

Dear Parents and Carers,

Some of you may have had pancakes for dinner on Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before Lent; pancakes are an effective way of using up these ingredients. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, which is the time of preparation for the coming of Easter. The colours in church change to purple for preparation. We follow the pattern as the cloth at the front of assemblies is purple, and so is the scarf over the cross.



So, what have you given up for Lent? I will not allow pupils to give up homework for Lent (good try, by the way!) as Lent is when we recall how God will be merciful and forgive us our sins, rather than creating new sins by avoiding doing homework!



It was World Book Day on Thursday. We have been running a readathon competition over the last month where pupils need to read and quiz as much as possible from 1/2/22 – 1/3/22. There has also been a ‘book on a pebble’ competition, (see inside) and in lessons there was the use of poems in the different subjects.

The Year 8 pupils will have received their allocations for high schools in September. This process is managed by the admissions team at Worcestershire County Council. If you have a pupil in this year group, please ensure you respond to accept or decline the place by the deadline set. Walkwood staff will, in the weeks ahead, be scheduling meetings with our colleagues in each of the high schools to ensure the smooth transfer of your young people .



As many people in Western Europe and beyond have been appalled by the actions in Ukraine, so we look to action. We cannot impose sanctions, but we can support the civilians who are caught up in the needless and brutal conflict. Please see inside for our appeal.

Be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

2 Chronicles 15:7

Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

Prejudice

Lord God, You came to save us all, saying that we must do unto others what we would have them do to us.

We pray that those that are prejudiced against others, feel convicted and know that they need to change their ways. May they come to know your Spirit of truth, that all are equal.

Amen.

This week's theme was: Prejudice

My friends, as believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, you must never treat people in different ways according to their outward appearance.

James 2:1

Whole School Target

95.6%

Whole School Attendance

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



For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Thankfulness	You are my God, and I will give thanks to you. Psalm 118:28
The assembly theme:	Mother Teresa	Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand. <i>Mother Teresa</i>

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

Lord God,
The news can be difficult to listen to and to read.
When that news relates to faces we know and to voices familiar to us, It
becomes all the harder to hear.
Lord God, We ask you to hold the people of Ukraine deep in your heart.
Protect them, we pray from violence and fear.
Amen.

Picture of the Week



St Stephen's Church and
the town centre,
Redditch,
1921



on
a



linking literacy and creativity





Ukraine needs
donations that will go
towards humanitarian
aid

What do we need ?

Food

Tinned food
Instant packet soups
breakfast cereals
energy bars

personal hygiene

wet wipes
nappies
soap
sanitary towels
shampoo
toothbrushes
toothpaste



Please bring your items into
school this week and next.
The collection point is in
the Reception area

Thankyou

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about NFTs (NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS)

A non-fungible token, or NFT, is a unique digital record of a particular file – such as an image, audio track or video (non-fungible meaning it can't be replaced by an identical item). NFTs let digital content producers like artists and designers control how their work is distributed and monetised. The offline equivalent would be owning a limited-edition art print, signed by the artist, with a certificate of authentication. The value of the tokens is incredibly volatile, unregulated and very much based on hype, publicity and marketing. These digital assets – typically collectibles, avatars for social media profiles or character add-ons for online games – are traded in specialised marketplaces using cryptocurrency.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FAKE COLLECTIONS

When searching for a particular collection of NFTs, it is common for fake versions to display alongside the originals, which can easily fool a less experienced buyer. Larger projects will be verified, but small ones will not, so check the volume that has been traded and check the activity to verify authenticity – fake collections will have almost no trading history.

LACK OF CLARITY

Buying a limited-edition print of a painting isn't the same thing as owning the original. Likewise, when someone buys an NFT, they're not acquiring ownership rights to an original work. Some buyers don't realise that – since many NFTs are publicly on view – purchasing one doesn't stop other people from making their own copies of your NFT (by saving a screenshot of it, for example). Sneak peeks of NFTs can also falsely advertise what the purchaser is investing in, leaving buyers disappointed in what they actually receive, and as they are unregulated, there isn't a procedure for returns and refunds.

IP THEFT & "WASHTRADING"

Many online thieves steal NFTs to sell, while another common scam is "washtrading". Here, an unscrupulous trader creates aliases to buy the same NFT multiple times at increasing prices (so A sells to B for 10, who sells to C for 100, who then sells to D for 300 – except A, B, and C are actually all the same person). The goal is to lure in naive speculators with the illusion of a juicy opportunity.

