

NEWSLETTER - 19th January 2024

Dear all,

Happy Friday to you all. Here's a round-up of this week's news with separate sections for you to look through which give regular reminders and more detail on things that we'd like our families to be aware about...

Attendance - Some really amazing attendance for last week! We know there has been a horrible bug going around this week, so our attendance figures won't be quite so great in next Friday's report - but for now, WELL DONE everyone. Take a look at this week's attendance section!

Young Voices - We will be taking our choir to the annual and national 'Young Voices' event in Birmingham, on Wednesday next week! This is a fantastic event with thousands of children, from schools all over the country, coming together to perform in one massive choir. It's fantastic to be part of and I'm looking forward to going along with Mrs Cox and a couple of parent helpers too. Look forward to the photos and videos to come next week!

New Family Support Worker - Gail Holmes - you will have hopefully seen my introductory message and photo of Gail, on Class Dojo, earlier this week. Gail has settled into our family really quickly and is already supporting lots of our community. We're lucky to have her. If you need any support at all or just want to talk something through, please let us know.

The Wells Academy - Y6-Y7 transition - I am pleased to say that communication and stronger links between us and The Wells Academy have already begun. The whole of Y6 have been invited to watch

their school production of 'Annie' on Wednesday 7th February (during the school day). This will help those children who may be moving the Y7 at Wells Academy, become more familiar with the surroundings and staff. Senior leaders have also organised a coffee morning for parents to take place here, at Walter Halls on Wednesday 13th March between 9-10am. See the flyer in this newsletter for more information - would be great for parents of children who may be attending Wells Academy to come along for a chat if you can be there that morning.

Year 4 Geographers...check out some fantastic photos of Geography learning from Year 4 this week...

NEXT WEEK:

Wednesday - Young Voices, Birmingham. Full details shared by Mrs Cox

Dawn - from Mental Health Support Team - MHST - is usually available for our families to chat to every Wednesday.

Friday- Celebration Assembly 9am in the hall - Y2/3 - parents of children receiving a certificate will be contacted in advance

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk



Transition Support Project Supporting Families

Year 6



Year 7

We understand that moving from Primary School to Secondary School can be a daunting time for both children and families, particularly if your child has an identified need or feel they may need additional transition support.

.The project is new and has family support workers to provide support for your child and the family, working closely both with the Primary School and The Wells Academy to support the most successful transition possible. This support will be personalised to your childs and families needs and we also have access to support from other services if you think that would benefit your family.

We will be coming in to school for drop in sessions/coffee morning Wednesday 13th March at 9a.m—10.am to meet parent / carers so we can answer any questions you may have about what support we can offer.

We look forward to meeting you.

Nic Mills—SEND Transition Project Lead

Martenay Anderson-Agenti-Family Liaison Officer-The Wells Academy

Year 4 Geographers!



Year 4 had a Geography lesson based around ordinance survey maps. We learnt about what they were and what the symbols were used for before getting out the maps and exploring them. As you can see, some of the maps were bigger than some of us but we really enjoyed practically exploring these maps, which most of us had never seen before!











Key Dates coming up...



SPRING TERM DATES:

Our Core Value learning is all about ASPIRATION

- School re-opens on Thursday 4th January.
- Friday 19th January Y1 will be visited by 'Tutti Fruitti' performers
- Friday 2nd February Friday Focus Day Maths and Times Tables Rock Stars!
- w/c 5th February Children's Mental Health Week a national theme of 'My Voice Matters'
 - **6th February** National Safer Internet Day 'Inspiring Change'
 - **7th February** Y6 visit Wells Academy to watch their production of 'Annie'
- w/c 5th February Y5 will lead a Religious Education performance on Sikhism with parents invited date TBC
- **Friday 9th February** last day of half term. School re-opens for Spring 2 term on Monday 19th February

Spring 2 term:

Our core value learning this half term is all about CURIOSITY

- Monday 26th February KS2 Times Tables Rock Stars Competition
- Thursday 7th March World Book Day more details to follow
- Wednesday 13th March- Wells Academy Coffee morning at Walter Halls 9am-10am
- Friday 15th March Friday Focus Day Science. British Science week national theme is 'Time'
- w/c 18th March we will introduce the topic of Autism Awareness Month, which begins in April

- w/c 18th March Y2 will lead a Religious Education performance on Passover with parents invited date TBC
 - Monday 25th March Headteacher Certificate ceremony 9am school hall for Y1-Y6
 - Wednesday 27th March KS2 Spelling Bee competition
- Last day of term is Wednesday 27th March. School closes to children. School staff attend INSET training on Thursday 28th March
 - School re-opens after the Easter break on Monday April 15th
 - OUR REMAINING INSET DAYS ARE: Thurs 28th March, Thurs 25th & Fri 26th July
 - Term dates can be found on our website here: https://www.walterhallsprimary.co.uk/termdates/

ATTENDANCE!



