



Dear Parents and Carers,

The autumn leaves have been blowing through the doors this week which has meant that our cleaning staff have been in additional action with the vacuum cleaners at a day's end. Also, the change in temperatures can bring the onset of autumnal bugs, of which two have been harassing us at school: upset tummies and general colds. We do feel that, in many cases, it is best to be in school if possible, but with dodgy stomach bugs the "48 hour rule" must apply.

The clubs that we have advertised in The Insider in previous weeks have been very busy, which is great. Thank you to those of you who collect your child at the end of the day and for dealing with any extra washing generated due to the Sports Clubs! We appreciate that not everyone can become part of a team and some 'try-outs' bring disappointment, but the value of *aspiration* is clearly in operation.



 **Arbor** It is pleasing that so many of you have found your way into Arbor. This app allows you to keep track of certain information about your child in school, and there are further features that we shall activate over the course of this year. We have been using ePraise for some time to set homework and award points. Each day can see further points awarded, these going towards each pupil's total but also for their College. There are biweekly 'points boost' for attendance too. We shall continue to use this app for booking at Consultation Evening, the first of these this year is for parents and carers of Year 5 to meet tutors for a 'settling in' conversation on Thursday 20th October.



We have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

1 John 4:16

This year's Open Evening will be on Thursday 13th October which has been in the diary here for the last 11 months—we do try and plan ahead!

Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

**This week's theme was:
Loving your enemies**

Jesus said "You have heard people say, 'Love your neighbours and hate your enemies.' But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you. Then you will be acting like your Father in heaven. He makes the sun rise on both good and bad people."
Matthew 5:43-45

Jesus,

You are such an amazing example to us, who we want to be like, and how we want to be treated. To love those who hate you is such a difficult thing, but even you experienced being hurt and pursued by people that wanted to kill you. We pray that you will give us your Spirit and knowledge to know how to love those that are most difficult to love. That you will give us the strength we need. For we long to live like you did. Bless us in this way.
Amen.

Whole school Attendance

94.98%

Whole School Target

96.0%

26.09.2022 to 30.09.2022

Year 5 — 97.32%
Year 6 — 95.19%
Year 7 — 94.64%
Year 8 — 92.48%



For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Forgiveness	Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends. <i>Proverbs 17:9</i>
The assembly theme will be:	Reconciliation	All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <i>2 Corinthians 5:18-20</i>

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

The weekend	those affected by the Hurricane Ian	Monday	local charities that support the community of Redditch
Tuesday	local places of worship and community centres	Wednesday	the staff at the Alexandra Hospital
Thursday	our staff who run the regular clubs after school	Friday	the teachers and support staff of The Vaynor First School

Picture of the Week

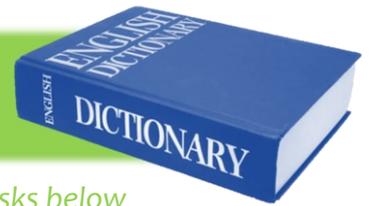
The Dark Hedges near Armoy in County Antrim, Northern Ireland, weave among each other.



Stephen Wallace



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.

communicate

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.

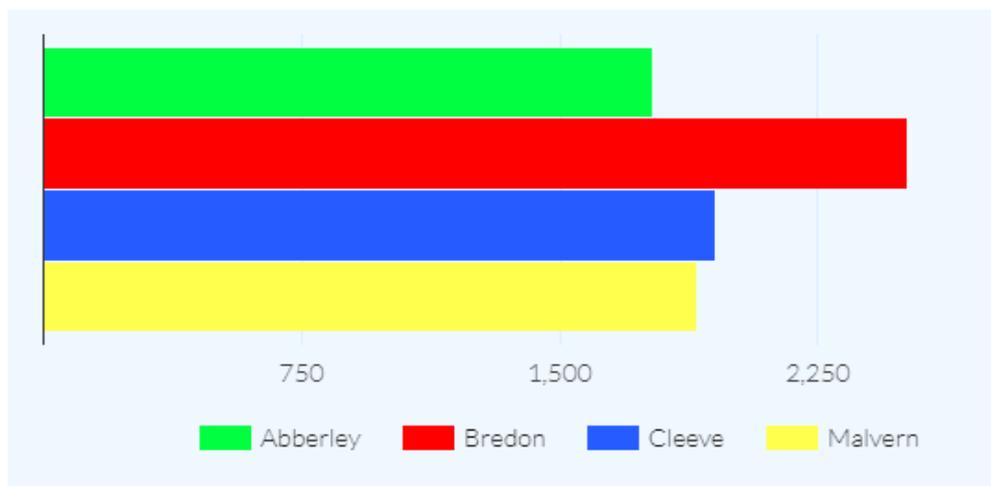
Vary the type of sentence each time: write one as a statement; one as a question; one as a command and one as an exclamation sentence.

