

Dear Parents and Carers,



It has been College matches this week, with the girls in Years 6 to 8 competing at netball, while the Year 5 girls vied in benchball. There were some interesting games and many pupils 'having a go'. Meanwhile, the boys were on the field for football, and any of you who have seen the current state of the pitches will see swathes of brown mud. Also, there has been plenty of mud on the boys' kit too. (The field is at the bottom of the hill, so it can drain slowly.) The results of the girls' and boys' matches will be shared next week.



We have been making use of a resource to support pupils in becoming (more) confident in their use of times tables. This looks for pupils to try out their skill with games which can be against the clock. Some of us take more time (pun intended) than others when it comes to doing multiplication in our heads, but it is a useful skill. Why not get your pupil to show you?



Harvest In this year's harvest thanksgiving, we shall be supporting a Redditch initiative that provides food basics for older teenagers who face challenging situations, such as being thrown out of the family home. I have challenged our pupils to bring in one item from the list that is on page 3, and that they should use some of their own money to do so rather than placing a tin in your basket when they go shopping. Just one item from each of our pupils will make a significant difference to young folk in our town who need a helping hand. We have been raising awareness of this over the last couple of weeks, and are looking to our pupils to bring in produce for next week.

Stretch out your hand to the poor, so that your blessing may be complete. Give graciously to all the living; do not withhold kindness.

Ecclesiasticus 7.32-33

Rev. C. Leach
Principal

A Prayer by St Thérèse of Lisieux

O my God!

I ask thee for myself and for those whom I hold dear,

the grace to fulfil perfectly Thy Holy Will,

to accept for love of Thee the joys and sorrows of this passing life,

so that we may one day be united together in Heaven for all Eternity.

Amen.

This week's theme was:

St. Thérèse of Lisieux

I pray that God, who gives hope, will bless you with complete happiness and peace because of your faith. And may the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope.

