



Friday 13th February 2026

Dear all,

*Happy Friday - today is the last day of Spring 1 term. Let's hope that Friday 13th superstitions don't prove to be correct and we all have a great last day of term! **SCHOOL OPENS AGAIN ON MONDAY 23RD FEBRUARY.** I hope you all get some family time over the next week and that we all come back with a Spring in our step, looking forward to lighter mornings and flowers starting to grow again.*

KEY DATES - Please take a look at what is coming up next term. I've added Mrs Harding's poster about **WORLD BOOK DAY** to the newsletter - get thinking about your outfits for that day, coming up quickly next half term.

LOVELY PHOTOS shared with me this week - please take a look. Well done to TJ-Lee and to Year 5 for a fantastic RE performance this week. Some great photos in this week's edition...

Huge thanks to everyone who keeps this school going and makes it such a lovely place to work and learn. Thank you to our hard-working team of staff who will hopefully get a little bit of their own family time now, along with a well-earned rest.

Have a lovely half term everyone! See you on 23rd Feb!

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

WELL DONE TJ!



TJ was invited to The Royal Concert Hall to collect his latest football medal and was lucky enough to meet the Forest Manager afterwards too! Amazing TJ!





CLASS DOJO

Reasons to use it

Walter Halls office: 0115 9150045

Read information & updates about school or your child's class.



See photos of your child's learning



To see points that your child has received so you can talk about it with them



Respond to whole class portfolios or tasks



CLASS DOJO

Do not use it for

Asking if your child is ok - if you have concerns call the office.



To let staff know someone else is collecting your child - they may not read it. Call the office.



Telling us about a problem, incident or raising a complaint. Please follow the escalation process. Call the office to ask to speak to someone.



Sharing messages with staff regarding medical information, lateness or absence. They may not read it. Call the office.



World Book Day: Thursday 5th March. Theme: Little People, Big Dreams



Dream of becoming a mathematician like Katherine Johnson and helping to put the first people on Mars? Or do you dream of being the next Taylor Swift? Is your dream to fly through the sky like a superhero or is it simply to spend the day eating sweets? Whatever you dream or dream to be, come to school on World Book Day dressed as your dream!

Spend the day learning about other amazing people who all had big dreams just like you



Build your own stories using your imagination- that you have achieved your dreams like the people in the books you will learn about- through story-book making, retelling orally, using puppets or another imaginative ways.

You might visit another year group that week and share what you have created- share your journey to achieving your dream with others!



Afternoon stories in the hall with Barrie- bring your pillow/blanket and teddy and snuggle up in the hall to hear a story from our resident story teller.



YEAR 5 RE PERFORMANCE!





Well done to Year 5 for sharing their learning on Sikhism with us this week. Year 3 were lucky enough to attend, along with lots of our families. Great explanations, confident speaking, singing and some fabulous dance moves! It's not easy performing to an audience and you did a great job sharing this important part of your religious education. Thank you Year 5!





















MATHS DAY WAS AWESOME!







We had great fun exploring numbers and taking part in the NSPCC Rocks competition for maths day on Friday.

