



The Insider

7th November 2025; issue 578

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,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. We began the week in our tutor groups, where pupils were recognised for their hard work and the impressive number of ePraise points they earned last term. We also took the opportunity to remind everyone of our expectations for continued positive behaviour and the correct uniform as we begin this new half term. Already, a plethora of ePraise points have been achieved!

This week, we also carried out a lockdown drill to practise what to do in the unlikely event of an invacuation. The pupils responded exceptionally well, demonstrating great calmness and co-operation throughout the exercise.

Looking ahead, on Monday we will be holding a whole-school Remembrance Service, where we will come together as a community to mark this important occasion. On Tuesday 11th November at 11 o'clock, we will hold a two-minute silence to continue our Remembrance.

On Friday 21st November, we will be holding a non-uniform day in exchange for donations towards our Christmas Fair in the form of chocolates, sweets, etc. Please see p.5 of this newsletter for details per year group. To support Children in Need, we will hold an optional Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 19th December; all proceeds from this will be donated to Children in Need.

We have been invited by our local MP, Chris Bloore, to participate in this year's Christmas Card competition, for 'Christmas in Redditch'. All pupils are welcome to participate in this and tutors will provide the template. Whilst the design can be festive and merry, the card should also reflect your favourite things about your community. All entries need to be handed to tutors no later than Monday 17th November and they will be sent to Chris Bloore. Every entrant will receive a certificate from the MP, and the winning design will be used as his official Christmas card along with prizes for the winner and runner up.

We wish you all a lovely weekend!

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](#)



Please ensure Parent Pay accounts are always kept up to date and in credit please.

Should you have any queries regarding your account please contact the finance office.

Thank you.

Stall holders wanted for our Christmas Fayre

We are looking for stall holders for our School Christmas Fayre to be held on Friday November 28th, 4 - 5.30pm.

Cost of the stall is £10.00 plus donation of a raffle prize.

Please register your interest by emailing our school PTA at:

pta@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.





Every School Day Counts



95%

Our overall attendance this academic year

Top 3 Tutors

EWo



Congratulations



EDu



LPh



Weekly Attendance

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



Year to date Attendance

Year 5	96%
Year 6	94%
Year 7	93%
Year 8	95%
Whole School	95%



Welcome back and congratulations to EWo, who are the second Year 8 class to be Top Tutor this academic year! Well done also to all of you who have attended every day for the whole of the first half term. As you know, every school day counts!



Celebrating attendance

Because attendance matters...





This week's winners!



Individual

Year 5 Orla Phelan
Year 6 Martha Cooke
Year 7 Alexis Brough
Year 8 Paisley Kendrick

Top Tutor Group

Year 5 NWR
Year 6 RCO
Year 7 EDU
Year 8 PBO



Poppies will be on sale in school from tomorrow. Pupils to bring cash in. Our poppy sellers will come around during morning and afternoon tutor.

Lest we forget.



FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER

Non uniform day - donations for the Christmas Fayre!

Pupils can wear non school uniform in exchange for donations as below. Please ensure that clothing is appropriate for school including no belly tops, short shorts or bodysuits!



Year 5 Tutor groups to bring in selection of sweets for the sweet tombola stall.



Year 6 Tutor groups to bring in selection of chocolates for the chocolate tombola stall.



Year 7 Tutor groups to bring in selection non alcoholic bottles for the bottle tombola.



Year 8 Tutor groups to bring in a selection of shop bought refreshments including festive cakes, mince pies and other fancies to sell on the night.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

GUIDING YOUNG VOICES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Bullying impacts the lives of many young people. In the UK, one in five pupils aged 10 to 15 report being bullied. The effects can be long lasting, affecting mental health, school attendance and self-esteem, and can impact long-term development into adult life. Adults play a key role in building young people's confidence to speak out, support one another, and stand up to unkind behaviour. This guide offers ways to help youngsters make a positive difference.

1 CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES

Help young people value diversity by showing that what makes us different is also what makes us strong. Encourage them to learn about different cultures, identities, and abilities through books, films, and conversations. By appreciating uniqueness in themselves and others, children can grow into open-minded individuals who build inclusive and welcoming environments.

2 MODEL RESPECT

Children watch and learn from how adults behave. Use respectful language, show patience in disagreements, and treat others with fairness – especially in front of children. By modelling inclusive behaviour and challenging unkindness, adults set a lasting example that respect should be part of every interaction, whether online, at school, or at home. Be the change you want to make.

3 SPOT THE SIGNS

Adults and young people should learn how to recognise signs that someone may be experiencing bullying. This might include withdrawal from friends, hobbies or interests, changes in mood, reluctance to go to school, or unusual injuries. Helping young people recognise these clues ensures that support can be offered sooner and problems do not go unnoticed.

