

# **NEWSLETTER - 20th October 2023**

Dear parents and carers,

Happy half term! I know all of the staff here feel ready for a slower pace and I'm sure a lot of our children will be needing a well-earned rest after a mega-busy first half term! The first part of a new school year is always the toughest, as staff get to know their new classes. Year 5 have shown such resilience this term, with the absence of Miss Pope and I shared how proud I was of them all this week - they have really pulled together as a team and made every effort to do their very best! Thank you to you all for your patience and support so far this year.

OPAL - Please, please try to help us in collecting as many 'loose parts play' items as possible from now on. THE FLYER DETAILS EVERYTHING WE NEED AND COLLECTIONS START ON THE FIRST WEEK BACK AFTER HALF TERM!

Miss Fisher's has had her beautiful baby...it's a girl! Lily Hogg arrived last Sunday, weighing 7lb 9oz and everyone is healthy, happy and so very much in love! Take a look at a photo she has shared with us for this newsletter...

Rachael Pierpoint - our lovely behaviour & learning mentor is leaving us this half term. Mrs Pierpoint has got a similar job closer to her home. After working closely with lots of our children, there will be lots of people who will miss her being at Walter Halls and we wish her lots of happiness in her new role. We have advertised this full time position and will be recruiting in December. In the meantime, we have met with a few different temporary cover candidates and welcome Joe Hockham who will be supporting across school from after half term.

Is your child struggling with sleep? Our family support team have shared some really useful posters and contact numbers shared in this week's newsletter - please take a look...

#### **SCHOOL REOPENS ON MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER:**

- MONDAY: And every day that week we will be collecting in all of your donations for Loose
   Parts Opal play...please bring them to the basement area of the bottom playground
  - WEDNESDAY: 8.30-9.15am MHST drop-in sessions for parents/carers to chat to Dawn.
    - FRIDAY: Celebration assembly in the hall at 9am for Y4/5/6

Some lovely photos to celebrate with you this week...please take a look at the rest of this week's newsletter...

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

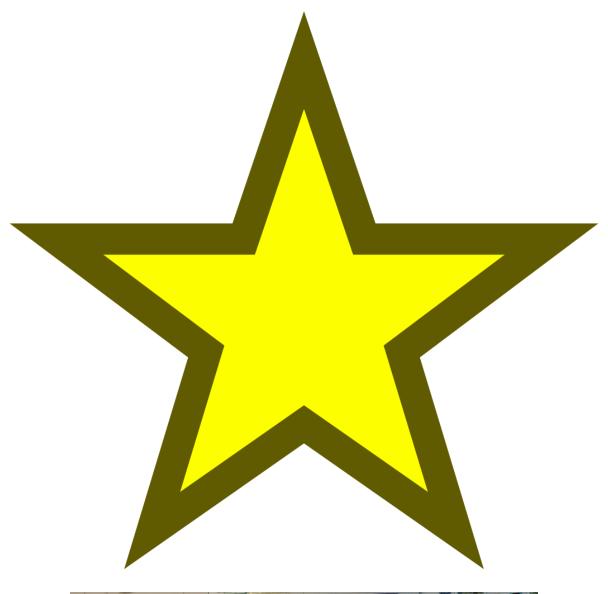
# Welcome to the World Lily Hogg!



Here is our first sneaky peek at Miss Fisher's beautiful baby girl - Lily - who was born last Sunday, weighing a healthy 7lb 9oz!

We can't wait to meet her! All of the family are over the moon, happy and healthy! HUGE CONGRATULATIONS!

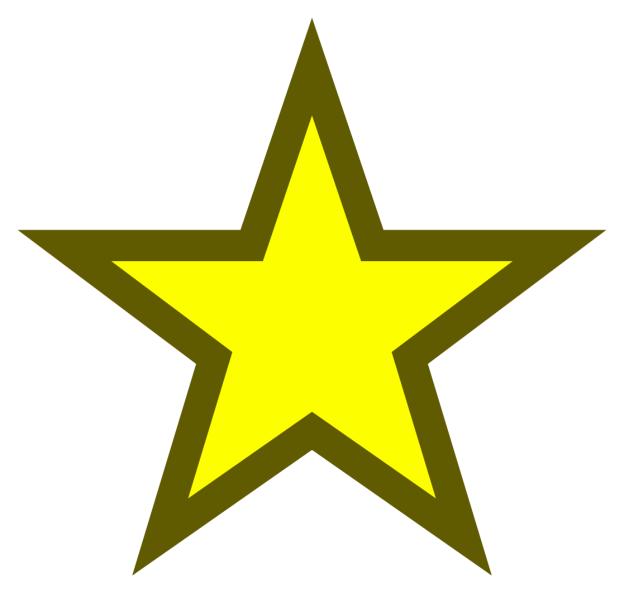
# **Check out our new Maths Ambassadors...**



