

Dear Parents and Carers,



You may have been aware this week of the latest pupil absence figures from the Department for Education. This data shows a sharp rise in pupils sent home from school in England because of Covid-19. Nationally, absences have gone up by a multiple of four during June. Indeed, only yesterday the Prime Minister, in relation to questions over the school bubble system, asked parents to be patient. He also said that Public Health England is still reviewing the merits of testing over isolation.

Over the last week Worcestershire has continued to see the number of Covid-situations increase with the latest figures showing there were 71 bubbles collapsed or partially collapsed in 40 schools with 3422 pupils and staff affected. The data shows that this picture is reflective of the wider community.

After several weeks of 'all things Covid quiet' here in school, issues escalated quickly in Year 7, even though our control measures have remained robust and unchanged since the return of all pupils in March. On Wednesday afternoon, we were informed by the Public Health England's local outbreak response team that we must close Year 7 in-school provision until the 12th July. All Year 7 pupils must stay at home and begin self-isolation. Children who have attended school on Wednesday (30th June) will have to isolate until 11th July with a return to school on 12th July. The dates for the children currently isolating will remain as advised previously, however their return to school will also be 12th July. Home learning provision has been made available quickly.



This action has been unprecedented for us as a school. All other year groups are still on-site, and the classroom and cleaning routines continue. There is no additional information to share, and we seek your co-operation and understanding. The timescale in which this matter developed may demonstrate the current ease of transmission. Even during these trying times, the school's motto, stated above as it is each week, remains the same.

Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. *1 Corinthians 10:13*

Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

A prayer for Doing the right thing
O Almighty and Everlasting God, Creator of Heaven, Earth, and the Universe, help me to be, to think, to act what is right, because it is right. Make me truthful, honest, and honourable in all things; make me intellectually honest for the sake of right and honour and without thought of reward to me. Give me the ability to be charitable, forgiving, and patient with my fellow men. Help me to understand their motives and their shortcomings.
Amen.

This week's theme was:
Doing the right thing
In every country God accepts anyone who worships him and does what is right.
Luke 9: 23-24

Whole School Attendance
95.68%
Whole School Target
95.6%
Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 21.06.21:
5C3





For the week ahead



The Fruit of Faith is:	Honour	Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honouring one another. Romans 12:10
The assembly theme:	King David	Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. Luke 2:4

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

The weekend	people working in the Covid testing labs	Monday	Year 7 pupils who are self-isolating
Tuesday	Year 4 pupils who will be moving schools next term	Wednesday	Redditch's MP, Rachel Maclean
Thursday	our Year 8 pupils as they come to the end of their time with us	Friday	vaccination centre staff