4 VALIDATE FEELINGS

When a child shares something that worries them, it's important to listen carefully and validate how they feel. Respond with empathy – not judgement – and let them know it's okay to feel upset or confused. Offering reassurance and understanding helps young people feel safe about opening up, and builds the trust needed to talk again in future.

5 TEACH ALLYSHIP

Show children how to stand up for others in safe, respectful ways. Allyship might look like sitting next to someone who's been excluded, reporting hurtful behaviour, or speaking up when they witness bullying. By practising these responses together, you're helping children develop the courage to be kind and to take action when it really counts.

6 PROMOTE REPORTING

Ensure young people know how to report bullying and feel confident that they'll be taken seriously. Talk to them about who they can speak to and what to expect when they do, such as reporting school incidents to teachers, and out-of-school bullying to parents or teachers. Reassure them that reporting is a brave and helpful choice – not tattling – and that it plays a vital role in keeping everyone safe.

7 ENCOURAGE KINDNESS

Everyday acts of kindness can make a big difference in creating safer, happier spaces. Encourage children to look out for one another by being helpful, saying kind words, or including someone who feels left out. These small actions set a strong example that kindness matters, and that it can be a powerful response to bullying.

8 USE YOUR VOICE

Encourage young people to speak up for themselves and others. Whether through storytelling, school campaigns, or peer-led projects, children can learn that their voice has power. Support them to express themselves confidently and safely, helping them understand that sharing experiences can challenge injustice and inspire real change in their communities.

9 BUILD COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

Children thrive when they feel supported. Help them build strong friendships, join clubs or teams, and connect with trusted adults who care. These networks offer comfort, encouragement, and protection – particularly during challenging times. Remind children that they don't have to face difficulties alone and that support is always within reach.

10 SUSTAIN THE CONVERSATION

Bullying awareness shouldn't be limited to one week each year. Create regular opportunities to talk about kindness, respect, and inclusion. Use books, news stories, and personal experiences as conversation starters. Embed anti-bullying initiatives into the school, and make tackling bullying a shared, ongoing commitment.

Meet Our Expert

Robert Allsop is an experienced pastoral and safeguarding practitioner, specialising in tutorials, behaviour interventions, and attendance management. A recipient of the Diana Award for Anti-Bullying, he has helped raise standards and improve Ofsted outcomes in some of the country's most challenging schools and colleges.



See full reference list on our website.



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



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#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Is your child finding it difficult to separate from you, sleep in their own bed, or manage worries? The WEST Team (NHS) are offering a 6-week virtual course designed to help parents support children struggling with anxiety. See poster on next page.

 What's included?

- ☒ Understanding anxiety & goal setting
- ☒ Supporting thoughts and rewards
- ☒ Step-by-step strategies for worries
- ☒ Problem-solving skills
-  Phone-call support sessions included

 Key Session Dates:

Session 1: 29 January 2026 — 12:30–1:30pm

Session 2: 5 February 2026 — 12:30–1:30pm

Session 3: 12 February 2026 — 12:30–1:30pm

Session 5: 26 February 2026 — 12:30–1:30pm

(Sessions 4 & 6 by phone — dates TBC)



**Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Health and Care**
NHS Trust

Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries Group

Is your child finding it difficult to leave you or sleep in their own bed? Are they worrying more? Is anxiety affecting the quality of their life?

In partnership with your school the WEST Team NHS are offering a series of virtual sessions over six weeks lasting an hour which will cover:

Session 1 **29/01/2026** 12.30-1.30pm: Understanding anxiety and Goal Setting

Session 2 **05/02/2026** 12.30-1.30pm: Child's thoughts and rewards

Session 3 **12/02/2026** 12.30-1.30pm: Step by Step approach to fears and worries

Session 4 PHONECALL: Date and time **TBC**

Session 5 **26/02/2026** 12.30-1.30pm : Problem Solving

Session 6 PHONECALL: Date and time **TBC**

If you are interested and able to commit to these dates (Sessions 1 and 2 are essential) above, please contact your School's Mental Health lead to discuss a referral by **28/11/2025** . Please also make it known to them if you have any needs or requirements which would make accessing this course easier for you. The worksheets will be emailed you prior to each session.

