



Dear Parents and Carers,

Advent (the season of preparation before Christmas) officially began last Sunday, although those who have an Advent calendar would have started on Saturday, I suspect. At school, we have our own Advent calendar, opening up a window as it tells the Christmas story. Year 5 are also looking at Advent in their Spiritual and Social Education lessons. The Advent wreath is made up of four coloured candles, standing for peace, love, joy and hope. There is a white candle that is lit at Christmas-time, with the third candle being pink while the others are purple.



The photograph to the left is not an early Christmas box, nor have the Wise Men bought gifts (they shouldn't arrive on the scene until after Christmas). This is our cleaning supplies for next half term. We would usually need about a fifth of that.

With two weeks to go of this term, our end-of-term events will be amended this year. We shall still conduct our prize draws on the last day of term, doing so using Microsoft Teams within the tutor groups. This will also be our 'Deep Day' and festive jumper day, when we invite pupils to replace their Walkwood jumpers with a festive version, but this is not compulsory. (Other items of uniform still to be as normal though). A donation of £1 will go towards Children in Need.

If one of you says to someone, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is nothing.

*James 2 :16*

With two weeks of school left this term, we shall keep lessons going until the Deep Day of the final week, when the learning takes on a different form. 'Keeping things going' means that the routines continue and pupils feel calmer. We'd hate for them to be bored!



*Rev. C. Leach, Principal*

A prayer for Advent– Calming the storm

Lord, I trust in Your almighty power and unconditional love. I trust that You care about me and are present in every storm I face in life. Give me hope in the midst of every trial and enable me to turn to You as the source of my peace. I love You, dear Lord. Jesus, I trust in You.

This week's theme was:  
Calming the storm

One day Jesus and his disciples got in a boat. "Let's cross the lake," he said. And off they went. It was smooth sailing, and he fell asleep. A terrific storm came up suddenly on the lake. Water poured in, and they were about to capsize. They woke Jesus: "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" Getting to his feet, he told the wind, "Silence!" and the waves, "Quiet down!" They did it. The lake became smooth as glass.

Luke 8:23-25 The Message

**Whole School Attendance**

**97.21%**

**Whole School Target**

**95.6%**

**Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 23.11.20:**

**5C2 (100%), 5C3 (100%)**

**7C2, 7E1, 7E3**

**8E3**



# For the week ahead

<b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<p>At last I have seen what is good and beautiful: It is to eat and drink and to enjoy the good in all our hard work under the sun during the brief lives God gives us. That is our lot in life.</p> <p><i>Ecclesiastes 5:18</i></p>
<b>The assembly theme:</b>	<b>Advent—waiting</b>	<p>Joseph had a dream. God’s angel spoke in the dream: “Joseph, son of David, don’t hesitate to get married. Mary’s pregnancy is Spirit-conceived. God’s Holy Spirit has made her pregnant. She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus - ‘God saves’ - because he will save his people from their sins.”</p> <p><i>Matthew 1:20-22</i></p>

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

<b>The weekend</b>	refugees who are displaced due to war.	<b>Monday</b>	A reminder of what Advent is all about.
<b>Tuesday</b>	local charities that support the community of Redditch.	<b>Wednesday</b>	teachers and support staff of Crabbs Cross Academy
<b>Thursday</b>	those we know that are unwell	<b>Friday</b>	those coordinating the roll-out of Covid-19 vaccines.

## Picture of the Week



Workers at The Tree Barn in Christmas Common, Oxfordshire, UK, cut and net Christmas trees which will be sold online for the first time this year, as well as in the farm shop.

Dear Parents/ Carers



During the current climate we are aware that sporting activities inside and outside of school have been limited, however, the Redditch partnership and external agencies have been planning competitions in the future in case things change.

We are unable to provide cross country college matches and qualifiers at the moment but I know that there are many pupils who would have been interested in representing the school. Therefore, any pupils from 5,6,7,8 can complete a run at home and parents can provide me with the results which I can pass on to the district.

For year 8's there is the potential for the English Schools National Cross-Country Championships to take place later next year, as well as 5,6,7 to represent Redditch at the Worcester school games.

If you would like your child to enter the information is provided below:

<b>Year Group:</b>	<b>Course Distance for Boys:</b>	<b>Course Distance for Girls:</b>
5	1.9km	1.9km
6	1.9km	1.9km
7	2.4km	2.4km
8	3km	3km

\* if possible a 20m incline to be included and please be honest with your results.

