

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another school year draws to an end today. This means our Year 8 pupils now depart for the next stage of their lives, going on to the different schools in Redditch and beyond. We held a service on Monday at The Bridge Church to commend them on their way. Today they have had "Year 8's Got Talent", which was much more entertaining than any equivalent TV show, probably because we know the people involved.

Final edition  
2018-2019

We have revealed the Head Boy and Head Girl, along with the College Captains and Vice Captains this morning within the Celebration Assembly. The Sports Leaders were announced in the superb Sports Celebration we enjoyed yesterday morning. Indeed, the breadth of sporting achievement is really exceptional, and it was a joy to commemorate this as a school.

This term has seen Mrs Manzur and Ms Walker begin their maternity leave. Today we sadly see Mrs Harris begin her retirement after 33 years at our school. She has been the College Leader of Cleeve for a number of years, and her knowledge of matters of safeguarding is extensive. Mrs Harris has made an exceptional contribution to our school, and staff said their 'goodbyes' on Thursday, but the Governors also extend to her their thanks and appreciation for all she has given.



At Walkwood we have not engaged in exceptional projects to deliver results and 'tick boxes' at inspection, but rather, have sought to do the common things exceptionally well. Naturally, what we seek to do and what actually happens do not always tally, although we try really hard for this to be a small number of occasions. Parents and carers do not always agree with what happens, but we make the decisions based on experience for the common good. I assure you, we do our best. This will continue into the forthcoming academic year - you would expect nothing less.

Finally, for Years 5 to 7, we shall see them back with us in September - gates open at 8.30am on Wednesday 4th September for the bell at 8.45am. Have a happy and safe summer until then!

Rev. Clive Leach  
Principal

*God saved us and chose us to be his holy people. We did nothing to deserve this, but God planned it because he is so kind.*  
St. Paul's second letter to Timothy, 1:9

A Prayer for Travelling and staying

Our Father,

We celebrate today as we come to the end of a year. Let us remember all the good times that we have had. Even through the difficult times we have come through and we pray that your encouragement will continue to guide us in this path. We pray that you will celebrate with us, the achievements that have been made and to be encouraged by the progress we are making. Let next year be even better.

Amen

This week's theme was:

Travelling and staying

You said to me, "I will point out the road that you should follow. I will be your teacher and watch over you."

Psalms 32:8

Whole School Attendance

94.82%

Whole School Target

95.6%

01.07.19—05.07.19

Year 5 — 95.82%

Year 6 — 94.24%

Year 7 — 94.62%

Year 8 — 94.62%



# For the week ahead



<b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b>	<b>Forgiveness</b>	Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends. <i>Proverbs 17:9</i>
<b>The tutor group virtue:</b>	<b>Compassion</b>	When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <i>Matthew 6:36</i>
<b>The assembly theme for the first week of term:</b>	<b>Welcome !</b>	God makes everything happen at the right time. Yet none of us can ever fully understand all he has done, and he puts questions in our minds about the past and the future. <i>Ecclesiastes 3:11</i>

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

<b>The weekend</b>	Those taking part in the Tour de France	<b>Monday</b>	The local churches and community centres
<b>Tuesday</b>	Children who don't have access to school	<b>Wednesday</b>	The teachers and support staff of St Luke's First School
<b>Thursday</b>	The conservative party as they vote for the next prime minister	<b>Friday</b>	Those in unemployment, looking for work.

Silly Norman

**THE  
FINALE**



**Click here to watch!**

<https://youtu.be/sb0m1244EYE>

## Music News

Congratulations to the following pupils who have all recently had success in their music exams:

Joe Leaver – Drum Kit - Grade 4

Matthew Lindsay – Flute - Grade 2

Sam Sellers – Flute - Copper Music Medal

Caitlin Banks – Flute - Copper Music Medal

Harry Dean - Trumpet - Grade 2



## Learn To Play A Musical Instrument

There are still some places available for any pupils who would like to start learning to play a musical instrument. We can offer tuition in violin, cello, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum kit, guitar, keyboard and voice. If any pupils are interested, please collect an application from me in the Music Room.



Mrs Griffiths

# Special Awards Winners



### **The Dave Clifford Memorial Trophy**

Four years of weekly  
contributions of Silly  
Norman



### **Round Table Shield for Charitable Endeavour**

For fundraising for  
Guide Dogs over the  
last year





## Teaching Groups and Sets for 2019/20

Pupils attend the majority of their lessons in teaching groups. Teaching groups are mixed ability.

Sets for Maths, English and Science are organised according to teacher recommendations and analysis of pupils' performance during the last academic year. Pupils are placed in sets with others currently working at a similar ability stage to them. There may be movement between sets over the course of the year.

### Teaching groups

These have been arranged as follows:

**Year 5** will be taught in six teaching groups. These groups are created based on information passed to us during our transition meetings with first schools.



**Year 6** will be taught in six teaching groups. As they have been taught in six teaching groups this year, there has been no need for us to change the groups completely, although slight changes may have been made.

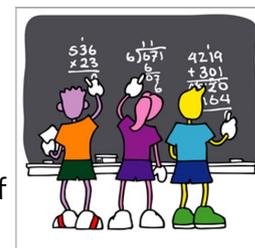
**Year 7** will be taught in six teaching groups. As they have been taught in seven teaching groups this year, we have reorganised the pupils into new groups.

**Year 8** will be taught in six teaching groups. As they have been taught in six teaching groups this year, there has been no need for us to change the groups completely, although slight changes may have been made.

### English and Maths groups

English and Maths groups have been arranged as follows:

**Year 5** will be taught in their six mixed ability teaching groups until approximately half term. We will then use teacher assessment and GL data to organise them into three ability sets in a half year split.



