

Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the aspects of school that has not been able to be fully applied due to the pandemic has been sport. However, this has returned with a flourish this term, with many pupils taking part in cricket and athletics. In fact, there was also a friendly quidditch tournament of late, albeit without broomsticks. As we publish this edition of The Insider, there are the “quads” taking place at the Abbey Stadium. This athletics competition is amongst local schools, and Walkwood is being represented well.



This evening will see the choir take part in a non-competitive event at Trinity High School. First and middle schools will gather to offer musical pieces of different sorts, along with input from the high school students. I hope that the choir and audience enjoy the range of talents of the children and young people who will be taking part.



The flurry of arrangements for transition of pupils into and out from our school has been much in evidence. We have a full cohort of Year 4 once again, and the task of gathering the insight of those who currently teach them has been taking place. Staff here then begin the immense task of allocating these new Walkwood pupils into our colleges and then tutor groups. The preparations for the two transition days—Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th July— are almost complete. Likewise, we have been speaking with the high schools who will be receiving our Year 8 pupils to ensure as smooth a move as possible.



Do not be afraid—I will save you. I have called you by name—you are mine.

Isaiah 43: 1

Next week will see our Year 7s go to two high schools to experience a range of activities. In some pre-pandemic years, that year group has felt a little left out, and I am delighted that the steps of Walkwood’s curriculum partnership with Tudor Grange Academy Redditch and St. Augustine’s High School will allow our Year 7 to experience learning in a different environment. Next year, they too will be considering which school they shall move to at the end of Year 8.

Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

A prayer: St. Peter

Lord Jesus, You called Peter out to be your rock, and we pray that we can also live with a strong foundation of you. Your truth and your love will be our core, and the knowledge of you will guide our lives to become far more worthy than we could ever imagine. We pray that you call us out to join you in the depths of the world and that we may know that it is all from you. Amen.

This week’s theme was: St. Peter

And so I tell you, Peter: you are a rock, and on this rock foundation I will build my church, and not even death will ever be able to overcome it.

Matthew 16:18

Whole School Target

95.6%

Whole School Attendance

92.6%

Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 20.06.2022

ARCO

CMGR



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. John 17:22
The assembly theme:	Discipleship	Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' Matthew 28:18-20

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

The weekend	those who suffer with hay-fever and sunstroke	Monday	public services in the UK
Tuesday	politicians representing Redditch at borough or county levels	Wednesday	people whose lives are uprooted due to war
Thursday	the Army, Navy and Air Force	Friday	pupils who face challenges in social situations

Picture of the Week



Niall Carson / PA Media

Wally the walrus, who sunk several vessels last summer after climbing aboard to rest, lounges in a speedboat off the Irish coast.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT



Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing - encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying; it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio - such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles - that may unnerve young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play - so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lots of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and - if necessary - to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation - limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.



TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential - as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.



Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



Music News

Learn To Play A Musical Instrument

There is lots of opportunity for pupils to learn to play a musical instrument at Walkwood and I am currently organising lessons for September. We have spaces available for cello, violin, flute, clarinet, saxophone, singing, keyboard and guitar. If anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact Mrs C Griffiths.

Trinity Pyramid Music Festival

This Friday afternoon and evening, the Choir are at Trinity High School, taking part in the annual Pyramid Festival. We are all excited to be singing and performing again.

Summer Concert

The Choir and Orchestra have been working hard all year to prepare for our forthcoming concert on the evening of 12th July where they will be performing to their families. We also look forward to some lovely solos and duets from our instrumentalists. There will be an Orchestra rehearsal after school on Tuesday 5th July until 4.30pm in the Music Room



Homework Club

Please note Homework Club finished on the 30th June for this term.

Sports clubs

The last week of PE clubs will be the week of Monday 4th July (other than tennis club which runs until 18th July)

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

evaluate

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 20th May 2022 — 30th June 2022

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Rubie Styler (CLDW) - who has read 549,588 words

Top Boy

Mikaaiyl Farhan (BAFA) - who has read 554,755 words

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU

IT ADDS UP!

If you read just
15 minutes a day,
in one year you
will have read
over 1,000,000
words!

