

Dear Parents and Carers,

As many of you will know, Wednesday and Thursday have been the two Transition Days across our town. We have had our 130 Year 8 pupils at their high schools, while welcoming 168 Year 4s.

Our day began with an assembly where I introduced some of the staff, and we learnt to sing the school's anthem, "Bless the Lord, O my soul". Pupils then went into their tutor groups. It is a real benefit that we work in our Vertical Tutor Groups. This allows the new Year 5 pupils (as they will be in September) to be known quickly by their tutor, who is getting to know 6 or 8 new children, and in doing so, is supported by the older pupils in the group. We find that the young pupils are soon able to settle down as they can get to know new people quickly. Naturally, this is enhanced even more as the teaching groups are different combinations of children - getting to know new friends is rarely avoided for long!



There have been many comments about the enjoyment that our new pupils have experienced over these two days, and how tired they are at the end of them! A lot of work goes in to making transfers as smooth as possible. Naturally, concerns arise, and we work to overcome challenges.



Jesus said: "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Remember this! Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." *Luke 18: 16-17*



Year 8 have returned from their high schools, with many saying how they will miss Walkwood, and yet they appreciate it is time to grow yet further in their confidence. They know what lies ahead from September, but also what the last week will hold for them, beginning with their Leavers' Service on Monday afternoon at The Bridge Church.

Tuesday evening saw our informal and highly enjoyable Summer Concert, where the efforts of the pupils were celebrated. Mrs Griffiths works so well with the pupils to ensure that there is a variety of different music. It was a pleasure to be in the audience.



To confirm, in case pupils ask, next week is the last week of term (they may forget that)!

Rev. C. Leach - Principal

A Prayer for The emergency services

Father God,

We thank you for the blessings we have for being in a country with emergency services at our fingertips. We are encouraged by the facilities we have in this life, that we are looked after through hospitals, police and fire services. They come to rescue us in the present day, and remind us that you also rescue us. We rescued us with Jesus, and you rescue us now. Let us be blessed by the services we have, knowing not all countries have this. Thank you

Amen

This week's theme was:
The emergency services

I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak

Ezekiel 34:16

Whole School Attendance

95.93%

Whole School Target

95.6%

01.07.19—05.07.19

Year 5 — 95.93%

Year 6 — 96.5%

Year 7 — 95.92%

Year 8 — 95.31%



For the week ahead



The Fruit of Faith is:	Honour	I have honoured my followers in the same way that you honoured me, in order that they may be one with each other, just as we are one. <i>John 17:22</i>
The tutor group virtue:	Respect	Show respect for everyone. Love Christians everywhere. Fear God and honour the government. <i>1 Peter 2:17</i>
The assembly theme:	Travelling and staying	You said to me “I will point out the road that you should follow. I will be your teacher and watch over you.” <i>Psalm 32:8</i>

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

The weekend	The lives of those with life-threatening illnesses	Monday	Public services
Tuesday	The NHS doctors, nurses and support staff	Wednesday	An enjoyable Year 8 trip to Drayton Manor
Thursday	Local high schools	Friday	An enjoyable last day of term for those leaving their school.

S4 Ep37

Silly Norman

The Finale

19.07.19

Lunches - last day of term

At mealtime on the final day of term, there will be no food service from our catering team, who will be preparing the Year 8 leaving lunch.

Pupils in **Years 5 to 7 will need a packed lunch** for that day. After eating, they will be able to play on the field before the last two lessons.



PE Clubs

There will be no more PE extra-curricular clubs on until the next academic year. It has been fantastic to see so many of our pupils attend for recreational and team training and for those who have represented the school at fixtures.

PE Department

Year 6 and 8 Academic Reports and SATs Results

As previously mentioned, we will no longer be publishing school reports to Insight. Instead, you will be able to access your child's report via the SIMs app.

At the end of last academic year or September 2018, you received an email from the school, which had a link allowing you to sign up to the SIMS app. As explained, you can link your account to your Facebook, Twitter, Google or Microsoft account to login. This email expired after 14 days of it being sent so if you did not download the app at this time then please email, Office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk stating that you need to be re-invited to download the SIMS app.

If you do not have an email registered or the email address we do have is out of date then you will not have received an invite so please email, Office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk to arrange for this to be rectified.



Year 6 and 8 school reports were made available to view on the SIMs app by 4pm on **Thursday 11th July**. Year 6 academic reports also contained pupil's SATs results.



Lunch Money

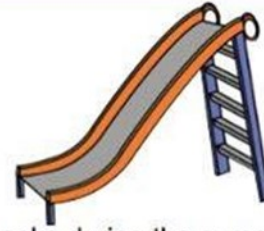
Please can we ask that all ParentPay accounts are settled by the end of term, particularly to our Year 8s who are moving schools. If any Year 8s are in credit, this will be refunded at the end of the term. If you have any queries, please contact the finance office.

