

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term we are firmly in the mindset of 'back to normal' as we cast off the remaining vestiges of Covid measures. Consequently, pupils now register in their college tutor groups, this having been a key feature of our schools high quality pastoral care. Assemblies have restarted in the formats that exist, including those for individual colleges as well as whole school. The changing rooms are back in use to allow pupils to be able to dispense with their PE kit and return to school uniform after physical education—this is preferable for reasons of hygiene, especially in summer.

<<< BACK TO
NEW NORMAL

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:2

If we have extended periods of warm weather this term, we shall temporarily suspend the compulsory wearing of school jumpers. However, such decisions are made by members of the senior leadership team, as stated in our uniform policy, and it is not the choice of individual pupils. If children are warm in a classroom, they may ask the teacher if they may remove their jumper, but as they move to the next lesson, pupils must be wearing it again. This significantly reduces the chance of a pupil losing a piece of uniform—it is hard to misplace a garment if it is being worn! Equally, to avoid a jumper being dropped unawares, pupils are not permitted to wear them around their waists. Such measures are informed by years of experience!



Year 8 have had the joy of the Young Shakespeare Company this morning. The actors talked through key scenes from Romeo and Juliet to demonstrate what the words of the playwright meant. They applied humour to the task, and used some pupils to 'assist'. It was a most enjoyable hour and a half.

Year 6 will have their SATs in the week of 9th May, while Year 8 will do their high school tests at the same time. There will be some timetable amendments both next week and the following one. Remember that we do not believe in 'stressing out' pupils because of SATs, but do want them to feel fully prepared. This is a tactic that has worked so well in years past, and so we return to normal once more.



Rev. C. Leach, *Principal*

A prayer about Elizabeth Fry

Life-giving God, who alone have power over life and death, over health and sickness: Give power, wisdom and gentleness to those who follow the lead of your servant Elizabeth Fry, that they, bearing with them your presence, may not only heal but bless, and shine as lanterns of hope in the darkest hours of pain and fear; through Jesus Christ, the healer of body and soul, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

This week's theme was: Elizabeth Fry

I give myself this advice: Do not fear truth, let it be ever so contrary to inclination and feeling. Never give up the search after it; and let me take courage, and try from the bottom of my heart to do that which I believe truth dictates.

Elizabeth Fry

**Whole School
Attendance Target**
95.6%



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:	Truthfulness	Truth will last forever; lies are soon found out. Proverbs 12:19

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

The weekend	A new appreciation for Shakespeare from pupils after the YSC visit to Walkwood	Monday	For those who have experienced bullying online and offline
Tuesday	The staff at the local hospitals	Wednesday	Ukrainian refugees
Thursday	Those with disabilities	Friday	The teachers and support staff at Walkwood.

Picture of the Week



Summer in the North Yorkshire Moors

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FACEBOOK MESSENGER

Facebook Messenger is a communication app through which users can exchange messages and send photos, stickers, and video and audio files. Messenger allows both one-to-one and group chats, has a stories feature and – via its latest addition, Rooms – can host a video call with up to 50 people. As of 2021, the app had 35 million users in the UK alone (more than half the population!) among its 1.3 billion users worldwide. Whereas Messenger is integrated into Facebook on desktops and laptops, it has existed as a standalone app for mobile devices since 2011.

AGE RATING

13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Messenger's numerous features can encourage children to spend more time on the app – and therefore on their phone, increasing their levels of screen time. It also invokes FOMO (the Fear of Missing Out), especially among older children, who will almost certainly have a high proportion of their friends communicating via the app.

LIVE STREAMING

The new Rooms feature lets Messenger users hold video calls with up to 50 people. A young person can join any room they see, but the other people in these rooms don't even necessarily need to be Facebook account holders. This live streaming development heightens risk factors around privacy, security and the possibility of exposure to inappropriate content.

REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS

If the Facebook profile which accompanies their Messenger app is set to public, there's a possibility that young people will receive message requests from individuals they don't know. There have previously been reports of grooming attempts on Facebook, with predators using fake profiles to engage children in conversation.

