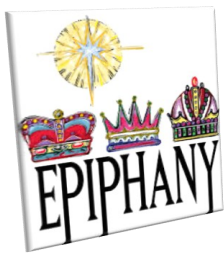


Dear Parents and Carers,

## Happy New Year 2023

There were some sleepy heads as pupils arrived for the new term on Wednesday, and there has been the usual challenge of getting used to putting a different year when writing the date in exercise books. I think there will be the occasional blip in the coming week too. If there was a New Year's resolution about remembering lunch boxes or water bottles, it's not going too well as we continue to amass these items in Reception - where they are named, we try and get a message to the owner so the item can be collected.



**Epiphany** - also known as Three Kings' Day - is a Christian festival, which takes place on 6th January. It is a special date in the Christmas story as it's when people celebrate how a star led the Magi - also known as the Three Kings or the Wise Men - to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born. 'Epiphany' comes from the Greek word meaning 'to reveal', as it is when the baby Jesus was 'revealed' to the world. This is why you might hear people say they've had an epiphany, when they have just realised something. If you would like a [short service from the Church of England for this coming Sunday](#), it is available from **9.00am** on that day.

Some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem and said, "Where is the child born to be king? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

Please be aware that applications to first and middle schools must be made by 15th January - a week on Sunday. Please let family or friends know as they may have put this on the "I'll do it after Christmas" list.



We are finalising the extra-curricular offer for this term, and that will be published soon. Dates for this term include the Y6 and Y8 Parents' Evenings on Thursday 19th and Wednesday 25th January.

Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

### This week's theme was: Epiphany – giving gifts

When the wise men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshiped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh and gave them to him.

*Matthew 2:11*

Father God, On this day we remember the wise men that arrived to visit Jesus after he was born. We remember that we do not fully know the events of them, but that they presented Jesus with gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. These gifts will have meant a lot to Jesus' family as they would have helped them in the next phase of his life, moving to Egypt. We pray that as we remember this, we are reminded again, of the reason why gifts are given, because Jesus was our gift, to help us in every phase of our life.  
Amen

### Whole school Attendance

88.14%

### Whole School Target

95.6%

12.12.22 to 16.12.22

Year 5 — 88.39%

Year 6 — 89.64%

Year 7 — 88.07%

Year 8 — 86.24%



## For the week ahead

<b>The Fruit of Faith is:</b>	<b>Inclusiveness</b>	He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <i>Matthew 5:45</i>
<b>The assembly theme will be:</b>	<b>Greek Myths</b>	The Word became flesh and lived for a while amongst us. We have seen His glory, that of the one and only Son, full of grace and truth. <i>John 1: 14</i>