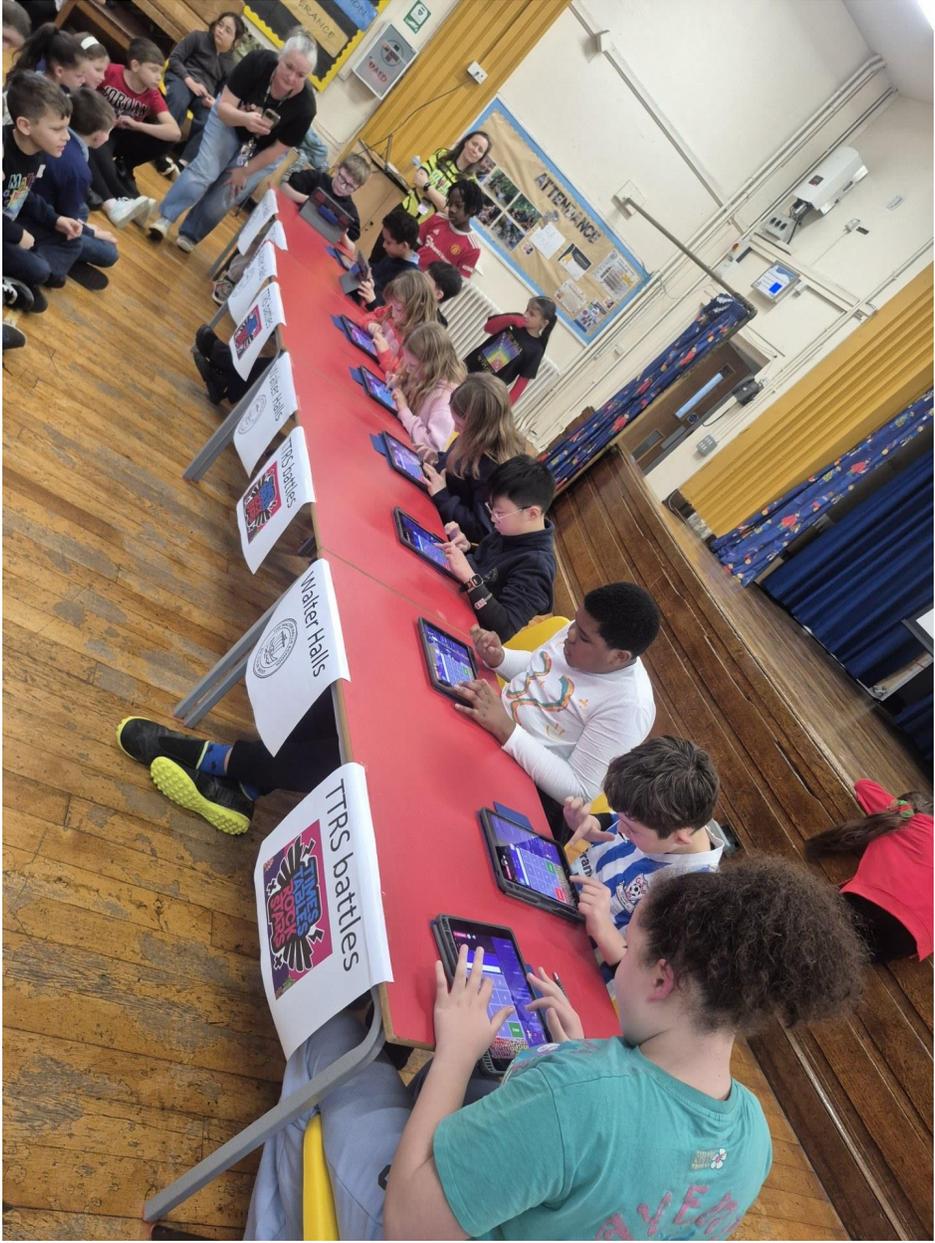
Thank you to the Year 4 maths ambassadors for helping to run the TTRS battles and to all the adults that attended our battles in the afternoon.

It was great to see so many children from year 2 to year 6 having the courage to come up

and take part in TTRS battles in front of an audience- well done everyone! Lots of amazing times tables knowledge on show! 😊

One of our Governors came to join in for this event and took the time to send us this feedback too...thanks Anna!

Hi All I had the pleasure of coming into school on Friday 6th Feb to watch the TTRS battle. The battle generated a high level of excitement and enthusiasm among pupils. There was a real buzz in the room! A large number of children were eager to participate and fully engaged throughout the activity. Parental involvement was very positive, with good attendance and clear support for the event, this further enhanced the atmosphere and sense of community. I introduced myself to the Yr 4 Maths Ambassadors, who were doing an excellent job organising the event and supporting their peers. They demonstrated confidence, responsibility, and pride in their roles. The outcomes of the battle were impressive, with some outstanding individual performances. One pupil achieved an incredible 93 correct answers in 60 seconds, highlighting the impact of regular practice and the effectiveness of the TTRS programme in developing rapid recall of times tables. Overall, the event was extremely well organised, highly engaging, and showcased pupils' enthusiasm for maths, as well as the school's commitment to promoting learning in an enjoyable and inclusive way!