OVERSHARING PERSONAL INFO

If the app is given access to their device's photo library or location services, young people can unintentionally share sensitive information (private photos, videos, their number or current whereabouts) with people on Messenger who they don't know. Even among friends, shared photos or videos don't always stay private: the recipient(s) could save and re-share them with others.

CYBERBULLYING

Like many communication apps, Messenger can be an avenue for cyberbullies or trolls to target children. This might take the form of harassment, abusive messages or being purposely excluded from (or targeted in) group chats. A 2021 Ofcom report revealed that more than half (55%) of 12–15-year-olds had suffered such negative experiences online in the preceding year.

SECRET CONVERSATIONS

The Secret Conversations function lets Messenger users have encrypted exchanges that no-one else can read. Unlike regular chats on the app, these can only be viewed on the device being used at the time. Messages can also be set to delete once read (although screenshots can be taken), so a child could chat privately with someone without any record of that conversation having taken place.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE ADDITIONAL SECURITY

Messenger's App Lock feature uses your child's fingerprint or face ID to ensure that nobody else can access their messages without permission. Messenger has also added a variety of optional tools to increase young people's safety on the app, including two-factor authentication, login alerts and filtered message requests.

REVIEW THE CHAT LIST

Some parents regularly check their children's Messenger conversations (to see who they're talking to, rather than what they're talking about). While this is certainly safe, it can seem intrusive. If approached in a sensible, collaborative way, however, it can help parents and carers to keep an eye on exactly who their child is communicating with.

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

If your child experiences anything negative on Messenger, you can help them report it. Facebook can then take action such as disabling the offender's account, limiting their ability to send messages or blocking them from contacting your child again. If your child doesn't want to display to others that they're online, they can switch off Active Status in the app's settings.

DISCUSS LIVE STREAMING

Talk with your child about safe and secure video calling. When setting up calls on Messenger Rooms, only invite people who your child knows and trusts. Show them how to lock a room if they don't want other people joining – and how to remove anyone they don't want on the call. Remind them about behaving responsibly during a live stream, even if it's with people they know.

ADJUST PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make your child's Messenger stories visible only to their friends. Avoid adding your child's phone number (so they can't be found by someone using their number to search for them), and not syncing contacts lets your child choose who to add (or not) individually. Via Settings, you can control who appears in your child's chat list, who goes into the message request folder and who can't contact your child at all.

ENCOURAGE SAFE SHARING

Ensure your child knows to send pictures and videos only to family and trusted friends, and not to publicly share images which compromise their location (showing a landmark near home or clothing with identifiable logos, like a school or local club crest). Encourage them to pause before sharing anything – if there's a chance it could harm their reputation (or someone else's), don't send it.

Meet Our Expert

Alex Wright is a former Facebook employee and social media expert with more than 15 years' experience in digital media. He has worked with some of the biggest organisations on the planet and has a vast understanding of how social media platforms work and how they engage their audience.



NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Do you love working with the latest technology? Are you looking for an IT Support role that provides fresh challenges everyday, as part of a supportive team? If so, then this is a fantastic opportunity to join a forward thinking, rapidly growing IT company as a Customer Support Technician providing 1st line support

A bit about us

At Concero, we believe that every teacher and every student deserve a creative environment, without boundaries, in order to spark the imaginations of future generations. Concero is a well-established, fast-growing company that specialises in providing IT support and services to schools across the country. Today we work with over 100 Local Authority, Free Schools and Multi-Academy Trusts across all phases. We deliver technical support, curriculum support, CPD, e-safety, safeguarding, strategic advice and guidance, consultation, broadband and VOIP telephone systems.

Your day-to-day tasks

Attending schools following a schedule and providing hands on support and advice to our customers. This role offers a fantastic variety of experience, and no 2 days are the same.



