

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unlike some supermarkets, the Christmas decorations only went up this week! Advent (the season of preparation before Christmas) officially began last Sunday, although those who have an Advent calendar would have started on Friday, I suspect. The colour for Advent is purple, to show we are preparing for an event.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. John 1: 9

At school, we have our own Advent calendar, where some of our Year 5 pupils come down each day when they do not have assembly. We open up a window as it tells the Christmas story, and have a prayer before sharing some chocolate.



Monday saw the older members of our Pupil Parliament visit the Palace of Westminster. They were able to see both Houses of Parliament in action as the pupils were split into two groups for a tour. One group saw a rather raucous exchange in the Commons. They then were taught about how Parliament works, a session that was heightened by the presence of Redditch's MP, Rachel Maclean. Our pupils posed a few questions to her, most of them rather challenging! Thank you to Mrs Maclean for taking time out of her schedule, and also to Mrs Taylor and Mrs Haldane who took the pupils down to the capital. I'm sorry that the only meal we were able to provide for pupils was all-you-can-eat-pizza, although they didn't seem to mind!

Year 5 had their trip to the theatre on Wednesday. This event is surrounded by work in English lessons, both before and after the visit. This year's story was 101 Dalmatians. The pupils I have spoken to were really impressed with the staging, as the Birmingham Repertory Theatre's performance was of exceptional quality. If you are wondering, the dogs were elaborate puppets! The atmosphere was energised through quality story telling, and I know many of the pupils have taken to the reflective work they do back at school. Arranging such events is never easy, so my thanks go to the English teachers who prepared the materials for classes, to the staff who went with them and Mrs Johnson in particular for organising the trip, and also to the parents who had a wait at school as the buses were delayed on the return journey. Unlike the puppies from the story, none of the pupils escaped at any point.



Rev C Leach
Principal

Dear Lord,

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.

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

Whole School Attendance—94.82%

Whole School Target – 95.6%

27.11.17—01.12.17

Year 5 — 96.48%

Year 6 — 95.72%

Year 7 — 92.37%

Year 8 — 94.5 %



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 tutor group virtue:	Perseverance	We rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. <i>Romans 5: 2-5</i>
The assembly theme:	Global Christmas	In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <i>John 1: 1-5</i>

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

The weekend	members of the emergency services.	Monday	parents and carers who are preparing for the festive season.
Tuesday	Reception and Admin staff at our school.	Wednesday	staff in Worcestershire’s Social Care teams.
Thursday	our pupils who have two Deep Days when they work on understanding the Christmas story.	Friday	our catering staff who have prepared two days of Christmas lunches.



THE WALKWOOD NEWS

www.walkwoodnews.com THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER - Since 1920

The Walkwood football academy keeps producing



Achievement

Aspiration

SHARP-SHOOTING Walkwood CE Middle School pupils have enjoyed a blistering start to the football season, with four wins and two runners-up spots secured at the eight tournaments they have competed in. Schools from across the district go to battle, in a sporting manner, during various seven-a-side tournaments for boys and girls from school years five through to eight.

Year on year the tournaments produce an array of talent as well as instilling values of teamwork, friendliness and honour to name but a few. The competitions, held at Woodfield Academy, continue to be events enjoyed by all who are selected to represent their schools.

In 2017, Walkwood have enjoyed great success, winning the year five girls, year six girls, year six open (boys and girls) and year seven open tournaments.

The year five girls team represented Walkwood brilliantly, winning every game and not conceding a single goal, whilst the year six girls sealed their winners medals after a closely fought final against St Bede's which ended in a 3-1 victory after extra time.

Walkwood's year six boys, having won the tournament as year fives, again produced some breath-taking football which was a real pleasure to watch and took the trophy with a 3-0 win in the final against Ridgeway.



Having won these tournaments, both the Walkwood year six girls and year six open teams now progress to the Worcestershire finals to represent Redditch district.

The fourth victorious Walkwood team was the year sevens. Again, a very close competition resulted in a tight final against St Bede's in which neither normal or extra time could separate the sides and it was Walkwood who prevailed on penalties to win for the second year in succession.

There were also impressive performances from Walkwood's year five boys and year eight girls teams who both finished runners-up following narrow defeats in the final to Ipsley and St Bede's respectively.

Walkwood PE teacher Mr Macdonald said: "As a school, we at Walkwood are very proud of the outstanding achievements from all the pupils who continue to represent our school in such a commendable fashion.