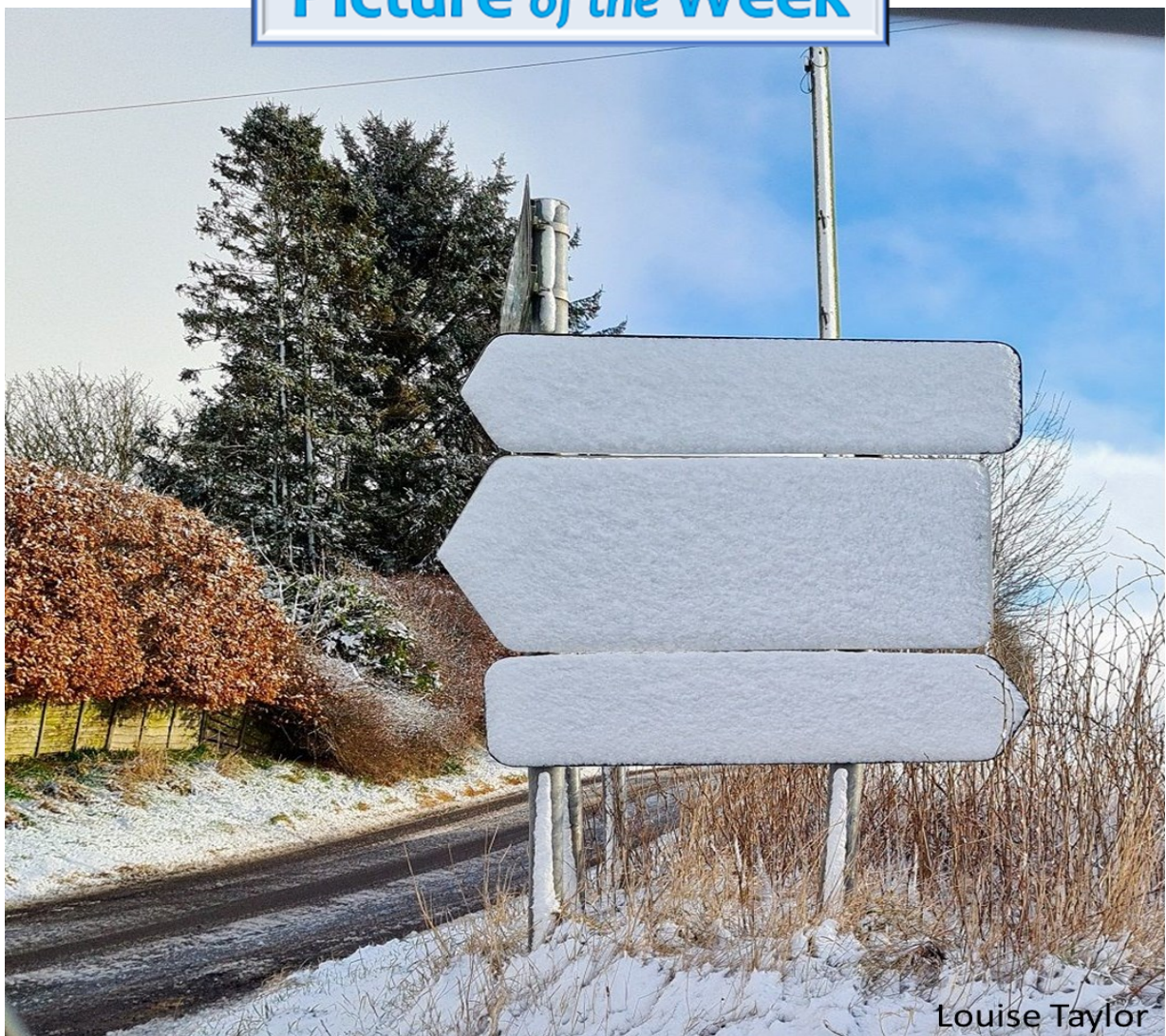
### We ask your thoughts and prayers in the week ahead for:

the peace of Christmas to descend upon Ukraine,  
that the aggressive, unnecessary and illegal war may end during 2023.

щоб на Україну зійшов Різдвяний мир, щоб агресивна,  
непотрібна та незаконна війна закінчилася протягом 2023 року.



## Picture of the Week



Louise Taylor



# INSTRUMENT LESSONS

We now have spaces available for Drum Lessons!

Scan the QR code to complete an expression of interest form and find out more.



## Applying for Middle School



For children who are currently in Year 4 and intend to be in a middle school for Year 5, it is time to apply for a place. This needs to be completed using the online system:

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

If you do not have internet access, call the county admissions team on 01905 822700 for assistance.

Walkwood Church of England Middle School is part of the Worcestershire County Council's coordinated scheme, which is administered by Babcock Prime.

***The closing date for both first and middle school places is 15th January 2023***

## Contact Details

Can you please ensure that we hold the correct contact details for you in case of emergency i.e. telephone number, email, address etc. You can email any amendments to

[office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk) and these will be amended for you.



