



# Primary Connections

Summer 2019

## Explore and Discover at Oldbury Wells

Dear Parents

Welcome to the summer 2019 edition of Primary Connections Magazine. Each summer Year 5 pupils from our local primary schools take part in educational days at Oldbury Wells to help them prepare for life at secondary school. Pupils from our local primary schools visited us over the course of a week in June to take part in this year's explorers and discoveries themed transition programme.

During their visit, pupils took part in classes. In ICT they designed an 'emoji' and wrote a computer programme for their 'emoji' using the BBC Micro:bit; in Geography, they became explorers and armed with maps and compasses, went on an expedition around Oldbury Wells to find hidden packets of information which they later used in class to learn about famous expeditions. In Music, the Year 5s learnt about the invention of music software using Cubase to create their own

rhythmic pieces of music. The following primary schools took part in the events: Alveley, Beckbury, Brown Clee, Claverley, Highley, Morville, St John's, St Leonard's and St Mary's Schools.

Prior to visiting Oldbury Wells the Year 5 pupils were invited to enter a competition to design a creature that they had 'discovered' during their imaginary travels around the world. The pupils submitted imaginative entries showcasing their fabulous drawing skills. Winners from each school were selected to receive prizes which were presented during their lunch break. Also during lunch, pupils had their photo taken, with our very own explorers, Charles Darwin and Isabella Bird as seen above!

Children and their families are invited to our Open Evening on Monday 16th September where they will receive a bespoke 'Explorers and Discoveries' sticker album for them to complete as they tour Oldbury Wells. Stickers

of famous explorers and inventors will be available to collect from classrooms for pupils to paste into their sticker books. More information about our Open Evening is available on the back page of this edition of Primary Connections magazine and also on our website: [www.oldburywells.com](http://www.oldburywells.com) We look forward to seeing you all at our Open Evening on Monday 16th September.

*Mrs Godden, Headteacher and Miss Thomas, Principal Deputy Headteacher*



Year 5 pupils enjoying a Geography class at Oldbury Wells in June

Inside...



# OUR PRIMARY WORK

## Year 6 Induction Day

Our new Year 7 students started their Oldbury Wells journey in July. There were firsts for everybody: some students came on their own on the bus for the first time and some walked to school with their friends. All were met by current Year 7 students who remember what it was like to be new. The newcomers were guided to the West Hall where they found out which tutor group they will be in and there were lots of smiles as they met their friends. They were encouraged to talk to some of the new people in their forms and many of them will have begun life-long friendships that day. Students attended taster lessons in a wide variety of subjects and got a real feel for what it will be like to have lots of different lessons and teachers. Pictured are students in History and Art classes. All of the staff hope that the new Year 7s had a lovely time and that their first day has given them lots to talk about and look forward to.

*Mrs Holford & Mr Smith, Head of Year 7*



Our new starters enjoying classes on their Taster Day at Oldbury Wells

## Working with Primary Schools

This year Oldbury Wells have offered a range of bespoke workshops for Year 5 pupils from our local primary schools, focusing on areas of their curriculum that they felt we might be able to support them in. Pupils from Highley and St Leonard's primary schools visited us to work on a 3D arts project with an arts specialist teacher. Worfield, Beckbury and St Mary's schools joined us to enrich their mathematics curriculum with two sessions on multiplicative reasoning. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from Alveley Primary School visited us in March for a day of cross-curricular languages and food technology, exploring the food and languages of France and Spain. St John's pupils also came to Oldbury Wells to bring Shakespeare to life through drama. During the workshop, the pupils prepared and delivered their own performances. We would like to thank the primary schools for attending and we look forward to offering you more exciting workshops in the future. Pictured are the Year 5 pupils enjoying our workshops this year.

*Mr Williams, Assistant Head (Transition)*



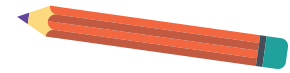
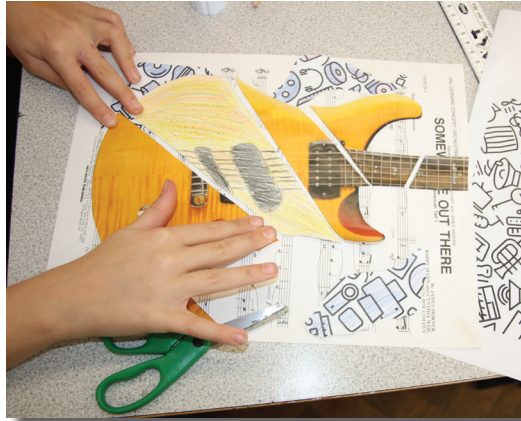
# YEAR 5 VISIT DAYS

## Art



Students in Year 5 focused on the concepts of invention, exploration and discovery in Art and studied the work of historical and contemporary cubist artists. They looked at cubist techniques and had fun creating their own cubist design inspired by the theme of music, drawn images and fragmented instruments. The students worked really hard and Mrs Wycherley was very impressed with the cubist artwork the students created in the hour-long session.