Source: Statisticbrain.com





Clubs and Activities

Summer term 2 2022

Due to transfer days and end of term- PE clubs final sessions will be the week of 4th July (other than tennis which will run until Monday 18th July).

	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20PM	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday		Lexia LMO in ITA	PMC/RDJ- KS2 tennis – Last session Monday 18 th July
Tuesday	Orchestra CGR 8.45am - 9.25am Music Room	Lexia ZBi in ITA	PMI/ PMC- KS2 boy's cricket- Last session Tuesday 5 th July KRE- KS3 rounders - start Last session Tuesday 5 th July
Wednesday			Year 7 and 8 Cricket 3.35-4.45pm (PJE/LWO) Last session Wednesday 6 th July KRE/ RMA- KS2 rounders – Last session Wednesday 6 th July
Thursday		Choir CGR 12.55pm - 1.20pm Music Room All Year Groups	CHU/ RDJ – all girl's cricket – Last session Thursday 7 th July
Friday			



Trips and Visits 2021 - 23



Date	Activity	Location	Open To	Cost	Leader
February 2023					
Sat 4 – Sat 11	Ski Trip	Obertauern, Austria	Y5-Y7	£ 1360	Mrs Cull

Lunch Money

Please can we ask that all ParentPay accounts are settled regularly and by the end of term, particularly to our Year 8s who are moving schools. If you have any queries, please contact the finance office.

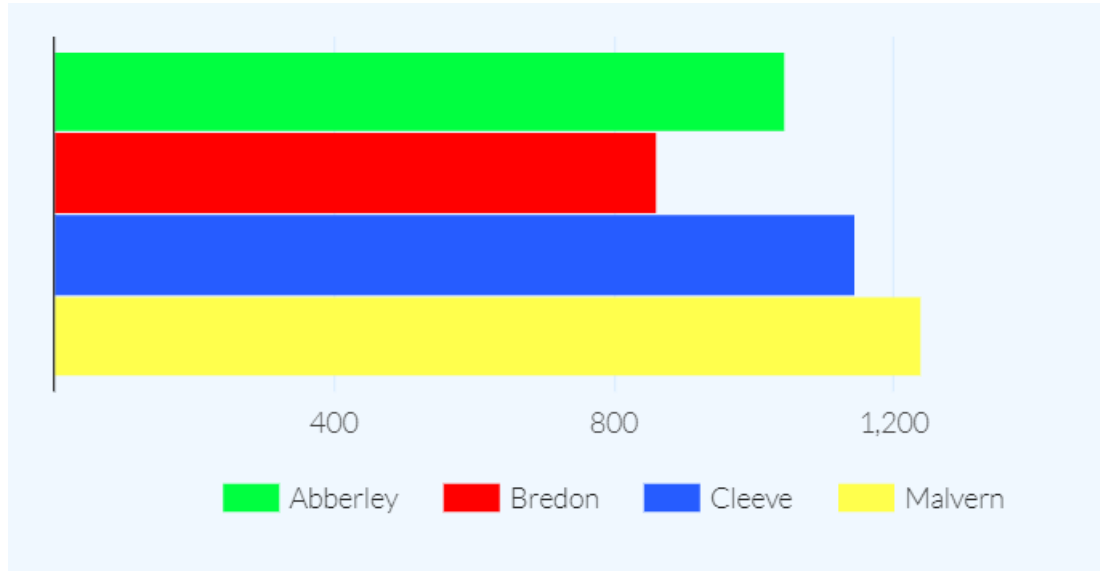
Many thanks.





Epraise Update

Points This Week: By College





Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2022	Tuesday 12 July	Summer Concert
	Thursday 21 July	End of Term
	Monday 5 September	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 6 September	First Day of the Autumn Term
	Monday 24 - Friday 28 October	Half Term
	Friday 16 December	End of Term
	Tuesday 3 January	Staff Development Day
2023	Wednesday 4 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 20– Friday 24 February	Half Term
	Friday 31 March	End of Term
	Monday 17 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 18 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 29 May - 2 June	Half Term
	Friday 21 July	End of Term