The Blues Programme is an early intervention evidence-based CBT (cognitive behavioural training) programme designed to equip young people aged 13-19 with tools and techniques to help manage anxiety and low mood. These free online workshops have been designed to give parents some useful strategies and techniques to enable them to support their child to maintain healthy mental health and wellbeing. The workshops will be delivered online, and attendees will have the opportunity to take part in a Q&A with a member of the Blues Team at the end of the session. Parents and carers can book a place via Eventbrite using the links below:

[Techniques to Improve Mental Health - Parent Workshop \(Tue 3 Jan 2023 at 6pm\)](#)

[Techniques to Improve Mental Health - Parent Workshop \(Wed 1 Feb 2023 at 6pm\)](#)

[Techniques to Improve Mental Health - Parent Workshop \(Thu 2 Mar 2023 at 6pm\)](#)

WORCESTERSHIRE  
CHILDREN FIRST



## Parents urged to know their healthcare options

With common winter illnesses on the rise among young people, teams within local health organisations are encouraging parents to familiarise themselves with the local healthcare options available... before they need them.

It's also not too late to protect yourself and younger children this winter by taking up the flu and COVID-19 vaccinations for those eligible. Contact your GP practice for information or book online at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

Knowing where best to go when your child is unwell helps ensure you get help quicker and keeps services available to those who need them most.

- Many coughs and colds can be treated effectively at home, without the need to seek medical advice. Anyone with concerns about winter illnesses are encouraged to speak to their local pharmacist, who can provide expert advice on a range of minor ailments such as coughs, colds and tummy troubles.
- Parents can also access advice and information on a range of illnesses via the HANDI App. Free to download, the app provides expert information on how best to manage the six most common childhood illnesses: diarrhoea, vomiting, high temperatures, chestiness, newborn problems, and stomach pain.
- Where children have sustained minor injuries, such as cuts, grazes, sprains and strains, parents are encouraged to use local minor injury units located in Bromsgrove, Evesham, Malvern, Tenbury and Kidderminster. Manned by Emergency Nurse Practitioners, the units offer advice and treatment for a range of minor injuries for children aged one and over – [www.hacw.nhs.uk/MIU](http://www.hacw.nhs.uk/MIU).
- Parents who are unsure where best to access help and treatment are encouraged to contact NHS111 by calling 111, or if their child is over the age of 5 using the online service via [NHS 111 Online](#).
- You should call 999 or go to A&E if your child is having difficulty breathing; making grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs; your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue; or your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

# STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

Whether you're an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it's always important to keep online safety in mind. We've pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world - helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There's never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it's an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!

Be suspicious of new information

SHOW RESPECT TO OTHERS

TELL A TRUSTED ADULT IF SOMETHING UPSETS YOU

DON'T CHAT WITH STRANGERS

BE HONEST WITH PARENTS & CARERS

TAKE BREAKS FROM BEING ONLINE

ASK PERMISSION before downloading anything

AVOID SHARING PRIVATE PHOTOS

Stick to trusted apps

TAKE NOTICE OF AGE RESTRICTIONS

DOUBLE CHECK YOUR NEWS SOURCES

Don't give away personal information

**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

## The Dangers of Frozen Water

With snow and ice affecting the UK, The Royal Life Saving Society UK are urging the public to be aware of the dangers these freezing conditions can pose.



Many aren't aware of the dangers of frozen water; it may look solid from the surface but will not hold your weight and could crack when stood on. The Royal Life Saving Society UK has devised these safety tips about the dangers of frozen waters.

When water is frozen and the cold weather sets in these are a few safety tips to take note of:

1. Teach children not to go on to frozen lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs under any circumstances. Children and pets are particularly at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water during cold weather.
2. Pets should be kept on leads when near frozen water and owners should refrain from throwing objects onto ice for them to retrieve.
3. Bystanders should shout reassurance to casualties without endangering themselves. Make sure help is on the way by phoning the emergency services (call 999 or 112).
4. Do not walk or climb onto the ice to attempt a rescue and certainly don't get into the water, you may become the next casualty.
5. If someone can't climb out of the water, it is not advisable, as many people think, to move about in the water to keep warm while waiting for help. Instead they should conserve their energy by keeping as still as possible.