Deadlines for entries:

Year 5,6,7 – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Year 8 - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January

(this allows me time to enter results and send them off)

Any queries please let me know,

Miss Reeves

Head of PE





## Festive Jumpers

On the last day of this term, Friday 18th December, pupils and staff are invited to replace their usual jumpers with a Christmas version. The rest of the Walkwood uniform is to be worn, please, as it is not a non-uniform day.

This is not compulsory! There will be pupils and adults who will be in their usual attire. School will finish at the usual times for each of the year groups: ho, ho, ho!

We ask for a donation of £ 1 which will go to **Children in Need.**



## Admissions

In the current circumstances,  
we have a virtual tour and full  
information is available:

[www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk)

September  
2021



### Applying for middle school

For children who are currently in Year 4 and intend to be in a middle school for Year 5, it is time to apply for a place. This needs to be completed using the online system:

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Walkwood Church of England Middle School is part of the Worcestershire County Council's coordinated scheme, which is administered by Worcestershire Children First.

**The closing date for both first and middle school places is 15th January 2021.**

Select for Walkwood's [Admissions](#)

[Prospectus](#)

[Virtual Open Evening](#)

# Family Learning



All of the courses are listed at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/courses](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/courses) and at the moment they are free for all parents and carers to book onto.

## Family Memories COVID-19 Time Capsule Course

COVID-19 is affecting almost every part of our daily lives, some day though it will all be a memory. We are living through a momentous, historic time but likely won't remember all of it - this course is to capture the moment. Together you will make things to help your family remember the significance of this time that don't cost any money. You will also take the time to make a memory box to store it all in to share with your family in years to come.

## Managing Mindfulness for Parents and Carers of those with SEND

This course is for adults, parents or carers who are supporting and caring for children, young people or adults with special needs and disabilities. The course will take you through mindfulness for anxiety management, the 5 steps to wellbeing and how to manage "coke bottle effects" or meltdowns. It will teach you positive risk taking, relaxation and calming techniques and give you knowledge of understanding behaviour and support you with prevention, de-escalation techniques and strategies.

## Family Crafts ESOL

A Family crafting session for parents and carers who have English as a second or other language. This course will support parents and carers learning the English Language and will support them with their child in the school environment and at home.

## Magnificent Maths Course for Parents Online

A course for parents of Pre-school children and Reception Children to teach parents about the maths they will be taught and to show them how to make maths resources to use at home to support their young child with maths. These crafty maths resources will be made in each session. Skills taught to parents include: recognising numbers, matching numbers, more/less vocab, add and subtraction, numbers and shapes, doubles, halves, sharing and outdoor maths.

## Zog's Fire Breathing Adventures

Join Zog with your pre-school child on his fire breathing adventures as a student in dragon school. This fun short course will have you roaring with laughter as you make some wonderful creative pieces with your fun Family Learning tutor online in the comfort of your own home. Each session a story will be read and you will be given ideas to make easy, yet wonderful, arty activities for your child.

## Nurture Course for parents of children with SEND

This course is for all parents and carers of children with special needs and disabilities to give them time for themselves to nurture their own health and wellbeing. This course will be led by our friendly Family Learning Tutor who will give you time to explore some new arty ideas and create some new crafting activities whilst offloading with other parents and carers in similar family situations. This course will give you 'time for you' to enjoy some new activities.

## Time For You - Your turn to Learn

This is a progression course from 'Your Turn to Learn' course. Learners on this course will progress from having time for them in a group with a tutor to start thinking about what their learning journey might look like and what they would like to learn next. We will aim to empower learners to take a step in their future and consider that it is their turn to learn and want to seek the next step.

## Art in your Heart - Online course for Parents

This short course is an online course for parents and carers to explore different art in the comfort of your own home online with other parents. Using art can help you work through stresses you might be facing and empower you to feel positive mental wellbeing. This course really focuses on using art in different forms to support you to feel happier and encourage your self-awareness.

## Time for You - Parents Online Course

This course is for all parents and carers that are interested in having some time for them following the lock-down and isolation period this year. This course will be delivered by our friendly Family Learning Tutor and will give you time to do some mindfulness activities, take your mind off any issues you may face, use it as a time to offload and talk about what we have been through with Covid-19 and empower you to find a positive mental wellbeing.