Romans 15:13

Whole School Attendance

97.19%

Whole School Target

95.6%

07.10.19 - 11.10.19

Year 5 — 97.76%

Year 6 — 98.36%

Year 7 — 95.44%

Year 8 — 97.2%



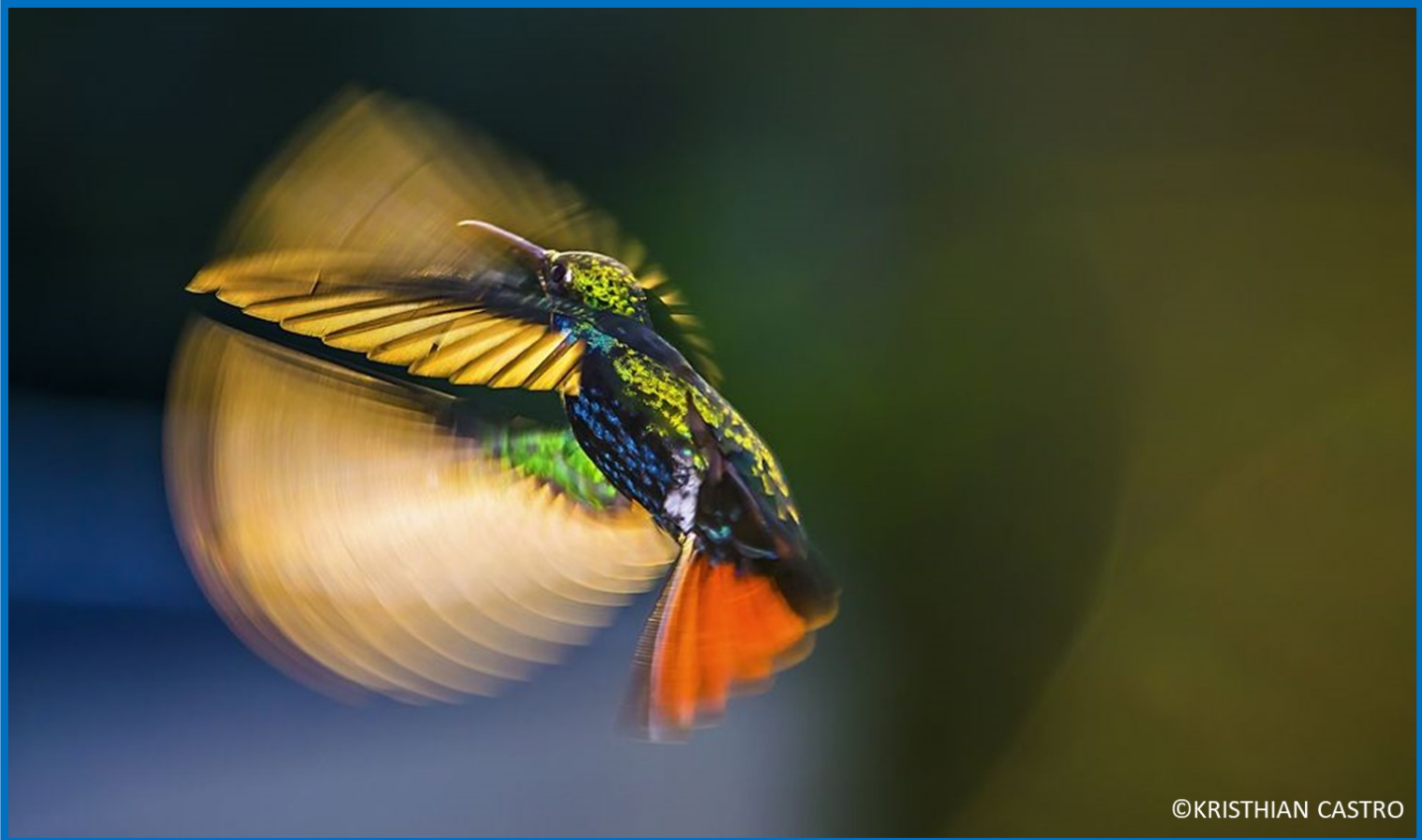
For the week ahead

The Fruit of Faith is:	Friendliness	When others are happy, be happy with them, and when they are sad, be sad. Be friendly with everyone. Don't be proud and feel that you are smarter than others. Make friends with ordinary people. Don't mistreat someone who has mistreated you. But try to earn the respect of others. <i>Romans 12: 15-17</i>
The assembly theme:	The Beatitudes	Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. <i>Matthew 5: 3-9</i>

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

The weekend	pupils and parents who are deciding on their school preferences.	Monday	those who have lost touch with their origins and roots
Tuesday	the local food bank and the people it serves.	Wednesday	pupils and staff of St. Luke's Church of England First School.
Thursday	people whose lives lack aim, purpose and direction.	Friday	teenagers who face homelessness.

Picture of the Week





Last year we rolled out Times table rock stars across the school. This year we are starting to introduce some competitions and celebrations of success.

The first thing we have done is to add a new accolade badge to EPrise.

This badge will be awarded to any pupils who have achieved Rock Hero status which is the top status and means their average answer time per question is less than 1 second!

This will be reviewed once a month and Epraise updated accordingly.

Congratulations to the following pupils who have already been awarded this badge:

Eughan D, Joshua T, Samuel C, Keegan T, Dylan F-A, Theodore F-A, William A, Jacob D, Oliver W, Jack T, Katie-Ellen M, Callum P, Sam W, Cody B -O, Charlie G, Eoin Cl, Yu Chen W, Tia W, Joshua H, Alfie M, Fraser O, Jake T, Hayden S, Sonny J, Logan H, Benjamin L, Archie W, Elis P, Brandon P, Jonah G, Harley H.

We will also be celebrating those pupils who use TTR the most. More news to follow on this and other TTR celebrations.