KEY DATES COMING UP...



OUR CORE VALUES LEARNING IN SPRING TERM IS ASPIRATION AND CURIOSITY

- **Monday 23rd February – School re-opens for Spring 2 term**
- **w/c 23rd February – Launch of our Walter Halls Book of Curiosity!**
- **F1, Nursery, will be starting their ‘Values in the Community’ project by making bookmarks to give to a local care home**

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- **Thursday 5th March – WORLD BOOK DAY! Our theme is - LITTLE PEOPLE, BIG DREAMS! Come dressed as your dream - whatever that might be! Bring a cuddly toy or pillow with you to school to enjoy a book in comfort that day too. Children will be reading books from the 'Little People, Big Dreams' series and creating their own stories about their own 'big dreams'! What a great day to look forward to!**
 - **On Thursday 12th we will have a special visiting author coming in to meet all of our children, connected to World Book Day too!**

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- **Friday 13th March – FRIDAY FOCUS DAY for Science. National Theme for British Science Week is ‘Curiosity – what is your question’. All of our year groups will be doing science and curiosity learning all day long!**
 - **w/c 16th March – we will introduce Autism Awareness month in our assembly, which starts in April during the Easter Break.**
 - **Monday 23rd March – 9am, school hall. HEADTEACHER EXCELLENCE ASSEMBLY. End of term certificates and red carpet ceremony**
 - **Y3 will be doing their ‘Values in the Community’ project connected with our Curiosity learning, this final week of term. They will be singing some songs to residents of a local care home.**
 - **Wednesday 25th March, 9am School Hall – Year 2 will be performing their RE learning. This will be all about the Jewish faith and Passover.**

- *Friday 27th March – School closes for Easter break and re-opens on Monday 13th April*

Our remaining INSET days, when school closes for training days, are: Monday 1st June, Friday 24th July and Monday 27th July.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS COMING UP THIS TERM...





Easter Egg Decorating Contest 2026

Separate prize for winning design in KS1 (reception to year 2) and KS2 (years 3 to 6)

All entries to be brought into the school office between Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th March

Entry fee of £2.00 per design (you can enter more than once!)

Let your creativity shine!!!





CHOCOLATE BINGO!!

The FOWH PTA are pleased to be holding another Chocolate Bingo fundraiser!!!

WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH, 3.15 to 4.15PM

Open to all children in reception to year 6**
£5.00 (each child will play 4 games)
 Book via your child's Arbor app or at the school office

** children in reception, year 1 & 2 to have an adult in attendance

The advertisement features a central title 'CHOCOLATE BINGO!!' in large pink letters. Above the title is a golden bingo ball machine with white balls numbered 4, 7, 9, and 10. To the right is a blue bingo card with numbers 15, 20, 1, 10, 19, 25, 44, 40, 18, 63, 37, 60, 13, 30, 3, 5, 27, 48, 53, 70, 57, 68, 56, and a star in the center. Below the title are images of various chocolate products: a bag of Mini Eggs, a bag of Smarties, a Cadbury Caramel egg, a Cadbury Creme Egg, a Cadbury Flake, a Cadbury Aero chocolate bar, and a Cadbury Crunch chocolate bar. In the bottom left corner, there are several bingo balls with numbers 33, 36, and 1. The background is a light green and yellow gradient.

PTA FOWH FUNDRAISER

Alex Michael
magician



MAGIC SHOW

OPEN TO CHILDREN IN
RECEPTION, YEAR 1, YEAR 2,
YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4



MONDAY 27TH
APRIL,
3.15 TO 4PM

PLEASE BOOK VIA YOUR CHILD'S
ARBOR APP, OR CALL INTO THE
SCHOOL OFFICE.

