

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been fortunate of late with the weather as it has meant that PE lessons can take place outside while we still are attentive to the restrictions which apply. As indoor PE has to take place in the hall, there is often the need to set-up for a lesson quickly after the space has been used for another activity. In come members of the Sports Council, who assist the PE staff in getting equipment in place. Therefore, I thank those pupils who are helping: not only is it pupils and teachers working well together (a feature of our school anyway), but it shows pupils that lessons ‘do not just happen’.



The rehearsals for our school production continue. This is another example of staff and pupils working collaboratively. As the show itself nears, so the teams of pupils who will carry out less obvious tasks will increase. In the meantime, the backdrop is becoming very colourful. None of us has yet to see the dreamcoat!

You will be aware that this week the Prime Minister has indicated a probable early end of restrictions about the coronavirus. After the formal announcement, we expect that the Department for Education will confirm what, if any, specific measures should continue in schools. We shall certainly keep some aspects in place for the rest of this term, such as pupils coming to school in PE kit, we really are aiming for things to be ‘back to normal’ in the summer term. We shall certainly be looking to reinstate the college-based tutor groups.



Preparations for the residential visits have been on-going, and we thank those whose pupils are going for maintaining the payment plan. If issues arise, however, please talk to us. We have financial commitments to our service suppliers and the payments are needed for these. The first trip will be for Year 6 to Yorkshire. The needs of each trip will vary, so how we manage the preparations will be dependant on a variety of factors. Do keep an eye out for messages.

Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

Prayer: Book of Proverbs

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.

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

Whole School Target

95.6%



For the week ahead



The Fruit of Faith is:	Inclusiveness	He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <i>Matthew 5:45</i>
The assembly theme:	The NHS	Pity me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, for my body is sick, and I am upset and disturbed. My mind is filled with apprehension and with gloom. Oh, restore me soon. <i>Psalm 6:2-3</i>

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

The weekend	The people campaigning for equal pay across all occupations	Monday	Single-parent families
Tuesday	Those we know that are unwell	Wednesday	Public services
Thursday	Those preparing for high school	Friday	Those who struggle with their mental health

Picture of the Week



Manjunath Kiran / AFP

A farmer displays a handful of button roses, picked in a field on the outskirts of Bangalore, India

To celebrate World Book Day this year, we will be holding two competitions.

Competition 1 - the Readathon

From 1st February until 1st March, we will be having a READATHON competition.

During this period, our highest reading pupils in each year group will win the following prizes for the most words read:

1st place - £20 Book Token

2nd place - £15 Book Token

3rd place - £10 Book Token

Also the winning teaching group (with the most words read recorded on Renaissance) will win an afternoon of pizza in school and a lesson 'off' of lessons! This means that our pupils need to pull together as a TEAM and read, read, read! Every quiz will count. Additionally, anyone who has reached Millionaire status since the start of September (meaning they have read one million words or more) will also be awarded £15 Book Token!

Competition 2 - Story Pebbles

Remember in the lockdowns, there were lots of pebbles around towns, which were painted with messages of hope and positivity? You would often see these on paths around Redditch, such as around Arrow Valley Lake. We would like our pupils to ALL to decorate a pebble to celebrate how much Walkwood loves reading.

It is simple:

- 1) Choose a medium/large sized pebble – smooth and flat is best
- 2) Decorate to show either a **book cover** or a **character** from a favourite book. Using paints or chalk pens works well
- 3) Try to include the name of the book or character on the pebble
- 4) Write your name and class underneath the pebble



The best designs will then be displayed along our main path leading to reception. They will be sprayed with varnish to make the design permanent and weather-proof, before being permanently affixed along the pathway. This will make a beautifully visual display to our visitors to show how much we read! Staff will be participating too.

How creative can you be?

These positivity pebbles were on display locally in Alcester during lockdown. You can spot some book characters here, too! Do you notice how intricate some of these designs are?



Please send all Story Pebbles to Mrs Johnson's office by World Book Day (3/3/22).

Finally, pupils will enjoy reading poetry across their lessons during the week of World Book Day.

