



Be your best.

## NEWSLETTER - 23rd February 2024

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*Dear all,*

**WELCOME BACK TO SPRING 2!** *Let's hope this half term sees the weather improving, a bit more sun shining and lots of flowers growing! It's a fairly short half term, with the final day being Wednesday 27th March and an INSET day for our staff on Thursday 28th. School re-opens after Easter on Monday 15th April.*

**Staffing news** - *You will have hopefully seen my update about Mrs Cox's son, who has now moved to London for some more specialised care. Keep the good vibes coming and we hope for the absolute best for this difficult situation.*

*School is currently in the middle of four maternity leaves and several other staffing constraints. Please bare with us if we can't see you or sort something our quickly - we are doing our very best, as always.*

**World Book Day - Thursday 7th March - National Theme: Read YOUR way.** *On Thursday 7th March, for World Book Day, we would like children to come to school wearing whatever clothes they feel comfortable to read in. This could be pyjamas, a tracksuit, curled up with a blanket and a cuddly toy- anything that makes you want to pick up a book and read YOUR way. We look forward to celebrating the day with loads of other reading-related activities!*

**Curiosity** - *is this terms core value teaching. We have launched our 3rd edition of 'Walter Halls Book of Curiosity' this week. A published collection of your children's story-writing! I've had a few entries already - the children have the rest of this half term and the whole of the Easter break to write their own short*

*story and get it back to me. Please encourage them to take part - any year group can get writing at their own level and we'd be proud to publish their story! See the poster for more details...*

*This term we get curious in the following ways: Curiosity about books (World Book Day!), Science & Curiosity (Friday Focus Day for Science coming up!), Curiosity about different people (Neurodiversity and national Autism awareness month!). Lots to look forward to and get involved with this term!*

**Next week:**

*Monday - KS2 Times Table Rockstars Competition in the afternoon! Get practising!*

*Wednesday - Dawn from MHST is back in and available for our families to chat to in the morning.*

*Friday - Celebration Assembly is for Y2/3 at 9am in the hall - parents of children receiving a certificate will be invited in advance.*

**Lovely photos this week, shared by F2 & Y4 - take a look...**

*Take care,*

*Emma Beardah*

*Headteacher*

*headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk*

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**EARLY YEARS CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR!**





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*At the end of last term, Early Years had been celebrating Lunar New Year! We have learnt how people all over the world celebrate and the children really enjoyed learning and re-telling the story of the Zodiac. We read the story 'Dragons in the City' and wrote our own wishes to put on our very own wishing tree, as well as make our own paper lanterns. We finished the week off by participating in some Chinese Dragon Dancing which the children LOVED! They loved showing off their dragon to all the older children as we danced along the veranda and into the hall.*

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## **YEAR 4 - GROSS SCIENCE!**





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*In Year 4 Science this week, we pulled together all of our learning about the digestive system and recreated the journey of some food from it going into our mouths and coming out the end as poo- yes you read that correctly, we made poo!*

*The children recalled their learning really well as well as demonstrated fantastic collaboration skills (one of our school values) to make the experiment successful.*

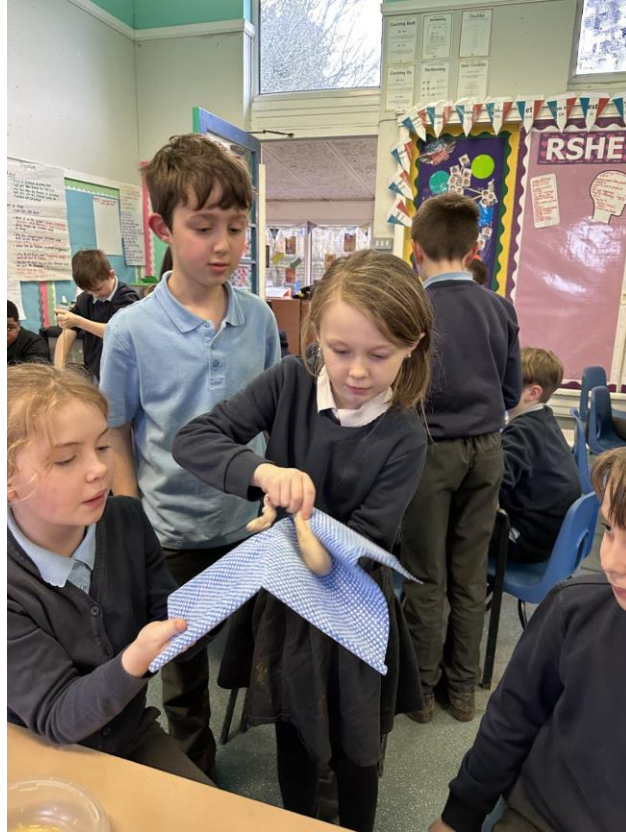
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## Key Dates coming up...



