

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wednesday and Thursday have been our Deep Days, where the pupils work in their tutor groups on material around the Christmas story. For example, Abberley College looked at 'The Lowly and the Royal', considering the difference in gifts of the shepherds and the kings (or wise men, depending who you ask), while Bredon were drawn to the prominence of the star in the nativity story. Cleeve College looked at the journey that Mary and Joseph would have had to take, and Malvern considered the events at The Inn. Although two colleges were able to attend The Bridge Church on Wednesday, the poor forecast for Thursday's

weather brought us into the school main hall instead. In all cases, Father Glenn and Mother Victoria (the Curate who works at The Bridge Church) were able to introduce and close the service, with our pupils leading.

The Christmas concert on Wednesday evening was hugely enjoyable as the choir and orchestra were in fine form, both performing pieces that focused our minds on the Christmas story. A choir of Walkwood staff also aided our festive cheer. The charity collection was for The Primrose Hospice, raising a total of £276.32.



Today has seen a variety of festive jumpers, and the appearance of some representing characters from Frozen was not unexpected. All donations from today will be sent to Children in Need.

We say 'farewell' to Ms Cowles, our Head of Art, who leaves to explore other aspects of education and pastoral provision. Mr Woolcock left us on Tuesday. And finally, our Deputy Principal, Mrs Perks, will be starting as headteacher at The Vale of Evesham School in January. I shall let you know of our new colleagues in the new year's Insider.



Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

**First day of term:**  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020**  
8.45am

A prayer for Global Christmas  
Father God, We thank you Oh Lord, as we remember that you sent your Son Jesus Christ down for us. At this time of year we remember that he was and is a gift to us, that we may now live having a relationship with you. We thank you that even though we don't deserve it, you choose to bless us with the greatest gift of all, your love. May your love and presence be among us over this Christmas period. In your name, Amen.

This week's theme was:  
**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.

John 1:1-5

**Whole School Attendance**  
92.54%  
**Whole School Target**  
95.6%



# For the week ahead



<b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b>	<b>Inquisitiveness</b>	Wise men and women are always learning, always listening for fresh insights. <i>Proverbs 18:5</i>
<b>The assembly theme for the start of term is:</b>	<b>New Year's Resolutions</b>	Broken promises are worse than rain clouds that don't bring rain. <i>Proverbs 25:14</i>

**We ask for your thoughts and prayers in the weeks ahead for:**

<b>The weekend</b>	the people who are part of emergency services.	<b>Monday</b>	enjoyment for our pupils.
<b>Tuesday</b>	the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Rev. Justin Welby.	<b>Wednesday</b>	peace for the world
<b>Thursday</b>	recuperation time for Walkwood staff.	<b>Friday</b>	The Holy Father, Pope Francis.

## Picture of the Week



## Cancelled Clubs

Please note that Homework Club is not on for the first week back after the Christmas holidays and will recommence Tuesday 14th January 2020.

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.

## Music News



### Music Success

Congratulations to Megan Boyle who recently passed her Grade 2 Drum exam.

### Christmas Carol Concert

On Wednesday evening we held our annual Christmas Carol Concert where we re-tell the Christmas story through readings and music. It is always a lovely, festive event. This was the Orchestra's first performance of the year and they played brilliantly, making a strong, confident sound, boosted by the addition of the French horn, thanks to the expertise of our good friend Nigel. The Choir excelled themselves with some really beautiful singing, requiring some of the audience to reach for a tissue in one particular song. Tradition bible readings were followed by some fabulous poetry, written by two of our Year 8 pupils, Lucy Hawkes and Lauren Sole. A new addition to our concert was the Staff Choir who made their debut performance with a lovely 2-part carol which they sang absolutely superbly. I would like to say a huge thank you and congratulations to everyone who took part; you were all totally splendid and I was enormously proud of you all!



**First day of term:**  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020**  
**8.45am**



# Deep Days



## The Star

The Bethlehem star is a prominent feature in the nativity story. It acts a guide for the Magi (wise men) that would lead them to the baby Jesus. Nobody is absolutely sure what the star was, but there are various different theories. One thing we do know though is that it was something very unusual.

