

NEWSLETTER - 2nd February 2024

Dear all,

Happy Friday! A week of stomach bugs for sure - I hope you all get through the weekend feeling much more healthy!

Friday Focus Day - today! A day of making maths fun! Lots to get involved with and I'm excited to see how well we score with the national NSPCC Times Table Rockstar competition. More photos to celebrate this great day in next week's newsletter.

The National Childhood Measurement Programme - nurses will be on site on 22nd February at 9am to take the height and weight measurements of all children in F2 and Year 6. Letters have been sent by email for us to distribute to our children's families tomorrow which the office have now done. If you have any questions about this national programme please call the office team.

New dates and key dates reminders - The 'Tutti-Fruitti' performance organised for Y1 has been rescheduled for 23rd February in the afternoon.

Mrs Glover will be organising a get-together for families who want to come along to a 'Neuro-diversity' coffee morning on 21st March - please save the date. Some great feedback from our families who have found this really helpful in the past for extra support with their children who are showing neuro-diverse needs in school.

A reminder that our Y6 children will be walking across to Wells Academy next Wednesday afternoon to watch their performance of Annie! Y6 teachers have sent a separate message to say that the performance should end in time to be back at school for 3.15pm but there may be a slight delay that day.

F1 Artists! This week's newsletter shares some stunning artwork done by our nursery children. It will make you smile and is very impressive!

Well done to T-j Lee from Y3 who was awarded 'man of the match' for the football team he plays for outside of school, and thanks to mum for sharing a photo for this week's newsletter. Please do send us any of your own celebrations of what your children are achieving - we love to get these and share with everyone how proud we are of them!

A huge well done to Year 2 as well this week - some fantastic progress on spellings and times tables done at home. Mrs Terzza has shared a lovely picture and big pat on the back in this week's newsletter too!

NEXT WEEK:

Monday - Assembly based on Children's mental health week - 'My Voice Matters' national theme

Tuesday - Safer Internet Day - all year groups will be covering some learning about staying safe online and aiming to design an online safety mascot. We will be choosing the best ones from each class so we can introduce the winner as being our school mascot for online safety reminders.

Wednesday - Dawn - from Mental Health Support Team - MHST - is usually available for our families to chat to every Wednesday in the 'Nook' next to the school office.

Friday - Celebration Assembly 9am in the hall - Y2/3 - parents of children receiving a certificate will be contacted in advance.

Next Friday is the last day of term and school reopens on Monday 19th February.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

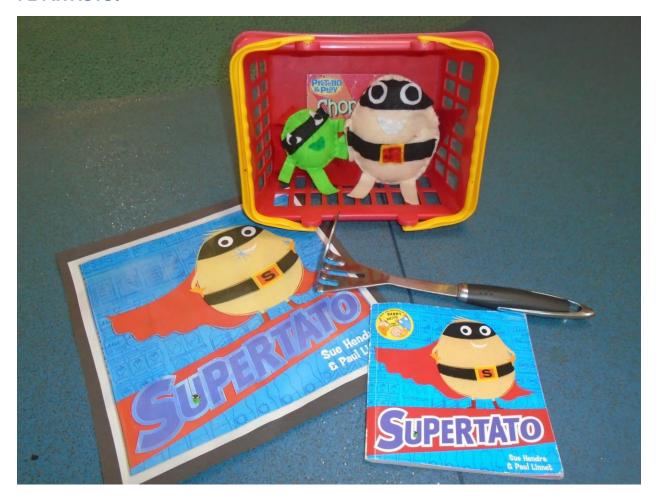
Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher



F1 ARTISTS!



A few examples of the 'super' art work F1 have created as part of our learning linked to the story of 'Supertato'!







MAN OF THE MATCH - TJ-LEE!



AMAZING HOME LEARNING EFFORTS IN YEAR 2

Some children in 2A have been practicing their times tables and their spellings at home. They have really challenged themselves with all of their times tables and some of the tricky common exception words we have been learning in Year 2! That's what we love to hear - well done Year 2!



