



Be your best.

NEWSLETTER - 26th January 2024

Dear all,

Happy Friday! Here's this week's news, updates and reminders...

Young Voices - Wow! And well done to Mrs Cox and our amazing choir of singers who took part so brilliantly this week at Birmingham NEC! I was so upset to have to pull out of going - something I look forward to being part of each year. The photos and video shared by Mrs Cox, and all of our parents comments on Dojo, say it all - AMAZING!

FRIDAY FOCUS DAY - NEXT FRIDAY! It's time to dust-off your best Rock-star outfit! *We will be focusing on Times Tables Rockstars and being amazing mathematicians all day on Friday next week! This year's national competition teams up with NSPCC too, which is great! Children can come to school dressed as a rock-star character...some pictures in this newsletter to help you with ideas! Rock-star competitions in the hall and a whole-day of maths fun!*

Children's Mental Health week is coming up very soon and will take place from 5th-11th February. *The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'. We have received some useful resources which teachers will be using to follow this theme of teaching that week and our lovely Dawn from MHST will also be helping us with some further resources to support the children. MHST are running an event called 'Notts Alone' on February 6th 2024. 3 of our Mental Health ambassadors from year 5, and some other year 5 children, will attend the event and come back to school to share some of what they learnt with our younger children later that week. A great programme of learning to look forward to!*

OPAL play update - some important updates/reminders in the OPAL section of this week's newsletter for everyone to read through...

Welly Bank - many thanks to our wonderful parent Adele - an Opal-supporter and amazingly knowledgeable play worker and author - who has shared a poster for a new initiative for helping with the costs of outdoor play. Hopefully lots of you will be able to get involved in this...see the poster in this week's newsletter... **THANK YOU ADELE!**

Reminder about respectful communication - if you have a complaint, concern or are worried about something, all staff at school deserve to be spoken to calmly and respectfully. We all do our jobs with the very best intentions, love and care for children's education. If you don't like something that is happening - Opal or otherwise - no member of staff is at your immediate disposal at the start or end of each day to shout at or criticise. In the mornings, all staff will be busy getting ready to teach or getting ready to help a specific child or family that day. At the end of the day they are outside to ensure children leave our school well or may be waiting to meet with someone for a pre-arranged meeting. Make a request for a call back and someone will call you as soon as they can and chat things through with you. We all have other commitments, meetings and responsibilities, as well as families and lives of our own to navigate. We work really hard to have a happy and respectful school site and will ask those who consistently can't uphold that to not enter our grounds.

If you have a serious complaint that you feel hasn't been addressed, our complaints policy is on our website, and begins with you making a request via telephone to meet with me, once you have explored all other avenues and staff members to resolve the matter. Each stage of escalation of complaints is clearly mapped out within this policy.

NEXT WEEK:

Monday - OPAL assembly for our children

Tuesday - Y6 NSPCC workshop

Wednesday - Y5 NSPCC workshop

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

Thursday - Y2 NSPCC workshop

Friday - **FRIDAY FOCUS DAY - COME DRESSED AS A ROCKSTAR!**

Celebration Assembly 9am in the hall - Y4/5/6 - 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

The poster features a green and light blue background with a stage-like design. At the top, the text 'TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS' is written in a stylized, outlined font, with 'PRESENTS' below it. The main title 'NSPCC ROCKS' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'NSPCC' in green and 'ROCKS' in large, light blue letters with a black outline. Below the title, the date and time are listed: 'FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024' and '7:30AM TO 7:30PM (GMT)'. Two green callout boxes at the bottom contain the text 'PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE!' and '1HR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON!'. At the very bottom, a light blue banner states 'WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL!'. The poster is decorated with yellow lightning bolts and white plus signs.

**TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS**

PRESENTS

**NSPCC
ROCKS**

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024
7:30AM TO 7:30PM (GMT)

**PLAY IN ANY
GAME TYPE!**

**1HR TIME LIMIT
PER PERSON!**

**WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST
NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL!**

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTAR OUTFIT IDEAS FOR NEXT FRIDAY...



30 Minute
ROCKSTAR
Costume



30 Minute Crafts .com



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!

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 child's and family's 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

OPAL PLAY UPDATE



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

Rainy / Muddy play - *leaflets of information have been shared prior to Christmas and again this term with information regarding this approach. We recognise the need for more sheltered areas to be created, when our budget allows for this. In the meantime, decent clothing, hoods and brollies all help, as well as the spare clothing we have in classrooms and at 'Take Home Tuesday'*

Key Dates coming up...



SPRING TERM DATES:

Our Core Value learning is all about ASPIRATION

- **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'*
 - **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/term-dates/>*
-

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 89% - lots of tummy bugs last week!

No class met our target of 96% but...

Class 1A, 2A, 2B, 3B & 5B all achieved 95% - not bad!

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

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 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.

CHILDREN'S CLUBS IN OUR COMMUNITY...

THE RENEWAL TRUST
Helping communities grow

ABC

EPIC PARTNERS
Empowering Positive & Inspirational Change

MTVH

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

f EPIC PARTNERS @EPIC_PARTNERS in 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



@SEND Project



@sendprojectnottingham

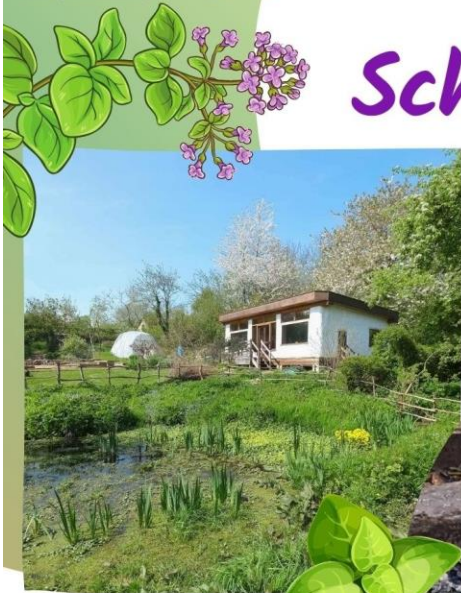




St Ann's Community Orchard

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
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

*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 2nd September
For ages 7+

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

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=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCH-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

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.
-