

# Friday 23rd May 2025

### Dear all,

Happy Friday and happy half term! I hope you manage some happy family time this half term and that the sun continues to shine on us all!

School reopens for everyone on Monday 2nd June but is closed again on Friday 6th June for staff training, INSET day.

Nursery places for September 2025 - We still have a few places available for the Nursery for September 2025. We have a few places for our morning sessions 8.40am - 11.40am, or our afternoon sessions, 12.15pm - 3.10pm. Please collect an application form from the school office or from Miss Hill in the Nursery. Any questions then please pop in to the Nursery and speak to Miss Hill.

**Art & DT day** - Teachers from across school have shared some lovely photos of last week's Art & DT Friday Focus Day, which I've included in this week's newsletter. I hope they make you smile!

**Sports4Schools Event** - Our next Friday Focus Day, on 13th June, is a 'Fit, Healthy Happy' theme and we're lucky to be hosting an Olympian called Joel Fearon! Please take a look at the section of the newsletter telling you all about this and how you can help with sponsorship money! This has also been promoted on Class Dojo by Miss Davey, our PE leader.

**Community Dig Day** - We'd love your help at our next Community Dog Day on Saturday 14th June! We're working on a new pond area and general outdoor environment improvements too! Free snacks in return for your time, love and effort.

Have a lovely half term everyone!

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk



**AN OLYMPIAN VISITOR!** 



## 13TH JUNE - FRIDAY FOCUS DAY: FIT, HEALTHY, HAPPY - OLYMPIAN JOEL FEARON IS VISITING WALTER HALLS!

Joel will be visiting our school to give a talk about his incredible sporting journey, a story of resilience and determination in a fun and interactive assembly. All pupils will then take part in a sponsored fitness circuit ran by Joel, where they have been given the challenge of practising 4 exercises to complete with Joel on the day.

> You can find out more about Joel and the 'Great Athletes' initiative here: <u>https://greatathletes.org/athletes/joel-fearon/</u>

Your child should have home with a leaflet and sponsor form for you to help support us in raising money for brand new PE and sporting equipment. If you prefer, you can also sponsor us online by setting up your own online sponsorship collection. Just following this link and search for the school name: <u>https://sportal.greatathletes.org/events/landing</u>

ALL SPONSOR MONEY NEEDS TO BE IN BY THE 20TH JUNE!

Every little helps and as always, thank you so much for your continued support.



## FRIDAY FOCUS ART & DT DAY!







What a great day we had last Friday!

In the helm, for Art and DT day, we designed jelly fish using different materials. We had very green fingers and planted sunflowers and we built and constructed different sized towers, learning 'big' and 'small'. We even had time to do some cooking! Phew, what a busy day!

We had a lovely Art and Design day in F1 based around the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' . The children retold the story using lots of different props to help them and then chose to make either a 'peg and pom pom caterpillar' or a 'filter paper and watercolour butterfly'. Super creativ ity, focus and concentration - well done everyone!

In F2 we have been reading Jack and the Beanstalk so decided to make the giants castle! We learnt lots of joining and fixing skills and looked closely at the features of a castle and how we could recreate these using boxes and recycled materials. Lots of collaborating too!

Year 1 had lots of fun! We had lots of Spring-related activities and had a busy day being artists and inventors. We demonstrated fantastic collaboration and artistic flair! Some of the things we did were: leaf printing, flower finger painting, making a paper chain rainbow, and box modelling the 'Naughty Bus' - what a great day!















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Year 2's had a very colourful day exploring the work of artist Friedrich Hundertwasser and looking at his use of swirls and bright colours in his work. They then transferred those colours to making their own graffiti art designs, after a brief introduction to Banksy. Year 2 are very creative and loved being able to make art all day!

Year 3 had an amazing day designing and making jewellery from the Egyptian era. The children then wore their pieces and danced to 'Walk like an Egyptian'! Wow!

For Arts and DT focus day, year 4 learned different pop out techniques such as the box fold and mouth fold.Next, they applied this knowledge to create terrifying pop out monsters inspired by the Ancient Greek monsters such as Cyclopes, Medusa and Chimera. It didn't take the children long to modify the basic pop out mechanism to add extra popping out parts and details such as sharp fangs and forked tongues!

In Year 5 our focus artist for the Art and DT day was Yaccov Agam who invented an art technique called Agamograph. We created intergalactic art using soft pastels and also a piece of lenticular Agamograph artwork - chalk galaxies and marshmallow constellations! What a great day!

