



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another productive week in school and this week our Christmas decorations have started to go up, which is always a happy event. Advent, the season of preparation before Christmas, officially begins this Sunday, although our pupils who have an Advent calendar would have started to celebrate this today, no doubt. The colour for Advent is purple, to demonstrate we are preparing for an event.

At school, we have our own Advent calendar, where some of our Year 5 pupils come down each day to take part. We open up a window as it tells the Christmas story, and have a prayer before sharing some chocolate! As we get closer to Christmas, more of the nativity story is uncovered.



Our year 8 football team is through to the Redditch Schools Cup Final at Redditch United FC, to be played this evening, with Kick Off at 19.45. The school is abuzz with chatter about the match; undoubtedly pupils, families and staff will be there to support our wonderful team.

Good luck, Team Walkwood!

“Hope is a waking dream.” -Aristotle

This week's theme was: The Future

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11, TLB

Dear God,

you know the plans in line for us, only you know the choices we will make. We pray that you guide us to be on your path, so that we may live in your light. Lord, help us to understand the plan you have for us. When we don't understand, may you bless us to know that we can trust that you have us in your hands and can let you take control of our lives. Let your blessing be upon us.

Amen.

Whole school Attendance

94.5%

Whole School Target

95.6%

20.11.2023 to 24.11.2023

Year 5 95.99%

Year 6 95.18%

Year 7 92.74%

Year 8 94.42%



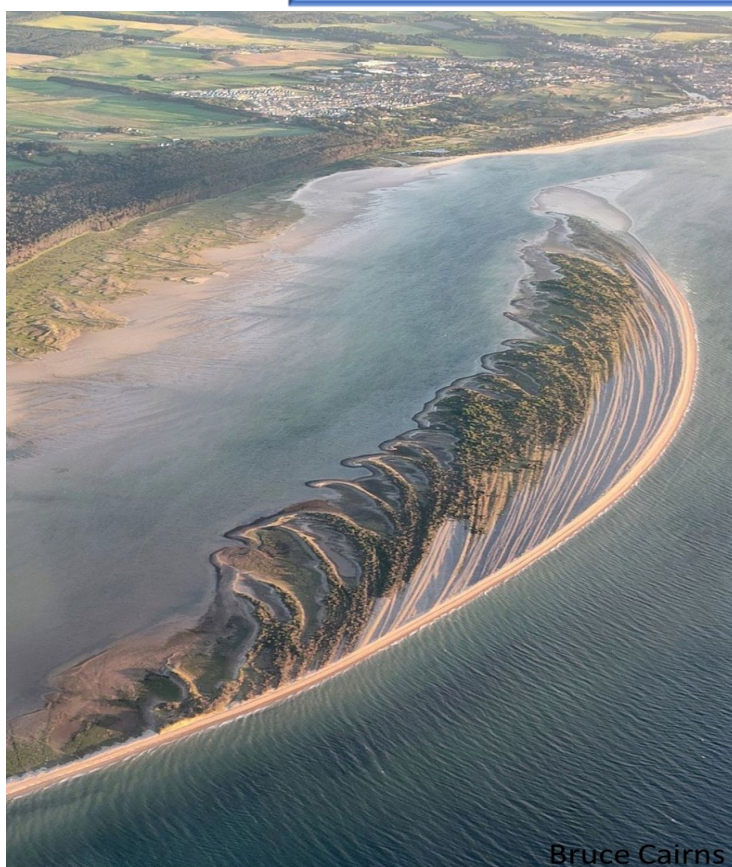
For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Aspiration	Oh listen, dear child - become wise; point your life in the right direction. <i>Proverbs 23: 19</i>
The assembly theme will be:	Temptation	Every test that you have experienced is the kind that normally comes to people. But God keeps his promise, and he will not allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm; at the time you are put to the test, he will give you the strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out. <i>1 Corinthians 10: 13, RSV</i>

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

The weekend	A reminder of what Advent is all about	Monday	Our catering staff
Tuesday	Staff in Worcestershire's Social Care teams	Wednesday	Local charities that support the community of Redditch
Thursday	The workers who transport food to our shops	Friday	Parents and carers who are preparing for the festive season

Picture of the Week



The late midsummer light cast long shadows, picking out the patterns in the sand and stones of this long spit of land off the coast of Nairn.