If you see someone fall through the ice:

1. Shout for assistance; get help also by phoning the emergency services (call 999 or 112).
2. Do not walk or climb onto the ice to attempt a rescue.
3. Shout to the casualty to 'keep still' and offer reassurance to keep them calm.
4. Try and reach them from the bank using a rope, pole, tree branch, clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.
5. When reaching from the bank, lie down to avoid being pulled onto the ice – this spreads your weight more evenly.
6. If you cannot reach them, slide something which floats, such as a plastic bottle or football, across the ice for them to hold onto to stay afloat whilst help is on the way.
7. If the casualty is too far away, do not attempt to rescue them. Wait for the emergency services while calming and reassuring the casualty.

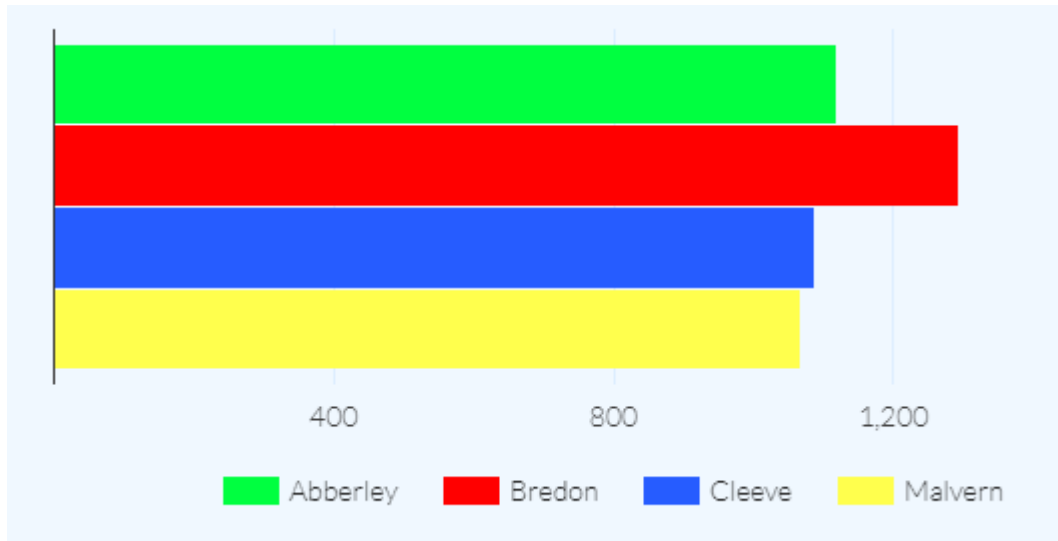
If the casualty has been rescued from the ice:

1. Make sure the ambulance is on its way.
2. Lay the casualty flat, check for normal breathing and begin resuscitation if necessary.
3. Prevent them from getting colder by covering them with warm clothing, blankets etc.
4. Get them out of the cold, under cover or create some shelter around them.
5. Until the casualty is in a warm place, do not undress them.
6. Do not rub their skin, do not apply hot water bottles and do not give an alcoholic drink. Keep them wrapped up so they warm up gradually.





# epraise this week



## Top Readers for 05.12.2022 — 05.01.2023



Congratulations to:

### Top Girl

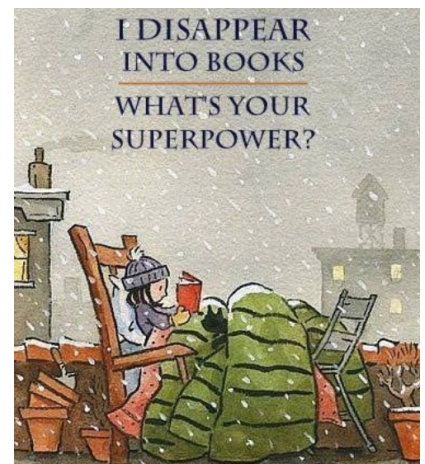
Eleanor Phillips (Year 5 CJWA) - who has read 591,447 words.

### Top Boy

Samuel Edmonds (Year 7 ALLA) - who has read 338,543 words.

Well done - merits will be awarded to you both.

