaching and support staff. Jon Reeves has joined us as Deputy Headteacher and is also a science teacher. He is joined in the Science Learning Area by Lisa Conley and Daniel Axe. In maths our new teaching staff are Bob Chapman, Susannah Schoppler and Paul Burford. Brendon Abood is our new Head of Year 9 and teaches business and economics, and in English we have two new teachers; Louise Holly and Claire Mellor. Lastly, joining the Humanities Learning Area, are Jessica Houghton to teach history and Paolo Santarpino who teaches geography. Our SEND team has a new SENCO, James Sully, and we have also appointed Lowri Morgan, Rosie Pindar and Naomi Tarrant as teaching assistants.

You will be aware that we have Open Evening this week and I know that many of your children have volunteered to help with this. This is very much appreciated as they are invariably excellent ambassadors for the school. Could I remind you that we have an inset day this Thursday and we also have an early end to the school day on Thursday 25th October as we have our first tutor /parent consultation evening and, in order to allow all parents to have an interview with their child's tutor, appointments will start at 2pm. We will be writing to you in due course with more information about this event.

A list of clubs and activities taking place this term is attached to this newsletter. As usual there is a wide range on offer and I hope that your son or daughter will participate in as many of these as possible.

Best wishes for the remainder of this term.

Steven Mackay

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	LUNCH TIME				AFTER-SCHOOL			
MONDAY	Dance Gifted & Talented	invite only	Dance studio	SMH	Science Fiction club B	All Years	LRC	N.Pearce
	GCSE and A Level Devising Theatre clinics		Drama studio	BLE/GRC				
	GCSE Trampoline	Yrs 10/11	Gym	HPA/GAC	Homework club (2.50 - 4.30pm)	All Years	LRC	XAL/XML
	5 aside football	Year 7	Sports Hall	JOD				
	Handbells	Year 7	PS3	ROV				
	Science Fiction club A	All Years	LRC	N.Pearce				
	Travel club	All Years	104	MEC				
TUESDAY	GCSE and A Level Devising Theatre clinics	Yrs 11-13	Drama studio	BLE/GRC	Dance open session GCSE/A Level	Yrs 10-13	Dance studio	SMH
	App inventor	Yrs 8-13	005	HWL	Photography catch up club	GCSE & A Level		PEJ
	Dodgeball	Yrs 8/9	Gym	GAC	Photography club	Yrs 10-13		PEJ
	Choreography Lab	Yrs 7-9	Dance studio	SMH	Netball	Yrs 10/11	Netball courts	LIK/HPA
	KS3 Rock School	Yrs 7-9	practice rooms	ROV	Rugby	All Years	Westgate field	GAC,JOD, DRR
	KS3 Geography club (Week 1)	Yrs 7-9	N11	SAP	Band	All Years	PS3	ROV/PRD
	Art club	Yrs 7-9	109	NOC	School Production Rehearsals; Mary Poppins (until 4.15pm)	All Years	Main hall	ROV/PRD/BLE/GRC
	Badminton	Yr 7	Sports Hall	DRR	Creative Writing club	All Years	P01	BRJ
	Swing Band	All Years	PS3	PRD	Homework club	All Years	LRC	XAL/XML
	Fitness and Conditioning	All Years		JOD				
	Knitting club	All Years	DO8	HEC				
	Trace Your WWI Ancestors (until 06.11.18)	All Years	106	ALT				
Child development club	All Years	004	CLA					
WEDNESDAY	GCSE and A Level Devising Theatre clinics		Drama studio	BLE/GRC	Year 11 GCSE Food club	Yr 11	Food tech	EVC
	Badminton	Yr 10/11	Sports Hall	HPA	Netball	Yr 7	Netball courts	LIK
	Senior Codebreakers club	Yrs 10-13	DO9	PRJ	Painting club	Yr 7		CAR
	Dodgeball	Yr 7	Gym	GAC	Handball	Yr 7-9		JOD
	Junior Choir	Yrs 7-9	PS3	ROV	Indoor Athletics	invite only		BER/GAC
	Musical Theatre	All Years	Dance studio	MAS	School Production Rehearsals; Mary Poppins (until 4.15pm)	All Years	Main hall	ROV/PRD/BLE/GRC
	Child development club	All Years	004	CLA	Homework club	All Years	LRC	XAL/XML
	Book club	All Years	LRC	N.Pearce				
	Petanque (boules) club (Week1)	All Years	N12	FOD				
	Volleyball	All Years	Sports Hall	LIK				
	Samba Band	All Years	PS3	LOJ				
	The Parallel club	Year 7	DO4	EBS				
	International Film club	All Years	203	TAA/HAB				
	Fitness and Conditioning	All Years		JOD				
THURSDAY	GCSE and A Level Devising Theatre clinics		Drama studio	BLE/GRC	GCSE Art extra work session	GCSE		CAR
	Post 16 Maths drop-in	Yrs 12/13	DO5	BRM	Dance Senior Signature	Yrs 9 - 11	Dance studio	MAS
	Basketball	Yrs 10/11	Sports Hall	GAC	Senior Choir		PS7	ROV/PRD
	Sports Leaders		Gym	BER	Year 11 GCSE Food club	Yr 11	Food tech	EVC
	Geography GCSE Catch up club	Yr 11	N12	FOD	Netball	Yrs 8/9	Netball courts	BER/HPA
	Product design coursework help room	Yrs 10/11	108	SAC	Table Tennis	All Years	Gym	DRR
	Ethical Hacking using Python Programming	Yrs 9/10	006	EID	Homework club	All Years	LRC	XAL/XML
	Junior Signature Dance	Yr 7/8	Dance studio	SMH				
	KS3 Rock School	Yrs 7-9	practice rooms	PRD				
	Child development club	All Years	004	CLA				
	Ukulele Group	All Years	PS3	ROV				
FRIDAY	Dodgeball	Yrs 10/11	Gym	GAC	GCSE and A Level Devising Theatre clinics	Yrs 11 & 13	DS3	BLE/GRC
	GCSE and A Level Devising Theatre clinics		Drama studio	BLE/GRC	Girls Football	Yrs 7-11	Penn Field	HPA
	Badminton	Yrs 8/9	Sports Hall	DRR	Baskervilles Gym club*	All years	Gym	External
	The Parallel club	Yrs 8/9	DO4	MOM	Choreography Lab	All Years	Dance studio	MAS
	Music Tech	All Years	PS7	PRD				
	Rubik's Cube club	All Years	DO3	SPT				
	Chess club	All Years	DeVal	MCS				
Debate club	All Years	P14	BLD					