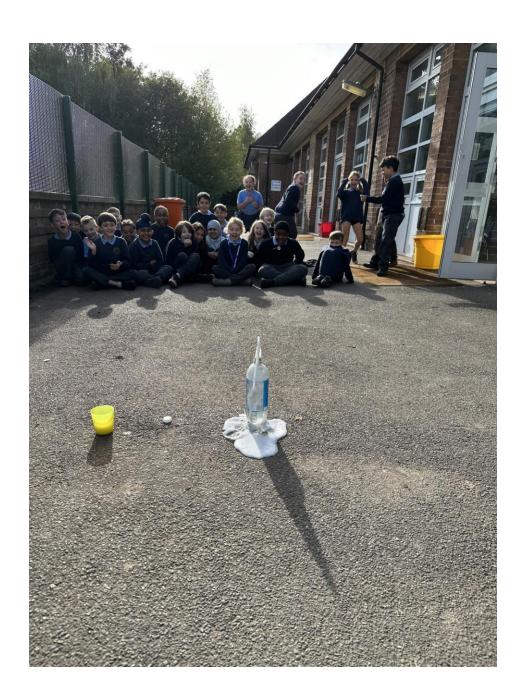


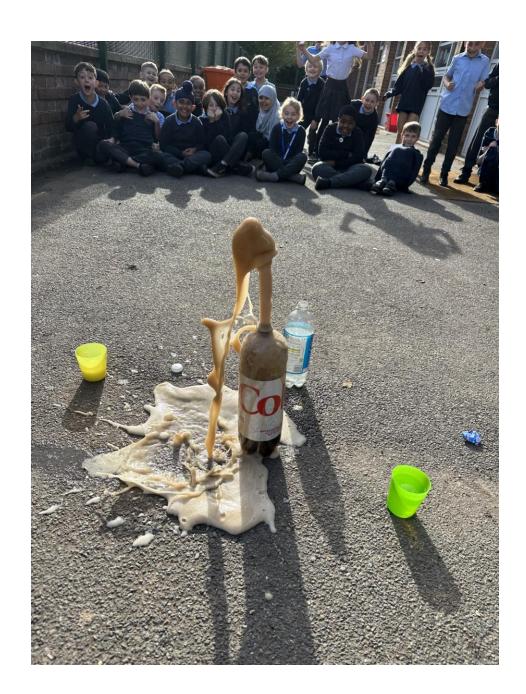
Well done to all of our children who applied for this important pupil leadership role in school...Miss Wensley can't wait to have your help making sure Maths is the best it can be across school!

#### Year 4 scientists at work...



Mrs Harding's class had great fun with their science this week, looking at the one of the properties of gas and how it can fill its space. They dropped Mentos into different liquids to cause a chemical reaction that created lots of gas, which tried to fill the space it was in, forcing out the liquid! The faces of the children in the background says it all..!

