

Dear Parents and Carers,



The shock that the war in Ukraine has brought is felt across our land and other European nations. The resolve of the Ukrainian people, led so robustly by its president, has touched many. HM The Queen was able to subtly demonstrate support in her face-to-face meeting this week at Windsor by the colours of a flower arrangement. The need to support those who have become refugees has been palpable. Therefore, we are grateful for the donations that have been received in school, which we have boxed and labelled. In addition to the ones pictured, there are a further five that we are packing. The following advice from Save the Children gives some helpful hints for when children ask about the war: [How to talk to children about war | Save the Children UK](https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-to-talk-to-children-about-war)



My children, our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action.

John 3:18



Year 8 have begun their study of a different country through its geography and history, this being China. We welcomed the 'Engage with China' team to our school this week. They took the pupils through a range of activities which highlighted the culture and make-up of that Asian nation. Our Fruit of Faith – tolerance - is defined as 'We accept the ideas and beliefs of other even if they are not our own'. This may have been in action as the children learnt about China, and the nature of how our pupils engaged with the activities also incorporated a large degree of inquisitiveness (We think freely and in new ways and explore new ideas).



In our final swing through countries, we come to Egypt. Our technicolor backdrop is now complete. The singing of the pupils is strong, and the learning of lines is getting better! Indeed, this latter aspect is always a challenge which anyone who has ever stepped onto a stage will know. Tickets will go on sale in the next couple of weeks—we shall let you know through The In-

sider.



A prayer for Mother Teresa

Dear Jesus, help me to spread your fragrance everywhere I go. Flood my soul with your spirit and love. Let my life only be a radiance of you. Shine through me and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me but only Jesus. Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as you shine, and be a light to others. Amen.

This week's theme was: Mother Teresa

Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand.

Mother Teresa

**Whole School Target**

95.6%

**Whole School Attendance**

94.84%

Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 28.02.2022

5C3

6E3



# For the week ahead

<p><b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b></p>	<p><b>Thankfulness</b></p>	<p>You are my God, and I will give thanks to you. <b>Psalm 118:28</b></p>
<p><b>The assembly theme:</b></p>	<p><b>St. Patrick</b></p>	<p>If I have any worth, it is to live my life for God so as to teach these peoples; even though some of them still look down on me. <b>St. Patrick</b></p>

**We ask for your thoughts and prayers in the week ahead for Ukraine and for peace**



*Almighty God,  
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:  
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace  
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom  
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth  
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,  
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;  
Amen*

## Picture of the Week

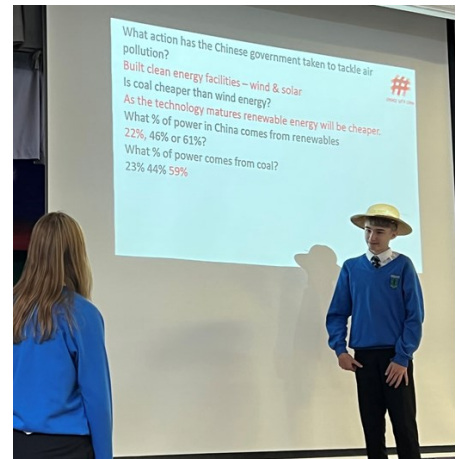


Gil Wizen / WPY

Sabethes mosquito: These mosquitoes are important vectors of several tropical diseases, such as yellow fever and dengue fever

## Year 8 pupils Engage with China

“Shenzhen is 13 times the size of Birmingham,” recounted one pupil at the end of Day Two of our China Challenge Days delivered into Walkwood this week. In the space of 40 years, Shenzhen, a previously sleepy, undeveloped coastal area in southern China with a population the equivalent of Redditch, has fast become China’s Silicon Valley and one of the busiest container ports in the world. It is just one of the many examples of China’s development unprecedented in history that is manifest in 100s of new cities across China that have taken shape as part of China’s economic development over the last few decades.



