

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last weekend saw three residential visits taking place at once, albeit that Year 8 were home by lunch on Saturday. That particular trip had been to London since Thursday, taking in some of the city's sights, including a marching band and cavalry outside Buckingham Palace. In fact, fitbits recorded over 30,000 steps on Friday alone! Today Silly Norman shows some of the antics from one of the plays. Meanwhile, Year 5 were in the Brecon Beacons where they had a variety of outward bound activities, including canoeing and archery. They were sleeping in the fashionable pods. Finally Year 7, with some Year 8s, were on the Isle of Wight where water-based activities were taking place. Getting there also set a new experience for many who had not been on a ferry before. (I assure you that, after my 5½ years on the Island, the experience wears off.) There were plenty of pictures on Twitter.



Naturally, my thanks are extended to the Walkwood staff, both teachers and others, who gave up their time. Their names are listed inside. The 'thank you's that we received at the end of the trip, or through this week, are very important to us. It requires over 100 hours to organise a residential visit, and we are very ably assisted by Walkwood's Office Manager, Mrs Hill - so our thanks to her too.

Thank you

My child, prepare provisions for the trip and head off with your companions.

May God who is in heaven protect you on your way and restore you safely to me.

Tobit 5: 17

As we approach the end of term, there are a number of sports fixtures that happen after school or during the day. It is for this reason that we discontinue the extra-curricular clubs until the new academic year. The list of the clubs has been updated.

Rev. C. Leach - Principal

Transition Days
Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th July

A Prayer for Doing the right thing

Jesus,

You set the example of the way we should live. You blessed us with your presence and guidance of how to do life with each other. You taught us the ultimate commandment, of loving each other as we want to be loved. Let your Spirit come upon us and guide us how to live like you did. Let us grow in all ways to be the best people we can be, knowing that you are always by our side guiding us in the right path.

Amen

This week's theme was:
Doing the right thing

In every country God accepts anyone who worships him and does what is right.

Acts 10:35

Whole School Attendance

94.81%

Whole School Target

95.6%

17.06.19—21.06.19

Year 5 — 96.29%

Year 6 — 95.59%

Year 7 — 93.61%

Year 8 — 93.69%



For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Honour	I have honoured my followers in the same way that you honoured me, in order that they may be one with each other, just as we are one. <i>John 17:22</i>
The tutor group virtue:	Courage	I will save you and make you a blessing to the nations. So don't be afraid or lose courage. <i>Zechariah 8:13</i>
The assembly theme:	King David	Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. <i>Luke 2:4</i>

We ask for your thoughts and prayers in the week ahead for:

The weekend	Those who have been affected by severe weather across the country	Monday	Those representing Britain at Wimbledon
Tuesday	For those who have experienced bullying online and offline	Wednesday	The elderly who are lonely
Thursday	Those taking part in sports activities	Friday	The teachers and support staff of Walkwood.

S4 Ep35

Silly Norman

The Play That Goes Wrong



New 'Pupil Leadership Team' for 2019-20.

We received an incredible number of applications from Year 7 students wishing to take on the roles and responsibilities within the Pupil Leadership Team for the next academic year. All roles, from Head Boy/Girl, College Captain/Vice Captain and Prefects were equally popular. The standard of the applications has been exceptional and whilst we have enjoyed reading them, we have found the shortlisting process difficult due to the high standard of letters received. Following the interviewing and shortlisting process, students will receive letters informing them of the outcome. Students successful in progressing to the next stage will now be preparing their speeches for the Hustings.

Friday 5th July sees the first of these Hustings, where candidates for the Head Boy and Girl roles will be giving their speeches in front of the rest of the school. Every member of the Walkwood school community, staff and students alike, will then be asked to vote, anonymously, for whom they feel they would like to elect. These will be followed on Monday 8th/Tuesday 9th July by the College Hustings for the positions of College Captain and Vice Captain.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who have applied and wish all students the best of luck in the Hustings stages.

Keep an eye out in future Insiders, when the newly elected Pupil Leadership Team for 2019-20 will be unveiled!

