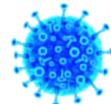


Dear Parents and Carers,

I suspect you will have read my [email message](#) yesterday in relation to the surge testing that is taking place in our town after the small number of cases of the South African variant of Covid-19. I have been in contact with colleagues within the local public health team, and have been amazed at the complexity of the work they are carrying out on our behalf. The intention has been that Walkwood supports the efforts within the community, and the test kit drop box is already affixed just inside our gate. Please see inside for the latest information about test kit distributions.



As restrictions nationally are reduced from Monday, the situation within schools remains robustly focused on prevention and, if needed, containment. Although much has been made of the easing of constraints on what we can do, the system of controls within schools has hardly changed. The main news item was around the wearing of masks. However, that will not apply at our school, for in agreement with the local health team, we shall continue the wearing of masks for the next two weeks. This is in accordance with the Department for Education's current guidance; "of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern".



We have been contending with the rain this week. I have been left wondering if the 'April showers' are running somewhat late. The pupils have been resilient, even if we are having to move from the playground back inside due to yet another downpour!

Thursday brought the end of Ramadan, which is celebrated in the festival of Eid al Fitr. After fasting during the days of Ramadan which brings Allah's followers closer to Him, family and friends come together at Eid to give thanks for Allah's blessings through prayer and community. Although this is a day after the Eid, may all your good deeds be accepted by God - *Atamanna lakum Eid sa'id jiddan! Litakun kul a'malakum al-khayyira maqbula 'ind Allah.*



Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are true of heart.

Psalm 125: 4

Rev. C. Leach, Principal

### A prayer for Putting others first

Dear God,

Thank you so much for all you have done for me. Help me to show your love to other people by putting them first. In Jesus' name,  
Amen.

### This week's theme was: Putting others first

Don't be jealous or proud, but be humble and consider others more important than yourselves.

Philippians 2:3

### Whole School Attendance

95.08%

### Whole School Target

95.6%

**Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 03.05.21:**

8C1



# For the week ahead



<b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b>	<b>Honour</b>	Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honouring one another. <i>Romans 12:10</i>
<b>The assembly theme:</b>	<b>Sacrifice</b>	Christ offered his life's blood as a sacrifice and brought you near God. Christ has made peace ... and he has united us by breaking down the wall of hatred that separated us. <i>Ephesians 2:13-14</i>

**We ask for your thoughts and prayers in the week ahead for the national effort to defeat Covid-19:**

<b>The weekend</b>	the vaccination teams across the country.	<b>Monday</b>	the logistical support for the surge testing in Redditch.
<b>Tuesday</b>	NHS Track and Trace.	<b>Wednesday</b>	technicians in the PCR testing labs.
<b>Thursday</b>	people who are self-isolating.	<b>Friday</b>	our local public health team in Worcester.

## Picture of the Week

Langurs in Kabini, India



© Thomas Vijayan

## Covid test kits



### Lateral flow

The lateral flow devices, which are being used by some pupils in Years 7 and 8, will be replenished on Monday as we send a new batch of the kit boxes home with pupils. All boxes should arrive at home with the seals intact.

### Surge testing

As part of the town's surge testing efforts, Walkwood is working with public health to distribute PCR kits and facilitate their collection. Children can be tested at the discretion of parents and carers. To give permission for your child to receive a test kit, you can complete [this form](#).

These kits will be sent home on either Tuesday or Wednesday, depending on when they reach us. Completed tests can be dropped into the white collection box that is just inside the front gate.

## Music News



### CHOIR

After such a long time of not being able to sing in school, I am very excited to announce that Choir will be starting after half term for Year 5 pupils. It will take place after school on Wednesdays, starting straight after school until 3.40pm. Numbers will have to be strictly limited to 30 and places will be given on a first come, first served basis. Interested pupils need to be keen to sing and need to commit to the sessions. Parents will receive an email about this from the school office and the deadline for applications is next Friday, 21st May. You will be informed if your application is successful.

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS

If any pupil is interested in learning to play a musical instrument next school year, we can offer tuition in keyboard, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, saxophone, guitar, singing, trumpet/trombone, drum kit. For more details please contact me at school.