Some 2.5 years ago a conversation with Rev Leach and Engage with China, culminated in an agreement about the importance of building global awareness in school through the lens of China. An invitation to deliver a Challenge Day to Y8 ensued but unfortunately the pandemic delayed the visit until Monday this week.



Two half day sessions were delivered to a total of 160+ pupils. Activities and content were wide-ranging and included mandarin language, role play about the environment in China and its commitment to renewables, the rise and fall of China as a super-power and population size through an activity involving 60kgs of rice! “To be able to do an activity like this which the school could not resource, was fantastic!” said Mrs Timmins.

On summarising the learnings, one pupil, Lucas, highlighted that “190 languages are spoken in China” and another correctly noted that one in four people is Chinese. I have been delighted by the pupils’ response because it is so encouraging to hear pupils recall the key facts, showing that they have been engaged. Working with a big group can be tricky but the pupils were a delight and a credit to the school.

The warm welcome, which began on arrival at the school gates from the Principal himself, coupled with the positive atmosphere which permeated the whole school, were testament to the Fruits of Faith ethos and it was a privilege to work with these pupils. Feedback from pupils and staff has been positive. Mrs Khan, who helped to facilitate on day one remarked on the “great resources and very knowledgeable tutors who were excellent in engaging pupils.”



H-J Colston-Inge  
Director: Engage with China



## A new online Free School Meals System

This message is for you if your child or children are currently eligible, or may be eligible, for free school meals under the benefit criteria.

Worcestershire Children First are inviting you to use a new self-service process to manage free school meals applications and keep you up to date with any changes.

**For anyone who is currently eligible and receives free school meals, there will be no changes or loss of eligibility until at least July 2023 even if your personal circumstances have changed.**

### What do you need to do?

The system uses the same portal you used to apply for your child's school place. You should use your admission application login details on the Citizen Portal to apply for Free School Meals. You can access the portal using this link:

[https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en?ReturnURL=%2FCitizenPortal\\_LIVE%2F](https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnURL=%2FCitizenPortal_LIVE%2F)

If you do not currently have a Citizen Portal account, please follow the on-screen instructions to register an account.

We need your permission to communicate with you in this way, so we need you to use the portal, enter your details and make an application. This will mean reapplying for Free School Meals for your child(ren) but please do not be concerned that this will affect current arrangements - all eligible families are protected until at least July 2023. Using the portal will not change this, it's just so that we can communicate with you.

Once you have applied using the new system, you will receive a confirmation message that your application has been received and is being processed. You will then receive further notifications via the Citizens Portal as your application progresses.

### Why have we developed a new system?

A key part of the new system is the ability for parents to receive updates on their application and ongoing status without delay via email and portal messages.

### What about Universal Free School Meals?

Universal Infant Free School meals for pupils in Reception, Y1 and Y2 will continue to be managed by the school and are not managed via the Portal.

### Any questions or concerns?

If you have any questions or comments about this new process, please contact the Free School Meal team via [freeschoolmeals@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk).

Thank you, and we look forward to receiving your application

*The Free School Meals Team, Worcestershire Children First*



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

[CLICK HERE](#)

### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.



### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.



### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.



### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.



### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.



### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.



### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.



## Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks; a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



Dear Parents / Guardians,

I would like to introduce myself to you as the North Worcestershire Local Policing Commander, responsible for policing across Wyre Forest, Bromsgrove and Redditch.

During the week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022, you will notice that West Mercia Police will be publicizing some of the dangers that young people face from criminal gangs. These gangs will use and criminally exploit young people, taking advantage of them for financial gain in the sale of illegal drugs.

You might have heard of the term 'County Lines', where criminal gangs from our larger cities will use and exploit young people to sell drugs for them in our smaller towns. This is often under the threat of physical or sexual violence. Those young people are being exploited and the Police will always deal with them as victims of crime, offering as much support to them and their families as possible. It can be a very traumatic experience for all those involved, so we need to get the message out that help is always at hand.