As a school, we strive for 100% attendance each week. Anything above 96% attendance, we class as 'good'. We have an attendance team at school, who track attendance of individual children very carefully, to ensure all of our children are able to come to school all of the time and not miss any of their learning.

If you need support with your child's attendance, please speak to us straight away.

We always report attendance for the previous week.

LAST WEEK WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS 96% - we met our target!

THE HIGHEST CLASS ATTENDANCE WAS FROM: CLASS 1A - A PERFECT 100%!

Also doing great were: Class 6A with 99%, F2 Moles & Class 2B with 98%, Class 2A & Class 5A both with 97% AND Class 1B & 4B with 96%! WOW! What a fantastic week!

THIS YEAR'S TARGET IS 96% AND WE AIM TO REDUCE OUR PERSISTANTLY ABSENT FIGURES FROM 15% TO 8%

OPAL PLAY UPDATE



We continue to build on last term's work with Opal with lots of new plans for different play spaces and equipment being introduced each term. Long-term we are saving up and allocating some funds towards a large sand-pit area too. As this is an 18 month project, it will continue to grow and improve as we go through.

Here's how you can help now:

WE NEED - Scooters, skateboards and large prams/buggies - please bring any you may be looking to get rid of to us!

WE ALSO NEED - Broken items from home that the children could spend some time trying to fix over lunchtime - don't expect them back all fixed and new, it's just a great activity that some of our children like to try their hand at! Things like - broken printers, broken DVD players etc. Anything that can be unscrewed, taken apart and 'tinkered' with. This will help form our new 'Tinker Station' outside, with some tools left out for the children to use.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

Children need wellies and warm outdoor clothing with them every day.

Ways to communicate



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

- Come and speak to us outside on the playgrounds each morning or after school
- Call the office to make an appointment to speak with a class teacher, phase leader or member of senior leadership 0115 9150045.

- Send us an email to ask us to call you <u>admin@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk</u>
- Class Dojo this is for class teachers to send out homework, key messages just for their class and for teachers to use to praise and celebrate great behaviour with 'Dojo points' given to the children each day. PLEASE DO NOT USE CLASS DOJO TO RAISE A COMPLAINT OR QUERY SOMETHING call the office or send an email as above instead.
 - Parent Mail whole school messages, newsletters, whole-school events and all bookings for clubs and any visit payments are all done via Parent Mail.

If you need help setting up Parent Mail or Class Dojo please call our office for help – our aim is to be as 'paper-free' as possible so all key messages will come via these channels.

OUR CORE VALUE THIS TERM IS...



ASPIRATION. These are the main teaching points we will cover:

- Making the most of our talents.
 - Everyone has a talent.
- Everyone has their own type of 'clever'.
- Different jobs and careers and how to get there.
 - Gender equality and stereotyping.
- Setting goals and targets small steps add up.
 - Aiming high.
- Overcoming failure remaining focused on the end goal.
 - Believing in yourself.
 - Determination how can we build it?

As always, your help in talking to your children about all of these things at home is appreciated.

CHILDREN'S CLUBS IN OUR COMMUNITY...





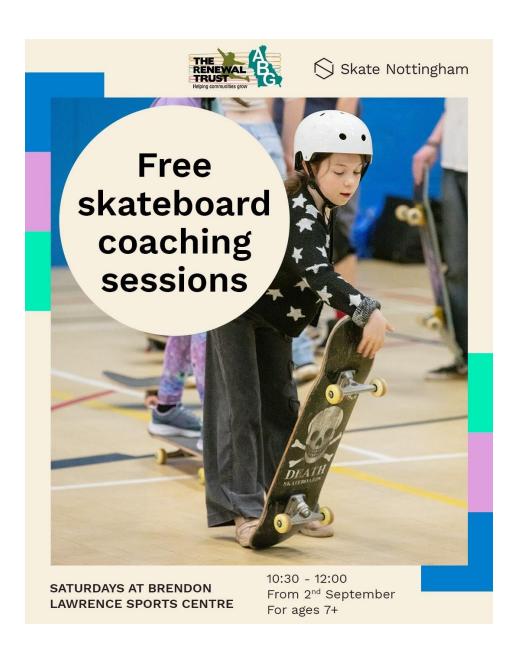






Booking essential: www.staa.eventbrite.com Contact Rachel on 07498 864498 to book. The Community Orchard is on St Ann's Allotments, off Ransom Road, look out for the yellow signs.







EASY-FUNDRAISING - Please help us!