*Mrs Wycherley, Head of Art*



## IT



In computing, the Year 5s discovered why the BBC Micro:bit was introduced into schools and learnt how to program a Micro:bit. With their newfound knowledge, students were given the opportunity to design an emoji and write a computer program for their emoji. The program was tested on the Micro:bit. Mrs Dunning was very impressed with the students and how creative their emojis were. Well done to all who took part in the computing lessons.

*Mrs Dunning, IT Teacher*

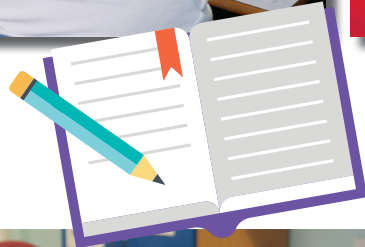


# RC



The Year 5 pupils looked at Malala and how she fought for equality between boys and girls in relation to education. The Year 5s produced an outline of a film about how she put her beliefs into action. The Year 5s were brilliant and came up with some amazing film titles. Well done!

*Mr Hailes, RC Teacher*

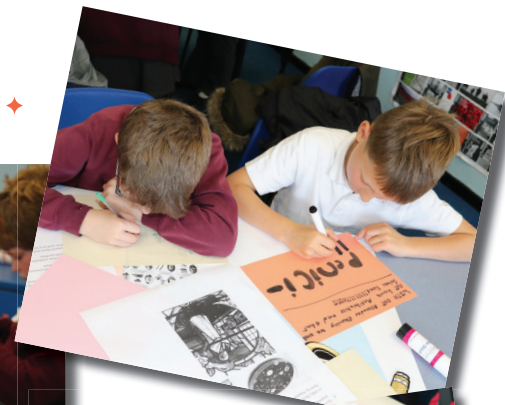


# History



Hollywood came to Oldbury Wells in the shape of the History department's Year 5 workshops. Students worked as teams to distribute awards for outstanding achievement in the fields of space, flight, medical and technological discoveries. Beautiful display work was produced by each team to try to persuade us the merits of their category. Groups worked very productively together and there were some excellent examples of leadership. Hooray for Hollywood and Year 5!

*Mr Grainger, Head of Humanities*



# Science



Year 5 students came to Oldbury Wells to investigate the mystery of a missing dog, Elsie, a prized possession, went missing and the students had to work out who was responsible based on clues found at the scene where Elsie last was. The students carried out some fingerprint analysis, microscopic investigation of fibres from suspects' clothing and prepared some casts of tyre tracks found at the scene. Piecing all the evidence together, they were able to deduce who was responsible for the crime and Elsie was subsequently reunited with her delightful owner.

*Mr Sawyer, Head of Science*



# Geography



In Geography we became explorers! We went on an expedition around Oldbury Wells to find packets of information that had been hidden in many locations around the school site. Our Year 5 expedition teams had to develop their skills of map reading, using a compass to work out where the packets had been concealed. Back in the classroom the explorers learnt about other famous expeditions by using the information they had collected.

*Mrs Farrington, Geography Teacher*



# Drama

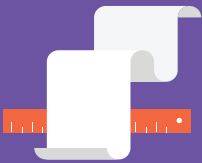


Oldbury Wells Drama department welcomed Year 5 students to explore space. The students took part in a practical mission to discover what is living in our galaxy. Students worked collaboratively using role play and characters to converse with the 'aliens', asking how and why they had come to Earth. All of the students enjoyed their experience and their performances were out of this world!

*Miss Morgan, Drama Teacher*



# Textiles



The Year 5 pupils designed a block printed t-shirt using Smart Textiles pigment dyes. Photochromic dyes changed to orange when exposed to the sun and thermochromic dyes changed to a variety of colours when subjected to heat. The inspirational designer, Hussein Chalayan, was used due to his amazing use of technology and modern textiles within his fashion collections.

*Mrs Bell, Director of Learning*

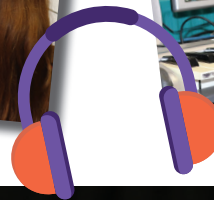


# Music



In Music the Year 5s learnt about the invention of music software and in particular Cubase which was invented in 1989. They have been using Cubase to create their own rhythmic pieces of music. They worked really independently, showing a flair for the software and excitement at their composition.

