

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we had Takeover Day. Every pupil had the opportunity to apply for the staff roles at the school. That meant teaching of any lessons, first aid, Receptionist, site managing, managing the business of the school and every role required to run the school. If you were successful, you would follow the teacher's timetabled lessons, lunch and break time duties, or having time to plan lessons in an office or the classroom.



To become a teacher or take part in Takeover Day, you had to perform a series of tasks to achieve it. Firstly, you had to write a job application telling your desired role all about you and why you were a fit for that role. After all the staff have assessed the applications, they selected a few candidates to be short-listed and receive a letter stating if they have gained an interview. After all the staff have completed their interviews with the candidates, they selected one pupil to take over their job for the day. All applicants received a letter at some point saying if they were successful or not.

The staff made it easy for the selected pupils to control and have the confidence to teach lessons and keep things fun. Thursday was very fun for me and I will remember that day when I move up to high school. As a Year 8 pupil next year, I will be at high school where days like this will not happen. With that, I have appreciated the opportunity and know other pupils have as well. It was good for younger, less confident pupils to build up their courage and talk to older year groups. I hope the teachers will have learnt from us pupils too!



Miss Katie Hodgkins  
Takeover Day Principal

The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures for ever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.  
*Psalms 138:8*

## 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

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.

## Whole school Attendance

94.38 %

## Whole School Target

95.6 %

19.06.2023 to 23.06.2023

Year 5 94.79 %

Year 6 93.05 %

Year 7 94.30 %

Year 8 90.41 %



## For the week ahead

<b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b>	<b>Honour</b>	Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honouring one another.  <i>Romans 12:10</i>
<b>The assembly theme will be:</b>	<b>King David</b>	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 your thoughts and prayers in the week ahead for:**

<b>The weekend</b>	Year 7 pupils who are on their residential trip	<b>Monday</b>	the people of Ukraine
<b>Tuesday</b>	the people of Russia	<b>Wednesday</b>	Year 8 pupils who begin their final month at Walkwood
<b>Thursday</b>	Year 4 pupils who have received their Welcome packs for our school	<b>Friday</b>	Year 5 pupils who go on their residential trip today

## Picture of the Week



An oystercatcher in a fight for its lunch.



## Lunch Money

We ask that all ParentPay accounts are settled regularly and sufficient credit added to avoid any debit balances. You can view what you child has purchased on ParentPay.

A reminder that free schools meals does not include toast or juice at breaktime.

If you have any queries , please contact the finance office.

Thank you.

## Uniform recycling

We will gratefully receive any uniform items that you child has grown out of. This includes ties, jumpers, trousers and PE kit.

There is a large wheelie bin next to the pastoral hub along the bottom corridor so pupils to drop items into.

Any items from Year 8s would be welcome, as well as smaller sizes.



## New 'Pupil Leadership Team' for 2023-2024



A reminder that **the closing date for applications is Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July**. Current year 7 pupils will have the opportunity to apply for a role (which include Head Boy and Head Girl, College Captains and Vice Captains and a team of Prefects) ready for the new academic year in September.

All applications will be completed online via a link. This link can be accessed via a personal student school email, the Insider and school website via a link and QR code.



[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DLKbF\\_K2skm4Vr4y1pECGTRo\\_y6Tg31BkHdcOGMuP4pUNEo4RIhNNjRSSUhVSkJRRDg1WVZMVVZGNy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DLKbF_K2skm4Vr4y1pECGTRo_y6Tg31BkHdcOGMuP4pUNEo4RIhNNjRSSUhVSkJRRDg1WVZMVVZGNy4u)



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# AMINO

AGE RESTRICTION  
**12+**

**PETS**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MODERATION GAPS

Amino has a 12+ classification in the App Store and a 'Teen' rating on Google Play. However, certain communities on the platform have little to no moderation in place – increasing the potential for more adult-themed content to reach young users. It's also possible to create an account without proof of age, raising the possibility of even younger children finding their way onto the platform.

### UNSAFE CONTENT

The central concept behind Amino is for users to share content, then make and receive comments on these uploads. The level of anonymity that the platform offers (someone's true identity can be completely obscured behind their username, for instance) means that it would be extremely difficult to stop suggestive or outright predatory comments and messages being sent to young people.

### INAPPROPRIATE IMAGES

Like most social media, Amino offers easy sharing of images. Its community guidelines state that any suggestive photos of under-18s will be removed immediately, but of course this doesn't prevent inappropriate pictures being seen by a young person. Not all of Amino's communities are rigorously moderated, so there's a chance that some unsuitable images could temporarily evade detection.

