

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to have all our pupils back this week, given the phased return of Years 7 and 8 last week. They have resettled well into the routines we had established last term, and teachers have been re-establishing the skills and behaviours for learning when in class. This afternoon, pupils worked in their classes on material about Red Nose Day so they can acquire an appreciation of what lies behind this event which the nation engages with every two years.



Walkwood's pastoral system has always been a strength, and it is at times such as these that this is obvious. We do not apply 'add ons' to the work, nor are we keen on 'gimmicks' which may get the school a badge, rather we want to do the basic pastoral care really well. Naturally, not everything goes according to plan, and we recognise that there are times when what we can accomplish is not what some parents or carers would want. However, I assure you that the care which pupils experience here is the most honest and prompt that I have known in the schools I have worked over the last 30+ years. Children are not always angelic (shock!), and we shall always communicate what we know, doing so honestly. We continue to question ourselves to ensure we are 'on top of the game'.



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit .

Romans 15: 3

There will be a point at which we are wholly 'back to normal', although the current circumstances do not allow us to be sure of when that will be. Yet, some of the different ways of working will stay when we have had the opportunity to reflect thoughtfully. That said, we are thinking about the summer term and what may be possible: we shall share any plans we have, with the details, when we know how the government expects schools to operate. Naturally, we shall let you know the specifics in due time.



Rev. C. Leach, Principal

## A prayer for Mary Magdalene

Almighty God,

Whose Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of mind and body and called her to be a witness to his resurrection: forgive our sins and heal us by your grace, that we may serve you in the power of his risen life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

## This week's theme was: Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene then went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord. She also told them what he had said to her.

John 20:18

## Whole School Attendance

95.81 %

## Whole School Target

95.6%

Congratulations to the following tutor groups 99%+ for the week commencing 08.03.21:

