

Dear Parents and Carers,

The holy month of Ramadan has begun this week, and we have noted that within school. Ramadan remembers the month the Qur'an (the Muslim holy book) was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him). Some Muslim members of our community are fasting during daylight.

O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous.

Surat Al-Baqarah 2:183

During Ramadan, it is common to have one meal (known as the *suhour*), just before dawn and another (known as the *iftar*), directly after sunset.

Allah is with those who restrain themselves.

Quran 16: 128

We are supporting our pupils during Ramadan, especially during lunchtime.



Next week sees our Deep Days on Wednesday and Thursday, when the tutor groups will work on aspects of the Easter story. Past years have seen these are valuable as there are useful links between Easter and how people live in today's world. Each college will visit The Bridge Church where Fr Glenn will welcome them to the service.

It is our pupils who lead whole sections of those services. Just a thought—if the weather looks at a bit drizzly, please encourage pupils to bring a coat with them.



I cannot finish this week without remembering the headteacher of Caversham Primary School in Reading, Ruth Perry, and the children at the school. It must be a difficult time for that community, and the teachers and other staff must be hurting as they continue the learning for their pupils, while carrying the burden of care. As Walkwood looks forward to welcoming inspectors at some point in the future, we would hope for a caring, supportive and empathetic team, knowing that such inspectors are part of Ofsted.

Rev. C. Leach
Principal



This week's theme was: **Book of Proverbs**

These are the proverbs of King Solomon, David's son: He wrote them to teach his people how to live – how to act in every circumstance, for he wanted them to be understanding, just, and fair in everything they did.

Proverbs 1:1-3

Father God, We thank you for your wisdom. We ask that you can give us the wisdom to know what to do and how to live a good life. We pray for your wisdom in this school for the best decisions for each and every one of us. Thank you that we have the Bible to turn to in order to help us in our lives to live in the way that you want us to.
Amen.

Whole school Attendance

94.35%

Whole School Target

95.6%

13.03.2023 to 17.03.2023

Year 5 — 96.31%

Year 6 — 91.02%

Year 7 — 95.64%

Year 8 — 95.43%



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 will be:	Holy Week – death and resurrection	Standing close to Jesus' cross where his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "He is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "She is your mother." From that time the disciple took her to live in his home. Jesus knew that by now everything had been completed; and in order to make the scripture come true, he said, "I am thirsty." A bowl was there, full of cheap wine; so a sponge was soaked in the wine, put on a stalk of hyssop, and lifted up to his lips. Jesus drank the wine and said, "It is finished!" John 19:25-30

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

Muslims who are fasting in Ramadan, Christian who fast as part of Lent, that daily sacrifice and denial of self, as well the ritual of breaking the fast, may bring blessings.

The pupils and staff of Caversham Primary School for resilience.
The parents and carers of the same children who support them.
The family and friends of Ruth Perry.

Picture of the Week



David McErlane

A drone shot of the Chatelherault Estate Gardens in Hamilton, Scotland



INSTRUMENT LESSONS

We now have spaces available for
Keyboard/Piano Lessons!

Scan the QR code to complete an expression of
interest form and find out more.



The
Ramadan
lights at
Piccadilly
Circus,
London,
March 2023

Anna Gordon/
Reuters

Ten top tips for STRONGER PASSWORDS

Passwords continue to be the most common way to prove our identity online. A combination of a username and a password known only to the user provides access to our online accounts and data – and hopefully keeps unauthorised individuals out. As a security measure, though, passwords are relatively weak. People are often predictable in how we choose our passwords, for example – making them less secure. With increasing volumes of usernames and passwords being leaked online, what can we do to keep our data more secure? Here are our top tips for stronger passwords.

BE UNPREDICTABLE

We often choose passwords which are easy to remember: featuring the name of our favourite sports team or favourite film, for instance. These are predictable passwords. Cyber criminals will routinely try various combinations of passwords relating to sports teams, actors, musical artists and the like – and they often focus on these during major sporting events or around high-profile movie releases.

AVOID GETTING PERSONAL

Many of us use passwords relating to our family, such as children's names or favoured holiday destinations. The problem here is that we also typically post about our holidays and our family on social media – making that information potentially visible to cyber criminals and supplying them with clues which could help them in narrowing down possible passwords we might have set.

NEW PLATFORM, NEW PASSWORD

Where cyber criminals gain access to an online service through a data breach, they often use the data they've stolen to try and access the victim's other accounts. This is because the criminals know that, for convenience, people often use the same password across different services. When we reuse passwords, our security is only as strong as the weakest site where we've used it.

LONGER IS STRONGER

Our passwords are often stored by online services in an encrypted format. In case the service suffers a data breach, the strength of this encryption, however, is dependent on the length of the password you've selected. If your password is only a short one, cyber criminals are significantly more likely to be able to break the encryption and identify your password.

CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA VISIBILITY

Staying up to date with friends and relatives on social media is part of everyday life now. We need to ensure, though, that we limit who can see our posts via each platform's privacy settings. It's also wise to consider what we're posting and if it's really safe to share online. If we restrict what cyber criminals can see, we reduce the chance of them using that information to identify our passwords.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



CCTV
IN OPERATION

'DOUBLE LOCK' YOUR DATA

It's possible that cyber criminals may eventually discover your username and password. Enabling multi-factor authentication (MFA) on your accounts, however, reduces the chance of them obtaining access to your data, as they'd also require a code which is provided via an app, SMS message or email. MFA isn't infallible, but it does definitely provide extra protection and security.

DELETE UNUSED ACCOUNTS

Data breaches occur when cyber criminals gain access to an online service and all the data contained within it – including usernames and passwords. Whenever you stop using a service, it's wise to make sure that you delete your entire account and not just the actual app. If the service no longer has your data, there's zero risk of it being leaked should they suffer a data breach in the future.

TRY PASSWORD MANAGERS

Even though most of us have numerous online accounts to manage these days, it's advantageous to avoid password re-use. Specialist password management software (like Dashlane or OnePass, among others) can help by storing a different password for every online service that you have an account with: the only one you or your child will need to remember is the single master password.

GET CREATIVE

The British government's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) recommends the 'three random words' technique. This method helps you create a password which is unique, complex and long – yet which is memorable enough to stay in your mind ('FourBlueShoes', for example). The NCSC website, incidentally, also offers plenty of other useful information relating to personal cyber security.

STAY VIGILANT

The best way to protect your accounts and your data is to be vigilant and careful. If you receive an email or text message that's unusual or unexpected, treat it as suspicious until you're able to verify whether it's genuine and safe. Starting from a position of vigilance and caution will reduce the likelihood of you or your child being tricked by a malicious email, text or phone call.



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.noso.gov.uk/>



Walkwood
Church of England Middle School

Pastoral Manager

Walkwood Church of England Middle School are looking to recruit a Pastoral Manager Remuneration: TA 2 – TA 4 pro rata from £ 21,575 to £ 29,439 pro rata

5 days a week, 35 hours per week, term time only plus the 5 Inset Days (with a view to amended hours due to after school club support)

Also, we would welcome applications from individuals looking to explore flexible working hours.

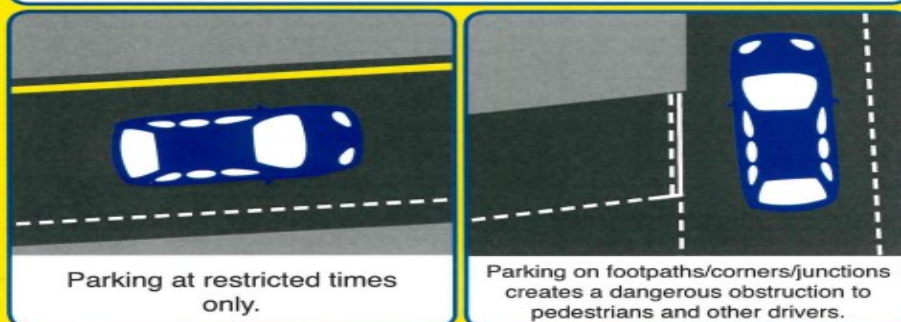
We are looking for a strong and empowering Pastoral Manager with an understanding of the best way to support pupils' emotional and wellbeing journey throughout their time at Walkwood. They will enjoy working as part of a pastoral / college-based team and demonstrate the ability to establish good working relationships with pupils and parents, acting as a role model. Previous experience is desirable for this role although not essential.

Closing of applications is **9.00am on Monday 17th April 2023**. Short-listed candidates will be contacted soon after this date.

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 .

Think before you park!

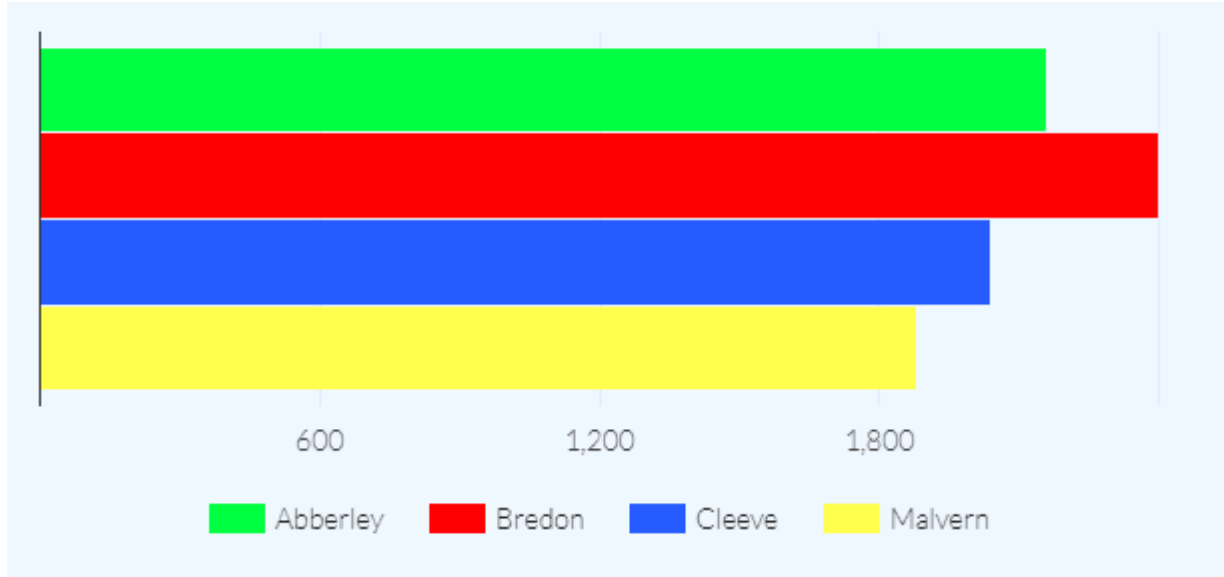
Illegal and irresponsible parking can put lives in danger.
Remember the following:



