

Dear Parents and Carers,

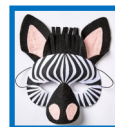
Early evening on Monday saw the return of the Year 7 residential trip. As some of you will have seen from the social media posts, the children had a great time and were thoroughly enjoying the activities, aided by weather that allowed things to go to plan. The arrival back in school was helped by the many who parked on the back playground, leaving the front one available for 'meet and greet' as well as keeping the footpath on Feckenham Road clear for suitcases, bags and children. The Year 5 trip left on Friday morning, and we hope they too have a wonderful time at their destination in the Brecon Beacons - its age-old name being, in Welsh, Bannau Brycheiniog - which translates as "peaks of Brychan's kingdom".



My child, prepare provisions for the trip and head off with your companions. May God who is in heaven protect you on your way and restore you safely to me.

Tobit 5: 17

Thursday was our Arts Day, which covered cultural themes from different countries. Year 5 focused on the continent of Africa, making Masai necklaces as well as animals—zebra, elephant and giraffes all making an appearance through crafts. It was Aboriginal Australia for Year 6, while Year 7 were focused on South America. Following on from their Geography topic earlier in the year, our eldest pupils' activities were connected with China. All year groups had at least one session of music, and drums were very evident during Thursday!



Your understanding has been appreciated during the two days of industrial action this week. We needed to shut the school on Friday as our staffing was further limited by the Year 5 trip departing.

If you are a Year 8 parent and know that some uniform items or kit will not be transferable for use at your child's high school, we would very much welcome any items that you would care to donate.



Rev. C. Leach, Principal

This week's theme was: King David

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David.

Luke 2:4

Our Father,
We remember King David. He loved you and brought your people back to knowing you. Everything he did, he did for you. We look upon him as an example of how to have a relationship with you. Every act we do, for you. Every conversation we have, for you. Bless us as we use him as a model to build our relationship with you. Amen

Whole school Attendance

94.30%

Whole School Target

95.6%

26.06.23 to 30.06.23

Year 5 94.48 %

Year 6 91.26 %

Year 7 96.06 %

Year 8 86.46 %



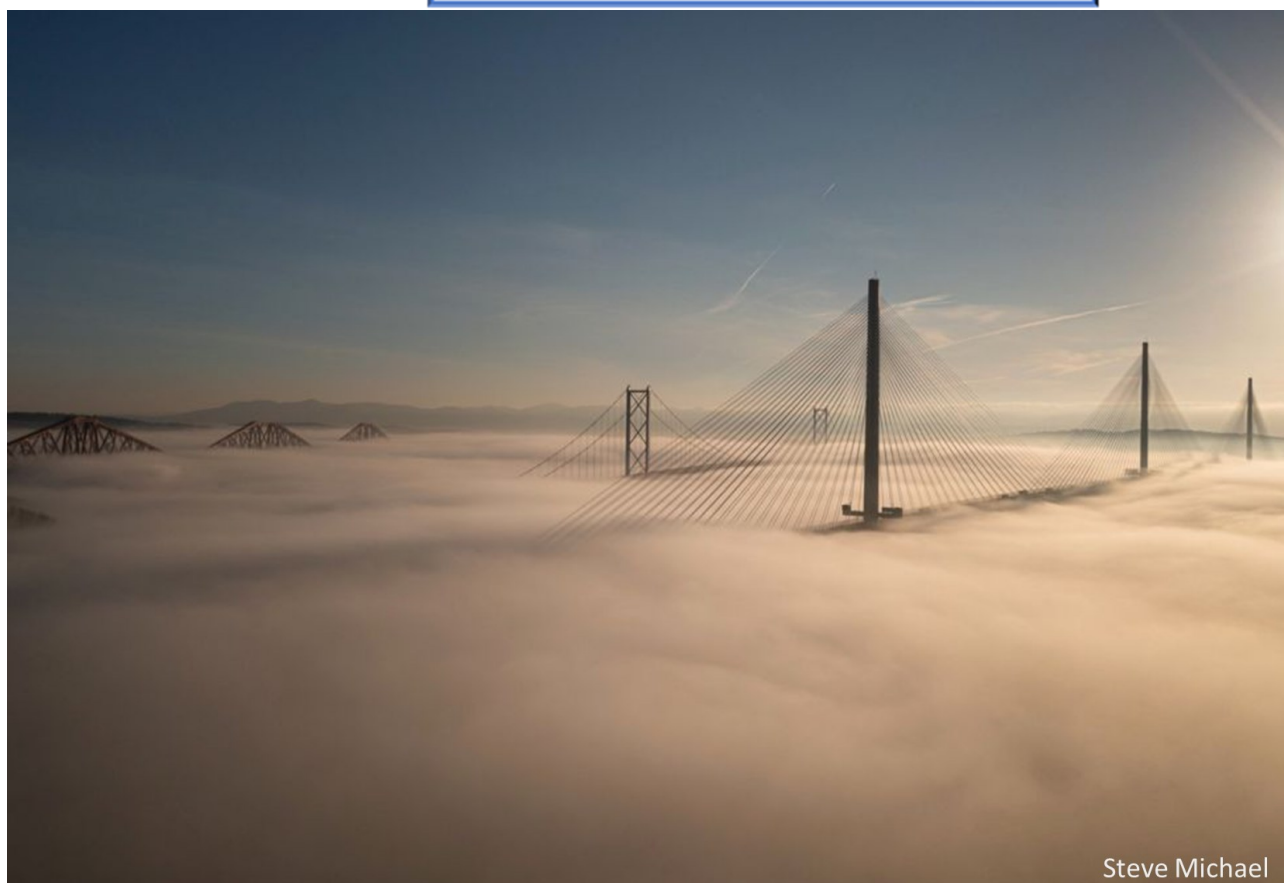
For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Honour	Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honouring one another. <i>Romans 12:10</i>
The assembly theme will be:	Travelling and staying	You said to me, "I will point out the road that you should follow. I will be your teacher and watch over you." <i>Psalms 32:8</i>