A PARENT/CARER WILL NEED TO ACCOMPANY
CHILDREN IN RECEPTION & YEAR 1

Ways to Communicate



Please remember, we have several ways you can get in touch:

- *Come and speak to us on the playgrounds in the morning or after school or go into the main office and arrange a phone call / meeting time*
- *Call the office on 0115 9150045 and ask for someone to call you back for a chat or to arrange a meeting*
- *Email our admin inbox - admin@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk. PLEASE NOTE - this email box is not checked daily due to other workloads of staff in school and so if your enquiry is urgent please always call us instead*

- **Class Dojo** - this is not for raising a problem or complaint. This is for teachers to share news and information. Teachers do not check Class Dojo after school hours and will not respond to complaints or problems this way
- **Arbor** - this is for whole school messages, bookings and payments, clubs etc.

IF YOU NEED HELP GETTING ACCESS TO CLASS DOJO OR ARBOR PLEASE SPEAK TO OUR OFFICE TEAM



THE LIME TREES

**Holiday Club
bookings open
for February half term**

Nottingham City Council
School terms and holiday calendar – 2025/26

AUGUST 2025					SEPTEMBER 2025					OCTOBER 2025						
M	4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	M	6	13	20	27	
T	5	12	19	26	T	2	9	16	23	30	T	7	14	21	28	
W	6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24	W	1	8	15	22	29	
T	7	14	21	28	T	4	11	18	25	T	2	9	16	23	30	
F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26	F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30	S	6	13	20	27	S	4	11	18	25	
S	3	10	17	24	31	S	7	14	21	28	S	5	12	19	26	

NOVEMBER 2025					DECEMBER 2025					JANUARY 2026						
M	3	10	17	24	M	1	8	15	22	29	M	5	12	19	26	
T	4	11	18	25	T	2	9	16	23	30	T	6	13	20	27	
W	5	12	19	26	W	3	10	17	24	31	W	7	14	21	28	
T	6	13	20	27	T	4	11	18	25	T	1	8	15	22	29	
F	7	14	21	28	F	5	12	19	26	F	2	9	16	23	30	
S	1	8	15	22	29	S	6	13	20	27	S	3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30	S	7	14	21	28	S	4	11	18	25	

FEBRUARY 2026					MARCH 2026					APRIL 2026					
M	2	9	16	23	M	2	9	16	23	30	M	6	13	20	27
T	3	10	17	24	T	3	10	17	24	31	T	7	14	21	28
W	4	11	18	25	W	4	11	18	25	W	1	8	15	22	29
T	5	12	19	26	T	5	12	19	26	T	2	9	16	23	30
F	6	13	20	27	F	6	13	20	27	F	3	10	17	24	
S	7	14	21	28	S	7	14	21	28	S	4	11	18	25	
S	1	8	15	22	S	1	8	15	22	29	S	5	12	19	26

MAY 2026					JUNE 2026					JULY 2026						
M	4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	M	6	13	20	27	
T	5	12	19	26	T	2	9	16	23	30	T	7	14	21	28	
W	6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24	W	1	8	15	22	29	
T	7	14	21	28	T	4	11	18	25	T	2	9	16	23	30	
F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26	F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30	S	6	13	20	27	S	4	11	18	25	
S	3	10	17	24	31	S	7	14	21	28	S	5	12	19	26	

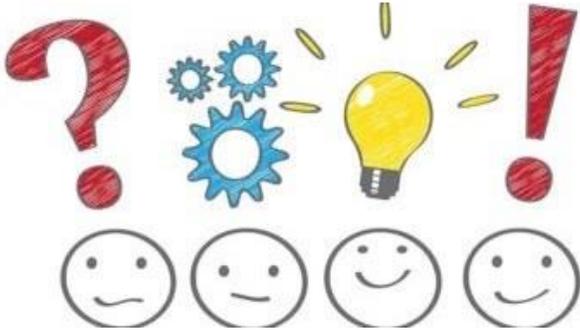
Key	
	In school
	School holiday
	Public holiday
	In Service Training Day

AUGUST 2026					
M	3	10	17	24	31
T	4	11	18	25	
W	5	12	19	26	
T	6	13	20	27	
F	7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29
S	2	9	16	23	30

*Recommend that July 27 be used as INSET Day (school's decision)

- Half term 1 – 7 weeks
- Half term 2 – 7 weeks
- Half term 3 – 6 weeks
- Half term 4 – 5 weeks
- Half term 5 – 5 weeks 4 days
- Half term 6 – 8 weeks 1 day

WHO CAN HELP ME? Escalating problems or incidents



Are you worried about your child?

