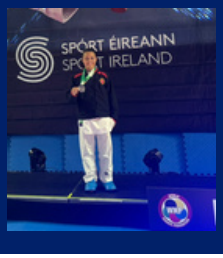

OSH
OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL

FROM THE HEADMASTER

23 October 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

As we approach the end of a busy and rewarding half-term, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all OSH staff and pupils for their dedication, hard work, and commitment over the past seven weeks.

In recent assemblies, we have marked Black History Month - the theme this year is "Honouring Our Communities". I spoke about the importance of recognising and celebrating Black History across Dudley and the Black Country, highlighting the contributions of Sir Lenny Henry and the pioneering "Three Degrees" of West Bromwich Albion. Their stories remind us of the positive impact that individuals can have in challenging prejudice and strengthening communities.

There have been many examples of OSH pupils excelling both in and beyond school. Particular congratulations go to Will W (Year 10), who won first place in the Young Futures category of the Community Action Awards; Raffy (Year 8), who performed in Swan Lake with the English Youth Ballet; Claudea (Year 11), who achieved a Distinction and Bronze Medal in the Maths Olympiad for Girls; and Imogen C (Year 13) and Anna WP (Year 10), who represented England with distinction at World Karate Championships last week.

Charitable giving remains an important part of life at OSH, and many congratulations go to Miss Perkins and everyone involved in the 'Wear It Pink' campaign. Together, the school community raised a remarkable £1,513.91 for Breast Cancer Awareness.

I thoroughly enjoyed the Year 7 Music Concert on Tuesday evening. Our Year 7 pupils performed hymns, solo pieces and African dances to a packed audience in the Foleyan Centre. My thanks go to Miss Hackett, Miss Chasline and Mr. Davies for organising such an enjoyable and memorable event.

In sport, OSH Netball continues to go from strength to strength, with victories for the Under 15 and Under 14 A teams against KES Five Ways, followed by an outstanding 29-19 National Cup win for the Under 12 A VII against King's Worcester. In hockey, the Boys' 1st XI defeated KES Camp Hill 2-1, while in rugby, after a difficult start to the season, the 1st XV secured an excellent 28-24 victory over Malvern College in the National Cup. Team of the half-term, however, must go to the Under 12 A rugby squad, who have won six of their seven fixtures, including three victories by more than 50 points.

As I write, a number of our Year 7 pupils are making their way across the school dressed as their favourite ghosts, ghouls, mythical creatures and gothic characters as part of today's Halloween-themed activities and there are some wonderfully creative and imaginative costumes on display. My thanks go to Mrs. Boerm for organising such a fun and memorable event.

We end this half of term with our Founders Day service which commemorates the legacy of Thomas Foley, who founded the School back in 1667.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first half-term as Headmaster of Old Swinford Hospital. I am enormously proud of what our pupils and staff have achieved already this term, and I look forward to building on that success together as we move into the second half of the Michaelmas Term.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Yours faithfully

Mr G A Wright
Headmaster