Pupils will not be dressing up for World Book Day.

Please let me know of any questions via email. Happy reading!

Mrs Johnson

Assistant Principal/Head of English



Year 5 Brecon Beacons trip

Thank you to all who have been keeping up with the payment schedule for the Brecon Beacons trip.

Just to remind you that the following payments should now have been made:

£50 deposit- by 29th October

The second payment of £55 was required by Friday 28th January.

The remaining balance is to be paid by the following dates:

-3rd payment of £55 required by Friday 25th March 2022.

-Final payment of £60 required by Friday 27th May 2022.

Smaller more frequent payments can be made as long as the totals above are paid by the dates stated.

If you have any further queries regarding the trip then please do not hesitate to contact either of us at school. Nearer the time, we will be holding an information evening where you will be given a kit list and all other necessary information.

Mrs L Cull and Mr M Macdonald



Year 6 Yorkshire residential

Thank you to all who have been keeping up with the payment schedule. If a problem arises, please let us know.

Just to remind you that the following payments should now have been made:

£100 deposit- by 29th October

The second payment of £50 was required by Friday 26th November

The third payment of £ 50 was required by Friday 28 January.

The remaining balance is to be paid by the following dates:

-4th payment of £50 required by Friday 25th February 2022.

-Final payment of £74 required by Friday 25th March 2022.

Smaller more frequent payments can be made as long as the totals above are paid by the dates stated.

Information about the trip will be distributed after half term. This will involve some form-filling for parents and carers which will be sent to the email address we have recorded. Pupils will also have a form to complete but this will be sent to their school email. No need to check yet—these will be sent in early March.

CHECK IN WITH YOUR FRIENDS

If one of your friends doesn't seem OK, checking in on them can make a huge difference. One in every five children struggles with their mental health, so let's make sure we support each other through any difficult times.

**BE A GOOD
LISTENER**

**ASK HOW
YOU CAN
HELP**

**SHOW
EMPATHY**

**SEND A
NICE
MESSAGE**

BE KIND

**★ BE ★
SUPPORTIVE**

**IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT A FRIEND
TELL A
TRUSTED
ADULT**

**I SAW THIS AND
THOUGHT OF YOU!**

**WANTED TO LET YOU
KNOW I'M THINKING
OF YOU!**

**I'M HERE WHEN YOU
NEED ME.**

**MISSED YOU AT
SCHOOL TODAY.
EVERYTHING OK?**

NOS
**National
Online
Safety®**
#WakeUpWednesday

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

distinguish

What word class is this word? Could it belong to more than one word class?

How many syllables does it have?

Write the dictionary definition(s) of this word, using your own words.

Are there any synonyms for the word?

Are there any antonyms for the word?

Write four sentences, each containing the word.

Challenge: 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 joyous:

Statement: Xavier is feeling joyous this morning.

Question: Does that music sound joyous to you?

Command: Make yourself look a little more joyous.

Exclamation: What a joyous evening!

Show your tutor your notes on Word of the Week and receive a merit for answering the questions above!



Top Readers for 10th January 2022 — 10th February 2022

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Holly Young (5E1) - who has read 700,595 words

Top Boy

Joe Craig (5C3) - who has read 1,298,657 words

Well done - 3 merits will be awarded to you both.

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU





Trips and Visits 2021 - 23



Date	Activity	Location	Open To	Cost	Leader
May 2022					
Fri 13 – Mon 16	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 324	Rev Leach
June 2022					
Wed 22 – Fri 24	Arts and Theatres	London	Y8	£ 300	Rev Leach
Fri 24 – Mon 27	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y7	£ 324	Rev Leach
Fri 24 - Mon 27	Outward Bound	Brecon Beacons	Y5	£ 220	Mr Macdonald / Mrs Cull
February 2023					
Sat 4 – Sat 11	Ski Trip	Obertauern, Austria	Y5-Y7	£ 1360	Mrs Cull