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

The weekend	The children and families affected by the car crash in Wimbledon	Monday	respectful understanding between nations of the world
Tuesday	Their Majesties, King Charles and Queen Camilla	Wednesday	the Year 4 pupils who join us for the first of the Transition Days
Thursday	Walkwood's Year 8s at their different high schools	Friday	worshipping communities of all faiths who meet across this weekend

Picture of the Week



The three Forth bridges emerge on a foggy Scottish morning

Steve Michael



Sports day event selection

Any pupils who were absent on Tuesday 4th July to select their sports day event will have had the opportunity Thursday 6th July to see Miss Reeves, alternatively they can come on Tuesday 11th July at break time in the hall. Any pupils without an event selected will have an event chosen for them.

Miss Reeves



ParentPay

Lunch Money

Please can we ask that all ParentPay accounts are settled by the end of term, particularly to our Year 8s who are moving schools. If any Year 8s are in credit, this will be re-funded at the end of the term. If you have any queries, please contact the finance office.

Many thanks.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

RUMBLE

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

on the App Store;
"Teen" on Google Play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS

The company which developed Rumble is also responsible for hosting Truth Social, the often contentious news and social network founded by Donald Trump. Indeed, Rumble's content often reflects the ideas of one group of US voters, who have embraced it as an alternative to more mainstream social media. Many parents may feel that such an overtly political platform isn't suitable for young people.

PROVOCATIVE CONTENT

Rumble prides itself on championing free speech, with its CEO declaring the platform "immune to cancel culture". Many of Rumble's highest-profile content creators – such as Andrew Tate and Russell Brand – are well known for sharing opinions which are often described as extreme. While adults might be equipped to treat this content objectively, much of it may not be appropriate for a young audience.

INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL

In very simple terms, Rumble works a little like YouTube but with far fewer censors and restrictions being applied to its content. If age-inappropriate material or potentially harmful misinformation is trending on the platform and being shared among more mature users, there's a distinct possibility that Rumble's algorithm may also recommend that content to a child.

CONTROVERSIAL FIGURES

Many of Rumble's best-known accounts are owned by individuals who have previously been banned from other social media platforms. There could, of course, be a variety of reasons behind this – but it almost certainly increases the chances of your child coming across content on Rumble which probably wouldn't be deemed acceptable on other similar platforms.

SENSITIVE TOPICS

In recent months, some prominent Rumble influencers have expressed uncompromising views on sensitive subjects such as gun control, abortion, LGBTQ issues and more. With many Rumble accounts tending to display a noticeable political bias, the concern would be that young people using the platform may not always be presented with an impartial perspective on these important and complex topics.

THE ALTERNATIVE VIEW

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT POLITICS

Rumble does have a team of moderators, but the nature of the platform means that some permitted content is likely to be controversial and highly subjective. That possibility might make many parents uncomfortable – but if your child does view (or hear about) something provocative on Rumble, it can still provide a useful opportunity to discuss politics at home in a safe, relaxed environment.

CHECK UP REGULARLY

Like any video-sharing platform, there's a chance that Rumble might suggest inappropriate content for your child. There may be an algorithm issue – or it could be that the recommendations are based on videos they've previously viewed. If your child uses Rumble, you might consider a chat with them about which accounts they follow and what type of content is suitable for their age.