If you choose to ignore this advice you may be prosecuted.
The safety of pedestrians is far more important than finding a close spot to leave your car. Always think before you park.



epraise this week



Top Readers for 22.02.2023 — 22.03.2023

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Tilly Pym McGran (Year 7 BDDE) - who has read 462,650 words.

Top Boy

James Corcoran (Year 8 MDSL) - who has read 389,730 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>



Reading matters



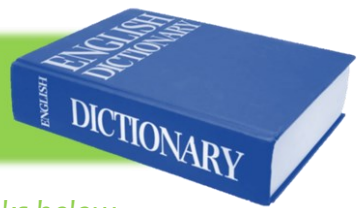
Looking for some additional reading content? The following website has a Book of the Month where you can find ideas of new genres, authors and titles to explore:

[Book of the month archive of great children's and YA books](http://schoolreadinglist.co.uk)

[\(schoolreadinglist.co.uk\)](http://schoolreadinglist.co.uk)



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.

Survey

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.



Hockey and Rugby College Matches

The PE department run college matches twice a year, where pupils participate in a sporting activity against the other colleges in the school. Points are awarded to teams, and these then go towards the college sports total at the end of the year. College matches take place during lesson time where a whole year group will come down to PE at once. This may mean your child has two PE lessons that week and so will need to bring their kit in on two days. Please can you make sure pupils have correct PE kit for the following days. It is also recommended that boys have boots as they will be on the field. KS3 pupils will require a gum shield if they are taking part in the full contact rugby games, otherwise they will take part in 'touch' Rugby.

Many thanks,

PE Department

23rd March -28th March

Day/Date	Lessons	Year Group	Activity
Thursday 23 rd March	4 & 5	5	Boys – Rugby
Friday 24 th March	4 & 5	6	Boys – Rugby
Monday 27 th March	2 & 3	7	Boys – Rugby
Tuesday 28 th March	2 & 3	8	Boys – Rugby



Clubs and Activities



Spring Term 2

	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Recorder Club, Music Room, GLA, 12.45pm-1pm. All welcome. We have instruments for those that need them. See Mrs Laishley to sign up.	Year 7/8 boys Rugby – Monday 6 th -27 th March. Sign up only. Advised to bring boots and gum shields. 3.30-4.45. Year 5 and 6 Multi skills fitness club start Monday 6 th to March 27 th . Sign up only. 3.30-4.45. Meet in the changing rooms. RDJ & PMC.
Tuesday	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 Laishley to sign up.	Year 7/8 recreational netball club starts Tuesday 14 th – Tuesday 28 th . Sign up only. 3.30-4.45. Meet KRE in changing rooms. Keyboard Club: 3.30pm - 4.15pm. Limited spaces. Sign up required. Priority given to those who did not gain a place last term.
Wednesday	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	Ukulele Club: 3.30pm - 4.15pm. Limited spaces, sign up required. year 8 boys football training Wednesday 22 nd and Wednesday 29 th (Invite only) RMA
Thursday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Science Homework Drop In – Computing (Year 7 and 8)	Drama club starting 9 th March 3:30-4:45
Friday	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
June	6	Blackwell Adventure	✓		£42
30/06 - 03/07/2023	7	Osmington Bay Activity Park		✓	£285
20/07/2023	8	Drayton Manor	✓		£40 *

• Fully booked

* Current estimated cost

For the Year 6 trips, these will go out on the following days:

Wed June 7 6c1 & 6c2

Thu June 8 6c3 & 6e1

Fri June 9 6e2 & 6e3



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2023	Friday 31 March	End of Term
	Monday 17 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 18 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 1st May	Bank holiday
	Monday 8th May	Bank holiday
	Monday 29 May - 2 June	Half Term
	Wednesday 14 June	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Thursday 22 June	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Friday 21 July	End of Term