Working in schools means you will be responsible for Hardware (PCs, Laptops, Tablets, Wifi, Servers, Back-up Systems, Projectors/Interactive Displays and more), Software (Cloud platforms (Office 365/Google Workspace), School MIS Systems, Windows Server, Hyper V, VMWare and a wide range of other software) and providing face to face support on issues such as Cyber Security, Data Protection, Accessibility and more.

Although our office is based in Wolverhampton, this role is based in schools. Therefore, you will not be expected to travel to our Wolverhampton office to carry out your duties. However, there will be occasions where you will be required to attend the office. This may include, but is not limited to training, development and internal meetings.

What we need

Delivering a fantastic customer experience is at the core of what we do at Concero, so, whilst you may not have all the technical skills yet, we need:

Confidence to talk with colleagues and customers in a way that respects our values and ethos

An interest and determination to learn all the technical skills needed

Ability to ask for help when needed and pick up skills on the job

Full driving licence and access to own vehicle

What we'd love

Experience with platforms such as Windows Server, Office365, Google Workspace, Windows Operating System, Android, iOS.

Minimum of one year experience working in an IT support role

Experience working in an MSP (Managed Service Provider)

Microsoft certifications

Salary: £21,450.00-£27,000.00 per year

Full details: [Concero UK Limited jobs and careers | Indeed.com](#)



HEREFORD & WORCESTER
HWFR
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



PREVENTION

HOW SAFE ARE YOU?

Complete your **FREE** online Home Fire Safety Check now!

www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc

For further information about a **FREE**
Home Fire Safety Visit call us on

0800 032 1155



SCAN ME



Complete your **FREE** online Home Fire Safety Check now!

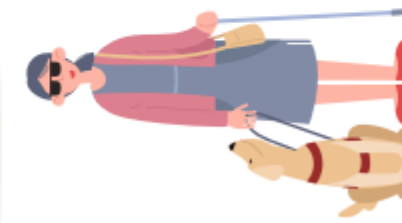
www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc

For further information about a **FREE**
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SCAN ME



SMOKE ALARMS

Get it, fit it, test it



ELECTRICS

Switch it off



CIGARETTES

Put it out, right out



COOKING

Take care when cooking



CANDLES

Never leave unattended



ESCAPE PLAN

Plan a safe escape



PREVENTION

www.hwfire.org.uk



twitter.com/hwfire



facebook.com/hwfire

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](#)

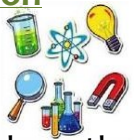
[Mathematics](#)

[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>

Word of the Week

This week's Word of the Week:

intricate

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 28th March 2022 — 28th April 2022

Congratulations to:

Top Girl

Amna Hussain (BAFA) - who has read 426,755 words

Top Boy

Oliver Hughes (CEDU) - who has read 455,098 words

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

Keep reading Walkwood, next week it could be YOU

Happy Reading





Clubs and Activities

Summer term 1 2022

	Before School 7:45am – 8:45am	Lunchtime 12.35 – 1.20PM	After School 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Monday		Lexia <u>L</u> Mo in ITA	Homework Club Year 5/6 boys and girls multi-sports club group 2 3.30-4.45pm (Pupils have signed up already and been allocated spaces)
Tuesday	Orchestra CGR 8.45am - 9.25am Music Room	Lexia <u>Z</u> Bi in ITA	Homework Club
Wednesday			Homework Club
Thursday		Choir CGR 12.55pm - 1.20pm Music Room All Year Groups	Homework Club All year's athletics club (Sign up -limited spaces available) 3.30-4.45pm
Friday			



Trips and Visits 2021 - 23



Date	Activity	Location	Open To	Cost	Leader
May 2022					
Fri 13 – Mon 16	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y6	£ 324	Rev Leach
June 2022					
Wed 22 – Fri 24	Arts and Theatres	London	Y8	£ 300	Rev Leach
Fri 24 – Mon 27	Outward Bound	Yorkshire	Y7	£ 324	Rev Leach
Fri 24 - Mon 27	Outward Bound	Brecon Beacons	Y5	£ 220	Mr Macdonald / Mrs Cull
February 2023					
Sat 4 – Sat 11	Ski Trip	Obertauern, Austria	Y5-Y7	£ 1360	Mrs Cull

Naming belongings

Please ensure all pupil belongings are clearly labelled in order for any lost property to be returned to the owner. This includes drink bottles and lunch boxes / bags of which we often have many unclaimed .