Clubs and Activities

Autumn Term 2

	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	Basketball- KS2 AU sports in the hall. Sign up required. PMc Dance- All year groups AU sports in the movement area. 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 12.55-1.15 (during playground time) Music Room Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Homework club- DT hub- all year groups-LCU. Sign up required. The Lion King Junior Rehearsals Students to attend according to rehearsal plan. Debating Club KS2 MJo Rm20- Sign up required.
Wednesday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Lunch club (LTI) – Invite only Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Basketball- KS3 AU sports in the hall. Sign up required. KGr Boogie bounce-KS2 movement area. Sign up required. KGr
Thursday	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Lunch club (LTI) – Invite only 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	Doodle Lunch club (LTI) – Invite only Choir Year 6 and 8 1.15-1.35 (during playground time) Music Room Library is open – read, quiz or exchange books	Multi-sports-KS2 AU sports in the hall. Sign up required. LWO

The Lion King Jr - Rehearsal Schedule - Autumn Term 2



Remember, a musical is a living, breathing entity. Where it is necessary to make changes to the rehearsal schedule, we will notify you in advance. Please make sure you know your child's character or which ensemble group they are a part of.

Tuesday 3.30pm-4.45pm GLA, PAL, LHO	Thursday 3.30pm-4.45pm GLA, PAL, LTI
4th November Circle of Life: Rafiki, Zazu, Mufasa, Sarabi, Pridelands Tribe, Lion Pride Blocking pg. 16-17: Mufasa, Scar, Zazu, Hyena Clan	6th November Circle of Life: Rafiki, Zazu, Mufasa, Sarabi, Pridelands Tribe, Lion Pride
11th November Grasslands Chant: Pridelands Tribe, Lion Pride, Hyena Clan Blocking pg. 22-24: Mufasa, Young Simba, Zazu	13th November Lioness Hunt pg. 26-27: Lion Pride Blocking pg. 24-25, 28-30: Scar, Young Simba, Young Nala, Sarabi, Sarafina, Zazu, Rafiki
18th November Blocking pg. 38-44: Young Simba, Young Nala, Zazu, Mufasa, Scar, Banzai, Shenzi, Ed Blocking pg. 52-53: Mufasa, Zazu, Young Nala, Young Simba	20th November Be Prepared: Scar, Shenzi, Banzai, Ed, Hyena Clan
25th November They Live in You: Mufasa, Lion Pride Blocking pg. 59-60: Young Simba, Scar, Banzai, Shenzi, Ed	27th November The Stampede and Shadowland: Nala, Pridelands Tribe, Lion Pride Blocking pg. 64-66: Mufasa, Scar, Young Simba
2nd December The Mourning: Sarabi, Nala, Rafiki, Scar, Lion Pride, Hyena Clan. Blocking pg. 70-73, 84-87: Timon, Pumbaa, Young Simba, Zazu, Scar, Banzai, Shenzi, Ed, Nala.	4th December I Just Can't Wait to be King: Young Simba, Pridelands Tribe
9th December Circle of Life, Grasslands Chant, Lioness Hunt, Be Prepared: Rafiki, Zazu, Mufasa, Sarabi, Pridelands Tribe, Lion Pride, Hyena Clan, Scar, Shenzi, Banzai, Ed. Blocking pg. 92-97: Timon, Pumbaa, Simba, Nala	11th December Hakuna Matata and Can You Feel the Love Tonight: Timon, Pumbaa, Simba, Nala. <i>Small ensemble to be selected.</i>
16th December Blocking pg. 115-116: Nala, Timon, Pumbaa, Rafiki, Banzai, Shenzi, Ed Blocking pg. 118-123: Scar, Sarabi, Simba, Nala, Shenzi, Banzai, Ed, Timon, Pumbaa, Zazu, Rafiki, Hyena Clan, Lion Pride	18th December This rehearsal will be used as a "catch up". Students required for this rehearsal will be informed in advance.

Characters with solo songs, or those involving small numbers of students, may be called for lunchtime rehearsals. Information about these will be given on our daily notices for students.

Show Dates: Tuesday 24th March 2026, Wednesday 25th March 2026, Thursday 26th March 2026



CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION!



HOSTED BY: CHRIS BLOORE MP – MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR REDDITCH & THE VILLAGES

Calling all Year 5-8 young artists!

Get creative and design a festive Christmas card
inspired by the theme:

“CHRISTMAS IN REDDITCH”

We'd love to see:

- ✓ Festive designs
- 🎁 What you love about Redditch and its communities
- ★ What makes where you live special

Design Requirements

- Size: A5
- Include your name + school on the entry

How to Enter



Hand your entry in to the school office

Chris Bloore MP's team will collect all entries **before 17th Nov. 2025**

We can't wait to see your amazing designs! ❄️



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www.chrisbloore.co.uk



Friends of Walkwood present...



Christmas Fayre

Save The Date!

**All the fun at the Fayre....Tombola,
Crafts Stalls, Raffle and Festive
Tunes!**

Friday November 28th

4pm-5:30pm



Looking ahead



2025	
Monday 10 November	Parents' Maths and English Workshop 6:00 – 7:00pm
Friday 28 November	Christmas Fayre 4:00 - 5:30pm
Friday 19 December	End of Term
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