Miss Reeves
PLT Co-ordinator



Thank
you

Brecon Beacons: Mr Macdonald, Miss Cooke, Mr Wootton, Mrs Shanley, Mrs Timmins and Ms Foster

Isle of Wight: Mr West, Mrs Sly, Mrs Porter, Mr Hunt, Mrs T Griffiths, Mr McHague

London: Rev Leach, Mrs Baker, Mrs Hands, Mrs Russell, Mr Hill, Ms Cowles



PE News

There will be no more PE extra-curricular clubs on until the next academic year. It has been fantastic to see so many of our pupils attend for recreational and team training and for those who have represented the school at fixtures.

PE Department

Transition Days

Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th July



Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide-or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

- 1** Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- 2** Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.
- 3** Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
- 4** Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.
- 5** Read with your child—explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.
- 6** Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- 7** Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.
- 8** If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.



For more teaching ideas and activities be sure to visit our blog! www.blog.maketaketeach.com



New school year

Wednesday 4th September 2019

Year 6 and 8 Academic Reports and SATs Results

As previously mentioned, we will no longer be publishing school reports to Insight. Instead, you will be able to access your child's report via the SIMs app.

At the end of last academic year or September 2018, you received an email from the school, which had a link allowing you to sign up to the SIMS app. As explained, you can link your account to your Facebook, Twitter, Google or Microsoft account to login. This email expired after 14 days of it being sent so if you did not download the app at this time then please email, Office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk [stating that you need to be re-invited to download the SIMS app.](#)

If you do not have an email registered or the email address we do have is out of date then you will not have received an invite so please email, Office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk [to arrange for this to be rectified.](#)

Year 6 and 8 school reports will be available to view on the SIMs app by 4pm on Thursday 11th July. Year 6 academic reports will also contain pupils' SATs results.

With this date fast approaching, I would recommend ensuring you have downloaded the SIMs app and that you are able to log in.

Music News

This afternoon some of our Choir have been taking part in the rehearsals for this evening's Trinity Pyramid Concert. Several schools are taking part and everyone is really excited to be performing our individual songs, as well as watching the other schools perform and putting the final joint song together.



Walkwood's Summer Concert will soon be here - it's great to see our instrumentalists getting organised and enjoying their rehearsals - we've got a fabulous group of enthusiastic musicians and they have all made super progress this year.

Arts Days

Our two Arts Days last week were a great success. Pupils experienced a variety of different activities to learn about cultural aspects of different countries.

This is what some pupils said:

I enjoyed the South American dance workshop. I loved learning the unique style of dancing we wouldn't usually do.

I mostly like the drums because they have a fascinating beat and texture.

I liked going on the computers to research endangered animals.

Fredy was lovely and the panpipes were fun!

I enjoyed painting the feathers.

I liked making the Chinese food and eating it!

Touchstones

supporting bereaved young people in NE Worcs

Staff and students
Walkwood Middle School,
Feckenham Road
Redditch,
Worcs
B97 5AQ

18th June 2019

Dear Students and Staff,

Thank you so much for the wonderful donation of £258.09, raised by your non-uniform day. We are really grateful and will use every penny to help us support young people when something terrible happens and someone they love dies. Over the years we have supported many Walkwood students through some painful times, and it is lovely to bump into them again, often years later, and see them doing so well.

We at Touchstones love your school. The children are always so kind and generally show great understanding and sympathy for their friends who are sad. I loved receiving the boxes one class donated, and they brought a lot of comfort to some children who appreciated knowing that they were thought of at a sad time. More than any other school we visit, Walkwood seems to understand that all the visits do need money to keep them happening, so you can be very proud of yourselves for helping to provide this.

This spring saw yet another wonderful Touchstones day, when we took young people away to have fun and meet others who know just what it feels like when someone hugely important in your life dies. Donations like yours mean that we can plan another such day for the autumn.

Thank you once again. We continue to hope you won't need us, but you know where we are if you do and we will always try to help

Yours sincerely,

Vicki Quarton
Touchstones Child Bereavement Support.
07547 367267



Website: www.touchstones-support.org.uk
email: vicki@touchstones-support.org.uk
Touchstones Child Bereavement Support is a Registered Charity.
Registered Charity Number 1168091.

Clubs and Activities

Summer Term 1 2019



	Before School 8:00am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am Orchestra Music Room 8.45 - 9.30am CGR	KS3 Art Club ECO	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm
Tuesday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Signing Club (All year groups) Textiles Room JHA	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm
Wednesday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	All years Silent Reading Club Room 19 LBA	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm
Thursday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Choir (all year groups) Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm CGR Science Club Invite only session Lab 2 JHD Eco Schools Club Week 1 Room 21 (Lab 3) MBI	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm
Friday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am		Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

chicanery

What word class is this word? Could it belong to more than one word class?

