

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the colours of autumn begin to be evident around us, so we have continued in the settling of learning and other routines. Obviously, not our 'usual', but it is so pleasing that our pupils are responding to the circumstances in which we find ourselves.



One aspect that we put 'on hold' was homework. In fact, in our booklets about reopening we said "There will be no homework set for the time being - pupils will have had plenty of home learning since lockdown was first declared." Note the phrase 'for the time being', because we wanted to get pupils back into the way of learning, and we were well aware that many would have been a bit fed up of doing continual work at home! However, we shall be re-starting using homework, albeit gently. The details of that are inside.



There has been much talk of the arrangements that schools will apply should local lockdown be imposed, or also if pupils and their families are self-isolating. If the latter happens, please let us know and we shall provide some home learning, principally using ePraise. However, we know that some pupils do not have easy access to a computer, or at least for extended periods of time, and so paper copies will be provided. If local lockdown occurs, or if a class or year group is told to isolate, then we shall also use ePraise. There will not be video lessons as we know that children cannot always be online at set times as parents, carers or siblings may also need the laptop. Teachers will receive and comment on work through ePraise.



Finally, to reduce the risk of infection, I implore that pupils who are not exempt are wearing masks in those parts of the school site where they find social distancing challenging. This not only protects other pupils, but also our staff. Without teachers and others who are well, we cannot continue to keep the school open.

Rev. C. Leach, Principal

People are trapped by their fear of others; those who trust the Lord are secure.

Proverbs 29:25

A prayer for Anti-bullying

We are sorry for not always showing our respect to each other and for allowing bullying to happen. Help us find the courage to tell others when we need support. Please help us to stay strong when we are faced with bullying and help us to spread the values of friendship and respect. Trust us not to judge others and show us how to treat people in the way that we want to be treated. We promise to respect everyone's differences and beliefs and not hold them against them. Forgive those who have bullied and show them the right way to treat others.

Amen

This week's theme was: Anti-bullying

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Whole School Attendance

97.23%

Whole School Target

95.6%

Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 28.09.20:

5C2. 5E1. 5E2

6E2

7E3

8E3



For the week ahead



The Fruit of Faith is:	Forgiveness	Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends. Proverbs 17:9
The assembly theme:	Wisdom	To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. Ecclesiastes 3

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

The weekend	the places in the world where water is too scarce.	Monday	our local priest and Chair of Governors, Fr Glenn Reading.
Tuesday	those who are suffering from Covid-19	Wednesday	hospital staff who are caring for patients with Covid-19
Thursday	A wise generation of electricity	Friday	our local volunteers in the Food Bank.

Picture of the Week



GEORGE HODGSON

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

gruelling

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 8th September 2020 - 8th October 2020

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

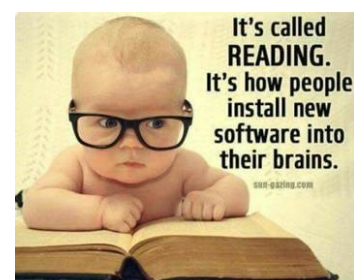
Evie Morgan (Year 5) - who has read 882,762 words

Top Boy

Joseph Bellizzi (Year 6) - who has read 1,005,741 words
(our first millionaire word reader this school year)

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU





National Online Safety Certified School

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

AWARDED TO

Walkwood Church of
England Middle School

**Successful achieved Certified School Status showing
their whole school commitment to online safety on**

8TH OCTOBER 2020

This is to certify that a whole school community approach in online safety is being undertaken by the establishment through empowering its leaders, teachers, governors, all staff and parents/carers. An effective community approach to online safety aims to protect and educate pupils in their safe use of the internet and technology, whilst enabling trusted adults with the essential information to identify online risks, and escalate any incident where appropriate.

CPD[®]

The CPD Certification Service

**Working together towards a safer
online world for children**

www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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.



Public Health
England

[Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)

[Guidance for households with grandparents, parents and children living together where someone is at increased risk or has possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)

Homework

You will be aware that it is school policy for children to receive a homework timetable. Initially this year we made the decision to allow pupils to settle back into school before commencing homework. We are now looking to introduce homework and to have all year groups following their full timetable by the week beginning the 2nd November. The tasks may take many forms, but to help the children organise themselves, we have drawn up a two-week timetable, which covers Maths and English for Key Stage 2 and Maths, English, Humanities and Science in Key Stage 3.