A large majority of young people do not get involved in County Lines or have anything to do with illegal drugs. However, sadly, some do. This could be selling drugs such as cannabis, or harder drugs such as heroin. The young person is used and is often forced to sell as a way of paying off debts owed to a gang.

Unfortunately, some young people use drugs such as cannabis on a regular basis. Sadly, other, harder drugs are also being experimented with by a small minority.

All of our schools have very good safeguarding teams. If you have any concerns about your son/daughter around the use of drugs or have seen behaviour changes that you suspect could be as a result of drug use, please let them know your concerns. They can signpost you to appropriate support. There is also support through your GP surgeries and information regarding drug use can be found on websites such as [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

Our youth engagement team regularly visit schools and colleges, delivering workshops about County Lines / exploitation, the law around drug possession / supply and the dangers involved. We try and give as much information to young people, so that they can make the right, informed decisions and choices, so as not to become a victim of crime or in rare instances, becoming involved in criminality.

Regards,

Superintendent Mel Paley  
North Worcestershire LPA Commander



[www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)

 [westmerciapolice](https://www.facebook.com/westmerciapolice)  [@WMerciaPolice](https://twitter.com/WMerciaPolice)  [@westmerciapolice](https://www.instagram.com/westmerciapolice)

## Information for parents and carers on COVID-19 vaccination for at risk 5 to 11 year olds



Department for Education

Children aged 5 to 11 years who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed can get the COVID-19 vaccine, in line with advice set out by the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#). Eligible children include those with diabetes, immunosuppression, learning disabilities, and other conditions as outlined by the [UK Health Security Agency \(UKHSA\) in the Green Book](#).

Vaccinations help to increase protection against COVID-19, which is particularly important for those with underlying health conditions.

Further information is available in the [guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years](#) published by UKHSA. We have published some [frequently asked questions](#) on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. Following [advice](#) from the JCVI, healthy 5 to 11 year old children will also be offered two 10 microgram doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS will prepare to extend this non-urgent offer to all children during April.



# 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>



# 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](#)

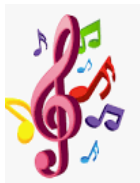


[French](#)



[Mathematics](#)

[Music](#)



[Physical Education](#)



[Science](#)

[Spiritual & Social Education](#)



Additionally, for [Careers](#)

For the overall rationale for the way we have put the curriculum together, please select this:

[Curriculum Rationale](#)

If you wish to understand how our pastoral system operates, kindly select:

[Pastoral Strategy](#)





# Positive Postcards



## Positive ePostcards- awarded to pupils during the Spring Term

### Year 5

Lillie Turner	5 E2	English
Ava Turner	5 C3	English
Finley Tipping	5 C	SSE
Shania Mander	5 E1	English
Amna Hussain	5 E1	English
Georgia Wharrad	5 E1	English
Rowan Campbell	5 E1	English
Ariana Ahmed	5 C1	English
Honey Wilson	5 C1	English
Sarah McKay	5 C1	English
Zainab Khan	5 C1	English
Ryan Tarver	5 C3	Maths
Lexi Phelan	5 C3	Maths
Charlie Hollingsworth	5 E1	Hums
Amna Hussain	5 E2	ICT
Harley-Daniel Duval	5 C1	English
Taylor West	5 C3	Hums
Isaac Clarke	5 C3	Hums
Joe Craig	5 C3	Hums
Stanley Sole	5 C3	Hums
Indie Silcock	5 C3	Hums
Hope Ivers	5 C3	Hums
Ashleigh Bott	5 C3	Hums
Harley-Daniel Duval	5 C3	Hums

