



Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather has taken a chillier turn this week and so we are seeing more pupils wearing coats—long may this continue!

In half school assemblies, we have celebrated the success of our pupils in the national Times Tables Rockstars competition. Pupils have fought tirelessly for the accolade of being the top maths class in their Key Stage. The winning class in KS2 was **Year 5 Archimedes**; the winning class in KS3 was **7E/Maths 1**. Well done to our victorious mathematicians and to all who took part; numeracy skills are an essential aspect of progress in all areas of curriculum life and beyond.

Additional congratulations to our top player within the school:

Noah Hamilton-Smith, correctly answering **12,426 questions**—phenomenal!



Year 5 and 6 parents will have received an email this week letting them know that the English workshop, previously calendared for 4/12/23, has now been postponed until the spring term: date to be confirmed.

Shrek rehearsals for our school production are in full swing; pupils are genuinely excited about their part to play in this. For some of our pupils, this is the first experience of the performing arts outside of the classroom and the gusto with which they are embracing this experience is admirable:

“Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.”

Albert Einstein



**This week's theme was:
What brings happiness?**

If you obey and do right, a light will show you the way and fill you with happiness. You are the Lord's people! So celebrate and praise the only God .

Psalm 97: 11-12

Dear God,

Our hope is in you alone. We pray that the joy you give to us is everlasting, that we may not lose faith in the dark days, but grow closer to you. We pray that you will pour your blessing onto us and gift us with gladness. We know that you alone can satisfy our hearts and souls. Lead us to the place you want us to be so that we can be filled with your joy and learn to be content with all we have.

Amen.

Whole school Attendance

94.5%

Whole School Target

95.6%

13.11.2023 to 17.11.2023

Year 5 95.36 %

Year 6 94.88%

Year 7 90.85%

Year 8 92.61%



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:	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. <i>Jeremiah 29:11, TLB</i>

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

The weekend	Health workers at The Alex	Monday	The lives of those with life-threatening illnesses
Tuesday	Our pupils as they start rehearsing for the school production	Wednesday	For those who have experienced online intimidation
Thursday	Councilors of Redditch Borough	Friday	Those helping the effort to reduce global warming.

Picture of the Week



A street in Hull in the 1970s

20th November 2023

Safer Neighbourhood Team
Redditch Police Station
Kingfisher Shopping Centre

Dear Parents / Guardians

This week is Operation Sceptre - the national anti-knife crime intensification week. We know early intervention is vital when tackling knife crime. As part of this week, I would like to take this opportunity to make you aware of a recent concern highlighted to the police.

It has come to Police attention that some online Retailers are selling items in their 'back to school' sections which are not suitable for young persons. An item recently highlighted was seemingly a metal writing pen but concealed inside was a knife with a blade of approximately 3 inches in length. The item could be easily purchased online and for less than £5.

This is a reminder to all Parents/ Guardians to have conversations with your young people to re-iterate the danger and criminality of carrying knives and knife crime and the devastating impact it can have.

Yours Faithfully

Police Sergeant Craig Osborne
Redditch Safer Neighborhood Team



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 Bre-don 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 22.10.2023 — 22.11.2023

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Amna Hussain (Year 7 BAFA) - who has read 297,690 words .

Top Boy

Dylan Arkell (Year 8 ASIL) - who has read 429,433 words .

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

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





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](#)



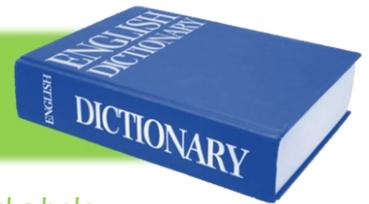
Reading matters



Did you know that reading supports cognitive development and impacts positively across the whole curriculum? Readers are likely to do 'significantly better' in all subjects, with a 9.9% advantage in Maths alone. (IoE, 2013). With this in mind, please remember that we expect our students to read daily for between 20 and 30 minutes. Some of that reading will need to be done outside of school. Pupils will benefit from reading aloud daily to an adult (even if for a short time), right the way up to year 8 and is not just an exercise useful to younger children.



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 collaboratively exploring their meanings, features and usage.

pivotal

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