

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.



Walkwood's choir attended an event at The Bridge Memorial Hall where they sang carols for the assembled senior citizens and carers. Some of the group were singing along with the pupils! We shall have our own assembly that recalls some classic carols in the coming week.

At the start of this week our thoughts and prayers were with the secondary school in Essex where a pupil lost his life, and others were injured, in a hit-and-run. Safety on the roads is so important in and around schools. Many of you are aware that I support our pupils in crossing Feckenham Road just in front of our main gate, while other staff are in positions in the environs. We do this to ensure our pupils are safe. However, barely a week goes by when I experience a 'near miss' as I walk onto the crossing, even when I am wearing a hi-viz jacket (with matching umbrella when it is raining!). The parking enforcement officers have been making random visits along Feckenham Road, Tennyson Road and Swinburne Road.

Finally, I draw your attention to our festive arrangements for the last week of term - lunches for Wednesday and Thursday (payment through ParentPay, selecting the Christmas lunch option) and the festive jumpers where we shall collect donations towards Children in Need.

Rev. C. Leach
Principal

A prayer for The Future

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.

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

96.59%

Whole School Target

95.6%

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

CLBK
CTPO
MDSL
MNSA



For the week ahead

<p>The Fruit of Faith is:</p>	<p>Aspiration</p>	<p>Oh listen, dear child—become wise; point your life in the right direction.</p> <p>Proverbs 23:19</p>
<p>The assembly theme:</p>	<p>The Lord's Prayer</p>	<p>Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread...</p> <p>Matthew 6:9-13</p>

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

<p>The weekend</p>	<p>safety for road users in our town.</p>	<p>Monday</p>	<p>personal blessings that we are thankful for.</p>
<p>Tuesday</p>	<p>staff and pupils at St. Augustine's Catholic High School.</p>	<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>our sports teams and their staff leaders.</p>
<p>Thursday</p>	<p>the UK's national security services.</p>	<p>Friday</p>	<p>those who care for the elderly and infirm.</p>

Picture of the Week



Is this contemporary, or is it from the past?

Christmas Lunch 2019

Christmas lunches this year will be held on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December 2019. If your child wishes to have a Christmas lunch, the cost will be £3.50, to be paid via Parentpay.

Abberley and **Malvern** Colleges will have their Christmas lunches on Wednesday 18th December, while **Bredon** and **Cleeve** 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 2019. If you are unable to pay by Parentpay, please put £3.50 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 £3.50 in the cashloader as this method is only to be used for everyday school meals.

Please note, **no tuck** will be available on Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th December.

Christmas Lunch 2019

Menu

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

Roast Quorn (Vegetarian Option)

Christmas Tree Ice Cream

Flavoured Drink



Cancelled Clubs

Please note that Homework Club is not on for the final week of term and for the first week back after the Christmas holidays and will re-commence Tuesday 14th January 2020.

There are no PE Clubs on the last week of term which is the 16th—20th December.

After Christmas, the only PE club we can run is the Cheerleading (squad only) which is on a Wednesday 3.30-4.45pm. This is due to rehearsals for the School Production. Once the light comes back and the weather starts to improve we will be able to offer more extra-curricular PE clubs.

Festive Jumpers

On the last day of this term, Friday 20th 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!



School Trips

Y6—Yorkshire Trip

Y7—Isle of Wight Trip

Y8—London Trip

Thank you to all who have been keeping up with the payment schedule for these trips. Can I please remind you that the second instalment should have been paid by 29 November. If this hasn't been done, please do so as soon as possible. We ask that all payments be made using ParentPay. Please can you inform us by email, letter or phone if your child no longer wishes to take up their place on the trip.

Thank you

Music News

Music Success

Congratulations to Liam Chun Woolsey who recently passed Grade 1 Violin.

Instrumental Music Tuition

In January there will be some available places for tuition in singing, flute, keyboard and guitar for interested pupils. Please contact Mrs C Griffiths for further details.