Is something happening in school with your child that you need to talk to someone about?

- 1) **FIRST STEP** is to talk to their teacher. Teachers can't chat for long before school and sometimes they have to attend meetings after school. If you need a chat, ask at the office for a call back from the teacher asap
CLASS DOJO is not to be used to raise a problem or worry. Teachers do not check messages on Dojo regularly nor should they be responding to you after working hours via Dojo
- 2) **NEXT STEP** if you're still upset or worried and things haven't got better, ask to speak with the Assistant Head for your child's year group. It might also be the SENDCO you need to chat to – Mrs Goldsmith
- 3) **LAST STEP** if remain unhappy with actions taken, please call into the office and ask for our Headteacher to call you

We are all working really hard to look after lots of children and families. We won't always be able to chat to you straight away but we do care about making sure children are happy and safe at school.

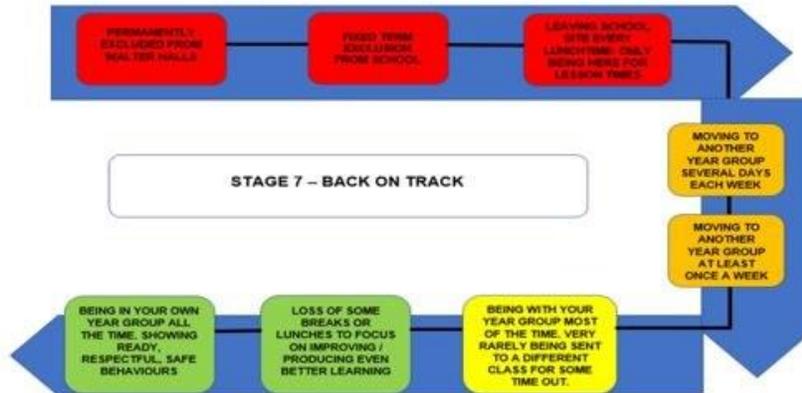
The next pages of this poster shows you how we escalate incidents of negative behaviour and who gets involved and when. We have lots of people at Walter Halls whose job it is to make behaviour as positive as possible – but our children are all still young and need help to learn these things over time. If you feel like a problem isn't changing quickly, quite often this isn't because we're not doing anything about it. Some children need lots of help to change behaviours and this takes lots of time and effort from different adults.

R2R10

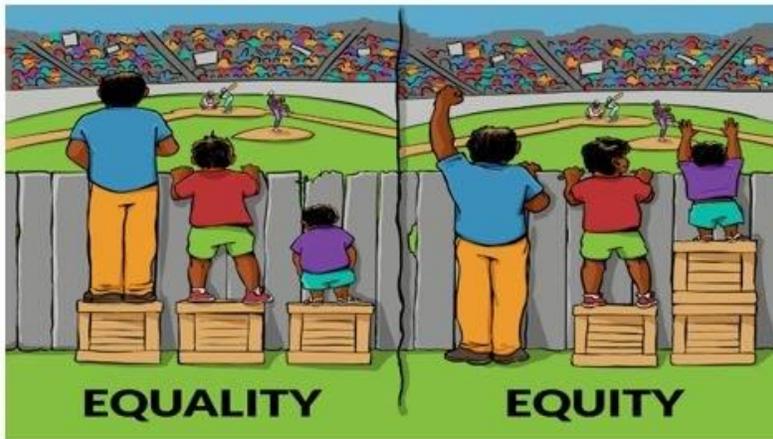
1	R Reminder from the adult	We all need reminders about our 3 school rules sometimes: <u>Ready?</u> <u>Respectful?</u> <u>Safe?</u>	
2	2 2 minutes owed	<u>You will</u> spend 2 minutes of your free time with an adult discussing why your behaviours aren't RRS <u>The adult will</u> explain this clearly to you and help you make changes	
3	R Reminder from the adult	If this behaviour carries on the adult will give you just one more reminder.	
4	10 10 minutes owed	<u>You will</u> spend 10 minutes of your free time with an adult discussing why your behaviours aren't RRS and put right what has gone wrong <u>The adult will</u> explain this clearly to you and help you make changes. They might give you a task to do to help you put things right	
5	TIME OUT - A short amount of time away from everyone - OR a longer amount of time needed away from everyone All the adults will decide how long is needed based on what has happened. (Learning mentor/Phase leader / deputy head stage)	<u>You will</u> be taken by a different adult to spend time away from your year group <u>The adult will</u> RECORD this in the behaviour log, arrange where you will spend your hour, organise a restorative conversation	UNSAFE BEHAVIOURS MOVE STRAIGHT TO STAGE 5/6/7: - Verbal with intent to harm - Physical harm - Racial - Homophobic - Bullying All the adults can decide which stage your behaviour should go to, depending on the circumstances. At all times this is RECORDED and contact with home is made.
6		<u>The adults will</u> call home the same day if your behaviours are repeated or unsafe. Adults at home will receive a letter to keep them updated at the end of term and may be invited in	
7	Headteacher adults at home and outside help needed	'BACK ON TRACK' PATHWAY NEEDED - Team around meeting considered - Face-to-face meeting with outside adults - Regular review of support	