Homework will be recorded on Epraise, which can be accessed at home via your child's account or your own parental account. On completion of homework, we ask the pupils mark tasks as 'done' on their Epraise accounts (via class notes). If the homework requires them to upload work to Epraise, the act of doing this will mark the task as having been completed. For each homework that is completed on time, your child will receive one merit and your child's teacher will acknowledge it 'complete' via Epraise. In some cases, your child may be directed to other websites such as Mymaths to complete their tasks but these will still be recorded on Epraise.

When homework has not been completed or is completed after the due date, your child will receive a demerit. If homework is not being completed on a regular basis you will be contacted by your child's subject teacher and/or tutor to discuss ways to help your child complete their homework.

Key stage 2

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 will receive one maths and one English homework a week from the week beginning the 5th October. From the week beginning the 2nd November, this will increase to their full homework timetable as shown below:

WEEK 1 and 2	Year 5 and 6
MONDAY	English - Reading
TUESDAY	Maths - times tables/arithmetic (6C3 set on Monday)
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Maths - topic based
FRIDAY	English - Spellings



Pupil Social Distancing

We have been made aware that pupils from our school are congregating in and around the local area whilst walking to school or on the way home from school.

Please can parents familiarise themselves with the current guidance below on the **Rule of 6** and **reinforce to their children that this applies to them** whilst out in the community including whilst walking to and from school.



We are now working alongside Redditch Safer Schools to help address this concern.

Seeing friends and family

When seeing friends and family you do not live with you should meet in **groups of 6 or less**.



In England, this **limit of 6 includes children of any age**.

You should also:

- follow social distancing rules when you meet up
- limit how many different people you see socially over a short period of time
- meet people outdoors where practical: meeting people outdoors is safer than meeting people in doors because fresh air provides better ventilation

Limits on the number of people you can see socially have changed. When meeting friends and family you do not live with (or have formed a support bubble with) you must not meet in a group of more than 6, indoors or outdoors. This is against the law and the police will have the powers to enforce these legal limits, including to issue fines (fixed penalty notices) of £200, doubling for further breaches up to a maximum of £6,400.

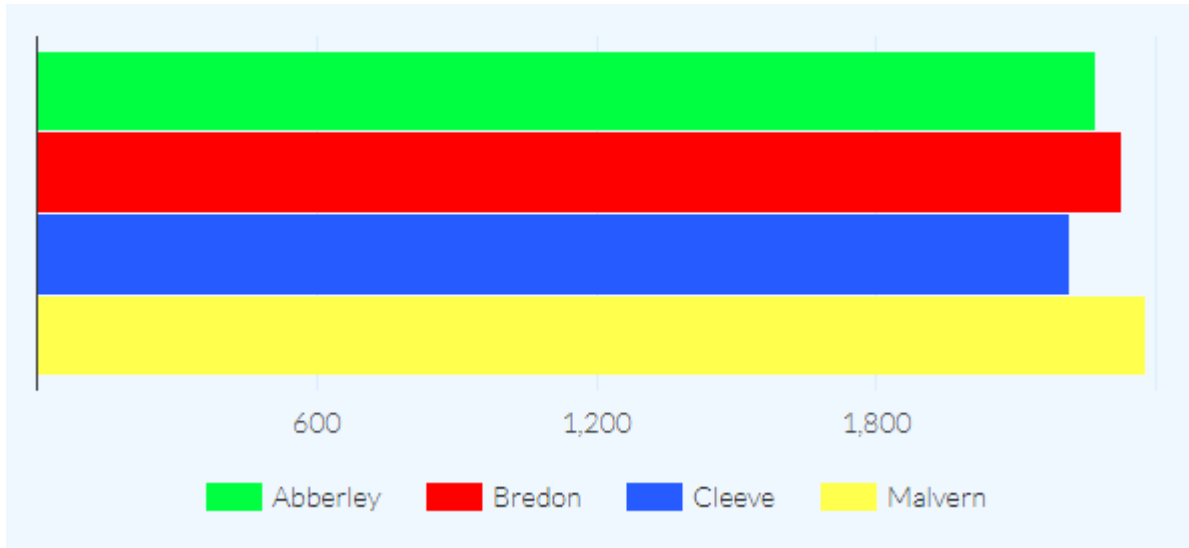
Government has announced an initial £60 million to support additional enforcement activity undertaken by local authorities and the police, in addition to funding that has already been awarded.



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College





Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2020	Friday 23 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 26 to Friday 30 October	Half term
	Friday 18 December	End of Term
2021	Monday 4 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 5 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 15 to Friday 19 February	Half Term
	Thursday 1 April	End of Term
	Monday 19 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June	Half Term
	Wednesday 21 July	End of Term