



The Insider

20th December 2024; issue 545

Our Vision

In our inclusive community,
Each valued individual is taught self-belief
We are resilient and optimistic,
Caring for ourselves and our peers.
We are Children of God, with hope,
Awe and wonder in our hearts.

Our Bible verse: *Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*
Ephesians 4:32

Our Values: Respect Friendship Honesty Kindness

Our motto: Respect. Believe. Succeed

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a productive term and look forward to Christmas, it is time to reflect on the achievements, memories and proud moments of 2024 for our pupils.

Our children have achieved many academic successes, not least in the number of points earned in lessons, as well as the significant number of SLT awards granted by the leadership team for excellent standards of work! The pupils continue to strive to be the best versions of themselves and we could not be more proud of them for this.

We celebrated a hugely successful SIAMS inspection back in September, where it was recognised that our school vision underpins every aspect of Walkwood life and that this is supported by the full school community, where a focus upon our core values pervades.

Our year 6 football team celebrated their victory at Wembley Stadium back in May, demonstrating the rewards which can be reaped through teamwork and perseverance.

The school community has collaborated on many charitable ventures across the year, such as donating a huge number of food and toiletry items as part of Harvest celebrations; the generous collections throughout December for the Reverse Advent Calendar and the thoughtful writing of Christmas cards, to residents in Stonebridge Nursing Home, in recent weeks.

We would like to wish Mrs Fazackerley and Mrs Dumitru much luck as they both commence their maternity leave at this point; also, heartfelt congratulations to Mr Wright, who has welcomed his baby boy into the world, just a few days ago. Additionally, we wish Mrs Sly much luck as she embarks upon semi-retirement – after a formidable 20 years service to Walkwood! Thank you, Mrs Sly, for all of your work for the school. Our best wishes also to Mr Illingworth, who will embark upon a new challenge, as he relocates with family. In January 2025, we welcome Mr Bishton, Miss Hayden, Ms Hodgkin and Mrs Worrallo to our teaching team.

On behalf of all the staff at Walkwood, I would like to wish all of our pupils and families a restful, peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Lowe

Key Information for Parents

For information about our school: www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk





Keeping children safe

The following information regards how we continue to ensure that pupils are cared for within our school:

[Early help](#)

[E-safety](#)

[Prevent](#)

[Child Protection](#)

[Attendance](#)

[Safeguarding summary](#)

[Safeguarding policy](#)



[Safeguarding Newsletter December 2024](#)

How to take part in the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme | Worcestershire County Council

[Go to this Sway](#)

[Naming items](#)

Please can you ensure you name ALL your child's belongings, coats, jumpers, lunch boxes etc. This will help reception to return lost items to your child promptly.



This week's winners!



Individual

- Year 5 Ava Jinks
- Year 6 Emma Gardner
- Year 7 Isobel Close
- Year 8 Harry Hopcroft



Top Tutor Group

- Year 5 RSH
- Year 6 RCO
- Year 7 PJE
- Year 8 GLA



9 WEEK PARENTING COURSE UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

Have you ever heard the phrase 'the terrible teens' and thought this exactly what we are experiencing with our teenager?

Bringing parents and carers of teens together, to meet other families in similar situations and develop your knowledge through peer support. This relaxed group is designed to help explain what happens to the brain as our children hit adolescence and understand the changes in behaviour. These workshops explore what you can do to help your teenager and will

- focus on the following topics:
- Understanding brain development
 - Behavioural difficulties
 - Parenting styles
 - Exploring feelings
 - Ways to relax
 - Attachment
 - Relationships

Suitable families with teens aged 11-19 years old, these groups runs over a 10 week period.

If you would like to find out more about these groups, or to book onto our next available workshop please contact your local Family Hub on 01905 520 032 or speak to your child's pastoral manager.