Repeated unsafe behaviours will always be dealt with by senior leaders, on a STAGE 7 plan. You can see more about STAGE 7 on the next

GETTING BACK ON-TRACK – The adults will be keeping track of where you are and where you need to be:



Walter Halls believes in **EQUITY** over **EQUALITY**. Everyone needs different things, not the same. Some children and families need more help than others. That's why Walter Halls has a full-time family support worker, a full-time play therapist, two full-time behaviour mentors and lots of staff who believe in helping children with challenging behaviours. We do lots of things to help before we ever reach Stage 7 or excluding children from school.



Our Senior Leaders...



Emma Beardah
Headteacher



Sarah Wright
Assistant Head EY & KS1



Hannah Pope
Assistant Head KS2

Our new SENDCO, Brit Goldsmith...



Community & Family Support



FRIENDS OF WALTER HALLS PTA GROUP:

All of our fundraising will be put towards visits, trips and experiences for all of our year groups. We do not have enough budget to support the costs of visits and experiences and we use any fundraising to help make sure no child misses out. Keep an eye-out on Class Dojo for our next fundraising event...

FAMILY SUPPORT AND PASTORAL CARE:

We invest a lot in the wider support of our families and have a big team of staff who look after those who need a bit more help and support. Food parcels, referrals to other services in Nottingham, parenting and behaviour support. Here are a few people who may be able to help you - please let us know if you want to chat to us -

EMMA BEARDAH - Headteacher and overall safeguarding leader

BRIT GOLDSMITH - SENDCO

GAIL HOLMES - Family Support Worker and DSL

KERRIE CHANDLER - Play Therapist, Child Welfare Officer, Deputy DSL

LEE NEAL & KATIE MERRINGTON-INGLEY - Behaviour & Learning Mentors

CHLOE ORVIS - MHST (Mental Health Support Team) - Available on school site on Wednesday's
8.30am-9.15am for parent drop-in sessions

ACTIVE UNIFORM!



We promote an 'Active Uniform' approach and have recently joined a national campaign to support children wearing uniform that is appropriate. We believe that all school uniform should be suitable for a busy, outdoor and active day at school, as well as a uniform that is comfortable, affordable and supports sensory needs too.