## Thinking about Employment for Parents ONLINE

Have you thought about returning to work having been a parent at home? Not sure where to start or how to feel ready for this big step of change? This course is for any parent who might be thinking about maybe starting to find employment having been a parent staying at home. This course will empower you to start to feel ready to consider your own future now that your children are at school. On this course you will learn about our Adult Learning Team and the courses you might want to attend next.

## Marvellous Me - After Lock down (Online)

This course is for parents and carers that would like some support and 'time for me' after "lock down". This is a course usually delivered in schools for parents but will be online. Returning to the "norm" after lock down may feel different for some. This course will offer mindfulness & positive well-being activities to nurture yourself with other parents. Each session (led by our friendly tutor) will give you time to offload, make friends, try activities, do art and colour therapy.

## Fun Phonics'

Fun Phonics' course to introduce parents/carers to phonics in the Early Years (nursery, pre-school, reception, key stage 1) This course will focus on a different phonics aspect each week and every session parents will come away with homemade phonics resources to help their child. This course is to explain what phonics means, what the jargon means that they will hear at school and help them understand current school teaching methods to help their child at home.

# Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

## hyperbolise

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 2nd November 2020 - 2nd December 2020

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Poppy Harvey (8C2 Malvern) - who has read 560,937 words

Top Boy

Alex Neill (6C2 Abberley) - who has read 1,616,144 words

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU .....



# Keeping children safe

The following information concerns how we continue to ensure that pupils are cared for within our school:

Early help: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/19c6-Early%20Help%20Offer.pdf>

E-safety: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/E-Safety>

Anti-bullying: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/f2c9-Anti-bullying%20Policy.pdf>

Attendance: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/53d7-Attendance%202018.pdf>

Prevent: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/25a5-Prevent%20Policy%202019.pdf>

Safeguarding: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Safeguarding-and-Child-Protection>

<https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/a297-Safeguarding%20Policy%202019.pdf>

Relationships and Sex Education: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/9ca0-Relationships%20and%20Sex%20Education%20Policy%202019.pdf>



[Check if you or your child has coronavirus symptoms](#)

[Track and trace](#)

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.



Public Health  
England

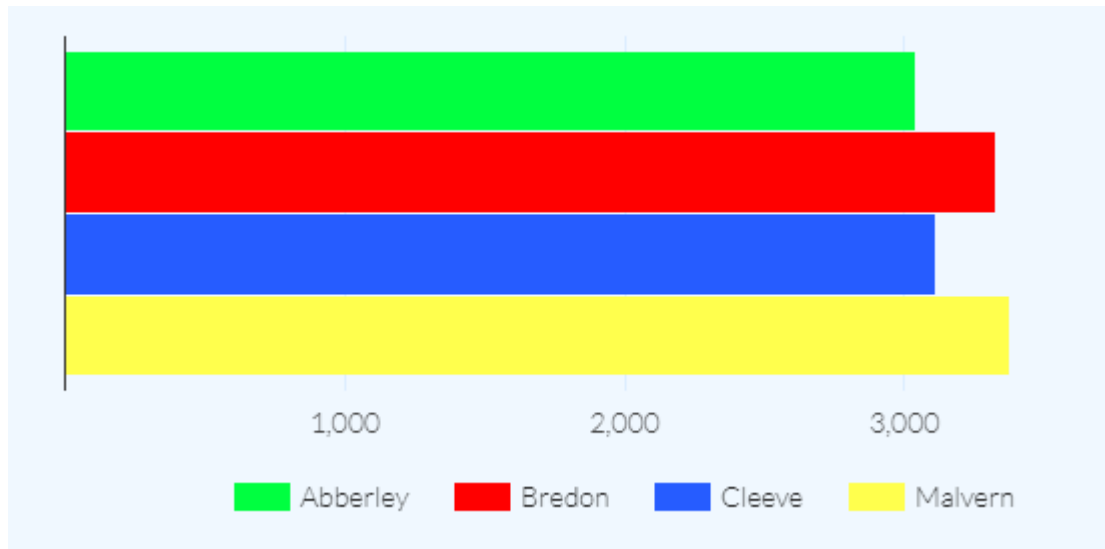
[Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)

[Guidance for households with grandparents, parents and children living together where someone is at increased risk or has possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)



# Epraise Update

## Points This Week: By College







# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
	Friday 18 December	End of Term
<b>2 0 2 1</b>	Monday 4 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 5 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 15 to Friday 19 February	Half Term
	Thursday 1 April	End of Term
	Monday 19 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June	Half Term
	Wednesday 21 July	End of Term