Picture of the Week

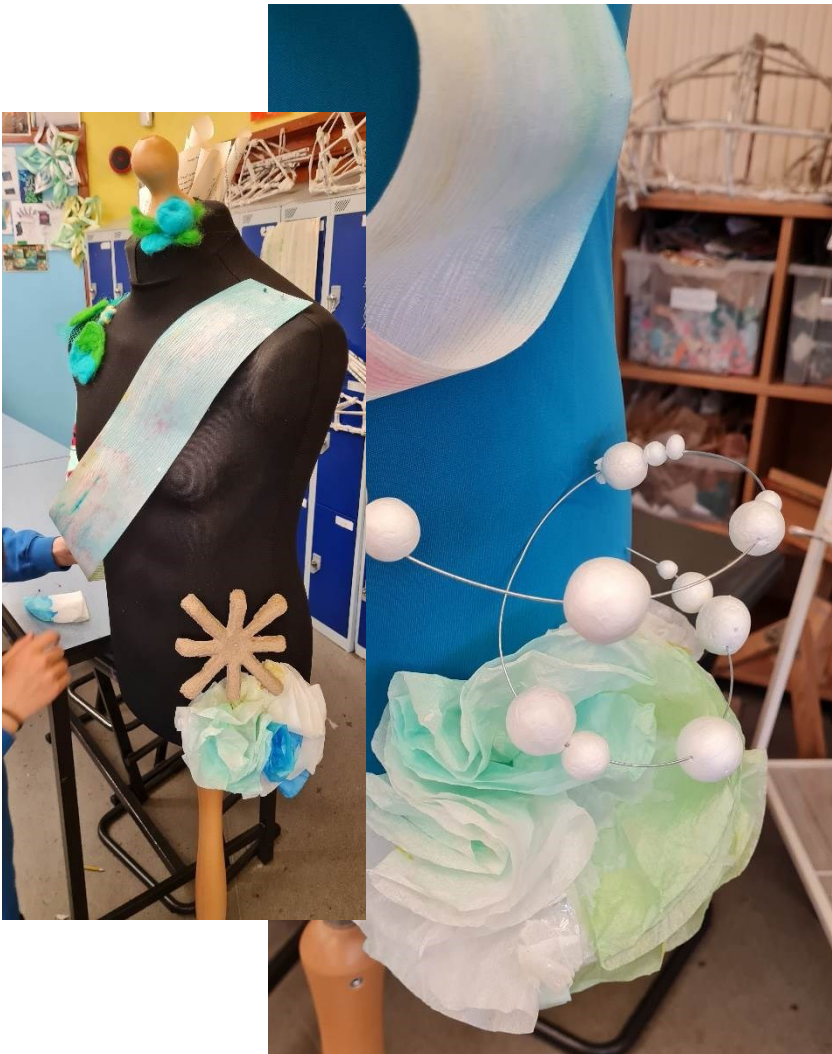
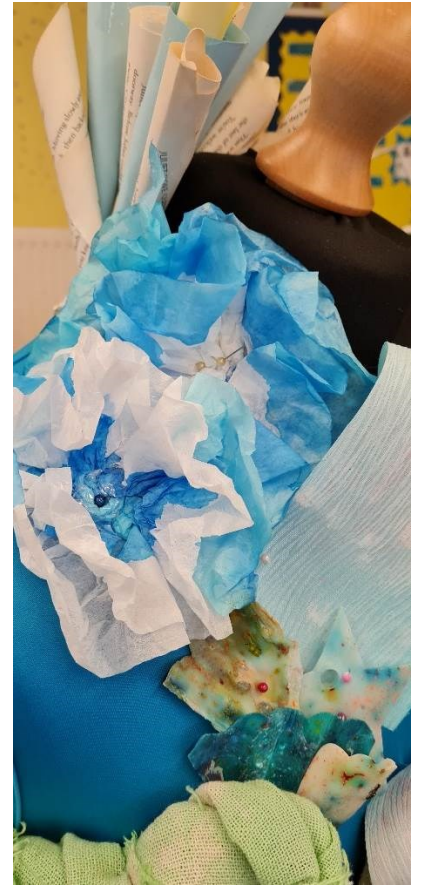


© Tony Higginson

Storm Ciara at Elgol, Isle of Skye

Year 7 Costume Club

This costume was designed for a male dancer/ actor/ performer. The year 7 girls choose a colour theme and used a wide variety of 3D resources that they could manipulate and apply to their mannequin. The girls used coffee filters and drawing ink, tie dye twists, PVA and drawing ink strips which when dry, they cut them into sea shell shapes. The girls also made foam swirl flowers, needle felt sea creatures, polystyrene ball and paper tube polyps. Throughout all the processes and techniques, the girls learnt a lot about costume composition techniques. A huge well done!!



Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

gossamer

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 30th May 2021 - 30th June 2021



Congratulations to:

Top Boy

Harley Wilson (7E3) - who has read 793,716 words

Top Boy

Daisy Sheehy (8E3) - who has read 447,029 words

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
LEARN,
the MORE places you'll go.



Music News

[Learn To Play A Musical Instrument](#)

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.