**Year 6** will be split into two halves (c and e) and each side of the year will be taught in three ability groups, sets 1 to 3.

In both Years 7 and 8, pupils will be taught in six ability sets, 1-6.

### Science groups

Science groups have been arranged as follows:

**Year 5 and 6** will be taught Science in their mixed ability teaching groups.

**Year 7 and 8** will be split into two halves (c and e) and each side of the year will be taught in ability sets 1-3.

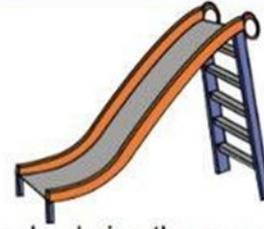




# New school year

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide-or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

- 1** Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- 2** Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.
- 3** Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
- 4** Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.
- 5** Read with your child—explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.
- 6** Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- 7** Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.
- 8** If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.



For more teaching ideas and activities be sure to visit our blog! [www.blog.maketaketeach.com](http://www.blog.maketaketeach.com)

School gates open @ 8.30am

School bell rings @ 8.45am

RESPECT  
THE WATER



# BE SAFE HAVE FUN!

If you are in and around the water  
ALWAYS REMEMBER TO:

1

STOP AND THINK

2

STAY TOGETHER

3

FLOAT

4

CALL 999 OR 112

FIND MORE FUN  
AND SAFETY TIPS AT  
RNLI.org

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea  
Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity registered in England and Wales (206620)  
and Scotland (SC039786). Registered charity number 20005525 in the Republic of Ireland.

  
Lifeboats

The School Summer break is nearly upon us and with it hopefully some good weather. Warm weather though often sees young people taking risks swimming / jumping into open water (rivers, canals, lakes, reservoirs and quarries). According to the Royal Life Saving Society UK 85 percent of drownings happen in open water, often due to a lack of understanding or awareness of the dangers at such locations. There is also a misconception that such tragedies usually involve people who are poor swimmers, where in fact the shock of sudden cold water immersion is a major factor and can cause instant death.

Last Friday we saw the launch of the “Home and Dry” water safety campaign. For further details including access to the free online course please visit: <https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/working-together/homeanddry/> and <https://westmerciasar.org.uk/homeanddry/>



Other materials available from the RNLI include are available at:

<https://www.respectthewater.com/>

# Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

**belligerent**

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 18th June to 18th July 2019

Congratulations to:

### Top Girl

Melissa Chatterton (Year 6 ALWA) - who has read an incredible 327,544 words

### Top Boy

Thomas Seaton (Year 8 BCJO) - who has read a fantastic 772,905 words

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

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

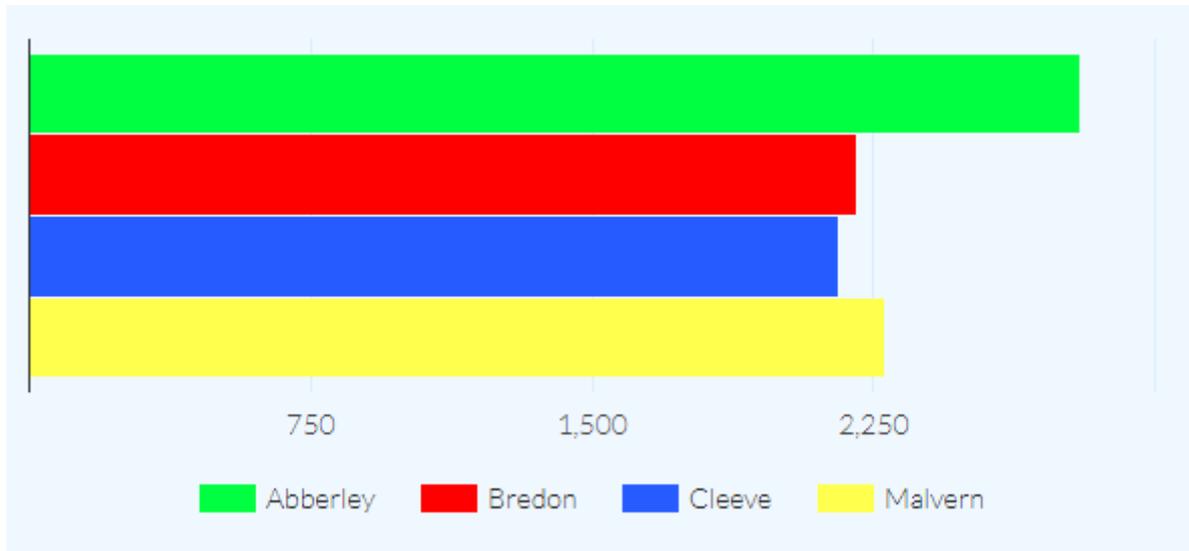




# Epraise Update



## Points This Week: By College



## Top Ten Points Scorers

1. 🌟 Sophie Blagrove (ALBA) (25)
2. 🌟 Jay Jordan (AAGA) (24)
2. 🌟 Phoebe Smith (AAGA) (24)
2. 🌟 Lucy Potter (CTPO) (24)
5. 🌟 Emily Nattrass (ALBA) (22)
5. 🌟 Malachi McKenzie (AAGA) (22)
7. 🌟 Evie Barnish (BHMA) (21)
7. 🌟 Kasey Court (ALBA) (21)
7. 🌟 Ailbhe Clarke (ALBA) (21)
7. 🌟 Grace Allardice (AAGA) (21)



# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2019	Monday 2 & 3 September	Staff Development Days
	Wednesday 4 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Friday 25 October	Staff Development Day
2020	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 20 December	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 6 January	<b>Staff Development Day</b>
	Tuesday 7 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 3 April	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 May	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 17 July	<b>End of Term</b>