### Learning outcomes

To understand where the Bethlehem star fits into the nativity story.  
To discuss the science behind the Bethlehem star and whether it really existed.  
To reflect on who we choose to follow in the world.

### Key questions

How does the star fit into the Christmas story and why is it so important?  
What do we think about when we look up at the stars at night?  
Who do we choose to follow in life and why?

## The Journey

Mary and Joseph were required to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem (the home town of Joseph & Mary) because of a census decreed by Caesar Augustus. It would have been a long and arduous journey, of more than 70 miles through mountainous terrain, made more difficult by the fact that Mary was heavily pregnant at the time. It is traditionally thought that they travelled by donkey.

### Learning outcomes

To understand what Mary and Joseph had to go through on their journey.  
To discuss people who are making important journeys in the world today.  
To reflect on our own journey of life.

### Key questions

What was the journey like for Mary and Joseph?  
What journeys are people making in the world today and how can we help them?  
Where is my journey of life going?

## The Inn

The Inn is traditionally thought to be the place where Jesus was born. After the long journey to Bethlehem, because of the census, Mary and Joseph found that there was nowhere to stay. An innkeeper allowed them to stay in a stable usually used to hold animals. We get this idea because the Bible states that Jesus was born in a 'manger' which is a feeding trough for animals. However, it does not state that it is a stable and ancient tradition held that it is more likely that Jesus was born in a cave, used as a shelter for animals. In the traditional nativity story there is an innkeeper; however, there is no such character in the Bible.

### Learning outcomes

To understand what actually happened when Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem.  
To discuss whether the inn keeper was actually being sympathetic or whether he could have done more to help.  
To reflect on modern day nativity stories.

### Key questions

What were the options that Mary and Joseph had when they reached Bethlehem?  
Could the innkeeper have done more to help Mary and Joseph?  
Who are the people that need our help today and what kind of innkeeper are we?

## The Lowly and the Royal

The Lowly refers to the shepherds that visited the baby Jesus and the Royal refers to the three wise men/Kings/Magi that visited the baby Jesus. Traditionally, both sets of people brought gifts to the baby Jesus – the shepherds brought a lamb and the Magi brought gold, frankincense and myrrh, all of which have a symbolic meaning. The visit of the shepherds represents the humility of Jesus and that He came to earth for the poor and lowly people. The visit of the Magi represents the royalty of Jesus and that He was the King of the Jews.

### Learning outcomes

To understand who the lowly and the royal are in the nativity story.  
To discuss the real purpose of Christmas, which is to celebrate the birth of Jesus.  
To reflect on the true meaning of Christmas for us.

### Key questions

Who are the lowly and the royal visitors and why did they visit the baby Jesus?  
Why do we celebrate Christmas?  
What does Christmas really mean to us?



## TTR maths week results

### Class results- top 10



Walkwood Church of England Middle School ranked 175 in the country

Ranked in the school	Ranked in the country	Class name
1	45	6E set 1
2	270	Year 8 set 1
3	662	5C set 1
4	699	6C set 1
5	1425	5E set 1
6	1451	Year 7 set 3
7	1608	Year 8 set 4
8	1955	6E set 2
9	2342	Year 7 set 1
10	3243	Year 8 set 6

### Pupil results



#### Top scoring pupil in each year group

Year 5 = Olivia Rea

Year 6 = Eughan Downing (4<sup>th</sup> in the country!)