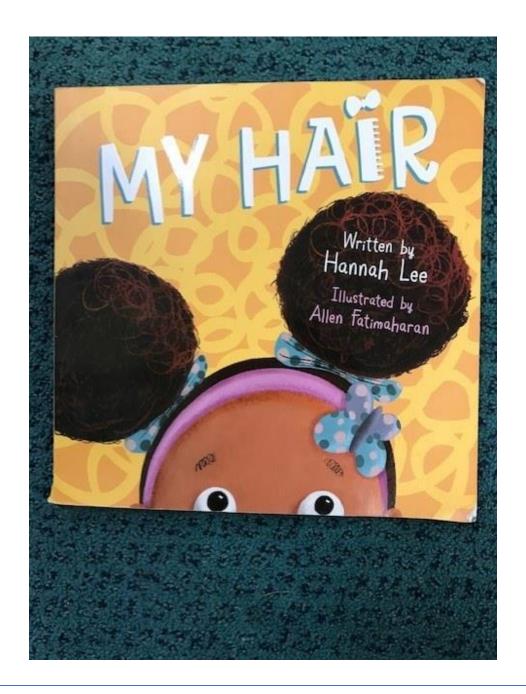






# F1 Diversity Day!





Last week's Friday Focus Day was all about Diversity and celebrating our differences. Miss Hill in our lovely nursery has shared some gorgeous photos and learning with me for this week's newsletter...

'As part of the whole school Friday Focus Day 'Diversity' we have been focusing on our hair

in F1. We have talked about how our hair is fabulous but how we all have different hair -

different colours, styles, textures, lengths etc We have enjoyed creative activities about hair - playing hairdressers, making crazy hair

#### styles with crazy scissors, adding different textures of hair to cut out faces and threading

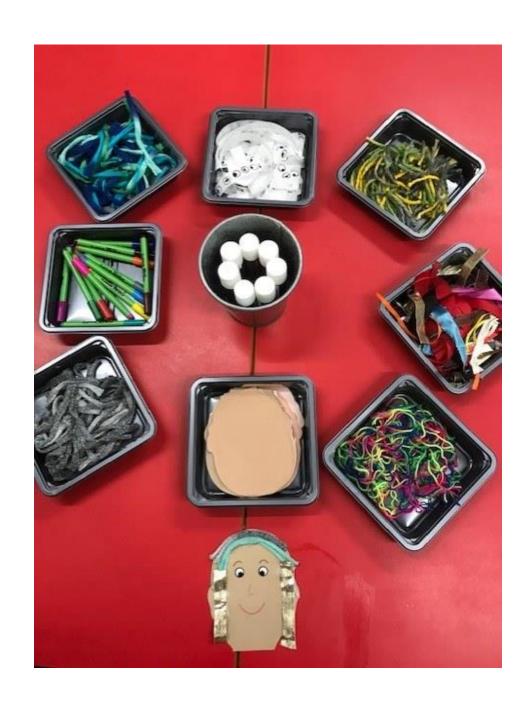
pipe cleaner hair and beads onto little faces.

We also read a super story called 'Hair' celebrating different hair styles.'









# WALTER HALLS IS LAUNCHING OPAL PLAY IN NOVEMBER!





# WE NEED YOUR HELP!

#### WELLIES!

We WILL be going out in all weathers – we believe in doing this and your child will have choice of which area of all of our grounds they want to play in. They WILL get muddy & wet. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS A PAIR OF WELLIES IN SCHOOL AND ALWAYS HAS A WATERPROOF COAT WITH THEM. Can you donate any other wellies for other children to use?

#### LOOSE PARTS DONATIONS - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Opal uses recycled random items that children love using in their own play. It should be FREE, RECYCLED and random to enable us to have LOTS of them and for children to decide how they play with them.

#### WE ARE CURRENTLY COLLECTING:

ROLE PLAY: Dress-up clothes, tutus, fancy dress, hats, net curtains / material / fabric, duvet covers, saris, handbags, wigs large suitcases MESSY KITCHEN: Pots, pans, utensils, old appliances (kettles, toasters, blenders), water play items — watering cans, buckets, paint brushes, tins WHEELS: Suitcases with wheels, bread trays with wheels, wheelbarrows, shopping trolley (granny-style!), prams, toddler toys with wheels

CONSTRUCTION: Plastic crates / trays, Cardboard boxes, shoe boxes, cardboard tubes, cable reels (small), guttering