How many syllables does it have?

Write the dictionary definition(s) of this word, using your own words.

Are there any synonyms for the word?

Are there any antonyms for the word?

Write four sentences, each containing the word.

Challenge: vary the type of sentence each time: write one as a statement; one as a question; one as a command and one as an exclamation sentence.

For example, if the *Word of the Week* were joyous:

Statement: Xavier is feeling joyous this morning.

Question: Does that music sound joyous to you?

Command: Make yourself look a little more joyous.

Exclamation: What a joyous evening!

Show your tutor your notes on Word of the Week and receive a merit for answering the questions above!



Top Readers for 27th May 2019 — 27th June 2019

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Lauren Sole (Year 7 AMLA) - who has read an incredible 821,017 words

Top Boy

Caiden McEntee (Year 6 CMBI) - who has read a fantastic 733,461 words

Well done - 3 merits will be awarded to you both.

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU





Trips and Visits

2018 - 2019

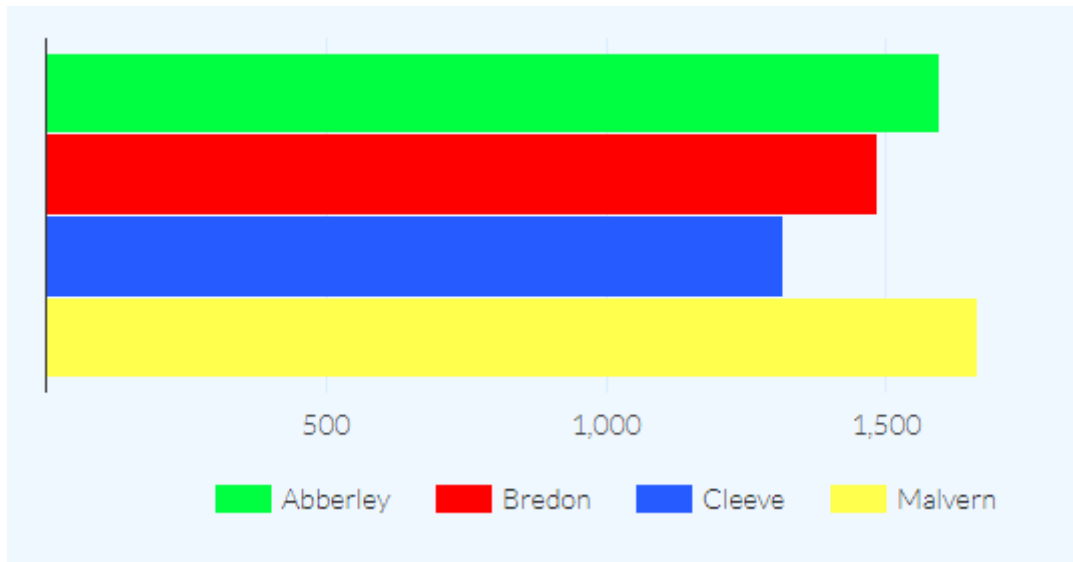


DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	OPEN TO	COST	LEADER
July					
Wed 17 July	Rewards Trip	Drayton Manor	Y8	£ 25	Mr West



Epraise Update

Points This Week: By College



Top Ten Points Scorers

1. 🟡 Sam Sellers (MNSA) (31)
2. 🟠 Abi Goldingay (BRCO) (30)
2. 🟡 Phoebe Smith (AAGA) (30)
2. 🟠 Lewis West (MNSA) (30)
5. 🟠 Lara Laight (MNSA) (29)
5. 🟡 Jacob Dobson (BCLO) (29)
5. 🟠 Oliver Willett (MPJE) (29)
8. 🟠 Grace Hyde (MPJE) (28)
8. 🟡 Alfe MacKin (BCLO) (28)
8. 🟡 Harley Wilson (BCLO) (28)



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2019	Tuesday 9th July	Summer Concert 7.30 pm
	Friday 19 July	End of Term
	Monday 2 & 3 September	Staff Development Days
	Wednesday 4 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Friday 25 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November	Half Term
	Friday 20 December	End of Term
	Monday 6 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 7 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February	Half Term
2020	Friday 3 April	End of Term
	Monday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 May	Half Term
	Friday 17 July	End of Term