5E1

6C3, 6E3

7E2

8C1, 8E1

MAB



# For the week ahead

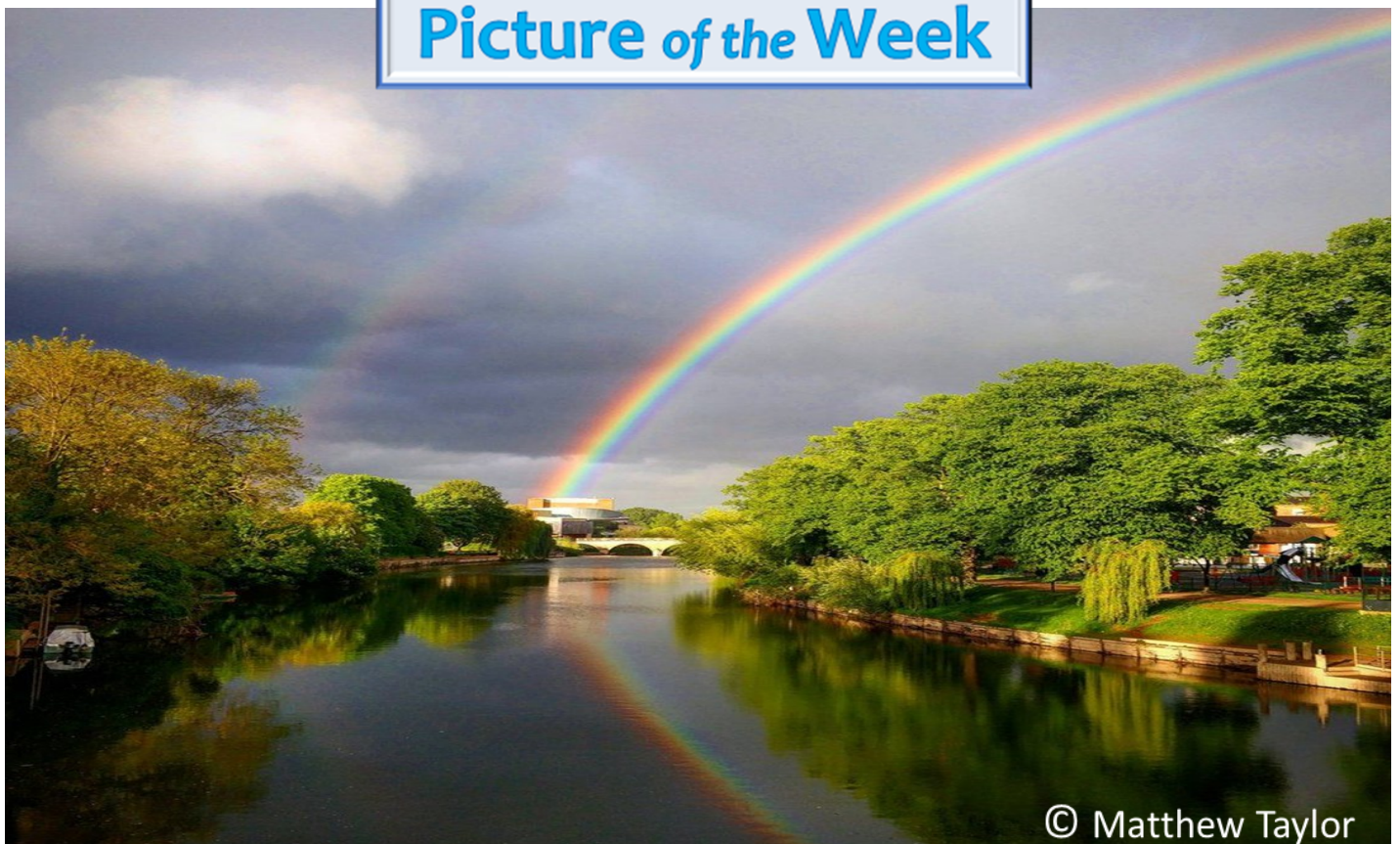


<p><b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b></p>	<p><b>Thankfulness</b></p>	<p>You are my God, and I will give thanks to you. Psalm 118:28</p>
<p><b>The assembly theme:</b></p>	<p><b>Book of Proverbs</b></p>	<p>These are the proverbs of King Solomon, David's son: He wrote them to teach his people how to live—how to act in every circumstance, for he wanted them to be understanding, just, and fair in everything they did. Proverbs 1:1-3</p>

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

<p><b>The weekend</b></p>	<p>the children and adults who will benefit from Comic Relief</p>	<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p>the people working day after day in our vaccination centres</p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p>our public services and those who work within them</p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p>the local churches who may have to meet remotely</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p>truthfulness in our news media</p>	<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p>tolerance and understanding</p>

## Picture of the Week



Dear Parents,

**Household members and childcare bubble - access to free twice weekly Lateral Flow Testing (LFT).**

Thank you for all your support as parents with schooling over the last few lockdown months. We are keen to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in Worcestershire and home LFT testing is one of many actions we can take as a community to achieve this reduction in COVID-19 cases.

With the return to school for pupils, adult household members of children and young people in nursery, school, or college and those who have formed a childcare bubble, can now access free Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) for twice weekly testing at home.

The tests are for use by adult household members only. Children/young people in Y7 and above can also access LFTs for use twice weekly - these are provided by schools/colleges.

Adult householders or your childcare bubble can obtain test kits (or be tested) in the following ways:

through your employer if they offer testing to employees

by collecting a home test kit from a local test site - You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Local test sites are now dual sites PCR testing in morning and LFT testing or collection in afternoon - open from 1.30pm to 7pm <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/> (no booking required)

by ordering a home test kit online: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateralflow-tests>

To book an LFT at a local test site, visit this link:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20870/coronavirus-covid19-symptoms-and-how-to-get-a-test/2344/coronavirus-covid-19-i-do-not-have-symptoms>

By testing twice weekly, we can identify people who are infectious earlier and reduce the transmission of the virus and so progress, step by step out of lockdown. Your support in reducing infections in Worcestershire is valued.

If you have tested positive within 90 days, you do not need to re-test.

**If you or your child develops any symptoms of COVID-19, however mild, they should remain at home** for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms started. Anyone with symptoms is eligible for testing and this should be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-fora-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119 .

Kind regards

Worcestershire Public Health Team

# Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

## Lackadaisical

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 17th February 2021 - 17th March 2021

Congratulations to:

### Top Girl

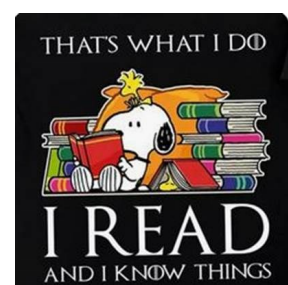
Lauren Carrington (8E1 Abberley) - who has read 596,704 words

### Top Boy

Marshall Glen (7C2 Bredon) - who has read 861,931 words

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

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



# 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.



Click  
for

[Self-isolation guide](#)

[Self isolation for families](#)

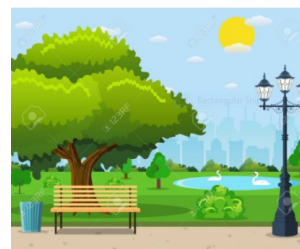


## Exercise and Outdoor Recreation

You can leave your home to exercise or to visit a public outdoor place for outdoor recreation, such as a coffee on a bench or a picnic in a park. This can be on your own, with one other person when in a public outdoor place, or with your household or support bubble.