This opportunity applies to all pupils who are currently in Years 5, 6 and 7.

For more details and an application form, please contact me at school.

Mrs C Griffiths

Caretaker

At Walkwood Church of England Middle School (Walkwood Academy Trust)

The Governors of Walkwood Church of England Middle School require a Caretaker for 20 hours per week.

The job holder will maintain a clean, attractive and welcoming site through a process of routine maintenance of buildings, grounds, fixtures and fittings and through a process of regular cleaning. The Caretaker will ensure that a safe and secure school environment is provided that is properly heated and lighted in order to support the effective teaching and learning of pupils and its full use by the staff, pupils and visitors who use the school. The job holder will have proven experience in completing typical handyman / decorating tasks together with a good understanding of health and safety procedures.

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 9am on Friday 16 July 2021. CV's will not be accepted. Interviews for shortlisted candidates will be held week commencing 19 July 2021.

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

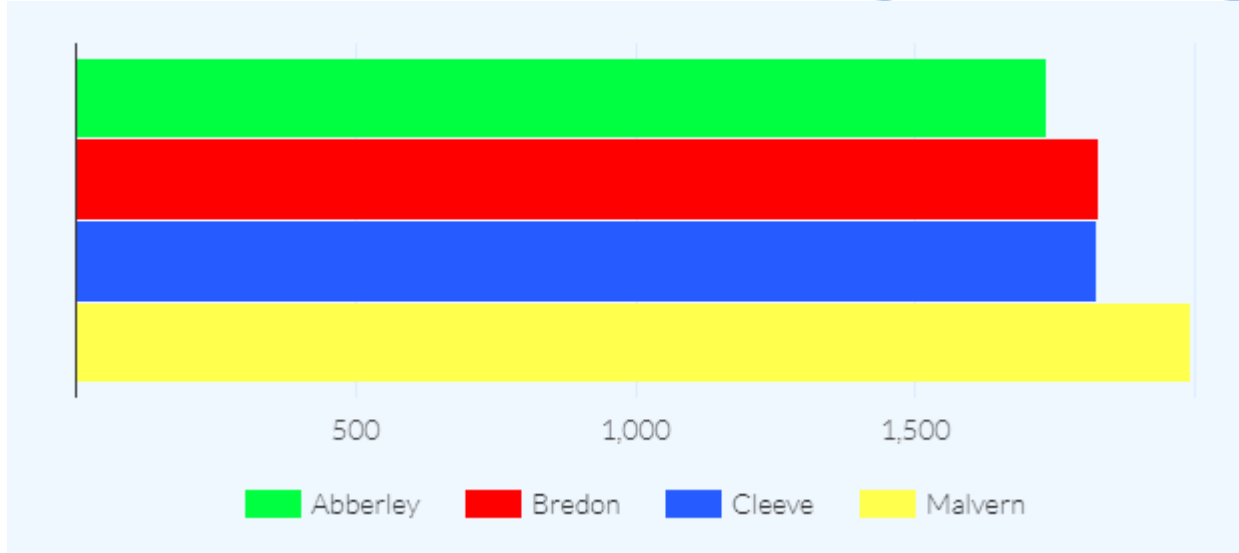
Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College





Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2021	Wednesday 21 July	End of Term
	Thursday 2 September	Staff Development Day
	Friday 3 September	Staff Development Day
	Monday 6 September	First day of the Autumn Term for Year 5 only
	Tuesday 7 September	First day of the Autumn Term for Years 6, 7 & 8
	Tuesday 7 September	Individual photographs for all students
	Friday 22 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 October	Half Term
	Friday 17 December	End of Term
	2022	Tuesday 4 January
Wednesday 5 January		First day of the Spring Term
Monday 21 to Friday 25 February		Half Term
Friday 8 April		End of Term
Monday 25 April		Staff Development Day
Tuesday 26 April		First day of the Summer Term
Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June		Half Term
Thursday 21 July		End of Term