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### *Spring 2 term:*

*Our core value learning this half term is all about **CURIOSITY***

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- **Thursday 22nd February** - F2 & Y6 National Childhood Measurement programme
  - **Friday 23rd February** - Re-scheduled 'Tutti-Fruitti' performance for Y1
  - **Monday 26th February** – KS2 Times Tables Rock Stars Competition
- **Thursday 7th March** – **World Book Day** – **National Theme: Read YOUR way.** On Thursday 7th March, for World Book Day, we would like children to come to school wearing whatever clothes they feel comfortable to read in. This could be pyjamas, a tracksuit, curled up with a blanket and a cuddly toy- anything that makes you want to pick up a book and read YOUR way.
- **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*
    - **Thursday 21st March** - *Coffee Morning for Neuro-diversity organised Mrs Glover*
    - **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/term-dates/>*
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The Welly Bank is a new community-led network in Notts. It is free to join and all items are shared free of charge. But WE NEED YOUR HELP! We will only grow a bustling network if everyone helps to increase membership so please TELL A FRIEND and spread the word

## Nottingham **WELLY BANK**

Because playing outside should not cost the earth....



Donate, swap or request wellies and outdoor clothes at [www.facebook.com/groups/nottinghamwellybank](http://www.facebook.com/groups/nottinghamwellybank)

**Free!**

## OUR CORE VALUE THIS TERM IS...



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*CURIOSITY. These are the main teaching points we will cover:*

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- *People who changed the world.*
  - *Wonders of the world & other worlds (sea, space, sky, science, technology).*
    - *Research skills and independent projects.*
    - *Famous inventions and inventors.*
    - *Asking questions – always be a questioner!*
    - *Trying something new – bravery and courage.*
      - *Overcoming fears.*
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*As always, your help in talking to your children about all of these things at home is appreciated.*

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## **ATTENDANCE!**



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*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.***

***IN THE LAST WEEK OF LAST TERM, WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 90%***

*The class with the highest attendance was: Class 2A with 98%*

*No other class met their target of 95% unfortunately...let's make this half term a good one!*

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

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## **OPAL PLAY UPDATE**



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*Some recent concerns that our Opal Play team have had brought to them:*

**Using play equipment outside at the start of the day** - *Some of the larger equipment is left outside and some of our children are enjoying using this at the start of the day. No staff supervision is available outside at the start of the day, until 8.40am when teachers arrive to collect classes. Parents and carers are therefore responsible for choices being made outside first thing in the morning.*

**Risks of injury** - *All of our activities have been risk-assessed and supervision during Opal Play is called 'roaming supervision' meaning that adults roam a particular zone and intervene in play only when things are particularly risky. Full training on this has been undertaken by Opal Play leaders and our sites are checked regularly*

**Items left out / the site looks 'messy'** - *Children are encouraged to revisit dens and play spaces over many days. The aim is not to have a tidy-looking site but to develop effective life-long skills through well-thought-out play. We've done the research, had the training and heard the impact on learning this all has - Opal play is part of our curriculum*





- *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](mailto: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.*
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***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.***

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



The poster features several logos and icons: 'THE RENEWAL TRUST' with the tagline 'Helping communities grow' and 'ABC' in a stylized font; 'EPIC PARTNERS' with the tagline 'Empowering Positive & Inspirational Change'; and 'MTVH' with a colorful diamond logo. Icons include a plate of fruit, a cricket bat, a soccer ball, a basketball, a tennis racket, a silhouette of a person jumping, and a heart with a pulse line.

**HEALTH HUB**

**FREE** **AGE 8-16**

**AT HILL VIEW COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
RANSOM ROAD, NG3 3BP**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY 5:00PM - 7:00PM**

These sessions allow young people to come together in a relaxed environment. You can choose from a range of activities from learning the knowledge of food, healthy living, and cooking skills. You can participate in sport with physical, mental health and wellbeing support. Along with mindfulness activities.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 0115 8372021**  
**WWW.EPICPARTNERS.CO.UK**

 **EPIC PARTNERS**  **@EPIC\_PARTNERS**  **EPIC PARTNERS**

**CHARITY NUMBER: 1150823**



# YOUTH NIGHT

**ONLY £ 2      AGE 11-16**

**THE OLIVER HIND YOUTH CLUB,  
EDALE ROAD, NG2 4HT**

**EVERY FRIDAY 5:00PM - 6:45PM**

These sessions allow young people to come together in a relaxed environment. You can choose from a range of activities each week and compete in friendly and fun games.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 0115 8372021  
WWW.EPICPARTNERS.CO.UK**



EPIC PARTNERS



@EPIC\_PARTNERS



EPIC PARTNERS

**CHARITY NUMBER: 1150823**





# FUSION

Youth Club

## EVERY THURSDAY

During term times

### 5:30PM-8:00PM

10-17 year olds

### 50P ENTRY

At The Greenway Centre Trent Lane NG2 4DF

WHAT WE DO:

Instrument room   Sports   Cooking or baking  
Fun & Games   Arts and craft   Music studio



@sendprojectyouthclub  
tiktok  
@SEND Project  
facebook  
@sendprojectnottingham  
instagram

