



Be your best.

NEWSLETTER - 19th July 2024

Dear all,

Happy Friday! With just 3 more days to go until our children break up for summer, this will be my final newsletter of the year! I hope that most of you manage to have some family time over the summer break.

SCHOOL CLOSURES TO ALL CHILDREN NEXT WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY. SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR ALL CHILDREN ON MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER.

It has been a challenging year for staffing at Walter Halls this year, with quite a few long-term absences and maternity leaves all happening at once. This has created some inconsistency in a couple of classes and we really recognise the impact that this can have. Despite this, so many of our children have continued to flourish, progress and make us proud. Our Y6 SATs results have been good to see - but are really just one of very many indicators of success at school this year. Thank you to all of you who continue to be our great supporters and work alongside us positively to help your own children - it really is this that makes all the difference.

A huge thanks to our wonderful staff team - not just our teachers and leaders but to our teaching assistants, office team, site team and play leaders. Many of you have worked two jobs this year, covering for others and stepping up to continue to make things work when our hall had to close down too! A school runs off the generosity and selflessness of the adults who choose to work in it and I'm always appreciative of the fantastic team of dedicated people we have at Walter Halls.

Let's hope the sun shines for us for just a few days at least, this August!

GETTING READY FOR SEPTEMBER: *Please remember the changes that are happening with our uniform in September. The bonus of the OPAL uniform is that there is no need to have a different PE kit, so long as children have suitable trainers on for PE days. Being outside, active and comfortable in your school uniform is so important for learning - we also want them to look great too, so please make sure you look carefully at what the expectations are for September. The office team will be helping you as much as possible with uniform orders and advice with what you can get ready.*

KEY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER *have been added in to this newsletter - please take a look!*

NEXT WEEK: Monday-Wednesday are normal school days. School closes Wednesday with staff coming in for training days on Thurs/Fri

WEDNESDAY - YEAR 6 SEND-OFF - Please join us on the top playground outside the Y5/6 block to give one last clap and cheer for our Year 6 children as we send them on their way to secondary school! It would be lovely for them to see their parents cheering them on at 3.15pm on Wednesday next week

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

Key Dates coming up...



SUMMER term:

Our Core Values are COLLABORATION & PERSEVERANCE!

- **Monday 22nd July** - Year 6 Leavers Prom
 - **Wednesday 24th July** - **FINAL DAY FOR CHILDREN BEFORE SUMMER BREAK.** Please join us to clap and cheer for Y6 at 3.15pm!
 - **OUR REMAINING INSET DAYS ARE:** Thurs 25th & Fri 26th July
 - Term dates can be found on our website here: <https://www.walterhallsprimary.co.uk/term-dates/>
-

SEPTEMBER:

- **Monday 2nd September** - School re-opens for all children
 - **WEDNESDAY 11th September** - Welcome Event for all families of Y1-Y6 from 3.15pm onwards.
SAVE THE DATE!
-

REMINDER - STAFFING NEWS!

As you will have seen from the letters about new classes, we are having some staffing changes from the start of next year as well as some teachers moving around into different year groups...

PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT OUR STAFFING STRUCTURE FOR 2024/25 ACADEMIC YEAR IN THE PICTURE IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND IN THE LETTER BEING SENT OUT TODAY...

Changes / complexities for this are:

- *We will no longer have 3 phase leaders in each phase school – instead we will have two assistant headteachers*
- *In F2, Miss Davey is on maternity leave until March/April 2025. Mrs Thackray is teaching this class whilst Miss Davey is away*
- *Mrs Terzza is moving to Y3 and a new teacher called Mrs Griffiths will be teaching in Y2. She will be coming in to meet her new class before September*
 - *Mrs Mohammed from Y3 is leaving us to teach abroad!*
- *Miss Skelton – currently covering different classes – will move back into sharing just one class with Mrs Routledge in Y4*
- *Miss Sinclair – currently in Y5 – is staying on permanently with us and is in Y4 next year*

- Miss Fisher is back from maternity leave and teaching part time in Y5. Mrs Hollinger is returning back from maternity leave in October and will share this class with Miss Fisher. Mr Munn who has done supply cover in Y3 for us this year will cover Mrs Hollinger until she returns in October
- Miss Rodgers is leaving us and moving back to her hometown of Essex! Mrs Harding will be teaching in Y6 instead of Y4 from next year
- We look forward to having Mrs Cox back with us from September – her son is recovering really well!
- Miss Pope returns from maternity leave in January and takes on her new role of Assistant Head for Y3,4,5,6!