Year 7 = Jaiden Winch



### Pupil results



#### Most valuable players in the school

1<sup>st</sup> Eughan Downing

3<sup>rd</sup> Joe Humphreys



#### Most valuable player in each class

5C set 1 – Brooklyn-Jai Fanthom

5C set 2 – Stanley Coyle

5E set 1 – Olivia Rea

5E set 2 – Sophie Stokes

5E set 3 – Joshua Gamble

#### Most valuable player in each class

6C set 1 – Theo Foster-Agg

6C set 2 – Joben Pullen

6C set 3 – Archie Whittington

6E set 1 – Eughan Downing

6E set 2 – Josh Thurston

6E set 3 – Madeleine Farrell-Tanner

#### Most valuable player in each class

Set 1 - Dylan Foster-Agg

Set 2 - Elliot Ford

Set 3 - Jaiden Winch

Set 4 – Faizah Parveen

Set 5 – Jay Sandall

Set 6 – Kian McGrath

Year 7

#### Most valuable player in each class

Set 2 – Kiona Chatterton

Set 3 – Millie-Rose Evans

Set 4 – Sam Whittington

Set 5 – Sophie Blagrove

Set 6 – Paige Chambers

Year 8



# Understanding Your Child

Worcestershire parents, carers and grandparents can now access innovative ONLINE guides about children aged from 0-18 years. Worcestershire County Council have invested in a multi-user licence for 4 award winning, quality marked, evidence based online courses by the Solihull Approach (a national NHS organisation) and we are therefore delighted to offer you **FREE** access to the courses, normally £19-£39 per person.

Understanding Your Child was established 20 years ago by psychologists, health visitors and other health professionals. It looks at brain development, play, styles of parenting, sleep, temper tantrums, communication and more and is based on the nationally and internationally acclaimed face to face course offered by the Solihull Approach.

There are 9-11 modules each taking around 20 minutes (the main screens have optional audio voice-overs) as well as interactive activities, quizzes, video clips and practical hand-outs.

## 1 Understanding Pregnancy, Labour, Birth and Your Baby - Antenatal Online Guide

The guide covers:

- Relaxing & breathing
- Getting to know your baby in the womb
- You, your baby and the stages of labour
- Birth positions
- Feeding your baby
- Fathers and babies
- After your baby is born

## 2 Understanding Your Baby - Postnatal Online Guide

The guide covers:

- Understanding feelings: both yours and your baby's
- Understanding your baby's brain
- Understanding and responding to crying
- Your baby's rhythms, sleep patterns, & feeding
- Fathers and babies
- Babies development and play
- Thinking about childcare

## 3 Understanding Your Child (for parents of children aged 6 months - 18 years)

The guide covers:

- Responding to how your child is feeling
- How your child develops
- Different styles of parenting
- How your child communicates
- Understanding your child's behaviour
- Sleep, Self-regulation and anger

## 4 Understanding Your Teenager's Brain

The guide covers:

- Teenager's brain development
- Teenagers and reading faces
- Risk taking
- Risk taking and friends
- Sensitivity to rejection
- Teenagers and sleep

To access these online guides visit  
[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/parentguides](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/parentguides)





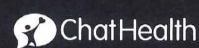
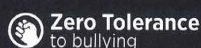
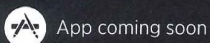
IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD  
 TEXT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE  
 WE HELP STUDENTS WITH ALL KINDS OF THINGS LIKE ...

RELATIONSHIPS  
 MENTAL HEALTH BULLYING SELF HARM  
 ALCOHOL HARM  
 HEALTHY EATING  
 DRUGS SMOKING

*Text us for confidential advice & support*

We do not usually inform your parents, teachers or anyone else if you contact the school nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we've received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. Prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting STOP to our number. Please respect your school's mobile phone policy. Messages are charged at your usual rates.

NSR



# Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

## contravene

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 19th November 2019 — 19th December 2019

Congratulations to:

### Top Girl

Emilia Tyler (Year 5 BRCO) - who has read an incredible 1,018,170 words

### Top Boy

Jo Bellizzi (Year 5 MHBA) - who has read a fantastic 1,052,820 words



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

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





**Afterschool rehearsals will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at  
3:30-4:45 in the Hall.**

**We will start on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January with a **WHOLE CAST** rehearsal. (absolutely everyone that wanted to take part).**

**Other rehearsals will take place at lunchtimes.**

**Look out on the Insider every Friday for details of the afterschool rehearsals for  
the following week and who is involved!!**

We will keep you updated through the Insider regarding future news, but we hope that we will see as many of you as possible at the performances in March.