We currently have 137 supporters who have helped to raise over £1000 for our school, so far. This is a meaningful amount of money that comes directly to us to help support our children. Next academic year we would like to put the entire money raised through this initiative towards all school visits and trips. We want to make sure ALL of our children get these chances, no matter their circumstances, and we have next-to-no spare budget to make these happen ourselves.

If you have yet to join, or know anyone else who would be willing to join, it is so simple and quick to do. You do not have to donate a set amount - simple shop online through this APP, spending the money you would normally spend, and we will get a small donation made each time! From take-aways to holidays there are so many online outlets that support this initiative.

Simply visit:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/walterhallsprimaryschool/?searchSessionId=2857a911-d6d1-4247-9db6-689c60a13f64

Sign-up and support our school - thank you!

The Little Ted Foundation



Walter Halls continues to support for The Little Ted Foundation - a charity very close to our hearts, following the sad passing of Mr Neal's youngest child, Baby Ted. We will continue to raise money

whenever we can, to give to this very special charity. For more information on how you can help too, please visit the following link:

https://www.thelittletedfoundation.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCHqIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEqK5XvD_BwE

Community & Family Support



FRIENDS OF WALTER HALLS PTA EVENTS:

This year, FOWH are raising money towards all school visits and experiences for our children. We do not have enough budget to cover the cost of visits or visitors into school and would like to make sure those who cannot afford to pay don't miss out.

FAMILY AND PASTORAL SUPPORT

We currently support many families with various needs including: food parcels, family advice, parenting support and other referrals to various helpful agencies.

Here are a few key contacts of people who may be able to help you:

Emma Beardah - Headteacher & Safeguarding team leader

Jo Glover - Deputy Headteacher, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Safeguarding team

Jodie Burton - Family Support Worker, Attendance officer and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Kerrie Chandler - Play Therapist, Child Welfare Officer & Deputy DSL

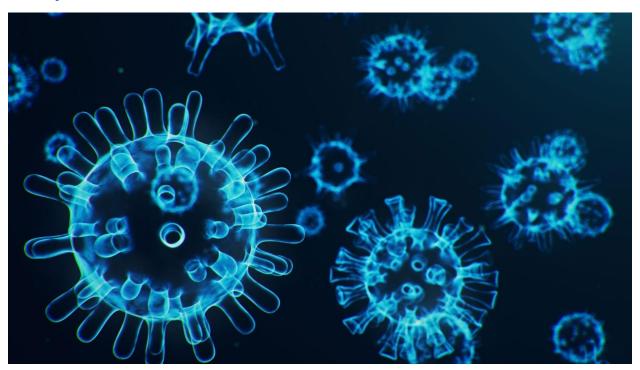
Lee Neal - Behaviour & Learning Mentor

Joe Hockham - Behaviour & Learning Mentor

Dawn Jukes - MHST link worker - on school site every Wednesday. Adult drop-in sessions 8.30-9.15am available

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE ON 0115 9150045 or COME AND CHAT TO US OUTSIDE IN THE MORNINGS OR AFTER SCHOOL

Safety reminders



- **COVID and other illnesses** we want and need our children in school as much as possible. At the moment, advice is for children to isolate for 3-days if you know they have COVID. Upset tummies and sickness requires 48 hours of being at home, to stop the spread. See our poster for other common childhood illness and what you need to do about school attendance.
- Please do not gather on the school grounds at the start and end of days. We have Epic Sports running after school activities and need to be vigilant in closing our gates at the right times to keep the children safe, both in the morning and after school.
 - **No dogs are permitted on site at any time -** we love them but not all children do so please respect this and make plans to leave them at home when coming to school site.

- **Bikes and scooters -** all adults and children should not be riding through the site please dismount and push them through our pathways.
- **PE kits** To avoid children needing to get changed during the school day, PE kits must be worn to school on the day of PE, along with a coat / jumper / cardigan to keep children warm during other parts of the day. PE kits must be plain blue tracksuit bottoms or shorts and a plain white top. If you're still unsure of PE days, please call the office.
 - Please be considerate and safe when parking outside of our school gates. Parking officials patrol as regularly as possible. We politely ask that all of our families are mindful of road safety around our school, where very young children are walking in and out.
- Respectful behaviour on site We respectfully remind you that school is private property and holds it's own set of expectations for conduct on site. If your child walks to and from school alone or gets picked up by another adult we need to know about this please call the office. We expect all of our children to arrive and leave site in a respectful way and for the conduct of all adults on our site to be polite and respectful too. Repeated cases of problems with this on our school grounds can lead to us asking you to escort your children to and from their classrooms instead of arriving or leaving by themselves and we may ask adults to remain at the gates if respectful and polite adult behaviour becomes an issue.