SENIOR LEADERSHIP: Mrs E Beardah – Headteacher Mrs Glover – Deputy Headteacher & SENDCO Mrs Wright – Assistant Head for Early Years & KS1 (F1, F2, Y1, Y2) Miss Pope – Assistant Head for KS2 (Y3,4,5,6)		
ASSISTANT HEAD FOR EARLY YEARS & KS1 – SARAH WRIGHT		TEACHING ASSISTANTS
F1	Miss C Hill	F1: Mrs Wynne Based across school: Mrs Gabbittas F1 – Year 2 Support Staff: Miss Fyfe, Mrs Haslam, Mrs Hollingsworth, Mrs Keeble, Mrs Cooling, Ms O'Reilly, Mrs Upton, Mrs Yaver, Mrs Greensmith, Mrs McCann Y3-Y6 Support staff: Mrs Bell, Mrs Hussain, Mrs Merrington, Mrs Ingley, Mrs Atwell, Mrs Smalley Timetabled across school for behaviour, learning support & interventions: Mr Hockham & Mr Neal Family Support & Child Welfare: Mrs G Holmes – Family support worker Mrs K Chandler – Child Welfare & Play therapist
F2	Miss K Davey / Mrs K Thackray	
F2	Miss L Borderick	
Y1	Mrs A White	
Y1	Mrs G Mussared-Johnson / Miss C Gilby	
Y2	Mr R Starling	
Y2	*New recruit – Mrs D Griffiths	
ASSISTANT HEAD FOR KS2 – HANNAH POPE		
Y3	Mrs T Terzza	
Y3	Mrs M Moazzam	
Y4	Mrs C Routledge / Miss A Skelton	
Y4	Miss C Sinclair	
Y5	Mr T Holton	
Y5	Miss J Fisher / Mrs M Hollinger	
Y6	Mrs E Harding	
Y6	Miss L Wensley	
Cover teachers, sports & music:		
Mrs Cox		Music teaching Tues/Weds with Y1/2 plus music leadership & events
Ms King		Thurs / Fri cover in Y2/3
Mrs Padmore & Mrs Jackson		Cover Supervisors
Epic Sports Team (external provider)		Sports Tues/Weds/Thurs/Fri
Nottingham Music Hub team (external)		Music on Tuesdays with Y4/5
PPA Ltd – Music team (external)		Music on Thursdays with Y3/6

A great **OPAL** uniform



We are pleased to advise that branded tracksuit bottoms*, 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-terminly through our school wear supplier.*



Heather Grey



Navy



Black



Light Blue



White



Plain trainers, or trainer-style shoe



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

Other uniform options:



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.

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

Aug-24							Sep-24							Oct-24						
M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	
T		6	13	20	27		T		3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29	
W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26		T	3	10	17	24	31	
F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25		
S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26		
S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29		S	6	13	20	27		
Nov-24							Dec-24							Jan-25						
M		4	11	18	25		M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	
T		5	12	19	26		T		3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28	
W		6	13	20	27		W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	
T		7	14	21	28		T		5	12	19	26		T	2	9	16	23	30	
F	1	8	15	22	29		F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31	
S	2	9	16	23	30		S		7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25		
S	3	10	17	24			S	1	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26		
Feb-25							Mar-25							Apr-25						
M		3	10	17	24		M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	
T		4	11	18	25		T		4	11	18	25		T	1	8	15	22	29	
W		5	12	19	26		W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30	
T		6	13	20	27		T		6	13	20	27		T	3	10	17	24		
F		7	14	21	28		F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25		
S	1	8	15	22			S	1	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26		
S	2	9	16	23			S	2	9	16	23	30		S	6	13	20	27		
May-25							Jun-25							Jul-25						
M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	
T		6	13	20	27		T		3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29	
W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26		T	3	10	17	24	31	
F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25		
S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26		
S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29		S	6	13	20	27		

- 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

CLUBS TO SIGN UP FOR...