- Cereal
- Soup *(including Cup a Soup as these would be easy for one person to quickly make)*
- Pasta
- Rice
- Pasta Sauce
- Baked Beans, *(including tins with Sausage)*
- Spaghetti, Macaroni
- Cheese
- Tinned Meat & Tinned Pies



Stretch out your hand to the poor,
so that your blessing may be complete.
Give graciously to all the living;
do not withhold kindness.
Ecclesiasticus 7.32-33

- Tinned Stews, Chilli Con Carne
- Tinned Vegetables :
Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes
- Tea & Coffee
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Puddings
- Sugar
- Biscuits



Walkwood's Harvest 2019:
one item, per person
for older teenagers in need in Redditch

Redditch Rethinks Rubbish Expo 2019

This is our winning entry in to the recycle challenge.
Isn't it amazing what you can create with some old pop bottles.



Judging takes place on the 19th October at Redditch Town Hall.
Wish us luck !

Ms J Haldane

Walkwood Book Fair

We are hosting a children's BOOK FAIR from Travelling Books on the following dates:



Monday 11th November until Friday 15th November 2019

Leaflets to be distributed week of 4th November – You can find out more about Travelling Books and a sneak preview at www.travellingbooks.co.uk/books

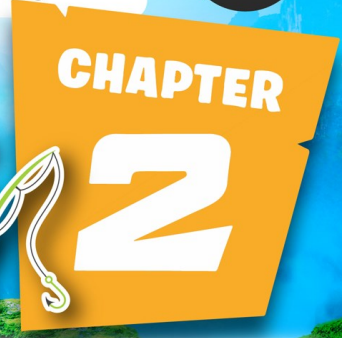
Great ideas for Birthday or Christmas presents.



Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed! With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.



What parents need to know about FORTNITE



BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.



IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.



FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.



SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.



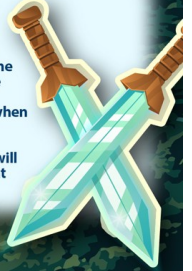
CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.



IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



Top Tips For Parents

BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game



GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns; that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.



TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.



CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.



PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!



Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2018/mar/07/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide-video-game-multiplayer-shooter>, <https://www.psychguides.com/behavioral-disorders/video-game-addiction/>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/23/17146848/cross-platform-crossplay-ps4-xbox-pc-switch-ios-mobile-enable-friends-compatible-matchmaking#70IE7d>, <https://www.esrb.org/ratings/34948/Fortnite/>



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

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 2020



Year 5 'Settling in' Evening Thursday 24th October 2019 4-7.00pm



The booking system for the Year 5 settling in evening went live on Epraise on the 30th September.

To book you need to download an app which is available for Android and Apple phones or you can visit www.epraise.co.uk, ensuring you select Walkwood Church of England Middle School from the list of schools.

If you have forgotten your password, or have never logged into Epraise before, then click on the parent tab and enter your email address, leaving the password field blank, press submit and a password will be sent to your email.

If you do not have an email address registered with us then you will be unable to login so you will need to contact the school reception to add an email address to your contact details.

Once in Epraise select Community then Parents' evenings. Click on Year 5 settling in evening then book in with the required staff. If booking more than one appointment I would suggest leaving at least five minutes between appointments to allow you time to travel around the school.

Do not forget to bring your appointment schedule with you on the evening. Rooming lists so you know where to locate staff will be available on the evening.

The booking system for this evening will close at 9am on Thursday 24th October.

[Bake Sale for Worcestershire Paediatric Diabetes Charitable Fund 23rd – 26th September](#)



I decided to hold a bake sale and asked my friends Scarlett, Evie, Molly and Callie for help. We were raising money for my brother's Type 1 Diabetes clinic.

He was diagnosed at three years old, and his clinic has supported us ever since. They put on meet ups and a Christmas party each year for all the children with Type 1 Diabetes and their families. The money we have raised (£75) will help towards these meet ups and the Christmas party.

I hope to do another Christmas bake sale as I really enjoyed doing it with my friends.

Thank you to all who brought a cake and helped raised such vital funds.

Lily Vaughan



[Bake Sale for Hoggles Hedgehog Rescue Charitable Fund 7th October - 10th October](#)

This week my friends and I (Ellie Wakeman, Lauren Sole, Abi Gibson, Eleanor Dicken, Evie Boulton, Lily Paice, Jenny Barratt) have been running a bake sale for Hoggles Hedgehog Rescue (Monday-Thursday).