Choir Carol Singing.

A group of our singers provided some seasonal entertainment at Redditch Dementia Café's Christmas celebration earlier this week. With a selection of traditional Christmas carols and other Christmas songs, the audience clearly enjoyed the songs; White Christmas and Deck The Halls were the definite favourites! Well done to all our singers - you sounded splendid!

Christmas Concert

Rehearsals are going well for our annual Christmas Carol concert on Wednesday 18th December, starting at 7.30pm. The Choir and Orchestra have been practising hard, the staff contribution is nearly ready and an air of excitement is starting to build! There are no tickets for this event; instead we shall have our usual collection for a local charity. Everyone is welcome.

Instrumental Music Tuition Payments

Please note that all instrumental music tuition payments should have been paid by Friday 6 December 2019. Please contact the Finance Office if there are any problems with this. Thank you.





My gymnastics training!

Yes, gymnastics is tough, but I will never stop doing what I love!

- I train at Midlands Gymnastics Academy and train for 22 hours over 5 days a week. On my days off I am still expected to do conditioning at home. A typical session is 4 hours long but one day a week I train for 6+hours.
- I am training on the British Gymnastics elite pathway. My goal is to be selected for GB when I'm a little older.
- I love all aspects of gymnastics, but I really enjoy bars and beam. I am lucky to have amazing coaches that are supportive and motivating especially when it gets tough.
- I started gymnastics when I was 3 and when I was 5, I was put into a development group and was a lot younger than the other girls. When I was 6, I did 14 hours a week. I did my first competition when I was 6; I was over 12 months younger than the others and came second overall.

By Lacey Poulton



Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

morose

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 5th November 2019 — 5th December 2019

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Olivia Rae (Year 5 MHBA) - who has read an incredible 552,259 words

Top Boy

Joseph Bellizzi (Year 5 MHBA) - who has read a fantastic 1,024,255 words



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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU



Trips and Visits

2019 - 2020



DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	OPEN TO	COST	LEADER
May					
Fri 15 - Mon 18	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 300	Rev Leach
June					
Wed 17 - Fri 19	Arts and Theatres	London	Y8	£ 300	Rev Leach
Fri 19 - Mon 22	Outward Bound	Isle of Wight	Y7	£ 320	Mr West
Fri 19 - Mon 22	Outward Bound	Brecon Beacons	Y5	£ 173	Mr Macdonald/ Mrs Cull