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

Statement: Sam is feeling exhilarated this morning.



epraise
this week





Appointment of Finance Assistant / Officer

Remuneration: Grade 3 or 4 from £ 19,312 to £ 21,748 pro rata

Grade 5 (for a suitably qualified candidate) from £ 22,183 to £ 24,491 pro rata

5 days a week, 37 hours per week, term time only plus the 5 Inset days, and 4 mornings during the school holidays as agreed with the School Business Leader.

We would welcome applications from individuals looking to explore flexible working hours.

We are looking for a Finance Assistant / Officer who will enjoy working in a team environment and demonstrate the ability to establish good working relationships with pupils, acting as a role model.

Walkwood Church of England Middle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check.

For full details of this position and how to apply, please visit our website at www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk. The application deadline is 9am on Monday 3rd October 2022. CV's

Appointment of a Science Technician

Remuneration: Scale SC3 £ 19,312 - £ 19,698 pro rata

Possible 5 days a week, up to 37 hours per week, Term time only plus the 5 Inset days

We would welcome applications from individuals looking to explore flexible working hours.

The successful applicant will be proactive, have a positive attitude and good communication skills. They will enjoy working in a team environment and demonstrate the ability to provide efficient and effective support to staff and pupils. Previous experience is desirable for this role, together with GCSE passes in Maths and English (4+) or equivalent. A recognised qualification or experience in a science-related subject is also desirable. Training for specific aspects of the role will be provided.

For details, please email recruitment@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk, from where full details will be sent of the post and the school. Application deadline: 9am on Thursday 6th October 2022. Walkwood Church of England Middle School is committed to the protection and safety of children and young people. An enhanced DBS check will be expected from the successful candidate.



Appointment of 2 x Catering Assistants

*Remuneration: Scale 1 from £ 17,842 - £ 18198 pro rata
4.5 hours per day, 5 days a week, 22.5 hours per week, term time.*

We would welcome applications from individuals looking to explore flexible working hours.

We are looking for catering assistants who will enjoy working in a team environment and demonstrate the ability to establish good working relationships with pupils, acting as a role model. Previous experience is essential for this role, together with a Basic Food Hygiene Certificate.

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For full details of this position and how to apply, please visit our website at www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk. The application deadline is 9am on Thursday 6th October 2022. CV's will not be accepted.



Points Boosters

epraise.co.uk
The award winning school rewards system



Back by popular demand!

'Points Boosters' are designed to reward all pupils who have 100% attendance and those pupils who consistently uphold and adhere to the Walkwood Values.

How does it work?

Attendance Points Boosters

- A 5-point booster will be awarded for every time your child has 100% Attendance for the period of the 2-week timetable- Week 1 & Week 2.
- These points are awarded at the end of every Week 2

Zero Demerit Points Boosters

A reward for all pupils who continue to demonstrate excellent focus and behaviour in and out of lessons.

- We are awarding a 5-point booster for every time your child has Zero Demerits during the period of the 2-week timetable- Week 1 & Week 2.
- Again, these points are awarded at the end of every Week 2

At the end of each term (Autumn, Spring, Summer)

The Walkwood Celebration Assembly Prize Draw



Fabulous prizes to be won

The Attendance Goldfish Bowl

Pupils will be entered into the draw if their attendance is 97% and above

The Zero Demerit Goldfish Bowl

Pupils will be entered into the draw for having ZERO Demerits for the term

As a school, we continue to evolve and adapt our systems as we search to motivate our pupils to want to attend school and give their best whilst they are here. As always, your support is greatly appreciated.

10 tips for parents and carers

HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper – often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers?
Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

1 DONATE THEM TO CHARITY

There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in the UK or in developing nations. If your old products are still working, this is a great option – as it means that new products don't have to be made. Search online for your nearest place that does this.

2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES

Almost all batteries can be recycled – even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though – button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.

3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE

If you're recycling, selling or repurposing any of your devices, make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.