The **ULTIMATE** **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

at **Walter Halls Primary!**
Starting in September!

MONDAY

FOOT GOLF - Years 3,4,5,6 (in September)

3.15 - 4.15pm

Footgolf is a sport in which players kick a football into a hole in as few shots as possible, and children will create their own courses, obstacles and challenges for each other

TUESDAY

FOREST SKILLS - Years 1,2,3,4,5,6 (in September)

3.15 - 4.15pm

Children engage in bushcraft tasks like shelter building, and forest activities promote teamwork, confidence, and respect for the environment.

THURSDAY

BATTLEFIELD ARCHERY - Years 4,5,6 (in September)

3.15 - 4.15pm

Using safe masks, bows and arrows... think dodgeball! Children will compete in teams, hide behind objects and fire arrows at the enemy teams! (arrows have large balls on the end)

FRIDAY

NERF WARS - Years 1,2,3,4 (in September)

3.15 - 4.15pm

A Nerf war is an activity involving Nerf Blasters or other foam-blasting toys, aiming the bullets at objects and the other team (children will wear safety goggles)

All clubs commence w/c 9th September until Friday 18th October, and is £24 for the block booking

Progressive Sports will be delivering a range of After School Club activities at your school. These clubs provide a structured and supervised environment for children to learn various sports, fostering discipline and teamwork, and run straight after school. All clubs are delivered by highly qualified, DBS checked and first aid qualified, sports coaches.

Booking online - visit www.progressive-sports-derbyshire.co.uk/clubs and find your school!



After-school has never been so much fun!

Get creative using design, code and logic to build your own games!



Book now at

www.codecamp.co.uk/afterschool

Get in touch at hello@codecamp.co.uk

Rated 4.9 on  REVIEWS.io 

PHEENIX MUSIC WORKSHOP



FRIDAY AUTUMN TERM 1

YEARS 3 TO 6, 3.15 to 4.15PM

We are excited to offer an afterschool music workshop in Autumn Term 1, run by Emmanuel Olih (PHEENIX).

Emmanuel is a Nigerian born, and currently UK based, multi-genre singer/rapper and songwriter. He is also a University of Derby Graduate, with a joint degree in Film and Television studies & Psychology.

He has worked with several genres such as hip hop, R&B, rock, 80s synthwave, afrobeats and many more.

(Pheenix performed his latest song release at the Summer Fair on Saturday 6th July!)

The classes will include weekly topics and activities to get children to feel excited. It will include song writing exercises:

- **What is song writing ?**
- **How do we learn song writing ?**
- **The 5 steps to start song writing (objects of focus, jamming and arranging, topics of choice, repletion and rhyme, free style)**

At the end of the half term, children will have composed a song either on their own or in a group, or they can adapt a song they already know, that

The price is £5.00 per child (£30.00 for Autumn Term 1), bookings are now open on ParentMail . Spaces are limited to 15 children. The club will run on 13th, 20th, 27th September and 4th, 11th and 18th October.

OPAL PLAY UPDATE



PLAY TYPES

Symbolic Play Locomotor Play Recapitulative Play Creative Play Exploratory Play

Communication Play Role Play Fantasy Play

Socio-dramatic Play Object Play Mastery Play Deep Play

Rough and Tumble Play Dramatic Play Social Play Imaginative Play

PLAY SCOTLAND
www.playscotland.org

A Playworker's Taxonomy of Play Types by Bob Hughes

www.play.org.uk

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%

The class with the highest attendance was: Class 5A with 97.2%

Also doing well were: Class 4A who just about met the target of 96% - well done!

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

'Free!'

OUR CORE VALUE DURING SUMMER 2 TERM IS...



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

- *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.*

- 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.

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!

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=EAlaIQobChMIpcTfzqCH-gIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEqK5XvD_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

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

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.
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