Amino is a social media platform offering a large group of subcommunities under one digital 'roof'; it was envisaged as the online version of a convention, where fans gather to celebrate a shared interest like comic books or sci-fi, for example. While many such platforms are harmless spaces for devotees of a certain TV show or video game to congregate, there are still some aspects that trusted adults should be aware of. With a focus on sharing user-generated content, the idea of Amino is for users to communicate with like-minded individuals – but even that can create plenty of hazards.

## COMICS & COSPLAY

### MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Amino+ is a premium membership for the platform, offering a bevy of customisation options such as stickers, 'moods' to display and an exclusive profile badge. Users can also purchase one-off cosmetic items including different styles of chat bubble or profile frames. If your child has payment methods available via their device, they could potentially make these in-app purchases without you realising.

### REPEATED USAGE

As a social media app, Amino is focused on keeping its communities engaged and coming back for more. Part of this approach is encouraging people to build up 'streaks', as users are awarded 'reputation points' for logging in regularly. This type of mechanism, of course, always carries the risk of young people feeling a compulsion to repeatedly check in with the app, further increasing their screen time.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK ABOUT IT

If your child is old enough and chooses to download and use Amino, it's probably wise to remind them of some online safety basics – such as how not everyone in the digital world is who they claim to be, for example, or not to give out personal information online. It might also be a good idea to go into the app's settings and disable incoming chat requests from users that your child doesn't know.

### STAY UPDATED

Ensure that your child knows to report any upsetting or worrying online content they might see to you. As much as possible, try to stay aware of which communities they're joining on Amino. Most of these areas are well moderated and full of innocent conversation about common interests, but on any platform of this breadth, there's always the potential for chats to veer off into potentially harmful places.

### MEMBERSHIP MEDIATION

If your child asks for an Amino+ membership but you're not entirely comfortable with that, be prepared to explain your decision in depth. Young people's sense of injustice can naturally become inflamed when their friends have things that they don't. Parents of older teens, meanwhile, might actually decide to agree to the membership request but continue to monitor their child's activity on the app.

### MONITOR SCREEN TIME

If you haven't already, you might want to consider setting up controls such as Family Sharing (on iOS devices) or Family Link (on Android) so, from your own device, you can keep an eye on how much screen time your child is having – and what apps they're spending it on. This can be extremely useful with regard to platforms such as Amino, which can be quite addictive and reward repeated use.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



Source: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/scottish-news/mum-horrified-after-daughter-10-18773339>



**National Online Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday

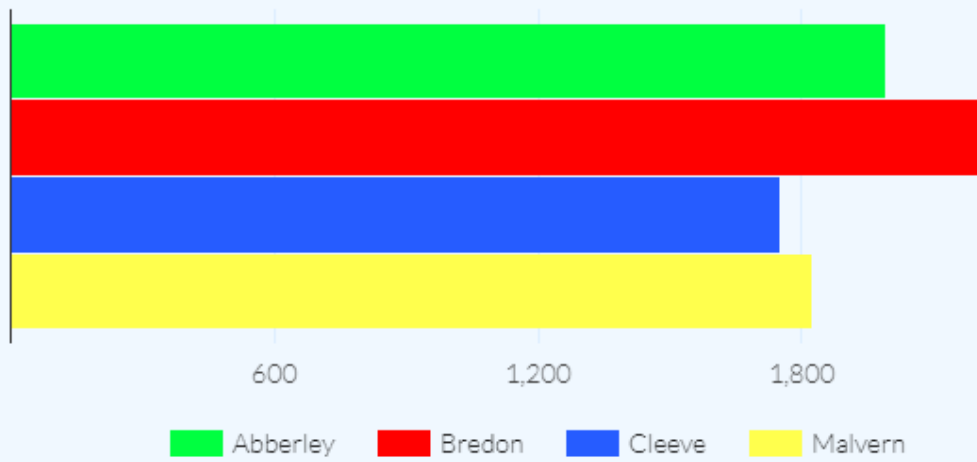




# epraise this week



This week



## Top Readers for 28.05.2023— 28.06.2023

Congratulations to:

### Top Girl

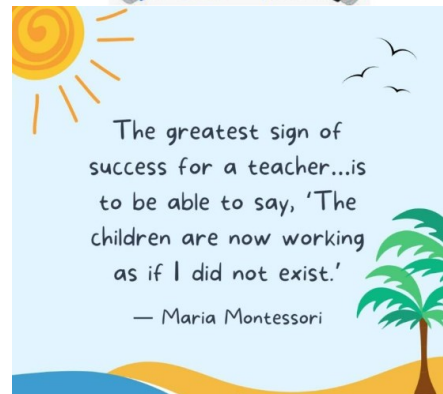
Hope Ivers (Year 6 BKKH) - who has read 523,898 words.