You should minimise the time you spend outside your home, and you should not travel outside your local area. Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble and follow the guidance on how to stop the spread of coronavirus at all times.

See the [exercising and outdoor recreation section of this guidance](#)



## Smartphone Emergency SOS Functions

You might not know it – even if you have one – but most new smartphones include an array of emergency functions that could prove invaluable to you in a crisis.



“I’d be lost without my phone!” How often do we hear people say that in everyday life? But in the event of an emergency, it would almost certainly be true. Most smartphones these days are equipped with the facility to send an SOS call in seconds – so we all carry a potentially life-saving tool in our pocket or bag.

We have produced guides that run through the emergency functions on iPhones, Samsung and Google phones: what they do, how to enable them and where to find the settings to adjust them for your needs. Even if you’re familiar with them already, it’s worth refreshing your memory – and make sure your children know how to use these features, too. It’ll take a matter of minutes and it will be time well spent. [Click for the link . . .](#)

[Google phone](#)

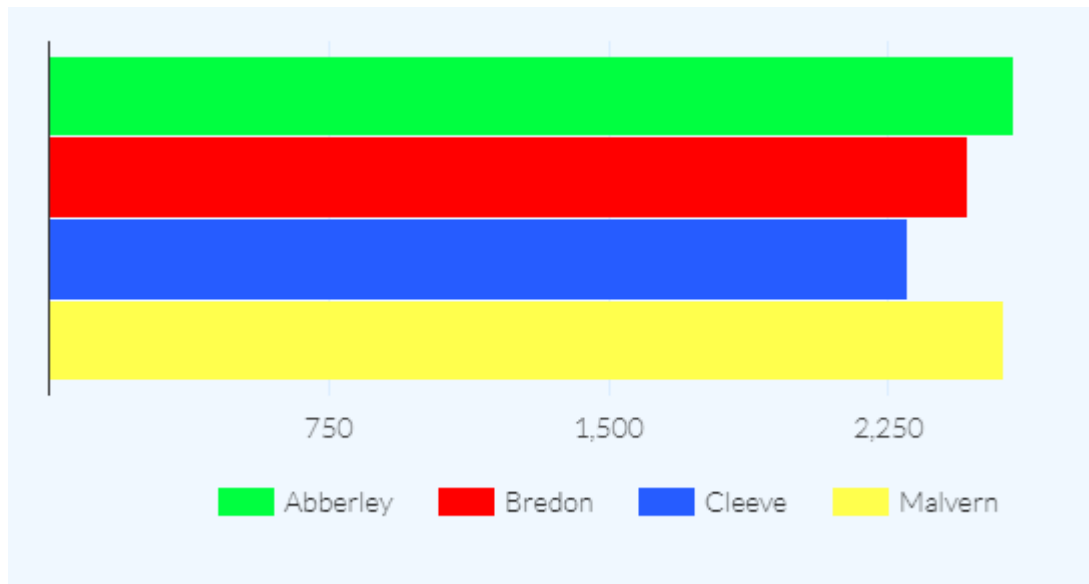
[Samsung](#)

[iPhone](#)



# Epraise Update

## Points This Week: By College



Thinking ahead for Parents' Evenings if you have any issues with Microsoft Teams please remember that our IT provider will be able to help. They are open until 5 pm.

**Lourdes IT** - Proactive, friendly, helpful IT Support for Education.

Help Desk: 01527 359 999



# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2 0 2 1	Thursday 25 March	Virtual Parents' Evening (all year groups) 4 - 7 pm
	Thursday 1 April	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 19 April	Staff Development Day
	Monday 19 April	Virtual Parents' Day (all year groups) 12.45 - 6.45 pm
	Tuesday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 3rd May	<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>
	Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June	<b>Half Term</b>
	Wednesday 21 July	<b>End of Term</b>
	Thursday 2 September	Staff Development Day
	Friday 3 September	Staff Development Day
	Monday 6 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Friday 22 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 October	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 17 December	<b>End of Term</b>
2 0 2 2	Tuesday 4 January	Staff Development Day
	Wednesday 5 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 21 to Friday 25 February	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 8 April	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 25 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 26 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 22 July	<b>End of Term</b>