Y6 had just finished their SATs last Friday and so they loved taking part in 'Bikeability' instead of our whole school Art day – lovely photos Y6 and a great way to finish off a tricky week of exams!











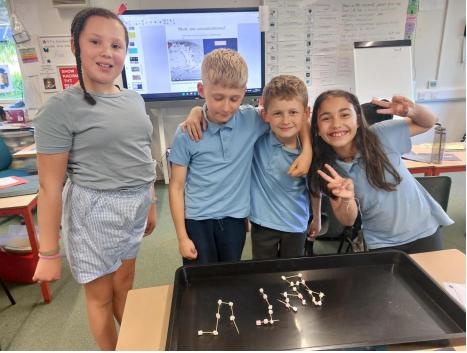


























Attendance!



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:

LAST WEEK, WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 96.35% - we met our target!

THE CLASS WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE WAS: Class 5A with a perfect 100%! Woohoo!

ALSO DOING GREAT WERE: So many of you smashed the 96% target last week! F2 Moles and Class 2B exceeded 99%! 3A and 4B exceeded 98%, 6A was 97.9%, 4B was 98% and 2A, 3B & 5A all got over 96% too! What a great week!

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

**KEY DATES COMING UP...** 



- FRIDAY 23RD MAY School Closes for Half Term
- **MONDAY 2ND JUNE** School opens for Summer 2 term. Core Value learning is PERSEVERANCE. (Y4 National Multiplication check begins)
- **FRIDAY 6TH JUNE** INSET DAY Training day for all staff in school. Children not at school.
  - W/C 9TH JUNE Year 1 National Phonics Screening takes place in school
    - TUESDAY 10TH & WEDNESDAY 11TH JUNE Year 6 residential
- **FRIDAY 13TH JUNE** FRIDAY FOCUS DAY across school 'Fit, Healthy, Happy' Visitors to school for Sports for Schools Event with Olympic athlete
- SATURDAY 14TH JUNE COMMUITY DIG DAY Can you help us dig our new pond and improve our outside environment? Hotdogs and refreshments on offer to willing volunteers!
  - **TUESDAY 17TH JUNE** Y5 visit the Space Centre
- **THURSDAY 19TH JUNE** Y4 RE performance Hinduism 'Kumbha Mela' 9am School Hall
- W/C 23RD JUNE SPORTS DAYS: Monday Y4/Y6 AM and Y5/Y3 PM. Wednesday PM F2. Friday Y1/Y2 PM
  - **THURSDAY 26TH JUNE** National RSHE Day a theme of 'Communicate'
- **TUESDAY 1ST JULY** A musical celebration with Mrs Cox & Nottingham Music Hub 2pm School Hall
  - **MONDAY 14TH JULY HEADTEACHER EXCELLENCE ASSEMBLY** 9am School Hall F1-Y2
- MONDAY 14TH JULY KS2 awards ceremony & Y6 leavers performance 3.30pm School Hall

- **FRIDAY 18TH JULY** Meet your new teacher! Class swap day
  - W/C 21st JULY End of year reports shared with families
- **MONDAY 21ST JULY** A special final celebration assembly 9am School Hall
- MONDAY 21ST JULY 3.30-5.30pm YEAR 6 LEAVERS PARTY: picnic, games and a silent disco!
  - WEDNESDAY 23RD JULY Final day of term for all children.
  - THURSDAY 24TH JULY INSET day, staff training. School closed Friday 25th July.



## 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 <u>admin@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk</u>. 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

#### Nottingham City Council School Terms and Holidays Calendar - 2024/25

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Inset Days

Bank Holiday

School Holiday

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

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

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Key
In school
School holiday
Public holiday
In Service Training Day

AUGUST 2026						
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\*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

## A great **OPAL** uniform

We are pleased to advise that branded tracksuit bottoms<sup>+</sup>, polo shirts and jumpers/cardigans, can all be ordered through the school office.



\*\* tracksuit bottoms can now be supplied with and without a logo via the school office. Note, that these uniform items are ordered half-termly through our school wear supplier.



Heather Grev

Light Blue

Other uniform options:



Navy

White





Plain trainers, or trainer-style shoe

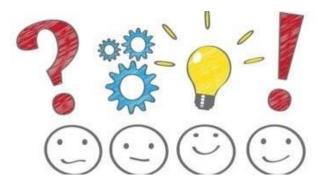
Wellies (kept in school) Water-proofs: jacket with hood or puddle-suit (kept in school if possible)

PE kit – to be worn to school on allocated PE days. We do not get children changed for PE during the school day. • Sportswear suitable for outdoor sports activity – avoid large logos / expensive brands\*\* • Trainers & socks \*\*As long as PE kit looks suitable for doing sporting activities, we are not

specific about exactly what it should be. Children must be in trainers for PE. Affordable suggestions would be: plain t-shirts, plain tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings, zip-up hoodie for warmth in colder months. If children are wearing a really great OPAL uniform, this would also work for PE, so long as proper trainers are worn that day.