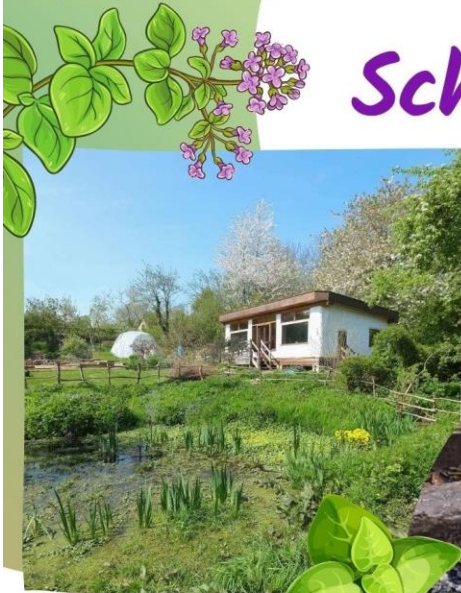




St Ann's Community Orchard

# Free After School Sessions

Every Wednesday  
3:30pm-5pm



Orienteering,  
exploring, bug  
hunting, cooking on  
the fire, arts, crafts,  
and more!

Children aged  
8-12 only



Booking essential: [www.staa.eventbrite.com](http://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.



## FREE PLAY FOOTBALL



### **Mondays**

4pm to 5pm (ages 5 to 11)

5pm to 6pm (ages 12 to 16)

### **Brewsters Park**

141 Brewsters Road, NG3 3BY

Free\*

**Book your place:** [bookwhen.com/renewaltrust](http://bookwhen.com/renewaltrust)

\*Sessions open to families living in St Ann's, Sneinton and Mapperley  
(Nottingham City Wards - Dales, Mapperley and St Ann's)





Skate Nottingham

# Free skateboard coaching sessions



**SATURDAYS AT BRENDON  
LAWRENCE SPORTS CENTRE**

10:30 - 12:00  
From 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
For ages 7+



	<p><b>Free Play Football - Free*</b>  <b>Monday 4pm to 5pm</b> - ages 5 to 11  <b>Monday 5pm to 6pm</b> - ages 12 to 16          Brewsters Park, 141 Brewsters Road, NG3 3BY  <b>Book your place:</b> <a href="http://bookwhen.com/renewaltrust">bookwhen.com/renewaltrust</a></p>	
	<p><b>Wicketz</b> - ages 8 to 16 - Free*  <b>Wednesday 5:30pm to 7pm</b> - ages 8 to 16          Brendon Lawrence Sports Centre, 35 Hungerhill Road, NG3 4NB  <b>Register here:</b> <a href="http://app.upshot.org.uk/signup/c310d54a/">app.upshot.org.uk/signup/c310d54a/</a></p>	<h2>Term time activities</h2>
	<p><b>BLSC Youth Club does ACE</b> - ages 8 to 16 - Free*  <b>Thursday 5:30pm to 7pm</b>          Brendon Lawrence Sports Centre, 35 Hungerhill Road, NG3 4NB  <b>Register here:</b> <a href="http://app.upshot.org.uk/signup/ad80caee/">app.upshot.org.uk/signup/ad80caee/</a></p>	<p>with The Renewal Trust (and friends!)</p>
	<p><b>PL Kicks - Football and Cricket</b> - ages 8 to 16 - Free*  <b>Thursday 6pm to 8pm</b>          Nottingham Academy, Greenwood Road, Sneinton NG3 7EB  <b>Book your place:</b> <a href="http://bookwhen.com/nfct">bookwhen.com/nfct</a></p>	<p><b>To find out more call:</b>          0115 911 2226  <b>or email</b>  <a href="mailto:enquiries@renewaltrust.org.uk">enquiries@renewaltrust.org.uk</a></p>
	<p><b>Feel Good Family Fun</b> - £1 per family / household  <b>Friday, 4:30pm to 5:30pm - monthly from 15 September</b>          Brendon Lawrence Sports Centre, 35 Hungerhill Road, NG3 4NB  <b>Book your place:</b> <a href="http://bookwhen.com/renewaltrust">bookwhen.com/renewaltrust</a></p>	
	<p><b>PL Kicks - Football</b> - ages 8 to 16 - Free*  <b>Friday 6pm to 8pm</b>          Brendon Lawrence Sports Centre, 35 Hungerhill Road, NG3 4NB  <b>Book your place:</b> <a href="http://bookwhen.com/nfct">bookwhen.com/nfct</a></p>	<p><small>*Free sessions open to families living in Nottingham City wards Dales, Mapperley and St Ann's</small></p>

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



## Walter Halls Primary School

Mapperley, Nottingham

£1,048.75 raised

128 supporters

Sign up and support this cause

*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!*

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## **The Little Ted Foundation**



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*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=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCH-gIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEqK5XvD\\_BwE](https://www.thelittletedfoundation.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCH-gIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEqK5XvD_BwE)

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## Community & Family Support



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### ***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

***Gail Holmes*** - 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**

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## Safety reminders



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- **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.
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