"Key sporting values of participation, hard work, team spirit and enjoyment are values that we endeavour to instil in our pupils. It is great to see so many of our pupils excelling in these areas and also being successful as well!"





Just checking . . .

The last day of term is **Tuesday 19th December**, when school will finish at our normal time.

The first day back will be **Thursday 4th January 2018**.



School applications for September 2018



DEADLINE
15th January

Applications for places at **middle schools** must be submitted to Worcestershire County Council by **15th January 2018**. The same date applies for **first school applications** too.

If you wish to make a preference for a pupil to begin at a first or middle school in September of next year, please ensure that applications are submitted on time.



Walkwood Christmas Concert

Tuesday 12th December, 7.30pm.



Festive Jumpers

On the last day of this term, Tuesday 19th 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 of 3.30pm—ho, ho, ho!



Music News

On Thursday afternoon, twenty members of Walkwood Choir visited Plymouth Court to entertain the residents with festive songs. The audience were very impressed with the singing; they really enjoyed the selection of songs and were delighted to have had the opportunity to join in with the singing.



Next week will be a very busy one for our musicians, with concert rehearsals, concerts and church services. Everyone has worked very hard to learn their music and songs, and they are all looking forward to performing. We hope to see many of you at our concert on Tuesday evening, which starts at 7.30pm. There are no tickets for this event, although there will be a retiring collection for a local charity. Everyone is welcome.

Christmas Lunch 2017

Christmas lunches this year will be held on Thursday 14 and Friday 15 December 2017. If your child wishes to have a Christmas lunch, the cost will be £3.00, preferably to be paid via Parentpay.

Bredon and Cleeve Colleges will have their Christmas lunches on Thursday 14th December, while Malvern and Abberley 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.

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 11 December 2017. If you are unable to pay by Parentpay, please put £3 in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and tutor group and put it in the drop box. Please ensure that your child does not put their £3 in the cashloader as this method is only to be used for everyday school meals.

Please note, **no tuck** will be available on Thursday 14 & Friday 15 December.



Christmas Lunch 2017

Menu

Roast Turkey

Stuffing

Pigs in Blankets

Roast Potatoes

Sprouts, Carrots and Peas

Gravy

Quorn Fillet (Vegetarian Option)

Christmas Tree Ice Cream



Cleaner wanted!

We have a position vacant for 2 cleaners at our school. Would this suit you?



The post holder will be responsible for the cleaning of the school site along with other members of our dedicated cleaning team. The successful candidates will be expected to carry out assigned duties with a minimum of supervision, have the ability to follow cleaning schedules, jobs and safety instructions and have the ability to use their own initiative and work to schedules and deadlines.

The hours of work are Monday to Friday 3.30—6.00pm term time only with an additional requirement to carry out 34 banked hours per annum during the school holidays.

For further details please visit our website www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk or for an informal chat please speak to Mrs Wood our Business Manager.



Top Readers for 7th November 2017 - 7th December 2017

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Enya Hussain (Year 7 - BCLO) - who has read an incredible 2,030,678 words

Top Boy

Jack Anderson (Year 5 - AECO) - who has read a fantastic 1,214,269 words

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU



Here is the link to enable pupils to do a quiz at home

<https://ukhosted23.renlearn.co.uk/2250823>



Trips and Visits

2017 - 18



DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	OPEN TO	COST	LEADER
May					
Fri 18—Mon 21	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 270	Mr Sanders
June					
Wed 20—Fri 22	Arts and Theatres	London	Y8	£ 280	Rev Leach
Fri 22—Mon 25	Outward Bound	Wales	Y8	£ 270	Mr Jenkin
Fri 22— Mon 25	Outward Bound	Brecon Beacons	Y5	£ 155	Mr Macdonald / Mrs Cull