STORAGE ISSUES

An NFT is cryptocurrency which is linked to an additional file containing a digital asset. Due to the cost of storing data on a blockchain, it's typical for a project founder to store only the NFT's transaction record "on chain" to prove ownership – with the accompanying asset stored "off chain". Whether that storage is in the cloud or on a personal server, it must be permanently secure or the asset could be lost. So in a large number of cases, the NFT contains a link that points to the image data: it is not the image data itself.

TRANSACTION COSTS

Issuing an NFT requires "minting" it and any future sales require updating a blockchain ledger to transfer ownership. The cost of this – depending on the blockchain and market conditions – can vary wildly, based on supply and demand of "block space". In 2021, the fees paid for NFT transactions on one blockchain regularly cost more than the value of the asset itself, often by hundreds of US dollars.

PHISHING EMAILS & REPLICATED SITES

There have been instances of messages being sent advertising the availability of new NFTs with a link to a fake website with a very similar URL to an authentic site. Users then link their cryptocurrency to the site, are able to "mint" the fake NFT, and once you press "confirm", the cryptocurrency leaves your wallet and you are left without the NFT you were promised, and very much out of pocket.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHECK AUTHORSHIP

Don't buy NFTs from unknown sources, and be wary of trading outside of official marketplaces. Branded NFTs, like those sold by sports franchises, are typically available via a platform that's easy to authenticate. However, NFTs sold by individual artists can be harder to verify. Research their online reputation to ensure they have a consistent track record of authorship and a recognised cryptocurrency wallet before you send a payment.

WALLET SECURITY

Wallet security can be the difference between keeping NFTs secure and having them stolen. There are two primary types: a hot wallet (such as metamask) is used for minting NFTs and general day-to-day interactions with third-party sites. A cold wallet (or "vault") is for storing high-value assets, as interactions can't take place without physical confirmation on the hardware. Only buy these from official sites and not from third-party sellers (including Amazon).

DON'T GAMBLE

Beginners should avoid investing significant sums of money and gambling on future NFT prices. Anyone can create NFTs: this potentially infinite supply of "limited-edition" collections means that, eventually, 99% of NFTs will likely be worth nothing. The market is largely based around building hype and making people believe that the next project will be the one that makes them rich. Take time over your decision and ensure you fully understand a project before getting involved.

SPOT THE SCAMS

Learn what type of message a hacker will leave. They'll often try to create the illusion that you're one of a select few who has this incredible, limited-time opportunity. These can appear on official pages via hacking, so be wary of this pressure-buying tactic. Hackers also send links outside official channels, such as on message boards and private messages. Turn off direct messaging from the server when you join, and never click links that aren't on a project's official page.

RESEARCH THE SPACE

If you're interested in NFTs and you've learned the basics of cryptocurrency, talk to people who are already involved in the space (like an NFT alpha group) on authentic marketplaces. Research the projects you're considering investing in to avoid scams: follow the project on Twitter or Discord and review the work they've done before – avoid artists and teams who insist on remaining anonymous.

Meet Our Expert

JP Vergne is Associate Professor at the UCL School of Management and a researcher at the UCL Centre for Blockchain Technologies. His award-winning research on technology and organisation has been published in leading academic journals as well as in two books. JP is also a speaker and startup advisor. He tweets at @PirateOrg.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



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](#)

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

debate

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 February 2022 — 2nd March 2022

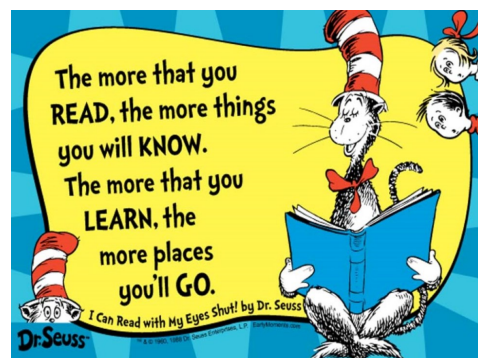
Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Holly Young (5E1) - who has read 732,643 words

Top Boy

Joe Craig (5C3) - who has read 651,670 words



Again another fantastic effort from Year 5. Well done - 3 merits will be awarded to you both.