Many thanks.





Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide-or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

- 1** Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- 2** Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.
- 3** Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
- 4** Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.
- 5** Read with your child—explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.
- 6** Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- 7** Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.
- 8** If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.



For more teaching ideas and activities be sure to visit our blog! www.blog.maketaketeach.com

New school year
Wednesday 4th September 2019





Teaching Groups and Sets for 2019/20

Pupils attend the majority of their lessons in teaching groups. Teaching groups are mixed ability.

Sets for Maths, English and Science are organised according to teacher recommendations and analysis of pupils' performance during the last academic year. Pupils are placed in sets with others currently working at a similar ability stage to them. There may be movement between sets over the course of the year.

Teaching groups

These have been arranged as follows:

Year 5 will be taught in six teaching groups. These groups are created based on information passed to us during our transition meetings with first schools.



Year 6 will be taught in six teaching groups. As they have been taught in six teaching groups this year, there has been no need for us to change the groups completely, although slight changes may have been made.

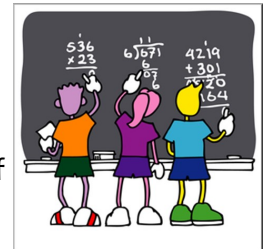
Year 7 will be taught in six teaching groups. As they have been taught in seven teaching groups this year, we have reorganised the pupils into new groups.

Year 8 will be taught in six teaching groups. As they have been taught in six teaching groups this year, there has been no need for us to change the groups completely, although slight changes may have been made.

English and Maths groups

English and Maths groups have been arranged as follows:

Year 5 will be taught in their six mixed ability teaching groups until approximately half term. We will then use teacher assessment and GL data to organise them into three ability sets in a half year split.



Year 6 will be split into two halves (c and e) and each side of the year will be taught in three ability groups, sets 1 to 3.

In both Years 7 and 8, pupils will be taught in six ability sets, 1-6.

Science groups

Science groups have been arranged as follows:

Year 5 and 6 will be taught Science in their mixed ability teaching groups.

Year 7 and 8 will be split into two halves (c and e) and each side of the year will be taught in ability sets 1-3.



Uniform Bank

Joseph Baker, Labour Councillor for Greenlands established the uniform bank several years ago to help families with the expense of school uniform, but it has evolved into an efficient reuse and recycling project. It really is needed in our town as school uniform can be incredibly costly.

Donated shoes are always very much in need, as well as branded and generic items.

It's really important that we save as much unwanted school uniform as possible before people just throw it away. This is an excellent scheme - nothing gets sent to landfill.

After the event items are distributed to various charities. Last year items were donated onto charity shops, and school dresses were sent to Africa. Things which could not be passed on for reuse were sent to textile recycling.

This means even obsolete uniform such as outdated PE kits can be saved from destruction.

Everyone is welcome to the event, which is being held in the Ecumenical Centre in Redditch town centre on Saturday 17th August 2019, between the hours of 9am and 1pm. If you can't make it then, don't worry as Emmanuel Church volunteers will keep items available for another week - just pop into the coffee shop between 10am and 12 noon.

You can bring donated items to the Ecumenical Centre, based on Evesham Walk outside the Kingfisher Centre or drop them at Omega Therapies, Hewell Road, Batchley.

We would also welcome sponsorship from any local businesses - last year we purchased a number of new socks and shoes with donated funds. For details on this or if the school has any lost property it wishes to donate please contact Joseph Baker on 07891 549333.

Music News

Music Success

Congratulations to Erin Baker who recently passed her Grade 1 Singing exam with an excellent result.

Summer Concert

Our musical pupils put on a splendid concert on Tuesday evening. A lovely supportive audience were entertained by the Choir, Orchestra, instrumental soloists, Nearly Jazzy Band and Graffiti (the Year 8 boys' band). All these musicians have worked very hard throughout the year, as was proved by their competent playing. Several pupils are very new to playing in Orchestra and Band and I hope they realise how well they have progressed during the last few months. The older pupils demonstrated confident and mature musicianship.

A huge thank you to all the musicians who took part in the concert; they are now all experts in getting everything set up and are also brilliant at selling raffle tickets, as well as being enthusiastic and inspirational musicians. I am very proud of them all and they should all be very proud of themselves too!

Looking Ahead...

The Choir already have a concert booking for the Autumn term. On Friday 18th October Walkwood Choir will be performing with the Primrose Choir and Arrow Valley Brass Band in the Primrose Proms Concert here at Walkwood. Look out for further details next term.