RESEARCH ALTERNATIVES

No video-sharing platform is totally free from potentially harmful content, of course – but the number of prominent account holders on Rumble whose output has previously been banned from similar services is certainly a cause for concern. If your child is becoming interested in influencer culture or politics specifically, you could perhaps research more family-friendly platforms together.

DISCUSS IMPARTIALITY

Many prominent Rumble accounts wear their political leanings firmly on their sleeves. As a result, it can be tricky for impressionable young people to appreciate both sides of any given debate. If your child is old enough to use Rumble, you may feel that a discussion of some things they've seen might be prudent – if so, be prepared from some complex (and possibly lengthy) conversations!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



NOS National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2022/10/06/prominent-accounts-on-alternative-social-media-sites-mostly-are-individuals-not-organizations/>

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

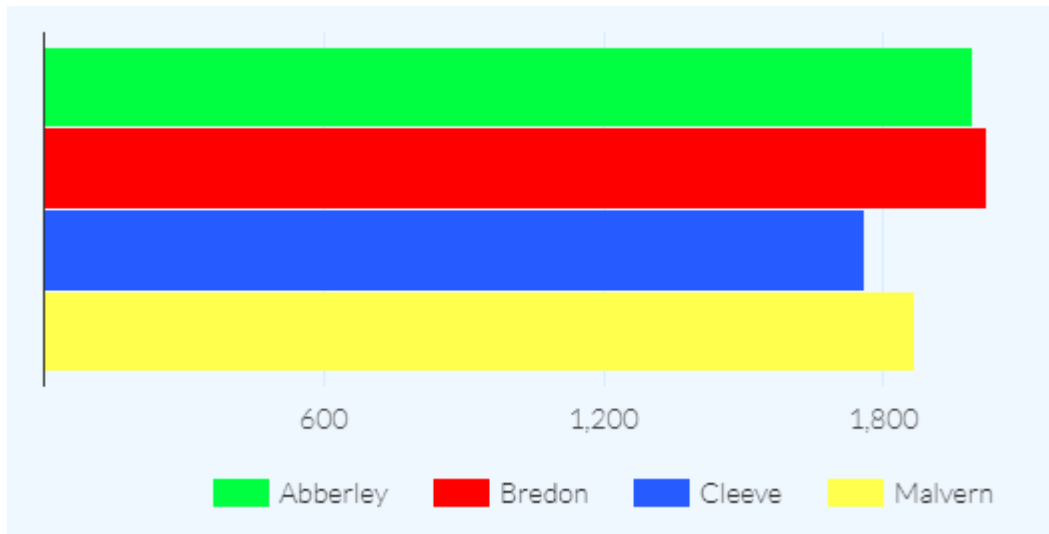
@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 05.07.2023



epraise this week



Top Readers for 05.06.2023 — 05.07.2023

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Hope (Year 6 BKKH) - who has read 523,898 words...

Top Boy

Sherwin (Year 8 BKKH) - who has read 417,891 words...

Well done - 3 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

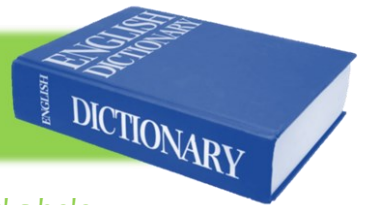


We are pleased to say that all pupils in the school will have access to free online books through the portal of MyOn (an aspect of Renaissance), for the summer holidays only, as this is being offered as a free service during the summer. Information about how to log in over the summer will be emailed to parents early next week.

Collectively, our pupils have read over 172,000,000 words during this academic year—this is phenomenal! Keep up the reading, Walkwood, twenty minutes per day outside of school.



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.

amalgamate

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.



Clubs and Activities



Summer 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, 12.35pm-1pm. All welcome. We have instruments for those that need them. See Mrs Laishley to sign up.	Monday – KS2 tennis 12 th June– 10 th July Sign up only. 3.30-4.45 Meet outside on KS3 playground by changing room doors.
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.	Tuesday – Year 5 multi sports run by Redditch United. Sign up only. 3.30-4.45 Meet outside on KS3 playground by changing room doors.
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	
Thursday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Science Homework Drop In – Computing (Year 7 and 8)	
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
20/07/2023	8	Drayton Manor	✓		£40 *

• Fully booked

* Current estimated cost



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2023	Friday 21 July	End of Term
	Monday 4 September	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 5 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November	Half Term
	Thursday 21 December	End of Term
	Monday 8 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 12 – Friday 16 February	Half Term
	Friday 22 March	End of Term
	Monday 8 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 27 – Friday 31 May	Half Term
	Friday 19 July	End of Term