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



# 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](http://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>

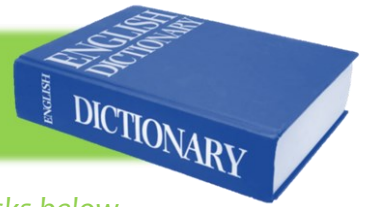
<https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/a297-Safeguarding%20Policy%202019.pdf>

Relationships and Sex Education: <https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Content/files/9ca0-Relationships%20and%20Sex%20Education%20Policy%202019.pdf>





# 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.

## convoluted

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.



## The Walkwood Celebration Assembly Prize Draw Autumn Term



### Prize Winners & Prizes

L. Y – Microscope

Drew Marley-Foster – Xmas Bobble Hat

Zak Robertson – Spy X Secret Voice Changer

Samuel Edmonds – Galaxy Chocolate

Evie Morgan – Crispy Kreme Donuts

Sam Johnson – Crispy Kreme Donuts

Sofia Stewart – Highlighters & Galaxy Chocolate

Ava Warman - £10 Amazon Gift Card

Alice Porter – Uno Flip

Melody-Rose Adams - £10 Amazon Gift Card

A.J - Maltesers

Charlie Cartland - Maltesers

### The Attendance Goldfish Bowl

Pupils are entered into the draw if attendance is 97% and above

### The Zero Demerit Goldfish Bowl

Pupils are entered into the draw for having ZERO Demerits for the term



# Clubs and Activities



## Spring Term 1

	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
<b>Monday</b>		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI	Year 5 dodge ball Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January – Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January. Year 6 dodge ball Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> January – Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February. Sign up only. Meet in changing rooms RDJ/ PMC
<b>Tuesday</b>		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.	Year 6 gymnastics Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January – Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January (Max 26) Year 5 gymnastics Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January – Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February (Max 26) Run by gymnastics coach and KRE. Sign up only. Meet in changing rooms  Keyboard Club: 3.30pm - 4.15pm. Limited spaces. Sign up required. Priority given to those who did not gain a place last term.
<b>Wednesday</b>		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	KS3 dodgeball Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January, 18 <sup>th</sup> January, 1 <sup>st</sup> February. Sign up only. RMA/LWO KS3 dance Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January, 18 <sup>th</sup> January, 1 <sup>st</sup> February, 8 <sup>th</sup> February. Sign up only. KRE  Ukulele Club: 3.30pm - 4.15pm. Limited spaces, sign up required.
<b>Thursday</b>		Lunch Club, Room 20, duration of lunch, KCR/CMI  Science Homework Drop In – Computing (Year 7 and 8)	Drama Club. Sign up and parental permission needed. 30 spaces available. Sign up only PAL/DDE  Sean Paul Dance academy Year 5 Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January. Sign up only. Meet in changing rooms. Year 6 Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February – Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February. Sign up only. Meet in changing rooms.  ART CLUB until February half term. Parents have been emailed for those chosen. Every Thursday apart from 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan and 9 <sup>th</sup> February in DT2 MGR
<b>Friday</b>		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 2023**	6	Blackwell Adventure	✓		£38 *
30/06 - 03/07/2023	7	Osmington Bay Activity Park		✓	£285
19/07/2023	8	Drayton Manor	✓		£40 *
04/02 - 11/02/2023	6,7,8	Obertauern, Austria		✓	£1360

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

Wed 7 6c1 & 6c2

Thu 8 6c3 & 6e1

Fri 9 6e2 & 6e3



# Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2 0 2 3	Monday 9 January	Parents' English KS2 Workshop 6.30-7.30pm
	Thursday 19 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00 -7.00pm
	Wednesday 25 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00 -7.00pm
	Monday 20– Friday 24 February	<b>Half Term</b>
	Friday 31 March	<b>End of Term</b>
	Monday 17 April	<b>Staff Development Day</b>
	Tuesday 18 April	<b>First day of the Summer Term</b>
	Monday 29 May - 2 June	<b>Half Term</b>
	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	<b>End of Term</b>	