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>

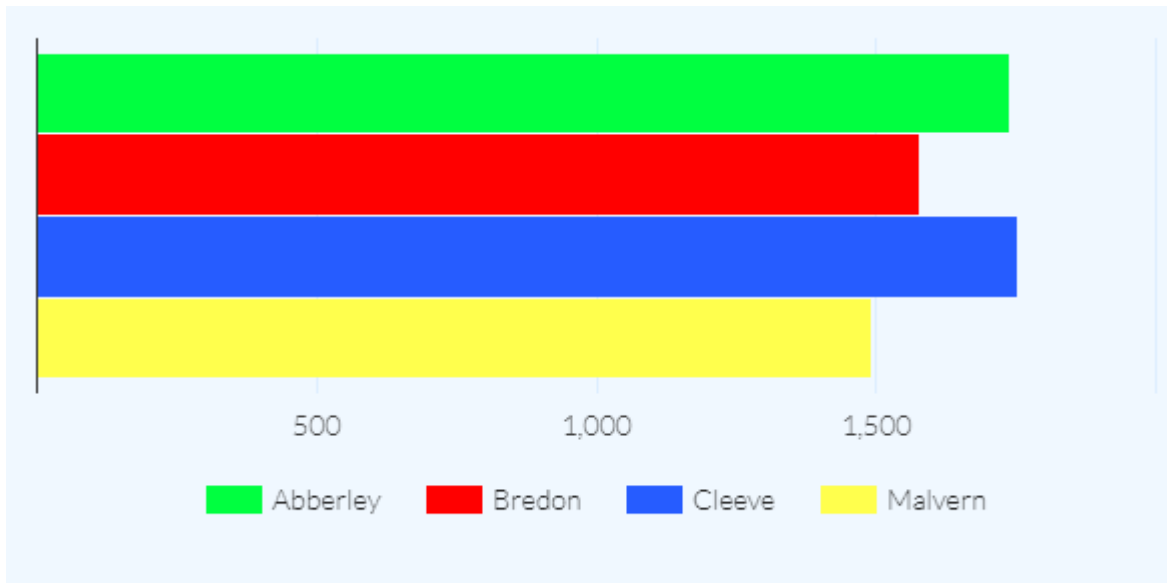
<https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/a297-Safeguarding%20Policy%202019.pdf>

Relationships and Sex Education: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/9ca0-Relationships%20and%20Sex%20Education%20Policy%202019.pdf>



Epraise Update

Points This Week: By College



We have a huge amount of lost property.

Most of what is in the three big boxes are drinks bottles, lunch boxes and coats. However, we also have a fair amount of PE kit, a couple of pairs of trainers and some spectacles.

If your child is missing anything, please just email us at office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk with a description and size of the item and we shall see if it is one of the boxes.

Any items we have been able to match with a pupil is because there has been a name inside. If a child comes to get their item of clothing, we do try and add a name on one of the tags.



We put out the water bottles and lunch boxes each Friday in the hope that it will be reclaimed. Any of these which are still in the box by the end of next week we shall have to dispose of due to running out of space. Any uniform or coats that remain unclaimed we shall keep for a short while before donating onwards.



Lost property



Clubs and Activities

Spring term 1 2022

	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20PM	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday			Homework Club
Tuesday	Orchestra CGR 8.45am – 9.25am Music Room		Homework Club
Wednesday			Homework Club Cooking club (3.30-4.45) DSL Pupils should have signed up and on a rotation.
Thursday		Choir CGR 12.55 – 1.20 Music Room All Year Groups	Homework Club
Friday			

- New clubs and activities will be emailed out next week so if your child is interested please sign up.



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2 0 2 2	Monday 21 to Friday 25 February	Half Term
	Wednesday 30 March	Y6 Yorkshire information evening 6.30 pm
	Tuesday 5 to Thursday 7 April	School production
	Friday 8 April	End of Term
	Monday 25 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 26 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Wednesday 18 May	Y5 residential information evening 6.30 pm
	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	Half Term
	Thursday 9 June	Y5 Y7 Parent's evening 4.00 —7.00 pm
	Wednesday 15 June	Y5 Y7 Parent's evening 4.00 —7.00 pm
	Thursday 21 July	End of Term