Thank you.





Welcome to Walkwood

We welcome the following members of staff:

Mrs Maunder and Mrs Whitehouse are our new Receptionists.

Mr Hewitt is our Business Manager

Mr Laming is our Caretaker

Mrs Smith and Mrs Derrick are Teaching Assistants

Mrs Worrallo is our Design Technician

Miss Clarke is Head of Science

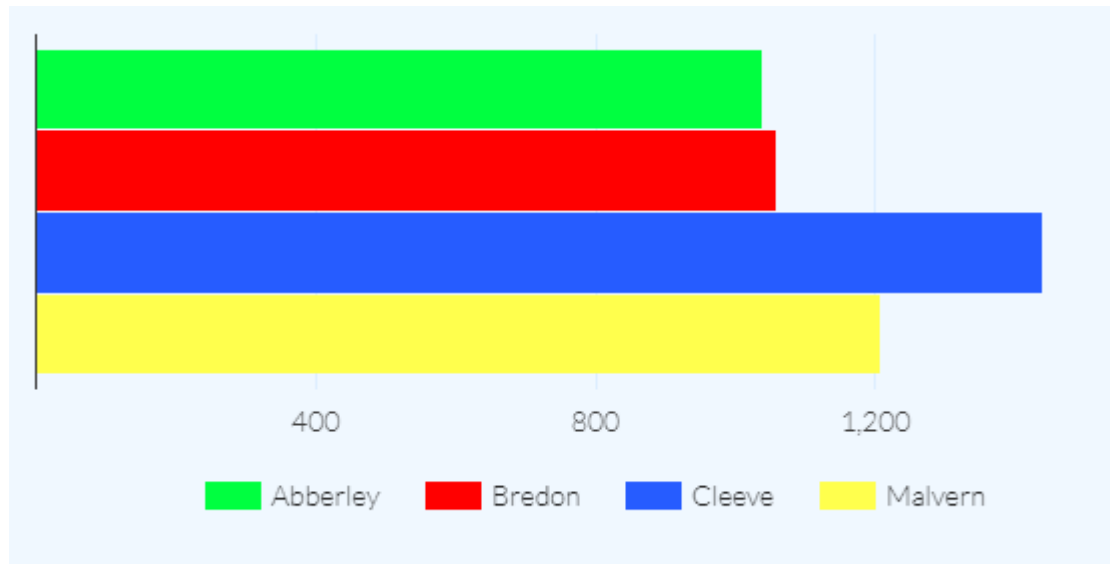
And Mrs Laszcz is Head of Spiritual and Social Education.

They have settled in quickly into our Walkwood family and are getting to know their way around school. We hope they enjoy the days and terms ahead.



Epraise Update

Points This Week: By College





Looking ahead



	Date	Event
2022-23	Monday 2 May	Bank Holiday
	Wednesday 18 May	Y5 residential information evening 6.30 pm
	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	Half Term
	Thursday 9 June	Y5 Y7 Parent's evening 4.00 —7.00 pm
	Wednesday 15 June	Y5 Y7 Parent's evening 4.00 —7.00 pm
	Thursday 21 July	End of Term
	Monday 5 September	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 6 September	First Day of the Autumn Term
	Monday 24 - Friday 28 October	Half Term
	Friday 16 December	End of Term
	Tuesday 3 January	Staff Development Day
	Wednesday 4 January	First day of the Spring Term
	Monday 20– Friday 24 February	Half Term
	Friday 31 March	End of Term
	Monday 17 April	Staff Development Day
	Tuesday 18 April	First day of the Summer Term
	Monday 29 May - 2 June	Half Term
	Friday 21 July	End of Term