STARTING WELL PARTNERSHIP |
WORCESTERSHIRE | STARTING WELL



MONDAY 3RD
FEB - 31ST
MARCH
FAMILY HUB
5PM - 7PM



Every School Day Counts



94%

Our overall attendance this academic year

Top 3 Tutors



NWr & EDu



Congratulations

KKh

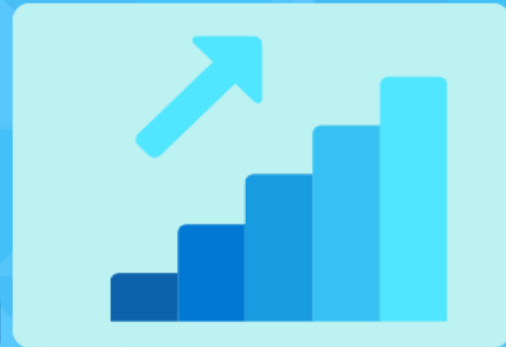


SII



Weekly Attendance

Year 5	96%
Year 6	94%
Year 7	93%
Year 8	93%
Whole School	94%



Year to date Attendance

Year 5	96%
Year 6	94%
Year 7	93%
Year 8	93%
Whole School	94%



Congratulations to NWr and EDu for all your efforts!

All year groups have improved since last week so a huge well done to everyone this term and have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break!



Celebrating attendance

Because attendance matters...





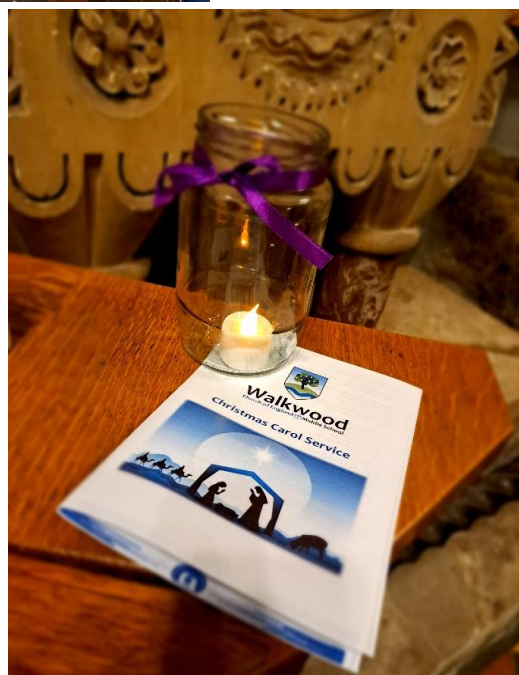
Carol Service



We are thrilled to share the wonderful success of our recent Carol Service, where our talented choir and orchestra students shone brightly. Their hard work, dedication, and commitment were truly on display as they shared Carols and readings with our school community. We were joined by staff playing their instruments alongside students, and a special thanks to Mrs Izzard for leading the choir. It was evident that weeks of preparation and practice went into their performances, and the result was a heartfelt and joyful celebration of the Christmas story.

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to all the students involved, as well as to you, the parents, for your support. Your encouragement and involvement make all the difference in helping our young musicians thrive.

We hope the carol service brought joy and warmth to your Christmas celebrations, and we look forward to continuing to nurture the musical talents of our



Clubs and Activities



Spring Term 1

	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Choir Year 5 and 7 12.50pm – 1.15pm during playground time GLA	
Tuesday		
Wednesday	Homework club Year 5 12:50pm – 1:15pm RSH	
Thursday		
Friday	Choir Year 6 and 8 1.15pm – 1.35pm during playground time GLA	



Looking ahead



2025	
Monday 6 January	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 7 January	First day of the Spring Term
Thursday 23 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4:00 - 7:00 pm
Wednesday 29 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday 1 Feb-Saturday 8 Feb	Year 5 - 7 Ski Trip, Obertauern, Austria
Wednesday 5 February	Pastoral Coffee morning 9:00 – 9:55 am
Monday 17 - Friday 21 February	Half Term
Thursday 27 March	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4:00 – 7:00 pm
Wednesday 2 April	Pastoral Coffee Morning 9:00 – 9:55 am
Wednesday 2 April	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4:00 - 7:00 pm
Friday 11 April	End of Term
Monday 28 April	First day of the Summer Term
Monday 19 – Wednesday 21 May	Year 7 Kingswood Residential
Wednesday 21 May	Pastoral Coffee morning 9:00 – 9:55am
Monday 26 – Friday 30 May	Half Term
Monday 2 June	Staff Development Day
Sunday 29 June- Wednesday 2 July	Year 5 Barton Hall, Devon
Wednesday 2 July	Pastoral Coffee morning 9:00 – 9:55am
Friday 18 July	End of Term