

Dear Parents and Carers,

This morning has seen the last of the SATs taking place for our Year 6 pupils. Year 8 did not undertake these tests due to Covid, Year 7 will remember how demanding the experience was last year, and Year 5 will have the assessments next year, of course. Thanks to those of you who have supported the school's way of keeping the profile of these tests as low as possible to reduce stress for pupils. Obviously, tests can induce some anxiety, but we need to help pupils become resilient, as testing is part of the education system.



During SATs week, there is a whole-school alternative timetable in order to accommodate the requirements of the test schedule. This means that pupils have been, in a vast majority of cases each morning, not in their usual lessons or with their usual teachers. Quality lessons take place as three of the year groups are based in particular rooms in the main block so that Year 6 can use the Joy Vater Block.



As part of the week, we had a moderator on site whose role was to monitor all areas of SATs administration. She was very thorough and checked all aspects of the testing process. She was very complementary about our procedures, and we found the visit affirming.

Therefore, next week matters will return to normal. This applies to all aspects of the school, from start times, uniform, work within lessons and, probably most importantly, break / snack time. Two weeks of settling back into our routine in the lead-up to half term.



Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

Ephesians 5: 8b-10

Rev. C. Leach
Principal

This week's theme was: **Putting others first**

Don't be jealous or proud, but be humble and consider others more important than yourselves.

Philippians 2:3

Jesus,
We praise your name. We pray that you are with us through our trials and tests. We pray that they help us to draw closer to you. Let us know that tests can grow our faith and are an opportunity to come to you. Let us be forgiven when we forget to turn to you. Let us know that you are still with us.
Amen.

