



The Insider

19th December 2025; issue 584

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 come to the end of another successful term, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our pupils for their hard work and commitment to their learning. A particularly high number of ePraise points have been awarded this term, which is a wonderful reflection of the positive attitudes and efforts shown across the school. Well done to all pupils who achieved Bronze, Silver and Gold awards which is a fantastic achievement!

We began our final week of term by coming together as a whole school for Collective Worship, during which we explored the true meaning of Christmas for Christians. Several of our pupils helped to lead the service and read their parts beautifully, sharing their messages with confidence and clarity. We lit candles on our Advent wreath and discussed the story of the Nativity, with our own Nativity scene which was placed in the reception area.

On Wednesday, we also held our annual Carol Service at The Bridge Church, which was very well attended. Thank you to our school choir, orchestra and readers who led the service so beautifully. It was a special occasion that brought our community together in prayer and reflection, providing a calm and meaningful moment amidst the busyness of Christmas preparations.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback in the parent/carer questionnaire earlier this term. Your views are very much valued. Please look out for a forthcoming letter celebrating the strengths of the school, as well as identifying areas where we can further improve our systems and practice. This will be shared as a direct response to your feedback, as we continue to work closely with our school community for the benefit of our pupils.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school on Monday 5th January 2026.

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](#)

Lunch Money



Please can we ask that all ParentPay accounts are settled regularly. Once the outstanding balance is cleared, please ensure the account remains in credit.

You are able to set up regular weekly payments via ParentPay, as well as email alerts to remind you when the balance is getting low. Can we also remind you that the FSM allowance is to be used at lunchtime only and does not include breaktime snacks.

If you have any queries, please contact the finance office.

Thank you.



This week's winners!

Individual

Year 5 Orla Phelan
Year 6 Matilda Morton
Year 7 Darcie O' Neill
Year 8 Eden Sherwood

Top Tutor Group

Year 5 RSH
Year 6 RCO
Year 7 BOB
Year 8 FCL





British Values and news

In our Collective Worship this week, we took time to reflect on and discuss a current news story, considering its relevance to one of our key British Values: Democracy.

We encourage you to take a moment to speak with your child about what was discussed and see if they can identify other examples of Democracy in action in our everyday lives—both within school and beyond. It's a wonderful way to continue these important conversations at home and help deepen their understanding of the world around them.





Every School Day Counts



94%

Our overall
attendance this
academic year

6RCO



Congratulations

6PMI



8PBO



Weekly Attendance

Year 5	94%
Year 6	94%
Year 7	86%
Year 8	92%
Whole School	92%



Year to date Attendance

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



Congratulations to 6RCO, for consecutive weeks, with an attendance rate of 98%. A wonderful achievement again- Well done!

Walkwood continues to be in top 15% for attendance in the country. Thank you to you all for keeping our standards for attendance in school high. Room for even more improvement? Absolutely.



Celebrating attendance

Because attendance matters...





Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School

Appointment of Teaching Assistant Grade 2

Remuneration: Scale 3 from £ 25,583 - £ 25,989 pro rata
8:45am -3:30pm
33 ³/₄ hours per week, term time only plus 5 Inset days

“The school’s ethos and values are central to every aspect of school life at Walkwood Church of England Middle School. Relationships between pupils and teachers are strong. Pupils enjoy their learning. Pupils achieve well, including those with special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND)”

SIAMS stated (2024):

Led by the vision, leaders are resolute in driving forward the work of the school. This ensures positive outcomes for pupils and adults.

Pastoral care is exceptional and extends from the school into the local community. As a result of this feeling of being treasured, lives are transformed.

There is a strong culture of togetherness, respect and trust between all members of the school community.

Walkwood Church of England Middle School are looking to recruit a Grade 2 Teaching Assistant.

We are looking for a teaching assistant who:

- Demonstrates the ability to provide efficient and effective support to pupils and staff through a fully inclusive approach
- Assesses and reports on pupils’ development, progress and attainment
- Is able to provide effective pastoral care and understanding of all pupils
- Is proactive, flexible and works effectively as part of a team
- Has excellent communication skills with pupils and all stakeholders
- Is a reflective practitioner
- Is committed to their own professional development
- Is committed to promoting our Christian Ethos and values
- Has GCSE passes in Maths and English (4+)

We can offer:

- A committed and supportive leadership team
- Wonderful, motivated children
- A commitment to your future professional development
- Support from the whole community of our church school
- Support from The Spire Trust (currently in process of joining)

Previous experience is desirable for this role, although not essential. Experience of working with children with autism and other additional needs is desirable or at the least, a willingness to gain experience, together with GCSE passes in Maths and English (C/4+) or equivalent.