### Top Boy

Frederick Lloyd (Year 7 AJMA) - who has read 272,188 words.

Well done - merits will be awarded to you both.

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



# Knowing our curriculum

For information about the curriculum for each year group, please select:



[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)



For information about specific curriculum subjects, you will find the calendars here:

[Art and Technology](#)

[Computing](#)

[Drama](#)

[English](#)

[French](#)

[Mathematics](#)

[Music](#)

[Physical Education](#)

[Science](#)

[Spiritual & Social Education](#)



Additionally, for [Careers](#)

For the overall rationale for the way we have put the curriculum together, or for how the pastoral system operates, please select:

[Curriculum Rationale](#)

[Pastoral Strategy](#)



## Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School

For information about our school:

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

## 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>



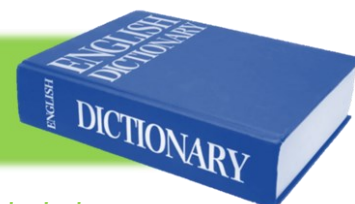
# Reading matters



Did you know that your child's daily reading at home will help them to make maximum progress not only in the subject of reading/English, but all across all subjects? Please do keep reminding your child to read at home each day for a minimum of twenty minutes, in order to help them prosper across the full curriculum. Hearing your child read aloud is also useful for pupils of all ages and abilities in reading.



## Word of the Week



*Each week, there is a word displayed here. If the pupils have a go at the tasks below linked to the weekly word, they will earn a point from their tutor. Once per fortnight the tutor will go through the previous two weeks' words and pupils will work collaboratively exploring their meanings, features and usage.*

### assess

1. What word class is this word? Could it belong to more than one word class?
2. How many syllables does it have?
3. Write the dictionary definition(s) of this word, using your own words.
4. What are the synonyms for the word?
5. What are the antonyms for the word?
6. Write four sentences, each containing the word.

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 *exhilarated*:

**Statement:** Sam is feeling exhilarated this morning.



# Clubs and Activities



## Summer Term 2

	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
<b>Monday</b>	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI  Recorder Club, Music Room, GLA, 12.35pm-1pm. All welcome. We have instruments for those that need them. See Mrs Lashley to sign up.	Monday – KS2 tennis 12 <sup>th</sup> June– 10 <sup>th</sup> July Sign up only. 3.30-4.45 Meet outside on KS3 playground by changing room doors.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI  Choir, Music Room, GLA, 12.35pm-1pm. All welcome. First sitting lunch pass required. See Mrs Lashley to sign up.	Keyboard Club: <u>3.30pm - 4.15pm</u> . This Club will continue for students currently signed up in preparation for our Summer Concert beginning on 6 <sup>th</sup> June. Last session will be Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July.  Tuesday – Year 5 multi sports run by Redditch United. Sign up only. 3.30-4.45 Meet outside on KS3 playground by changing room doors.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI  Reading club, room 18, duration of lunch, JWa  Core Reading Club, Room 15, duration of lunch, Mrs Shanley - Invite only	Wednesday – KS2 and KS3 rounders 21 <sup>st</sup> June – 12 <sup>th</sup> July. Sign up only. 3.30-4.45 Meet outside on KS3 playground by changing room doors.
<b>Thursday</b>	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI  Science Homework Drop In – Computing (Year 7 and 8)	Thursday – KS2 and KS3 cricket (24 pupils) 15 <sup>th</sup> June – 13 <sup>th</sup> July Sign up only. 3.30-4.45 Meet outside on KS3 playground by changing room doors.
<b>Friday</b>	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/PWE	





# Trips and Visits



Date	Year group	Destination	Day trip?	Residential?	Cost
07/07 - 10/07/2023	5 •	Brecon Beacons Activity Centre		✓	£250
30/06 - 03/07/2023	7	Osmington Bay		✓	£285
20/07/2023	8	Drayton Manor	✓		£40 *

• Fully booked

\* Current estimated cost



# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2023	Friday 21 July	End of Term
	Monday 4 September	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 5 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November	Half Term
	Thursday 21 December	End of Term
	Monday 8 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 12 – Friday 16 February	Half Term
	Friday 22 March	End of Term
	Monday 8 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 27 – Friday 31 May	Half Term
	Friday 19 July	End of Term