Bruce Cairns



Festive Jumpers

On the last day of this term, Thursday 21st December, pupils and staff are invited to replace their usual jumpers with a Christmas version. **The rest of the Walkwood uniform is to be worn, please, as it is not a non-uniform day.**

This is not compulsory! There will be pupils and adults who will be in their usual attire. School will finish at the usual time: ho, ho, ho!

We ask for a donation of £ 1 which will go to **Children in Need.**





Christmas Lunch 2023

Christmas lunches this year will be held on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December 2023. If your child wishes to have a Christmas lunch, the cost will be £4.00, to be paid via Parentpay.

Abberley and **Cleeve** Colleges will have their Christmas lunches on Tuesday 19th December, while **Bredon** and **Malvern** College lunches will be on the following day. **There will be no other catering available on these days**, so pupils who do not wish to have a Christmas lunch will need to bring in a packed meal from home; equally the children in the colleges not having Christmas lunch will need to bring in a packed lunch as no other meals will be available. Those who take free school lunches will be provided with their meal (a Christmas meal on their allocated College day and a packed lunch on the other day).

Please note that when paying by Parentpay, the Christmas lunch option will be listed as a separate item so that we can identify the number of meals required. Please select the Christmas lunch item (log in to Parentpay, then go into 'pay for other items') and ensure that you make your payment by 15th December 2023.

Please note, **no tuck** will be available on Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th December.



Christmas Lunch 2023

Menu

Roast Turkey
Sage and Onion Stuffing
Pigs in Blankets
Roast Potatoes
Sprouts, Carrots and Peas
Gravy

Roast Quorn (Vegetarian Option)

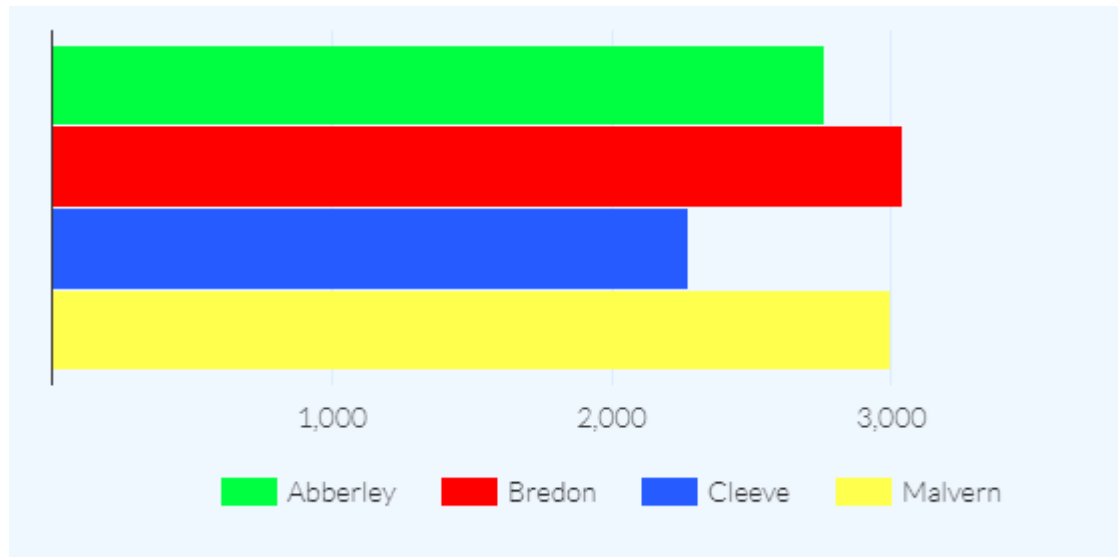
Ice Cream

Flavoured Drink





epraise this week



Top Readers for 29.10.2023 — 29.11.2023

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Eden Sherwood (Year 6 CPJE) - who has read 233,517 words .

Top Boy

Coen Gosnell (Year 5 MTCO) - who has read 352,796 words.

Well done - 5 merits will be awarded to you both.