Whole school Attendance

94.59%

Whole School Target

95.6%

1.5.23 to 5.5.23

Year 5 91.6 %

Year 6 93.9 %

Year 7 92.55 %

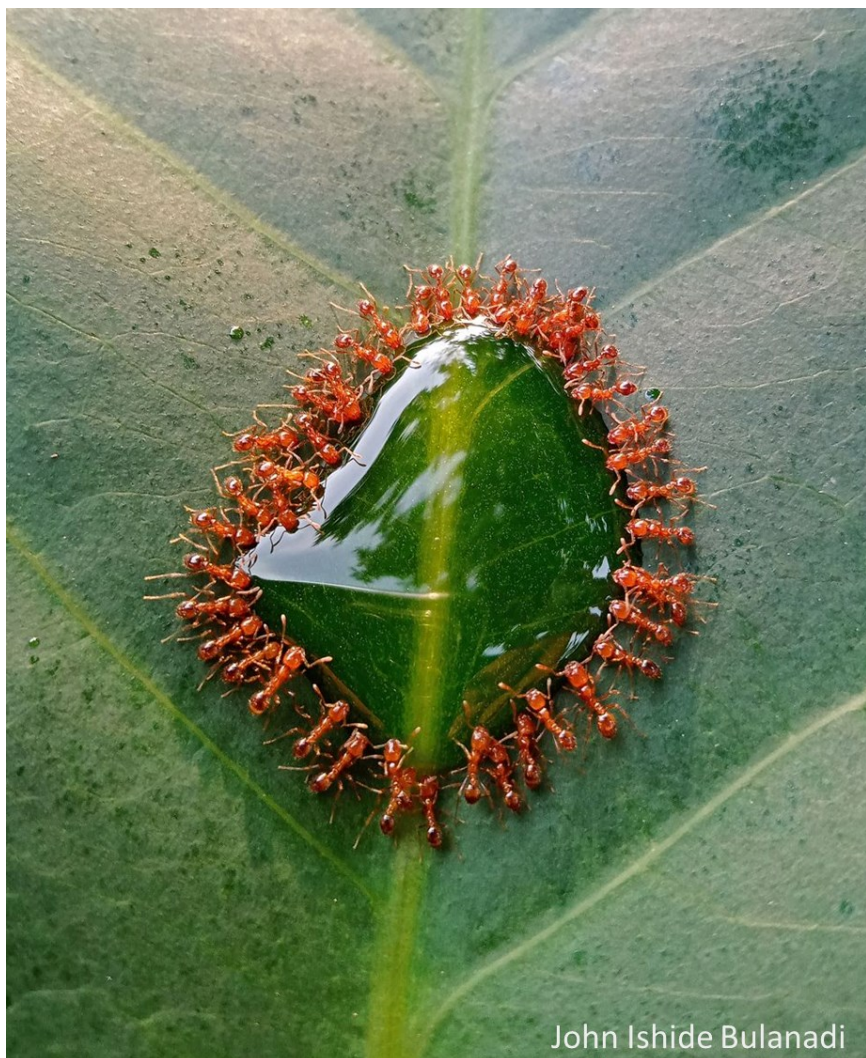
Year 8 90.96 %



For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Honour	Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honouring one another. Romans 12:10	
The assembly theme will be:	Sacrifice	Christ offered his life's blood as a sacrifice and brought you near God. Christ has made peace ... and he has united us by breaking down the wall of hatred that separated us. Ephesians 2:13-14	
We ask your thoughts and prayers in the week ahead for:			
The weekend	support staff at The Alex	Monday	our pupils as routines return to normal after SATs
Tuesday	the extra-curricular provision at our school	Wednesday	newly elected borough councillors
Thursday	children who don't have access to school	Friday	worshipping communities of faith

Picture of the Week



A small group of ants are gathered to enjoy a few drops of syrup on top of a wax apple leaf.

John Ishide Bulanadi

Absence from school and illness



Pupils are expected to attend school regularly and on time.

If your child is ill please inform school before 9.30am on the first day to advise us why your child is absent. Please continue to notify us each day of your child's absence. You can ring us on **01527 543361** and **pick option 1** and leave a message on the pupil absent line.

Can you please provide us with specific information; if we receive a message that says that your child is 'unwell' we will need further information.

You may also use the 'Contact' page of the school website. As mentioned above, please provide specific information so as to assist us in processing the information.

If we do not hear from you, school will try to make direct contact.

Also please make medical/dental appointments outside of school hours if at all possible. You will be asked to provide proof of these appointments.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TELEGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
17+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LACK OF AGE RESTRICTION

Telegram has a 16+ age restriction on using the service, while someone is required to be over 17 to actually download the app. Once that's accomplished, however, there's no need to provide further identification. That means there's no guarantee that under 17s aren't using the app – and no way to confidently verify that any other user actually is who they say they are.

POSSIBLE CYBERBULLYING

If your child uses Telegram, they could well be in a group with friends and peers on the app. These groups are managed by admins who can remove the option to post replies – possibly leading to instances of cyberbullying in which the victim has no ability to respond. Messages can be forwarded from groups, too, which potentially opens up images and text being seen by people they weren't intended for.

UNMODERATED CONTENT

Because Telegram relies on users' self-moderation, it can sporadically become a hotbed for illegal or inappropriate content. In the past, the circulation of this material has led to its temporary removal from the App Store. In fairness, the same can be said of several messaging platforms, but Telegram's features (Secret Chats, for instance) certainly present more issues than the likes of WhatsApp.

17+

PREMIUM COSTS

Telegram is free to use, but it also offers a premium membership (£4.99 per month or £35.99 a year) which increases download speeds, adds translation features, and increases channel and account limits. If your child has access to your Apple ID or Google Pay details, they may be able to sign up for the premium package without your knowledge.

UNAUTHORISED ACCESS

One of Telegram's major selling points is that it's accessible across multiple platforms. Once the app's been downloaded, users can log in from a phone, tablet or computer. This multi-device availability means increased opportunities for someone else to gain unauthorised access (if your child leaves a computer or tablet at school logged into their Telegram account, for instance).