4 REUSE THEM

Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone.

5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW

Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's quite easy to create a new computer – you could use an old TV as a monitor, meaning you just need a mouse and keyboard. There are also small devices you can buy which let you do the same with iPhones.

6 RETURN THEM

Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back, to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.

7 SUPPORT SCIENCE

Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.

8 SELL THEM

This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.

9 RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS

If your device is beyond repair and no one wants it, get rid of it safely through a specialist tech disposal company. Check that your device won't be shipped off to another country for processing.

10 KEEP THINKING

There's no such thing as 'too many' ways to help our planet! If you come up with a better idea than ours, contact National Online Safety and tell us.

Meet Our Expert

Nell Atkin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: www.rubbishscience.com.



USEFUL LINKS: Places to donate old electrical items: www.recycleyourtelectricals.org.uk/donate-electrical-goods/ | How to turn an old smartphone into a computer: www.makuseed.com/tag/ways-to-turn-smartphone-into-pc/
The rules about shops' responsibilities on tech: www.gov.uk/electrical-waste-producer-supplier-responsibilities/ | Two scientific research schemes which old devices can support: www.xozonkense.org/get-involved/ and www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/dreamlab/ | Find your local tech recycling centre: www.recycleknow.com

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



Trips and Visits



Date	Year group	Destination	Day trip?	Residential?	Cost
07/07 - 10/07/2023	5	Brecon Beacons Activity Centre		✓	£250
12/05/2023	6	Blackwell Adventure	✓		£38 *
30/06 - 03/07/2023	7	Osmington Bay Activity Park		✓	£285
19/07/2023	8	Drayton Manor	✓		£40 *
04/02 - 11/02/2023	6,7,8 •	Obertauern, Austria		✓	£1360

• Fully booked

* Current estimated cost

Top Readers for 06.09.2022 — 29.09.2022

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Evie Morgan (Year 7 MABE) - who has read 1,116,867 words . Absolutely fantastic, our first Millionaire reader this school year.

Top Boy

Stanley Sole (Year 6 ARCO) - who has read 433,048 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

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>



Clubs and Activities

Autumn Term 1



	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/ CMI Lexia Club ITA Miss Walker	KS2 Boys and Girls multi sports club RDJ/ PMI Meet in changing rooms Sign up only
Tuesday		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/ CMI	Year 8 netball club KRE Meet in changing rooms Sign up only
Wednesday		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/ CMI Reading club, room 18, duration of lunch, JWa Lexia Club ITA Mrs Shanley	Year 7 netball club KRE Meet in changing rooms Sign up only Year 8 boys football team training Meet in changing rooms RMA Year 5-8 STEM Club. (Lab 1) 16 spaces available. Parental permission and sign up needed. FCI Year 7 boys football team training Meet in changing rooms LWO
Thursday		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/ CMI	Year 5 boys football team training Meet in the changing rooms CHU Year 6 boys football team training Meet in the changing rooms PMI All girls Football club Meet in changing rooms RMA/ PMC/ RDJ Year 5-8 Art Club. Puppetry and Xmas Gongs. First come first serve basis. 12 spaces available. Parental permission and sign up needed. Starts 29 th September - 8th December MGR
Friday		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/ PWE	Boys Rec Football Meet in changing rooms

Important notice – there will be **no** all girls football, year 6 boys football or year 5 boys football on Thursday 6th October and Thursday 20th October due to meetings and year 5 tutor evening.



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2022	Thursday 13 October	Open Evening 6.45-8.15pm
	Thursday 20 October	Year 5 Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm
	Monday 24 - Friday 28 October	Half Term
	Monday 14 November	Parents Maths KS2 Workshop 6.30-7.30pm
	Friday 16 December	End of Term
	Tuesday 3 January	Staff Development Day
	Wednesday 4 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 9 January	Parents English KS2 Workshop 6.30-7.30pm
	Thursday 19 January	Y6, Y8 Parents Evening 4.00 -7.00pm
	Wednesday 25 January	Y6, Y8 Parents Evening 4.00 -7.00pm
2023	Monday 20– Friday 24 February	Half Term
	Friday 31 March	End of Term
3	Monday 17 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 18 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 29 May - 2 June	Half Term
	Thursday 8 June	Y5, Y7 Parents Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Wednesday 14 June	Y5, Y7 Parents Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Friday 21 July	End of Term