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU



Clubs and Activities

Spring term 2 2022

	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20PM	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday		Lexia – invited pupils – in ITA	<p>Homework Club</p> <p>Year 5/6 boys and girls multi-sports club 3.30-4.45pm (Sign up - starting 7th March)</p>
Tuesday	<p>Orchestra CGR 8.45am – 9.25am Music Room</p>	Lexia – invited pupils – in ITA	<p>Homework Club</p> <p>Year 6 girls netball club 3.30-4.45pm (Sign up – 1st March)</p> <p>Year 7 mindfulness club 3.30-4.45pm (Invite only – starting 8th March)</p> <p>Year 5 and 6 football team practice. 3.30-4.45pm (Invite only- starts 8th March)</p>
Wednesday			<p>Homework Club</p> <p>Cooking club (3.30-4.45) DSL Pupils should have signed up and on a rotation.</p>
Thursday		<p>Choir CGR 12.55 – 1.20 Music Room All Year Groups</p>	<p>Homework Club</p> <p>Year 7/8 netball team practice only (Invite only – 3rd March)</p> <p>Year 7/8 boys' rugby (Sign up – start 10th March)</p> <p>Year 5/6 boys and girls tag rugby (Sign up – start 10th March)</p>
Friday			



Trips and Visits 2021 - 23



Date	Activity	Location	Open To	Cost	Leader
May 2022					
Fri 13 – Mon 16	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 324	Rev Leach
June 2022					
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
February 2023					
Sat 4 – Sat 11	Ski Trip	Obertauern, Austria	Y5-Y7	£ 1360	Mrs Cull



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>

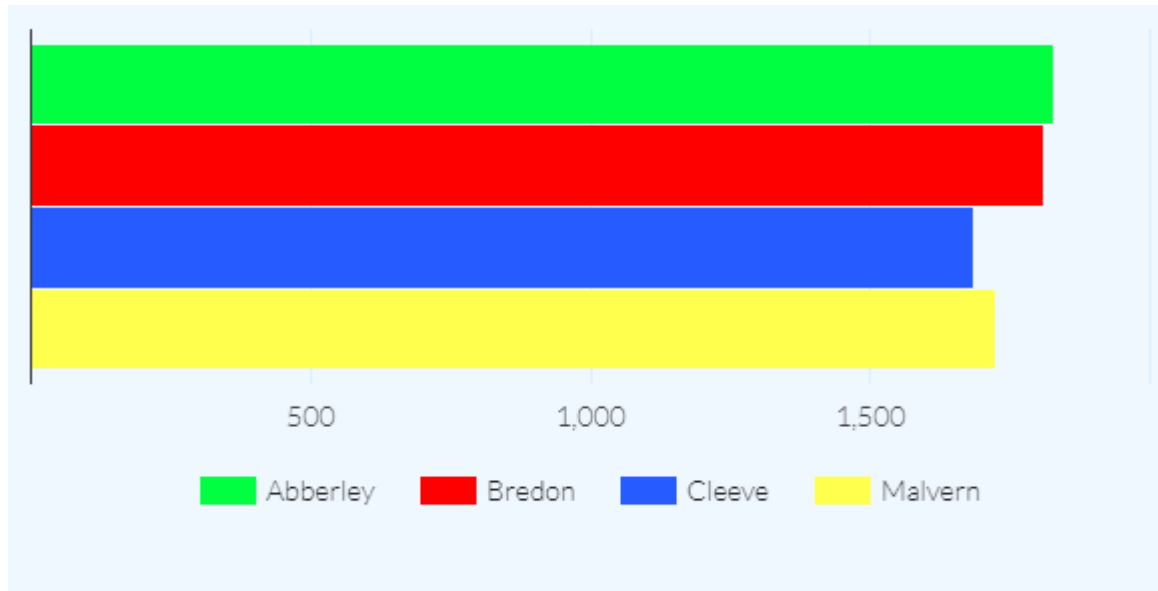
Relationships and Sex Education: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/9ca0-Relationships%20and%20Sex%20Education%20Policy%202019.pdf>



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College





Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2022	Wednesday 30 March	Y6 Yorkshire information evening 6.30 pm
	Tuesday 5 to Thursday 7 April	School production
	Friday 8 April	End of Term
	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	Half Term
	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	End of Term	