Mrs C Griffiths

## Keeping hydrated . . .

As we progress into the second half of the summer term, there may be further bouts of warm weather. We encourage pupils to make use of our water dispensers by filling up their water bottles (best to name them in case they get lost—and all too many do!).



# Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

## infinitesimal

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 12th April 2020 - 12th May 2021

Congratulations to:

Top Boy

Aston Slater (7E3) - who has read 704,462 words

Top Girl

Lauren Carrington (8E1) - who has read 575,530 words

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU .....

**A CHILD  
WHO READS  
WILL BE AN ADULT  
WHO THINKS.**





Thank you to those pupils who entered the virtual cross country event this year. The results have been received and the PE Department would like to congratulate:

Overall County results

Year 7 girls - Ellie D (gold)

Year 8 girls – Lexie R (gold)

District winners

Year 5 boys - George E



RECYCLE YOUR USED SCHOOL UNIFORM INTO A  
TREASURED MEMORY OR GIFT

MEMORY BEARS IN A WIDE RANGE OF STYLES  
AVAILABLE. CREATE A LASTING MEMORY OF SCHOOL  
AND RECYCLE THAT USED UNIFORM.



THESE ALSO MAKE GREAT CLASS MASCOTS, STAFF  
LEAVER GIFTS AND TEACHER GIFTS



WWW.FOXYSEWSMEMORYBEARS.CO.UK  
FACEBOOK: @FOXYSEWSMEMORYBEARS  
CALL LISA ON 07907 061121

# 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>



[Check if you or your child has coronavirus symptoms](#)

[Track and trace](#)

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

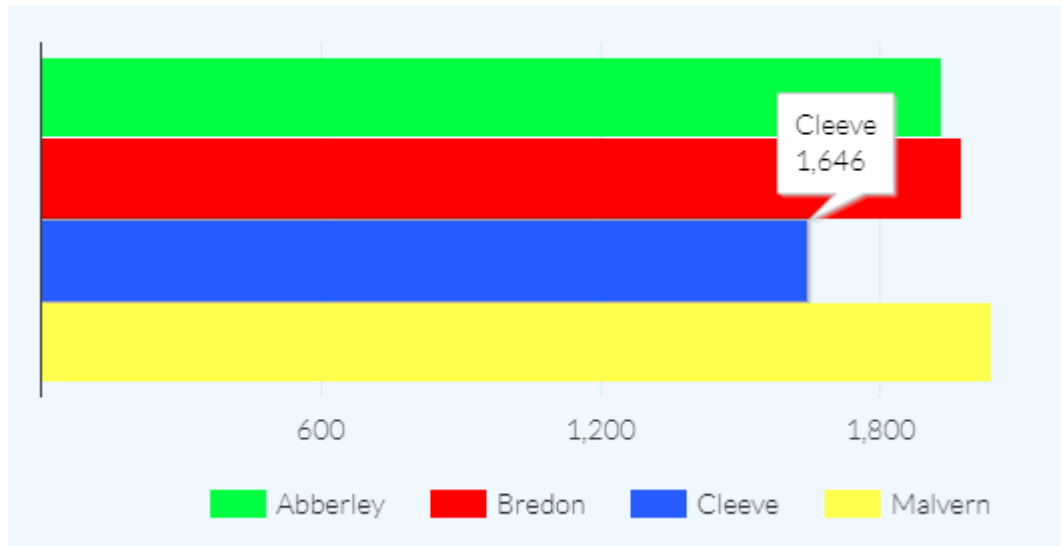
Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.



# Epraise Update



## Points This Week: By College





# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
<b>2021</b>	Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June	<b>Half Term</b>
	Wednesday 21 July	<b>End of Term</b>
	Thursday 2 September	Staff Development Day
	Friday 3 September	Staff Development Day
	Monday 6 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Friday 22 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 October	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 17 December	<b>End of Term</b>
<b>2022</b>	Tuesday 4 January	Staff Development Day
	Wednesday 5 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 21 to Friday 25 February	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 8 April	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 25 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 26 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 22 July	<b>End of Term</b>