*Miss Dangerfield, Head of Music*



# Explorers' Lunch



On each of our taster days Year 5 children enjoyed an explorer themed luncheon. Before visiting us, the pupils were invited to enter a competition to create a new creature that they had 'discovered' on their imaginary travels. The pupils submitted a range of new species of animals. Winners from each primary school were selected on each taster day and awarded prizes for the most exciting 'discoveries'.

During lunch, the pupils posed for photos with our very own explorers, featuring Charles Darwin and Isabella Bird. Thank you to our Year 9 students who dressed up for the occasion! The pupils will be able to view the photos in a special gallery in our school library on our Open Evening, an example of which can be seen overleaf.



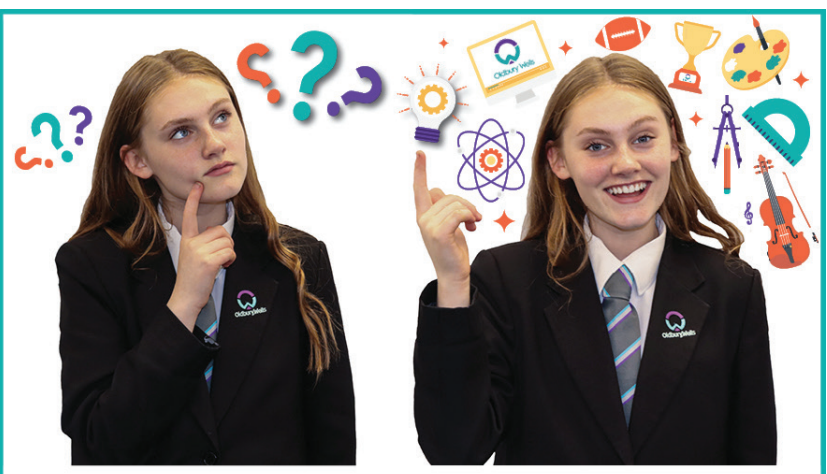
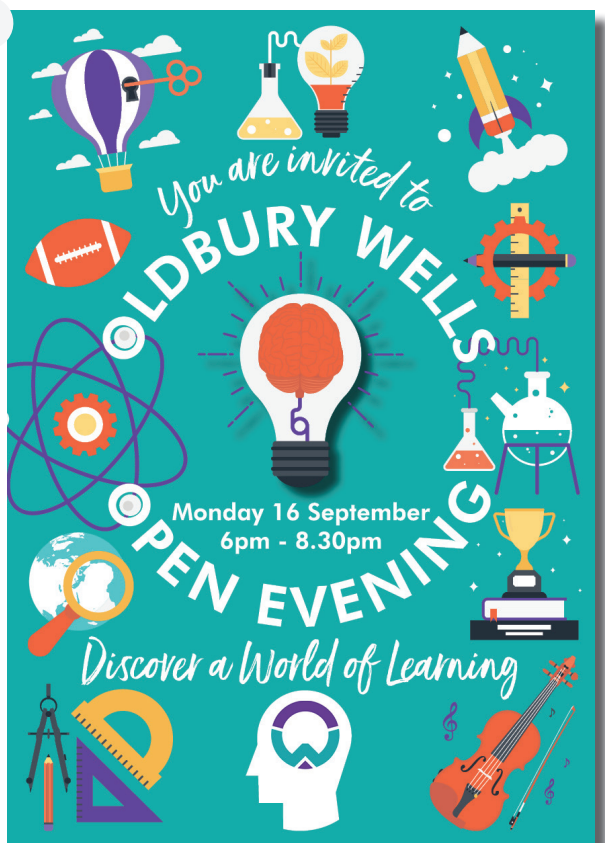
# Aim High and Discover More at Our Open Evening

Our Open Evening is on Monday 16th September, from 6pm to 8.30pm, and this year is based on the theme of exploration and discovery with the tagline 'Aim High and Discover More'. Year 6 and Year 5 pupils, together with their families, can tour the Oldbury Wells site, meet staff, look at our facilities and find out more about our school.

There will be two Headteacher's talks during the evening – at 6.15pm and 7.30pm.

On arrival, children will receive a bespoke 'Explorers and Discoveries' album for them to fill with stickers of famous pioneers which they will collect from classrooms as they tour the school. Year 5 pupils who visited Oldbury Wells in June for taster days will also be able to view the photos they had taken with our very own Charles Darwin in a gallery in our school library.

We look forward to seeing you at Oldbury Wells Open Evening.



## Open Evening

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 6PM-8.30PM

Discover More at Oldbury Wells



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