**Production Team**



# Trips and Visits

## 2019 - 2020



DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	OPEN TO	COST	LEADER
<b>May</b>					
Fri 15 - Mon 18	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 300	Rev Leach
<b>June</b>					
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

1st Line IT Technician | 2nd Line IT Technician | Deputy IT Service Lead  
£19,049 - £19,430 | £21,589 - £24,158 | £31,795 - £34,256

[www.lourdesit.org.uk/vacancies](http://www.lourdesit.org.uk/vacancies)

 **Lourdes IT** | We are hiring! Join our team of heroes!



# Clubs and Activities

## Autumn Term Part 2, 2020



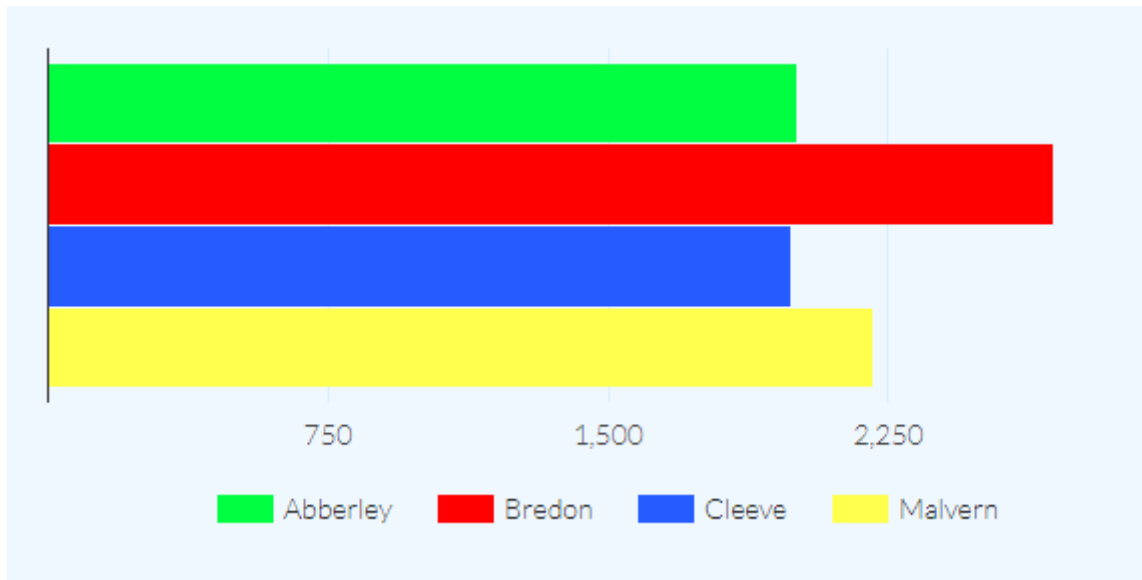
	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20PM	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
<b>Monday</b>	Orchestra Music Room 8.45-9.30am (CGR)	KS3 Art Club starting 18 <sup>th</sup> September (ECO)  Choir (all year groups) - Music Room 12.50-1.20pm (CGR)  Parliament Club - Lab 2 (invitation only) 12.50—1.20 pm  ECO Club - Lab 2 12.50-1.20 pm	
<b>Tuesday</b>		Nearly Jazzy Band (invitation only) Music Room 12.50–1.20pm (CGR)	
<b>Wednesday</b>		Colouring Club Room 15 (RSH)  Silent Reading Club - Room 19 (LBA)  KS3 Science Ambassadors - Lab 2 12.50-1.20pm (JHd)	KS2 Science Club - Lab 2 3.30-4.30pm (JHd)  Cheerleading Squad 3.30-4.45pm (LMO/KRE)
<b>Thursday</b>		Choir (all year groups) - Music Room 12.50-1.20pm (CGR)	
<b>Friday</b>			



# Epraise Update



## Points This Week: By College



## Top Ten Points Scorers

1. 🟡 Chelsea Peters (MDSL) (52)
2. 🟡 Eleanor Dicken (ALBA) (51)
3. 🟠 Abigail Gibson (MDSL) (50)
3. 🟡 Lara Laight (MNSA) (50)
5. 🟡 Isabelle Knight (MMMG) (47)
6. 🟡 Sophie Stokes (MHBA) (46)
6. 🟡 Caitlin Banks (BJHD) (46)
6. 🟠 Joseph Leaver (ACWO) (46)
9. 🟡 Lauren Sole (AMLA) (45)
10. 🟠 Olivia Masson (AMLA) (44)