SECRET CHATS

Telegram offers a feature called Secret Chats, which allows for messages which self-delete after a specified period of time. There are instances where this can be useful (journalists often use Telegram to protect their sources, for example), but for young people it can make it extremely difficult to prove that someone has been abusive or inappropriate towards them on the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

PRIVACY CONTROLS

If your child wants to use Telegram, we'd strongly suggest using the app's built-in privacy settings to restrict who can see when they were last online, their profile photo, and their phone number. This can be set to 'everybody', 'my contacts' or 'nobody'. We'd recommend either the second or third options, depending on how locked down you want the platform to be.

USE THE BLOCK FUNCTION

Users can block spam, abusive, or imposter accounts within the app. Blocking stops that account from messaging your child, or viewing their profile and activity. If the user in question is one of your child's peers or friendship circle, it may be worth bringing it to the attention of their school. Also bear in mind that your child can also voluntarily leave a Telegram group at any point if they wish.

DISCUSS SECURITY

It's important that your child understands the merits of strong passwords and logging out of devices when they're finished – and the benefits of protecting their personal data in general. This could range from relaxed chats and simple tips like "don't send your bank details" to how to set up passcodes for Telegram so your child's chats stay secure when they step away from their screen.

REPORT UNSAFE CONTENT

If your child receives private messages which include content that could be considered illegal, unsafe or upsetting, they can of course block the account responsible within the app itself. Be aware, however, that Telegram won't necessarily take any further action unless this offensive content involved a user-created channel, bot or sticker.

PROTECT PAYMENT METHODS

Apple and Google's storefronts offer family sharing options, but it's also worth double-checking your settings to ensure that a password or two-factor authentication option is set up to prevent any unexpected purchases. If your child does pay for a premium Telegram subscription without your consent, Apple and Google have been known to issue refunds in some cases.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRcon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



PREMIUM ACCESS



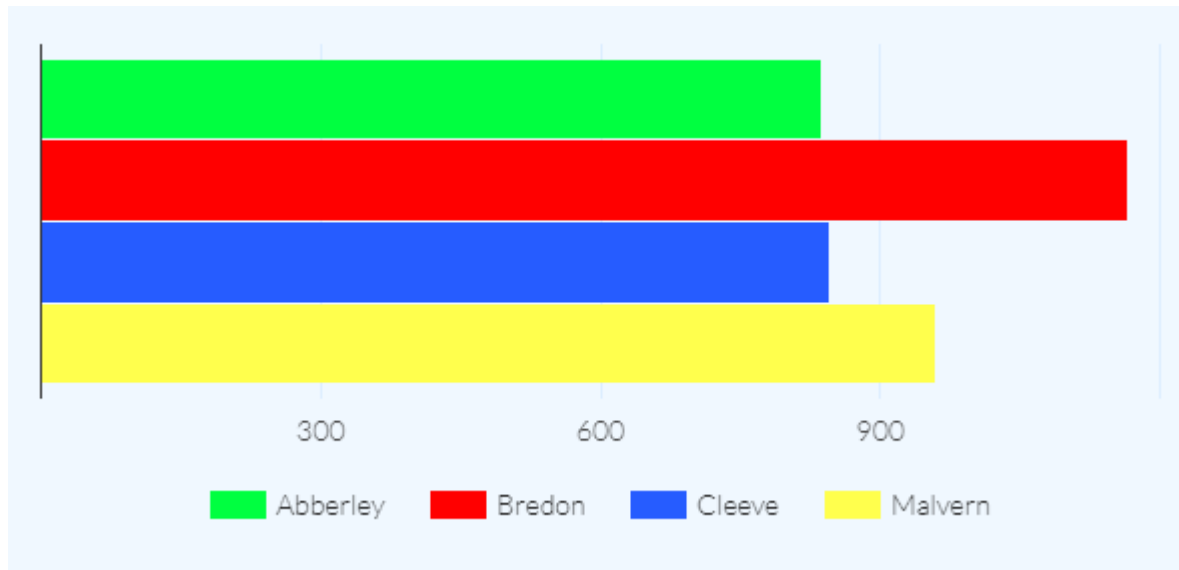
National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.telegram.org/> | <https://www.engadget.com/telegram-explained-2022-163035068.html>



epraise this week



Top Readers for 10.04.2023 — 10.05.2023

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Hope Ivers (Year 6 BKKH) - who has read 580,010 words .