Clubs and Activities Autumn Term 2 2017



Day	Before School 7.45am—8.45 am	Lunchtime 12.35-1.20 pm	After School 3.30 pm—4.45 pm
Monday	<p style="color: #0056b3;">Homework Club (Library)</p> <p>Orchestra (Music Room) 8.45-9.30am (CGr)</p>	<p>KS3 Art Club Starting 18th September (ECO)</p> <p>Choir (all year groups) 12.50-1.20 pm Music Room (CGR)</p> <p style="color: #008000;">Monday lunchtime DT block Movie club (all years) (AMI)</p> <p style="color: #008000;">Gardening Club Textiles Room At the start of lunch (STA)</p> <p>Maths Club for KS2 and KS3 Room 6 (HBA and LTH)</p>	<p style="color: #800080;">Homework Club (Library) 3.30–4.30pm</p> <p style="color: #800080;">Seated volley ball club all years 3.30—4.45pm (DPA and NFR)</p>
Tuesday	<p style="color: #0056b3;">Homework Club (Library)</p>	<p style="color: #008000;">DT Club in DT block All years (AMI)</p> <p style="color: #008000;">KS2 Art Club Art Room (ECO)</p> <p style="color: #008000;">Card Making club (invite only) Art Room (STA)</p>	<p style="color: #800080;">Homework Club (Library) 3.30–4.30pm</p> <p style="color: #800080;">Year 5 & 6 Science Club 3.30-4.30pm LAB1 (JHD) Starts 12th September (not on 17th October, 31st October, 12th December and 19th December)</p> <p style="color: #800080;">8 boys basketball (CHU/SWA) Starting 21st November 3.30-4.45pm</p> <p style="color: #800080;">KS2 boys and girls dance club (KRE/HTR) 3.30-4.45pm</p>
Wednesday	<p style="color: #0056b3;">Homework Club (Library)</p>	<p style="color: #008000;">Signing Club (All year groups) (Textiles Room) (JHa)</p> <p style="color: #008000;">Silent Reading Club Room 19 (LBa)</p> <p style="color: #008000;">Colouring and Drawing Club for Mindfulness and Relaxation (12.50—1.20) Room 9 (MMG and PC) (limited places available)</p>	<p style="color: #800080;">Homework Club (Library) 3.30–4.30pm</p> <p style="color: #800080;">Cooking Club 3.30–4.45pm (DSL) (rota of when you are cooking will be confirmed)</p> <p style="color: #800080;">KS2 indoor sports clubs (benchball, bench hockey, dodgeball mixture) (RMA/DPA/NFO) 3.30-4.45pm KS3 dance club (KRE/HTR)</p>



Clubs and Activities Autumn Term 2 2017



Thursday	Homework Club (Library)	Choir (All year groups) Music Room— 12.50-1.20pm (CGR) Languages Club 1.00 pm in Room 15 (NHU) To start after October half-term Green Ambassadors Club All years Week 2 only 12.35 pm—if you need a lunch pass collect from MBI	Homework Club (Library) 3.30–4.30pm Thursday - Fitness and step all years (TRO/KRE/RMA/CHU/DPA/NFO/SWA) 3.30-4.45pm
Friday	Homework Club (Library)		Homework Club (Library) 3.30–4.30pm



Clubs and Activities Spring Term 1 2018

starting 9th January 2018



	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	<p>Homework Club Library</p> <p>Orchestra Music Room 8.45-9.30am (CGR)</p>	<p>KS3 Art club starting 18th September (ECO)</p> <p>Monday lunchtime DT block Movie club all years (AMI)</p> <p>Gardening Club Textiles room At the start of lunch (STA)</p> <p>Maths Club for KS2 and KS3 Room 6 (HBA and LTH)</p>	<p>Homework Club Library 3.30–4.30pm</p> <p>Indoor Sports Club (benchball, bench hockey, dodgeball, seated volley ball Mixture) all years 3.30-4.45pm (DPA and NFR)</p>
Tuesday	<p>Homework Club Library</p>	<p>DT Club in DT block All years (AMI)</p> <p>KS2 Art Club Art room (ECO)</p> <p>Card making club (invite only) Art room (STA)</p>	<p>Homework Club Library 3.30–4.30pm</p> <p>Year 5/6 Science club 3.30-4.30pm Lab 1 JHD Starts 12th September</p> <p>Seussical the Musical Rehearsal 3.30-4.45pm Hall (TTO, CGR, ACO)</p>
Wednesday	<p>Homework Club Library</p>	<p>Signing Club (All year groups) Textiles Room JHA</p> <p>Silent Reading Club Room 19 (LBA)</p> <p>‘Colouring for Mindfulness’ Club on Wednes- days, Room 9, from 12.50-1.20pm (MMG, PCO)</p>	<p>Homework Club Library 3.30–4.30pm</p> <p>Cooking Club 3.30–4.45pm (DSL) (rota of when you are cooking will be confirmed)</p> <p>8 and 7 Boys Basketball (CHU/SWA) 3.30-4.45pm</p> <p>KS3 Dance Club (KRE/HTR)</p>



Clubs and Activities Spring Term 1 2018 starting 9th January 2018 (continued)