OPAL PLAY UPDATE



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

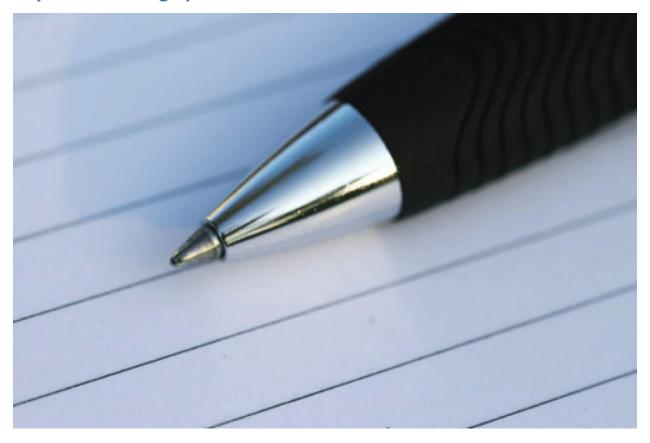
Using play equipment outside at the start of the day - Some of the larger equipment is left outside and some of our children are enjoying using this at the start of the day. No staff supervision is available outside at the start of the day, until 8.40am when teachers arrive to collect classes. Parents 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

- 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

- 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 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
 - 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/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 WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 92%

The class with the highest attendance was: Class 1A with 98.2%! Beating the bugs 1A well done! Also doing well were - Class 6A with an impressive 97.3%.

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.

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

CHILDREN'S CLUBS IN OUR COMMUNITY...





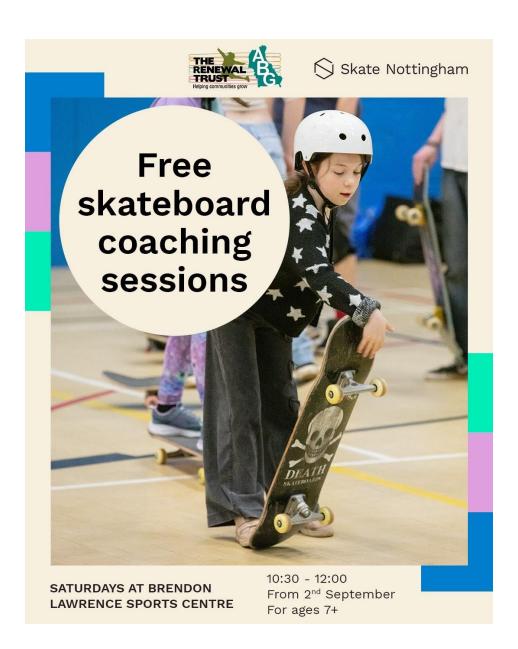






Booking essential: www.staa.eventbrite.com Contact Rachel on 07498 864498 to book. The Community Orchard is on St Ann's Allotments, off Ransom Road, look out for the yellow signs.







EASY-FUNDRAISING - Please help us!





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=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCHqIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEqK5XvD_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

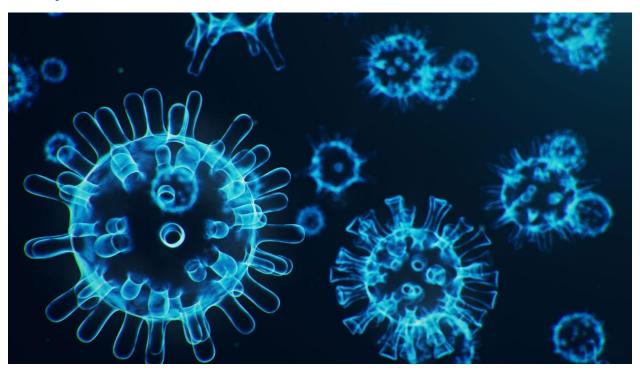
Lee Neal - Behaviour & Learning Mentor

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.