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 **9th January 2026 at 9 am**. Interviews will take place shortly afterwards.



Appointment of a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant Grade 4

Walkwood Church of England Middle School are looking to recruit a Grade 4 Higher Level Teaching Assistant.

Remuneration: Scale 4 from £ 31,537 - £ 33,699 pro rata

8.30 am to 3.35 pm

35 hours 25 minutes per week, term time only plus 5 Inset days

“The school’s ethos and values are central to every aspect of school life at Walkwood Church of England Middle School. Relationships between pupils and teachers are strong. Pupils enjoy their learning. Pupils achieve well, including those with special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND)”

SIAMS stated (2024):

Led by the vision, leaders are resolute in driving forward the work of the school. This ensures positive outcomes for pupils and adults.

Pastoral care is exceptional and extends from the school into the local community. As a result of this feeling of being treasured, lives are transformed.

There is a strong culture of togetherness, respect and trust between all members of the school community.

Walkwood Church of England Middle School are looking to recruit a HLTA Grade 4 Teaching Assistant.

We are looking for a teaching assistant who:

- Demonstrates the ability to provide efficient and effective support to pupils and staff through a fully inclusive approach
- Assesses and reports on pupils’ development, progress and attainment
- Is able to provide effective pastoral care and understanding of all pupils
- Is proactive, flexible and works effectively as part of a team
- Has excellent communication skills with pupils and all stakeholders
- Has experience teaching whole class in the absence of a teacher.
- Is a reflective practitioner
- Is committed to their own professional development
- Is committed to promoting our Christian ethos and values
- Has GCSE passes in Maths and English (4+)

We can offer you:

- A committed and supportive leadership team
- Wonderful, motivated children
- A commitment to your future professional development
- Support from the whole community of our church school

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 or a tour of the school prior and how to apply, please visit our website at www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk. The application deadline is **9 January 2026 at 9 am. Interviews will take place shortly afterwards.**

Clubs and Activities

Spring Term 1



	Before school 8.30-8.45	Breaktime 10.20- 10.35	Lunchtime 12.55-13.15	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books Chess club - Year 5 and 7 12:55-13:15 (during playground time) Room 2. BKI Times tables rockstars - Year 5 12:55-13:15 (during playground time) DT Hub. PMI	Dance- KS3 AU sports in the hall. Sign up required. Dodgeball – KS2 In the hall. Sign up required. PMc
Tuesday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Choir - Year 5 and 7 12:55-13:15 (during playground time) Music Room. GLA Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	The Lion King Junior Rehearsals Students to attend according to rehearsal plan.
Wednesday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Boogie Bounce KS2 and KS3 In the hall. Sign up required. KGr Dodgeball – KS3 In the hall. Sign up required. PMc
Thursday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	The Lion King Junior Rehearsals Students to attend according to rehearsal plan.
Friday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Choir - Year 6 and 8 13:15-13:35 (during playground time) Music Room. GLA Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Multi-sports – All year groups In the hall. Sign up required. PMc



Looking ahead



2026	
Monday 5 January	First Day of Spring Term
Wednesday 4 February	Yr6 & Yr8 Parents' Evening 4:00 – 7:00 pm
Thursday 12 February	Yr6 & yr8 Parents' Evening 4:00 – 7:00pm
Monday 16 – Friday 20 February	Half Term
Wednesday 11 March	Yr5 & Yr7 Parents' Evening 4:00 – 7:00pm
Thursday 19 March	Yr5 & Yr7 Parents' Evening 4:00 – 7:00pm
Friday 27 March	End of Term
Monday 13 April	First Day of Summer Term
Monday 4 May	Bank Holiday
Monday 18 th – Wednesday 20 th May	Yr7 Trip - The Ultimate Adventure Centre
Monday 25 – Friday 29 May	Half Term
Monday 1 June	Staff Development Day
Sunday 28 th June – Wednesday 1 st July	Yr5 Devon residential Trip
Friday 17 July	End of Term