Clubs and Activities

Summer Term 1 2019



	Before School 8:00am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am Orchestra Music Room 8.45 - 9.30am CGR	KS3 Art Club ECO	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm Tennis Club 3.30 - 4.45pm PMC Starts 6th May
Tuesday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Signing Club (All year groups) Textiles Room JHA	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm All Girls Rounders 3.30 - 4.45pm LMO/KRE Starts 6th May KS2 Science Club - NO LONGER ON
Wednesday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	All years Silent Reading Club Room 19 LBA	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm Cooking Club 3.30 – 4.45pm DSL (when you are cooking will be confirmed) Athletics Club all years 3.30 - 4.45pm Starts 6th May
Thursday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Choir (all year groups) Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm CGR Science Club Invite only session Lab 2 JHD Eco Schools Club Week 1 Room 21 (Lab 3) MBI	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm All years Boys and Girls Cricket Club 3.30 - 4.45pm RMA/CHU/PJE/PMC/SWE Starts 6th May
Friday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am		Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm Badminton Club 3.30 - 4.45 pm PMC Starts 6th May

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

zealous

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 11th June 2019 — 11th July 2019

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Melissa Chatterton (Year 6 ALWA) - who has read an incredible 327,544 words

Top Boy

Caiden McEntee (Year 6 CMBI) - who has read a fantastic 631,447 words

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU





Trips and Visits

2018 - 2019



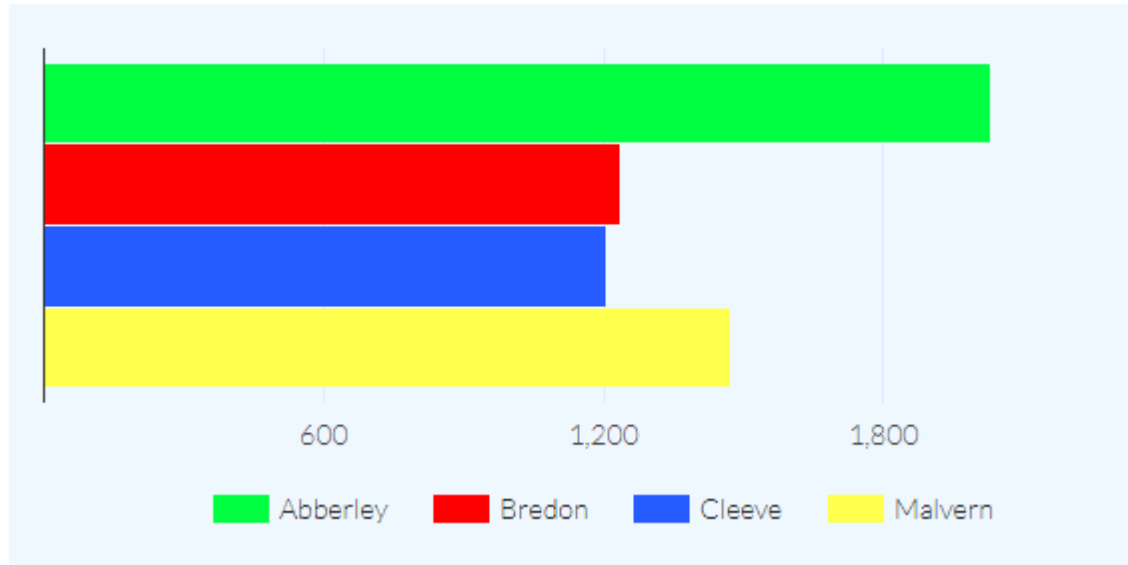
DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	OPEN TO	COST	LEADER
July					
Wed 17 July	Rewards Trip	Drayton Manor	Y8	£ 25	Mr West



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College



Top Ten Points Scorers

1. 🟡 Phoebe Tracey (AAGA) (49)
2. 🟤 Freya Harley (AAGA) (41)
3. 🟤 Tom Scott (AAGA) (35)
4. 🟡 Isaac Reynolds (AAGA) (34)
5. 🟤 William Allardice (AECO) (33)
6. 🟤 Beth Haigney (AAGA) (32)
7. 🟤 Harley Howard (AAGA) (31)
8. 🟡 Jay Jordan (AAGA) (30)
8. 🟤 Grace Allardice (AAGA) (30)
8. 🟤 Tyler Baker (AAGA) (30)



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2 0 1 9 2 0 2 0	Friday 19 July	End of Term
	Monday 2 & 3 September	Staff Development Days
	Wednesday 4 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Friday 25 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November	Half Term
	Friday 20 December	End of Term
	Monday 6 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 7 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February	Half Term
	Friday 3 April	End of Term
	Monday 20 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 25 to Friday 29 May	Half Term
	Friday 17 July	End of Term