*The video on the Active Uniform Alliance website, summarises this perfectly:
<https://activeuniform.org/>*

KEY ELEMENTS OF OUR UNIFORM ARE:-

- *If you have a good 'active uniform on, you DO NOT NEED A DIFFERENT PE KIT.*
 - *A great OPAL uniform, along with some decent trainers, works well for all occasions at school- We still want uniform colours - blue or white tops. BLUE IS EASIER TO KEEP CLEAN!*
 - *NO LOGOS - all of our uniform is plain and shouldn't promote branded items.*
 - *WATERPROOFS AND WELLIES are part of our uniform. All children must have these at all times because we are an OPAL school and will go outside in all weathers.*
 - *A good pair of plain coloured trainers can double up as normal day school shoes AND outdoor PE shoes. Children might go outside for their learning at any given time - a decent pair of trainers is a must. PLEASE NO CROCS, HEELS OR FLIMSY SHINY SHOES - they will get mucky!*
 - *You can see from the pictures on our uniform poster that there is also a good degree of choice and ideas for children who still want to dress in a more traditional uniform too.*
 - *Our office team can always help with purchasing certain items and out uniform policy - on our website - signposts you to very affordable places to buy these items.*
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Thank you for your support.

PLEASE LABEL ALL UNIFORM AND FOOTWEAR WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME



Walter Halls is an OPAL school. You can find out more about OPAL here: <https://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/parents/>

ESSENTIAL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS:

WHAT A GREAT OPAL SCHOOL UNIFORM WOULD LOOK LIKE:

- Plain tracksuit bottoms or plain full-length leggings – blue / grey / black
- Plain tracksuit-style shorts or plain cycling shorts – blue/ grey / black (for warmer weather)
- Blue or white polo shirt – blue is easier to keep clean!
- Plain blue jumper / hoodie / cardigan (or branded Walter Halls – see below)
- Socks (with some spares in their bag!)
- Plain trainers or trainer-style shoe
- Wellies (kept in school)
- Water-proofs: jacket with hood or puddle-suit (kept in school if possible)



PE kit:

If you have a great OPAL uniform, and a plain pair of trainers, you DON'T NEED a different PE kit!

- A great OPAL uniform is a great PE kit – having a pair tracksuit bottoms and tracksuit shorts to swap between, based on the weather, will help
- Plain black, blue or grey leggings could be worn instead
- Trainers & socks – no logos, keep trainers as plain, dark colours

Other options:

An active OPAL-style uniform is our preference and matches an active day at school. You can also choose the following, but would need a different PE kit as listed above:

- Grey trousers or skirt (with tights or socks)
- Grey pinafore dress or blue gingham summer dress (with tights or socks)
- Branded Walter Halls jumper or cardigan
- Black school shoes / slip-ons (no high-heels/wedged heels, flip-flops or cros)

Some children like wearing a traditional uniform – like a summer pinafore dress – but will wear plain leggings or cycling shorts underneath to help them be active and when they are playing outside



Attendance!



Attendance Matters



As a school, we strive for 100% attendance! Anything 96% or more is good attendance and will mean that your children are thriving in school and making good progress with their learning.

We have an attendance team who help support anyone who is struggling with good school attendance and we contact families ourselves if we notice concerns connected with your children's attendance at school.

We know that attendance is not in the control of primary-aged children. We still 'recognise' the importance of attendance with all of our children by sharing with them what attendance percentages were in every year group. We celebrate different types of 'good' attendance, for example 'most improved' and those children who have managed to get to school on time, when in the past this may have been a struggle for them and their families.

We report attendance for the previous week. For the final week of Autumn term:

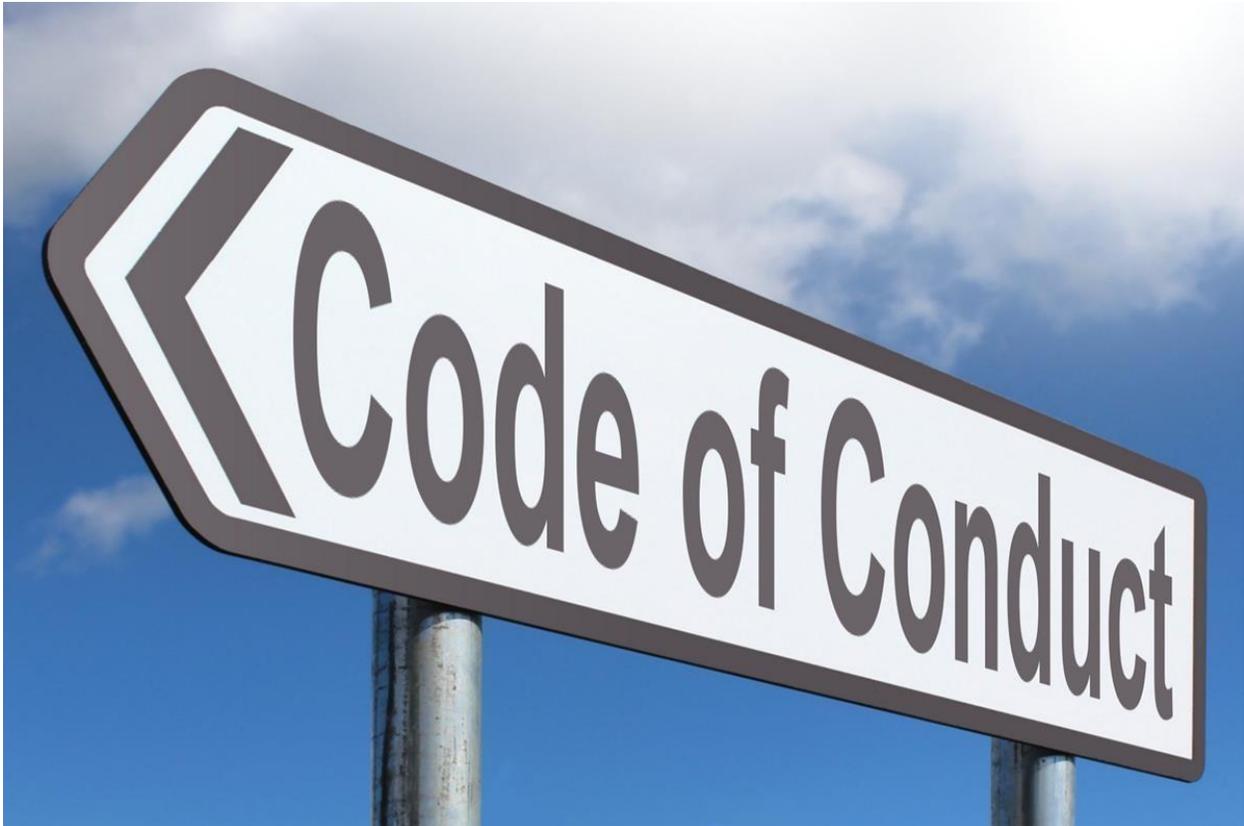
WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 94.9%

THE CLASS WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE WAS: Class 6A with 97.9%!

ALSO DOING GREAT WERE: Class 4B, 4A and F2 Moles class, who all achieved our target of over 96% - great effort!

Our target this year is 96+% and we aim to reduce our persistent absentee figures to just 15%

Safety & Conduct on School Site



PLEASE HELP US TO BE A HEALTHY AND HAPPY SCHOOL BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE REQUESTS:

Illness - we want all of our children in school every day, even with minor coughs and colds. If your child has a stomach bug they should remain off school for 48 hours from the last time they vomited to stop the spread of illness in school. If your child has a different kind of illness and you're not sure if they should be in school or not, the NHS website has lots of great advice and our office team can also help you.

Parking - please be considerate, respectful and safe if using a car to come to and from school in. Road safety is very important, as is the happiness and respect shown towards local residents. The local authority discourages car use and parking in their inner-city schools and we do not have a car park to use. Staff parking is paid for by staff who choose to use this very small space.

Dogs, bikes and scooters - We love all of these things but our school site is a busy place with lots of young children on it. Dogs are not permitted on school site at any time, even when on a lead, so please make plans to leave them at home if you're doing the school run. Bikes and scooters should not be ridden inside the school grounds - please dismount and push them along with you.

General conduct from all adults on school property - we set high standards for this. School is private property and the local authority will act to ensure that all adults who come onto this property behave in a respectful manner. We have systems of escalation in place for those who struggle to behave respectfully on school property and will ban anyone from our site for repeated incidents of poor conduct. Please do not gather on our school site after school hours - we know we have beautiful grounds but we also have a duty to safeguard our children who attend after school clubs, closing gates and securing the site again 10 minutes after the end of the school day.