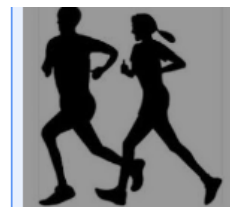
A few weeks ago, we found an injured hedgehog in our back garden which we took to Hoggles who looked after her and paid for her operation. We found out Hope (the name I gave to the hedgehog) had a broken leg. Her operation for her leg to be removed was successful and my family and I thought a bake sale would be the perfect way to thank the lady who has looked after Hope.

We have raised £70 which we are very thankful for. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the bake sale and we hoped you enjoyed your treat.

Lucy Hawkes



College Cross Country Runs



Dear Parent/Carer,

It's that time of year again!!

As part of both the PE Curriculum and intra-school competition, your child will be taking part in a 'College Cross-Country Run' during their normal timetabled PE lessons during the days of Friday 18th October to Thursday 24th October.

Not only do the children gain points for their college in taking part but it helps us to identify pupils that will be invited to compete in the Redditch Schools District cross country after half term.

Date	Lesson	Classes
Friday 18 th October	2 and 3	7e 1,2,3
Monday 21 st October	2 and 3	8e 1,2,3
	4 and 5	6c 1,2,3
Tuesday 22 nd October	2 and 3	8c 1,2,3
	4 and 5	5c 1,2,3
Wednesday 23 rd October	2 and 3	6e 1,2,3
	4 and 5	5e 1,2,3
Thursday 24 th October	4 and 5	7c 1,2,3

We can't predict what the weather will be like next so we ask that your child could bring the following to their next timetabled PE lesson:

Walkwood PE kit.

A towel.

A carrier bag to put dirty shoes in.

Football boots to run in. (Optional but recommended)

An old T-shirt/top to run to avoid white PE tops getting stained.

If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure they have their inhaler with them clearly labelled.

Every pupil is expected to take part but if your child is unwell and unable to take part, please provide us with a letter excusing them. However, they must still come with PE kit as they will take part in an officiating role down on the field.

Miss K Reeves

Curriculum Leader of PE

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

capricious

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 17th September 2019 — 17th October 2019

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Meredith Allen (Year 5 MHBA) - who has read an incredible 1,092,628 words

Top Boy

Joseph Bellizzi (Year 5 MHBA) - who has read a fantastic 889,723 words



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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU



Trips and Visits

2019 - 2020



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



Clubs and Activities

Autumn Term Part 1, 2019



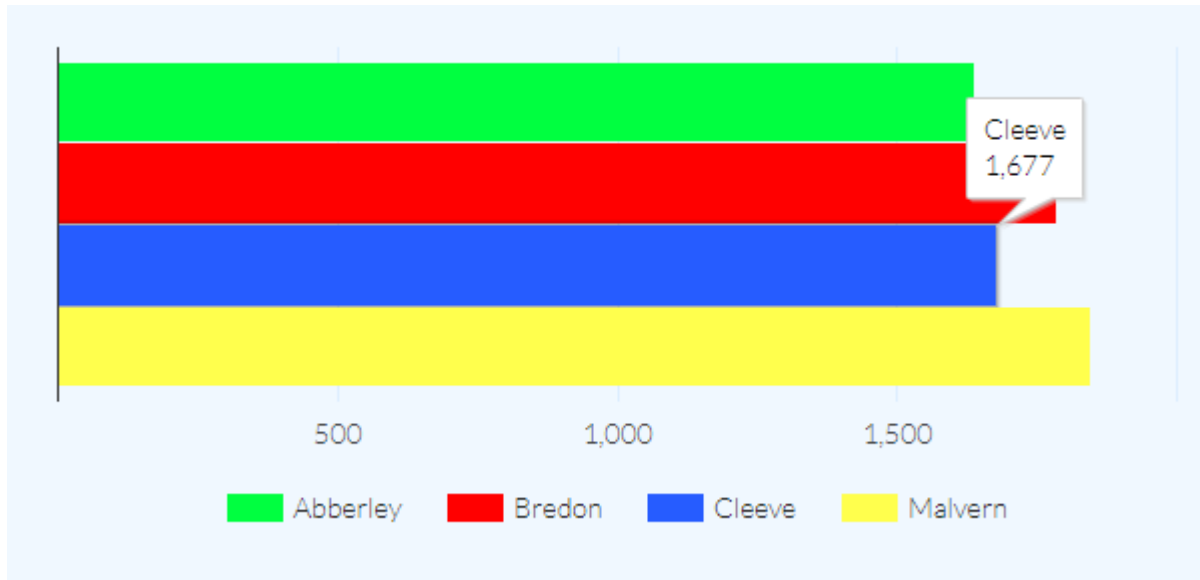
	Before School 8:00am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20pm	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am Orchestra Music Room 8.45 - 9.30am (CGR)	KS3 Art Club starting 18th September (ECO) Choir (all year groups) Music Room 12.50 - 1.20 pm (CGR) Eco School Club Lab 2 12.50 - 1.20pm (JHD)	Multi Skills KS2 Club 3.30 - 4.45 pm (PMC)
Tuesday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Nearly Jazzy Band (invitation only) Music Room 12.50 - 1.20 pm (CGR)	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm All years Football Team training (if selected) 3.30 - 4.45 pm Year 7 and Year 8 Girls Netball training (team only) 3.30 - 4.45 pm
Wednesday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Colouring Club Room 15 (RSH) Silent Reading Club Rm 19 (LBA) KS3 Science Ambassadors Lab 2 12.50 - 1.20 pm (JHD)	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm KS2 Science Club Lab 2 3.30 - 4.30 pm (JHD) Cooking Club (Groups TBC) 3.30 – 4.45pm (DSL) Cheerleading squad 3.30 - 4.45 pm (LMO/KRE)
Thursday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am	Choir (all year groups) Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm (CGR)	Homework Club DT Hub 3.30 – 4.30pm Year 7 and 8 Rugby 3.30 - 4.45 pm (PJE) All years Girls Football 3.30 - 4.45 pm (RMA/PCO/LWO)
Friday	Homework Club Library 8.00 am - 8.45am		All years Rec football and rec netball for all those who didn't make the team. 3.30—4.45 pm



Epraise Update



Points This Week: By College



Top Ten Points Scorers

1. Matty Catton (CABE) (32)
2. Grace Allardice (AAFA) (31)
3. Sophie Roberts (MNSA) (25)
3. Jenson Bugler (MDSL) (25)
5. Olivia Lyszcz (CLBK) (23)
5. Mollie Ford (MKRE) (23)
7. Isabelle Smith (ALWA) (22)
8. Finley Fisher (ALWA) (21)
8. Joseph Bellizzi (MHBA) (21)
8. Grace Keats (BRCO) (21)



Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2 0 1 9	Thursday 24 October	Y5 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	Friday 25 October	Staff Development Day
	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November	Half Term
	Wednesday 6 November	Y5 Renaissance Information Evening 6.30—7.00 pm Y6 SATs information evening and KS3 Curriculum parents information evening 6.30—7.30 pm
	Wednesday 13 November	Ski trip parent information evening 6.30—7.30 pm
	Monday 25 November	Parents' Maths KS2 Workshop 6.30—7.30 pm
	Friday 20 December	End of Term
	Monday 6 January	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 7 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 13 January	Parents' English KS2 Workshop 6.30—7.30 pm
	Thursday 30 January	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	Wednesday 5 February	Y6, Y8 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
	2 0 2 0	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February
Wednesday 18 March		Y6 Yorkshire information evening 6.30 pm
Friday 3 April		End of Term
Monday 20 April		First day of the Summer Term
Wednesday 6 May		Y5 Brecon Beacons information evening 6.30 pm
Friday 8 May		May Day bank holiday
Monday 25 to Friday 29 May		Half Term
Thursday 4 June		Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
Wednesday 10 June		Y5, Y7 Parents' Evening 4.00—7.00 pm
Friday 17 July		End of Term