Top Boy

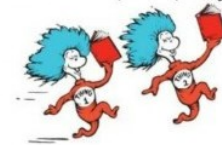
Dylan Arkell (Year 7 ALHA) - who has read 253,192 words. .

Well done 3 merits will be awarded to you both.

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



The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
Learn,
the MORE places you'll go.



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](#)



Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School

For information about our school:

www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk

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>



Reading matters



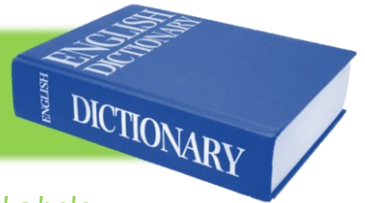
Did you know?

Studies have shown that leafing through a book can be up to 600% more efficient in relieving stress than playing a video game and 300% more efficient than going for a walk*. Keep up your daily reading, Walkwood. 20 minutes per evening at home is splendid and will help you to reach your potential not only in the subject of English, but across all curriculum subjects.

*The Most Interesting 27 Facts About Reading - Basmo



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.

conclude

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



Summer Term 1

	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Recorder Club, Music Room, GLA, 12.45pm-1pm. All welcome. We have instruments for those that need them. See Mrs Laishley to sign up.	Year 6 and 7 boys and girls cricket club 3.30 - 4.45. Meet at the KS3 playground entrance to changing room. Sign up only. (PMC/RDJ) starts Monday 24 th April
Tuesday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Choir, Music Room, GLA, 12.35pm-1pm. All welcome. First sitting lunch pass required. See Mrs Laishley to sign up.	Keyboard Club: <u>3.30pm - 4.15pm</u> . Limited spaces. Sign up via Arbor required. Priority given to those who did not gain a place last term; participants will be informed if they have been successful in gaining a place. Starts 18 th April
Wednesday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Reading club, room 18, duration of lunch, JWa Core Reading Club, Room 15, duration of lunch, Mrs Shanley - Invite only	Ukulele Club: <u>3.30pm - 4.15pm</u> . Limited spaces, sign up via Arbor required. Priority given to those who did not gain a place last term; participants will be informed if they have been successful in gaining a place. Starts 19 th April Redditch United multi sports club. 3.30-4.45 Meet at the KS3 playground entrance to changing room. Sign up only – spaces are full- please email the office to be put on waiting list. Starts 26 th April.
Thursday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI Science Homework Drop In – Computing (Year 7 and 8)	KS2 and KS3 athletics club 3.30-4.45 Meet at the KS3 playground entrance to changing room. Sign up only 11th May and 18th May.
Friday	Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/PWE	



Trips and Visits



Date	Year group	Destination	Day trip?	Residential?	Cost
07/07 - 10/07/2023	5 •	Brecon Beacons Activity Centre		✓	£250
June	6	Blackwell Adventure	✓		£42
30/06 - 03/07/2023	7	Osmington Bay Activity Park		✓	£285
20/07/2023	8	Drayton Manor	✓		£40 *

• Fully booked

* Current estimated cost

For the Year 6 trips, these will go out on the following days:

Wed June 7 6c1 & 6c2

Thu June 8 6c3 & 6e1

Fri June 9 6e2 & 6e3



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2023	Monday 29 May - 2 June	Half Term
	Wednesday 14 June	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Thursday 22 June	Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm
	Friday 21 July	End of Term
	Monday 4 September	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 5 September	First day of the Autumn Term
	Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November	Half Term
	Thursday 21 December	End of Term
	Monday 8 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 12 – Friday 16 February	Half Term
	Friday 22 March	End of Term
	Monday 8 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 9 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 27 – Friday 31 May	Half Term
	Friday 19 July	End of Term