



Dear Parent/Carer

Malcolm Whales Sponsored Walk 2026 – (9th to 13th July 2026)

I am delighted that as a school we will again be taking part in The Malcolm Whales Dorset Walk in July 2026 for the 18th time.

The Dorset Walk is open to students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 6th Form. The trip consists of a 3-day, 40 mile sponsored walk along the Jurassic Coast in Dorset. The walk sets off from the seafront at Weymouth and finishes at Studland near Poole. The route is **extremely challenging** with numerous ascents and descents along the way.

The walk raises funds for [The Malcolm Whales Foundation](#), a charity set up to raise awareness and funds to support those suffering from cancer, especially as a child or teenager. Over the last 17 years with the help and support of hundreds of walkers, the foundation has managed to raise over £750,000.

Key information:

- Cost: **£200**
- Depart **Thursday 9th July** and return **Monday 13th July 2026**.
- Thursday and Monday are travel days.
- Each day we will walk approximately 14 miles.
- We will be camping for 4 nights at the same campsite.
- We do not carry our equipment we are dropped and picked up at the start and end of each day.
- All food and drink will be provided. A small amount of spending money will be required. (On one of the nights, participants purchase their own dinner in the local town).
- Participants sleep in their own tents, which they can share with their friends.

There are a limited number of places for this trip, and these will be awarded on a **‘first come, first served basis’**. To secure your child’s place, a **minimum £50 deposit**, must be paid via ParentPay. The rest of the payment can then be paid in instalments, with the balance needing to be paid by **30th May 2026**.

The £200 is the total cost of this trip. This includes travel, walk t-shirts and food each day. We do try and offer some financial support for those families that are experiencing significant financial hardship. We are desperate that no child should be unable to participate due to cost. Please contact your child’s Head of Year for further details.

The £200 almost covers the costs, which have climbed steadily. We are always looking for business/personal donations or any sponsorship towards specific aspects (the cost of transport/accommodation/t-shirts/food etc). I can provide a breakdown of individual costs if anybody thinks they may be able to help in anyway. You may also consider offering to sponsor a student place for £200 to help enable *access for all*.

This experience is a charity event, as such, all participants are expected to raise sponsorship ideally through a personal JustGiving page that can be created to support The Malcolm Whales Foundation www.justgiving.com/campaign/ksa-dorset2026

Further information can be found via the charity website tmwf.co.uk and via our various social media platforms – just search for ‘The Malcolm Whales Foundation’ or ‘TMWF’. **There will also be an information evening that will explain further logistical details (the time and date for this is yet to be confirmed and won’t be until the new year).**

The walk is incredibly physically and mentally demanding - if you, or we, have any concerns about your potential ability to complete the walk we may ask you to participate in a short test. The test can be completed at school or at any gym. The test attempts to replicate the intensity of the walk on a very limited scale. The test is at least 20-minute inclined walk (15%) at 3mph, on a treadmill. It is not so much a pass/fail it is an attempt to get students to appreciate the physical nature of the walk.

With your participation and your support, we are able to make a massive difference to the lives of those children and families affected by cancer. If you have any questions, or able to offer any support please don’t hesitate to contact me d.whales@kenstimpson.org.uk.

To reserve your place on the trip please go to [ParentPay](#) and make the £50 deposit. Spaces will be awarded on a first come first served basis.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Whales
Headteacher and Founder of TMWF
tmwf.uk | [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [TikTok](#) | [Linktree](#)