### Year 6

Daniel Hancock	6 C1	Science
Harry Hawkins	6 C1	Science
Oliver Dixon	6 C1	Science
Brooke Ashton	6 C1	Science
Harry Hopcroft	6 C1	Science
Maisie Bayliss	6 E1	French
Edward Rawal	6 E1	French
Evie Morgan	6 E1	French
Lucas Dodd	6 C2	French
Ollie Parsonage	6 C2	Maths
Fia Hawkeswood	6 C2	Maths
Lola-May Chadwick	6 C1	Maths
Cade Henry	6 E2	Food Tech

### Year 7

Charlie Green	7 C1	French
Riley Reed	7 C1	French
Maya Shahzad	7 C1	French
Phoebe Woodford	7 C2	English
Cassa Saville	7 C2	English
Alfie Gwilliam	7 C2	English
Lilia Rose Hobson	7 C2	English
Hannah-May Beecham	7 E2	English
Layla Baker	7 E2	English
Sophie Marley Foster	7 E2	English
Oscar Ash	7 E2	English
Archie Annis	7 E3	Maths
Bart Kryla	7 E3	Maths
Eleanor Thornley	7 E3	Maths
Charlie Green	7 C1	Hums
Riley Reed	7 C1	Hums
Meredith Allen	7 C1	Hums
Maya Shahzad	7 C1	Hums
Harrie Morgan	7 C1	Hums
Sam Fuller	7 C1	Hums
Matty Catton	7 C1	Hums
Freya Watson	7 E3	Hums
Archie Grogan	7 E3	Hums
Harry Preston	8 E2	SSE
Marli Hicken-Smith	8 E2	SSE
Tom Woodhouse	8 E2	SSE
Isobel Jennings	8 E2	SSE
Reggie Catton	8 C3	English
Ellie Daines	8 C1	English
Elis Potter	8 C1	SSE
Jasmine Hickey	8 E3	SSE
Will Edwards	8 E3	SSE
Angel Blake	8 C1	SSE
Joben Pullen	8 C1	SSE
Harry Preston	8 E2	SSE
Jack Aucott	8 E3	SSE
Eughan Downing	8 C2	Hums
Theo Foster-Agg	8 C2	Hums
Evie Parker	8 C1	Hums

Thank you staff and well done to all pupils.



## Where Next? Flowers

For nearly 30 years, Where Next? have come into school on the Friday before Mothers' Day to sell flowers to pupils (and staff too). This will happen on **25th March** this year.



### Mothers' Day Price List 2022 Where Next

All plants/flowers subject to availability

Primroses	£1
Osteospermum	£2
Potted Baskets	From £3
Roses-Potted	£10
Hydrangea	From £8
Jasmine	£10
Calla	£10
Azela	£5
Orchids	£15
Other Gifts	£5-£15

Where Next is a charity working with adults with learning difficulties nurturing their potential. We are very grateful for your support.

[www.where-next.org.uk](http://www.where-next.org.uk)





# Near-fatal incident

## Feckenham Road Zebra Crossing

### It's the law

The approach to, and exit from, a pedestrian crossing is marked with white zigzag lines. These lines mean that you *must not park on them even for a short time or overtake the leading vehicle* when approaching the crossing.

Parking here would block the view for pedestrians and the approaching traffic.



Do not park  
on the  
zig-zag lines

### Offence 1

On Thursday morning of this week, a parent parked right in front of the zebra crossing and on the zig-zag lines.

### Offence 2

A vehicle went on the right-hand side of the road, overtaking parked cars and the car which was parked right in front of the crossing.

### Saved by duty staff

As is usual, I was on duty at the front gate, surveying the traffic. I saw what was happening and called to the pupils who were stepping onto the zebra crossing. They froze just in time.

### Potential result

If I had not been there, the children would have been hit by the overtaking vehicle, almost certainly.

The initial problem was dropping a pupil off on the white lines.