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU



Winter Reading with friends





Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School

For information about our school:

www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk

A summary of how our school works can be found in:

[handbook for parents and carers](#)

Keeping children safe

The following information concerns how we continue to ensure that pupils are cared for within our school:

[Early help](#)

[E-safety](#)

[Prevent](#)

[Anti-bullying](#)

[Attendance](#)

[Safeguarding summary](#)

[Safeguarding policy](#)

Knowing our curriculum

For information about the curriculum for each year group, please select:



[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)



For information about specific curriculum subjects, you will find the calendars here:

[Art and Technology](#)

[Computing](#)

[Drama](#)

[English](#)

[French](#)

[Mathematics](#)

[Music](#)

[Physical Education](#)

[Science](#)

[Spiritual & Social Education](#)

Additionally, for [Careers](#)



For the overall rationale for the way we have put the curriculum together, or for how the pastoral system operates, please select:

[Curriculum Rationale](#)

[Pastoral Strategy](#)



Reading matters



Reading remains a huge priority at our school and as part of that, we would like to share with you recommended reading lists for each year group – all of them considered to be high quality reading books. With Christmas approaching, you may wish to purchase these as gifts for your children or you may like to visit a local library to explore these titles, many of which are in our own school library also -

Year 5 recommended reading list: [Books for Year 5 children aged 9-10 | School Reading List](#)

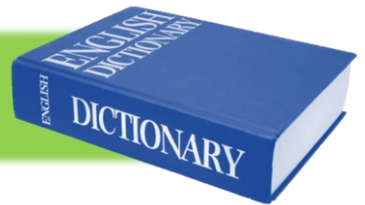
Year 6 recommended reading list: [Books for Year 6 children aged 10-11 | School Reading List](#)

Year 7 recommended reading list: [Year 7 books for pupils aged 11-12 in KS3 - our suggested reads \(schoolreadinglist.co.uk\)](#)

Year 8 recommended reading list: [Suggested reading book list for Year 8 pupils | KS3 | Age 12-13 \(schoolreadinglist.co.uk\)](#)



Word of the Week



Each week, there is a word displayed here. If the pupils have a go at the tasks below linked to the weekly word, they will earn a point from their tutor. Once per fortnight the tutor will go through the previous two weeks' words and pupils will work

sufficient

1. What word class is this word? Could it belong to more than one word class?
2. How many syllables does it have?
3. Write the dictionary definition(s) of this word, using your own words.
4. What are the synonyms for the word?
5. What are the antonyms for the word?
6. Write four sentences, each containing the word.

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 *exhilarated*:

Statement: Sam is feeling exhilarated this morning.



Clubs and Activities



Autumn Term 2

	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Lunch Club, Room 2, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI	KS2 fitness club (PMC/RDJ) Start Monday 13 th November – Monday 11 th December. Sign up only limited numbers.
Tuesday	Lunch Club, Room 2, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI	School Production Rehearsals for whole cast (GLA/DDE/PAL/LHA) Tuesday 21 st November – Tuesday 12 th December (3.45pm-4.45pm) Homework club (3.30 – 4.45) DT hub Sign up only.
Wednesday	Lunch Club, Room 2, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI	KS3 Boogie bounce (KRE) start Wednesday 15 th November – Wednesday 13 th December. Sign up only limited numbers. Homework club (3.30 – 4.45) DT hub Sign up only.
Thursday	Lunch Club, Room 2, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Choir will take place during 2nd sitting. 12.35 - 1pm All members will need to collect a lunch pass from Mrs Laishley.	KS3 fitness (CHU/RMA/LWO/PMI/RDJ/PMC) start Thursday 16 th November – Thursday 14 th December. Sign up. <u>Not on Thursday 30th November due to meetings.</u> KS2 Boogie bounce (KRE) start Thursday 16 th November – Thursday 14 th December. Sign up only. <u>Not on Thursday 30th November due to meetings.</u> School Production Rehearsals for whole cast (GLA/DDE/PAL/LHA) Thursday 23 rd November – Thursday 14 th December (3.30pm-4.45pm) Homework club (3.30 – 4.45) DT hub Sign up only.
Friday	Lunch Club, Room 2, duration of lunch, KCR/LTI	



Trips and Visits



Date	Activity	Location	Open To	Cost	Leader
June 2024					
Fri 28 – Mon 1	Outward Bound	Osmington Bay, Weymouth	Y7	£ 330	Mr West
July 2024					
Wed 3 – Fri 5	Outward Bound	Brecon Beacons	Y5	£ 320	Mr Wootton
February 2025					
Sat 1 – Sat 8	Ski Trip	Obertauern, Aus- tria	Y5-Y7	£ 1659	Mrs Cull



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2023	Thursday 7 December	Year 5 theatre trip to Birmingham Rep
	Thursday 21 December	End of Term
	Monday 8 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Thursday 25 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Wednesday 31 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Monday 12 – Friday 16 February	Half Term
	Friday 22 March	End of Term
	Monday 8 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Thursday 11 April	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Wednesday 17 April	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Monday 27 – Friday 31 May	Half Term
	Friday 19 July	End of Term