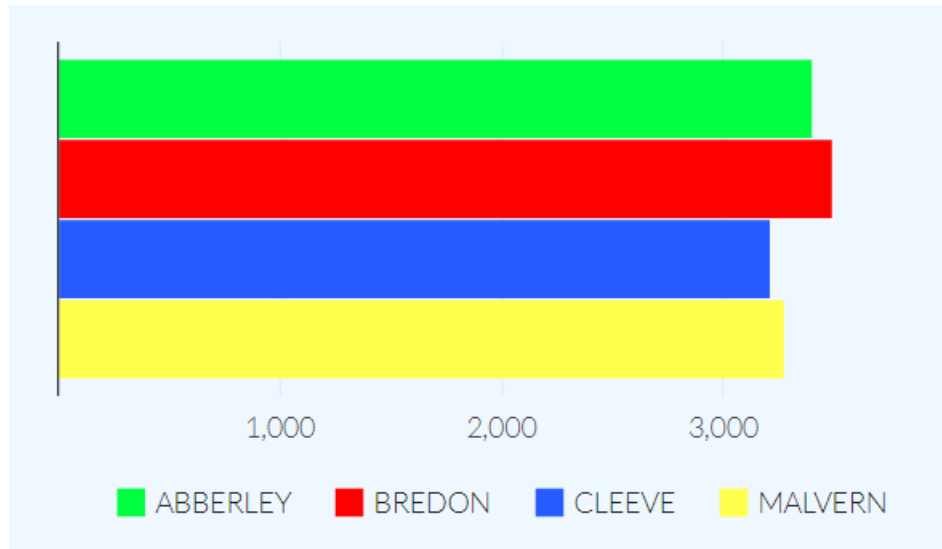
Thursday	Homework Club Library	Choir (all year groups) Music Room 12.50-1.20pm (CGR) Languages Club 1.00 pm in Room 15 (NHU) To start after October half-term Green Ambassadors Club All years Week 2 only 12.35 – if you need a lunch pass collect from MBI	Homework Club Library 3.30–4.30pm Seussical the Musical Rehearsal 3.30-4.45pm Hall (TTO, CGR, ACO)
Friday	Homework Club Library	EAL club Friday lunch time (the first Friday of every month). Starts 5th January. For anyone who speaks English as an additional language and your friends. Bring your lunch along.	Homework Club Library 3.30–4.30pm



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College



Top Ten Points Scorers

1. 🍊 Nathan Smyth (BHLL) (29)
2. 🍊 Abigayle Court (AAGA) (28)
3. 🍊 Jack Anderson (AECO) (27)
3. 🍊 Daniel Wild (MNSA) (27)
3. 🍊 Joseph Leaver (ARMA) (27)
6. 🍊 Louis Davenport (ARMA) (26)
7. 🍊 Rhys Potter (ARMA) (24)
8. 🍊 James Hodgkins (ARMA) (23)
8. 🍊 Lily McAfee (BHLL) (23)
8. 🍊 Jake Hemming (MDSL) (23)



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
201	Tuesday 12 December	Christmas Concert 7.30 pm
	Tuesday 19 December	End of Term
2018	Wednesday 3 January	Staff Development Day
	Thursday 4 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 15 January	Parent English KS2 Workshop 6.30—7.30 pm
	Thursday 1 February	Y6 & Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	Wednesday 7 February	Y6 & Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	Thursday 15 February	Y5 & Y7 reports to Parents / Carers
	Monday 19 – Friday 23 February	Half-Term
	Friday 9 March	Parent Focus Group 2.00—3.00 pm
	Monday 26 - Wednesday 28 March	School Production
	Thursday 29 March	End of term
	Monday 16 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Wednesday 16 May	Y5 Brecon Beacons information evening 6.30 pm
	Monday 28 May—Friday 1 June	Half-Term
	Monday 4 June	Staff Development Day
	Thursday 7 June	Y5 & Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	Wednesday 13 June	Y5 & Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	Monday 9 July	Parent Focus group 6 pm
	Tuesday 24 July	End of Term
	Monday 3 & Tuesday 4 September	Staff Development Days
	Wednesday 5 September	First day of the Autumn Term
Friday 26 October	Staff Development Day	
Monday 29 Oct to Friday 2 November	Half term	
Friday 21 December	End of Term	



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2019	Monday 7 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 8 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 18—Friday 22 February	Half Term
	Friday 12 April	End of Term
	Monday 29 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 27—Friday 31 May	Half Term
	Friday 19 July	End of Term