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

## **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?

 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

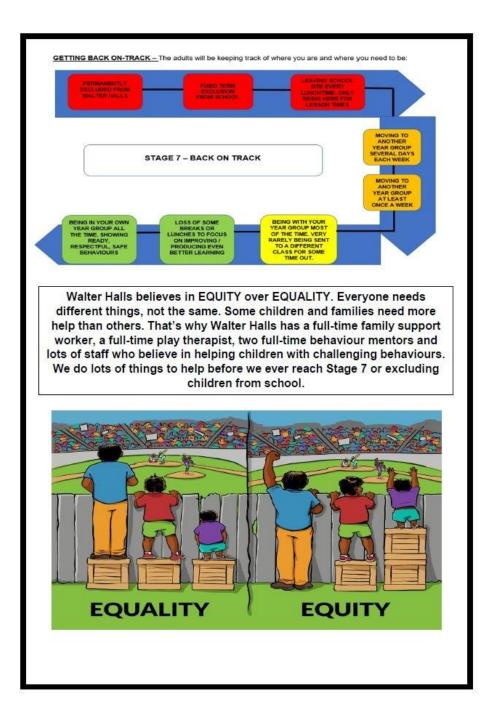
## group

 LAST STEP if remain unhappy with actions taken, please call into the office and ask for our Deputy Head or 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.

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



Our Core Value Learning for Summer term is...



#### **COLLABORATION:**

- Getting on and falling out.
  - Conflict resolution.
- How to work in teams even if we're not friends.
  - Taking turns.
  - Listening and conversation skills.
    - *Relying on others.*

- Trust how to earn it and how to show it.
- Making the most of each other's skills finding the best in each other.
  - Working with different types of people.
    - Team work skills.
    - Diplomacy and why it is important.
- Role models who used collaboration to achieve great things famous and in our own families.

#### **PERSEVERANCE:**

- What is resilience?
- How can we build it?
- Mistakes are the way we learn.
- Great mistakes of the past that have led to good things.
  - Sportsmanship.
  - Determination to succeed.
  - *Positivity how to help others.*
- Seeking alternative solutions viewing things differently and problem solving.
- Role models who show great perseverance famous and in our own families

As always, your help with talking to your children about this learning is appreciated

## **Community & Family Support**



#### FRIENDS OF WALTER HALLS PTA GROUP:

This year's 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

JO GLOVER - Deputy Head, safeguarding team & 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

## **OPAL PLAY UPDATE**



We are officially a 'PLATINUM AWARD' OPAL SCHOOL! Awarded the highest grade for our OPAL development work in February 2025.

Lots of hard work has paid-off and most importantly, our children's play literacy and happiness during lunchtimes has transformed in that short space of time. We continue to build on this success with a long-term OPAL strategy, which you can find on our website.

We have recently updated our website with lots more OPAL information:

https://www.walterhallsprimary.co.uk/web/outdoor play and learning opal/704559

If you have any questions or feedback about OPAL please contact school for a chat with one of our OPAL leaders.

## **Easy Fundraising APP**



EVERY TIME YOU SHOP ONLINE YOU COULD HELP OUR LOVELY SCHOOL!

By joining the Easy Fundraising scheme and downloading the APP to use when you shop online, we could receive a small donation towards our school. We use these donations to help pay for school visits and experiences for our children.

From take-aways to holidays, lots of companies are part of this scheme to help support a local cause.

Simply go to:

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

PLEASE TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES TOO - it's so simple to use but means so much to what we can afford to do for our children in school!

We currently have 167 supporters...can we make it to 200?

THANK YOY FOR YOUR HELP!

## **The Little Ted Foundation**



Walter Halls continues to be a support of this amazing charity - one very close to our hearts, after the sad passing of Mr Neal's youngest child, Ted. We will continue to raise money whenever and wherever we can to help terminally ill children. You can help too, by visiting:

https://www.thelittletedfoundation.org/

## 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.

**PE kits** - should be worn to school on your child's PE days. Children do not get changed into PE kits during the school day. Please check with your child's teacher which days they need to come ready for PE. Our school uniform supports outdoor play at any time of the day and could also be suitable for PE lessons, so long as proper trainers are worn for PE lessons.

**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.