**My plea:** do not drop pupils in places where the law insists you do not, for the safety of your child and of others.

Rev Leach

# Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

**moderate**

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 9th February 2022 — 9th March 2022

Congratulations to:

### Top Girl

Imogen Mann (6C3) - who has read 679,809 words

### Top Boy

Joe Craig (5C3) - who has read 653,111 words

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

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

*You can find magic  
wherever you look. Sit  
back and relax, all you  
need is a book.*

*- Dr. Seuss*





# Trips and Visits 2021 - 23



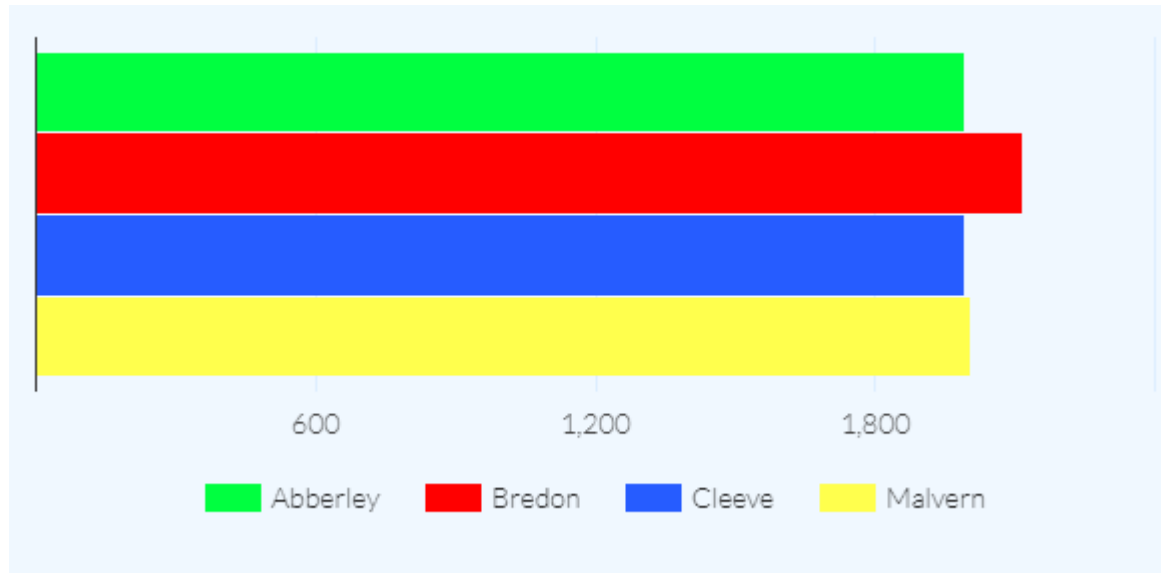
Date	Activity	Location	Open To	Cost	Leader
<b>May 2022</b>					
Fri 13 – Mon 16	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 324	Rev Leach
<b>June 2022</b>					
Wed 22 – Fri 24	Arts and Theatres	London	Y8	£ 300	Rev Leach
Fri 24 – Mon 27	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y7	£ 324	Rev Leach
Fri 24 - Mon 27	Outward Bound	Brecon Beacons	Y5	£ 220	Mr Macdonald / Mrs Cull
<b>February 2023</b>					
Sat 4 – Sat 11	Ski Trip	Obertauern, Austria	Y5-Y7	£ 1360	Mrs Cull



# Epraise Update



## Points This Week: By College







# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2 0 2 2	Wednesday 30 March	Y6 Yorkshire information evening 6.30 pm
	Tuesday 5 to Thursday 7 April	School production
	Friday 8 April	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 25 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 26 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Wednesday 18 May	Y5 residential information evening 6.30 pm
	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	<b>Half Term</b>
	Thursday 9 June	Y5 Y7 Parent's evening 4.00 —7.00 pm
	Wednesday 15 June	Y5 Y7 Parent's evening 4.00 —7.00 pm
	Thursday 21 July	<b>End of Term</b>