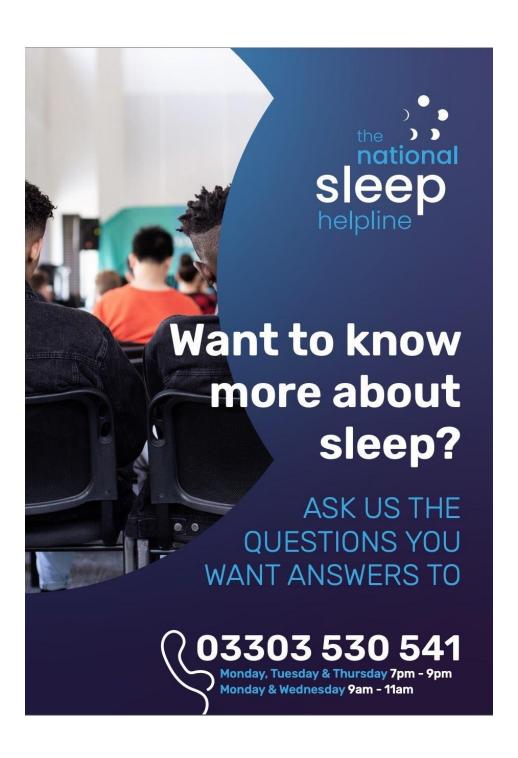
ARTS AND CRAFTS: Playground chalk, paints, pens, clipboards, paper, glue, sequins

SMALL WORLD: Dolls, Dinosaurs, trucks, Lego, teddies, action figures

PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO:

BASEMENT AREA, LOWER PLAYGROUND EVERY MORNING FROM
8,30AM W/C 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER & W/C 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER











# Around 50% of children will have a sleep issue at some point\*

#### WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE?

In partnership with Furniture Village, The Sleep Charity has launched a brand new National Sleep Helpline to ensure that everyone has access to high quality, evidence-based advice.

#### HOW CAN THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE HELP YOU?

- Run by a team of specialist trained sleep advisors
- Offer you some practical strategies and recommend services that could help
- Ensuring you understand how sleep plays an important part in your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Listen without judgement and help you decide what next steps are right for you
- Empower you with sleep knowledge so you can understand why your child might not be sleeping well and how that can change

03303 530 541

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am





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"Survey of 2,000 adults by Cne

# **Key Dates coming up...**



#### **AUTUMN TERM DATES**

#### Our Core Value learning is all about RESPECT

#### Autumn 2 term:

- MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER WORLD KINDNESS DAY we will be celebrating this day, matched to our Autumn 2 Core Value of Kindness & Empathy
  - MONDAY 13TH & WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER PROGRESS MEETINGS WITH PARENTS & CARERS your chance to find out from class teachers how your child is getting on at school. Slots are booked via ParentMail more info to follow
  - w/c 13TH NOVEMBER NATIONAL ANTI-BULLYING WEEK The whole school will be learning about bullying online and in person and what our anti-bullying policy here at Walter Halls is.

    More info to follow

- FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER CHILDREN IN NEED DAY WEAR SOMETHING YELLOW / SPOTTY / PUDSEY BEAR THEMED AND BRING IN A SMALL DONATION FOR THIS CHARITY
- TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER YEAR 1 YEAR 3 DISCO! 3.30-4.30PM TICKETS AVAILABLE AND GO
  TOWARDS FOWH FUNDRAISING
  - THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER BAKE SALE TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR
- TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER YEAR 4 YEAR 6 DISCO! 3.30-4.30PM TICKETS AVAILABLE AND GO

  TOWARDS FOWH FUNDRAISING
  - FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER FRIDAY FOCUS DAY The whole school will spend the entire day immersed in learning about MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES. Walter Halls children learn French as their MfL in KS2
    - THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS FAIR 3.30P-5PM More details to follow!
- w/c 11TH DECEMBER FOUNDATION STAGE AND YEAR 1 LEAD OUR CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES
   more details to follow
- MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER HEADTEACHER EXCELLENCE CERTIFICATES Y1-Y6 will be presented theirs in a special assembly at 9am in the school hall. More info to follow
  - TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER Christmas Parties in classrooms get your party clothes at the ready! More info to follow
- WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER LAST DAY OF TERM. School closes and re-opens to all children on THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY
  - 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'S WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 93.4%

THE HIGHEST CLASS ATTENDANCE WAS FROM: CLASS 6A with 98.7%

ALSO DOING WELL WERE: 2a, 3a, 3b, 5b & 6b ALL WITH 96+%!