Clubs and Activities

Autumn Term Part 2, 2019



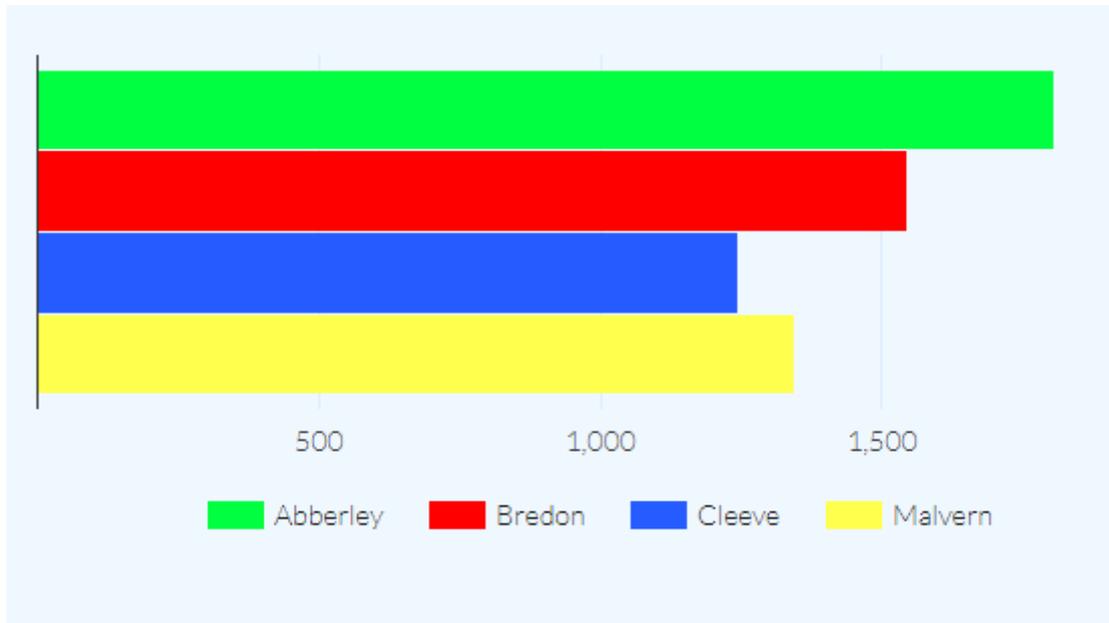
	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20PM	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Homework Club Library Orchestra Music Room 8.45-9.30am (CGR)	KS3 Art Club starting 18 th September (ECO) Choir (all year groups) - Music Room 12.50-1.20pm (CGR) Parliament Club - Lab 2 (invitation only) 12.50—1.20 pm ECO Club - Lab 2 12.50-1.20 pm	Multi skills (all years) 3.30-4.45pm (PMC)
Tuesday	Homework Club Library	Nearly Jazzy Band (invitation only) Music Room 12.50–1.20pm (CGR)	Homework Club - Library 3.30–4.30pm Dance Club All years Starts 12 th November(KRE)
Wednesday	Homework Club Library	Colouring Club Room 15 (RSH) Silent Reading Club - Room 19 (LBA) KS3 Science Ambassadors - Lab 2 12.50-1.20pm (JHd)	Homework Club - Library 3.30–4.30pm KS2 Science Club - Lab 2 3.30-4.30pm (JHd) Cheerleading Squad 3.30-4.45pm (LMO/KRE)
Thursday	Homework Club Library	Choir (all year groups) - Music Room 12.50-1.20pm (CGR)	Homework Club - Library Library 3.30– 4.30pm Fitness Club Starting 14 th November (all years) (KRE/CHU/LWO)
Friday	Homework Club Library		



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College



Top Ten Points Scorers

1. 🍌 Joseph Leaver (ACWO) (24)
2. 🍌 Alysha Wheeler (AMLA) (23)
3. 🍌 Dylan Knight (ALBA) (22)
3. 🍌 Ruby Fletcher (AAFA) (22)
3. 🍌 Caitlin Harland (BLWO) (22)
6. 🍌 Jack Aucott (AMLA) (21)
6. 🍌 Lucas Hill (BRCO) (21)
8. 🍌 Hayden Hartles (BRCO) (20)
8. 🍌 Luca Harris (BRCO) (20)
8. 🍌 Jay Jordan (AAFA) (20)



Looking ahead



	Date	Event	
2019	Wednesday 18 December	Christmas Carol Concert - 7.30 pm	
	Friday 20 December	End of Term	
	Monday 6 January	Staff Development Day	
	Tuesday 7 January	First day of the Spring Term	
	Monday 13 January	Parents' English KS2 Workshop 6.30—7.30 pm	
	Thursday 30 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm	
	Wednesday 5 February	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm	
2020	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February	Half Term	
	Wednesday 18 March	Y6 Yorkshire information evening 6.30 pm	
	Friday 3 April	End of Term	
	Monday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term	
	Wednesday 6 May	Y5 Brecon Beacons information evening 6.30 pm	
	Friday 8 May	May Day bank holiday	
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 May	Half Term	
	Thursday 4 June	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm	
	Wednesday 10 June	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm	
	Friday 17 July	End of Term	
	Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 September	Staff Development Days	
	Thursday 3 September	First day of the Autumn Term	
	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	