# HOW CAN YOU HELP OUR SCHOOL RAISE VITAL FUNDS FOR OUR CHILDREN?



Schools all over the country are struggling like never before - our budgets are so stretched that we are no longer able to offer all the experiences that we know our children deserve.

Did you know that you can help in 2 really easy ways?

1) EASYFUNDRAISING APP - download it today and help us every single time you shop online, order a takeaway or buy all those Christmas presents that will soon be needed! We will receive a small donation from SO MANY different businesses out there, every time you spend.

We currently have 127 supporters and have raised £1,228 - vital money that goes so far in helping us to help your children enjoy their school life so much more. If you're not already signed up, it's really quick and easy - simply follow this

link...https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/walterhallsprimaryschool/?utm\_campaign=raise-more

It would be GREAT to reach 200 supporters this year so please share this link far and wide!

2) PAY IT FORWARD WITH KINDNESS - for all school visits, trips and experiences this year, we are asking anyone who can afford to, to pay anything they can (in multiples of just £1) towards another child being able to get these experiences too. We have no allocated budget to cover the costs of any school visits or experiences - we are not funded well enough to do this any more - and so we have often had to cancel entire visits out, because some of our families simply can't afford any additional costs either.

Times are tough for so many - if you can help someone else in some small way, we'd love for you to visit PARENT MAIL--PAYMENTS---SHOP---VISITS & EXPERIENCES---PAY IT FORWARD

So far we've had £173 of 'pay it forward' donations - you are all SO AMAZING, thank you:)



#### Keeping children safe online

#### **Parent Guides to Online Safety**



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming









A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming

A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

**Parents** please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skips.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Rips Educational Email: Info@skips.com Tel: +44 121 227 174

Home Office
BUSING ARKE JUST
AND TO SHAPE JUST
WEST Midlands
Violence
Reduction Unit





www.skipssafetynet.org

#### CHILDREN'S CLUBS IN OUR COMMUNITY...





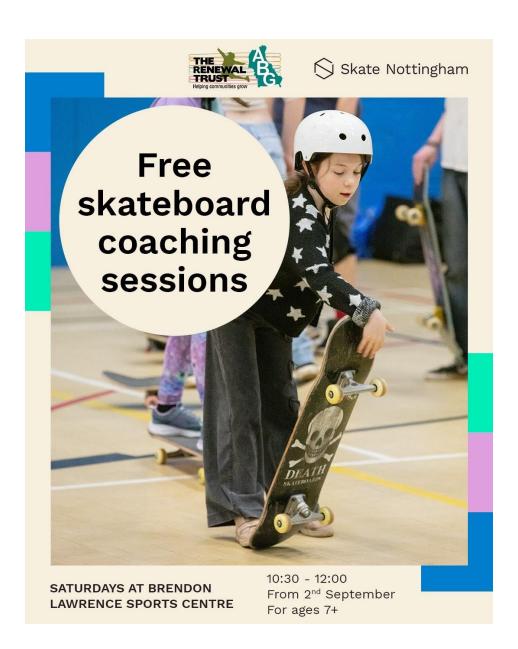






Booking essential: www.staa.eventbrite.com Contact Rachel on 07498 864498 to book. The Community Orchard is on St Ann's Allotments, off Ransom Road, look out for the yellow signs.







#### **OUR CORE VALUE THIS TERM IS...**



#### KINDNESS & EMPATHY. These are the main teaching points we will cover:

- Why is kindness so important?
- What would happen without it?
- How do we show kindness to people?
- Can we be kind to everyone all of the time?
- What is empathy and how is it linked to kindness?
- Making a difference in the world through kindness.
  - Role models.
  - The power of a smile.
- How to be thoughtful and ask thoughtful questions.
- How body language shows us how people are feeling.
  - Putting yourself in someone else's shoes.

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

# **EASY-FUNDRAISING - Please help us!**



# Walter Halls Primary School Mapperley, Nottingham £1,048.75 raised 128 supporters

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.

Sign up and support this cause

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=2857a911d6d1-4247-9db6-689c60a13f64

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=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCHgIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEgK5XvD\_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.

EVENTS - A list of events being organised by FOWH during Autumn term will be released soon!

#### 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

**Rachael Pierpoint** - Behaviour & Learning Mentor

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

# 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 admin@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk
- 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.

### **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.