



Be your best.

NEWSLETTER - 22nd September 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Happy Friday! A few updates and reminders for you this week, along with some lovely pictures shared from Music Camp - HUGE WELL DONE to all the children who went with Mrs Cox to Music camp last week, and especially to Oscar who won a most prestigious award..!

Online Safety: We recently shared, on Class Dojo, a really helpful poster with lots of links to help families keep their children safe online - I've included this again in this week's newsletter.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH & NATIONAL POETRY DAY are both fast approaching at the start of October. These are two very important national celebrations that we make sure we teach the children about each year. Both will have some optional home learning that you can do alongside your children so keep a look out on Class Dojo for more details. We have shared details of a visiting poet who will be meeting our children, in a section of this week's newsletter - very exciting!

NATIONAL TEACHING ASSISTANT DAY - NEXT WEEK! - Some of the best and most valuable people who work in our schools are our teaching assistants. At Walter Halls, we teach the children about respecting ALL adults across school and next week we will be doing special thank yous, recognition and respect for our wonderful TA's

Reminders:

ASSEMBLIES - Every Friday we hold a celebration assembly for particular year groups. All of our families are welcome to come along to the hall at 9am each week, but those children who have been chosen to receive a certificate their families will be contacted the day before to invite them along.

FAMILY SUPPORT - We are adding to our family and pastoral support this year, with our partners at MHST (Mental Health Support Team) extending their support to our parents/carers as well as our children. Dawn Jukes, from MHST, will be running a drop in session **every WEDNESDAY from next week 8.30-9.15am**. Dawn is an Education Mental Health Practitioner and will be available to talk through any mental health needs and offer any signposting to other services for our families. She can also talk through concerns you may have about your children and be a link back to us about any children that may benefit from further support.

Next Week:

- **WEDNESDAY: - 8.30-9.15am MHST drop-in sessions for parents/carers to chat to Dawn.**
 - **FRIDAY - NATIONAL TEACHING ASSISTANTS DAY!**
 - **FRIDAY - 9am celebration assembly will be for Y4,5,6 in the hall.**
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Please take a look through the rest of this newsletter for more information on events coming up...

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

MUSIC CAMPERS MADE US PROUD!



A group of Year 5 children went to Music Camp last week at Ilam Hall in Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Apart from the beautiful venue which was our home for 2 days, 120 city school children gathered there to make music in a Monster Band Orchestra and it was incredible! In 29 hours and after many instrument classes, musical activities indoors and outdoors, great dinners and breakfasts, night time walks and an orienteering music reading course before the final orchestral performance, we returned home exhausted but extremely happy.

The highlight of our stay (apart from the hot chocolate after the night walk!) was that our very own Oscar won the prestigious award of most improved and amazing clarinet player. We are so proud of you Oscar and of course all of the other members of the group, Edie, Milliana, Milo and Freya. As ever, they were a credit to Walter Halls. Now they will go on to join Area Band Orchestra and perform in other events around the city over the next two years. What a great camp it has been this year! See links below for the fully polished final performances of Wavin' Flag and O Fortuna.

https://youtu.be/NwMQr1qn_Mc - Wavin' Flag

<https://youtu.be/DDutLJw8qY> - O Fortuna





NATIONAL POETRY DAY - Special visitor!





We are very excited to be welcoming David Higgins - AKA Stickman - to Walter Halls on National Poetry Day (Thursday 5th October). The theme this year is Refuge where children in KS1 will be exploring the treasures that they have which help them to feel safe. Children in KS2 will be looking at refuge as finding a place in which to feel safe.

On the day, there will be an assembly and poetry workshops with Stickman involving some very exciting body popping percussion work, lots of musicality and really engaging poetry performance techniques.

We are so pleased that the children will be able to work with him...

David Stickman Higgins is an experienced musician, spoken word poet, actor and storyteller. His work explores issues about human rights, positive truths of Afro Caribbean identity and global identity.

Key Dates coming up...



AUTUMN TERM DATES

Our Core Value learning is all about RESPECT

- **Friday 29th September** *we will be celebrating NATIONAL TEACHING ASSISTANT DAY, showing our thanks and respect for this vital role in school*
- **OCTOBER is BLACK HISTORY MONTH** *- lots of learning and activities happening across school to celebrate diversity*
- **THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER - NATIONAL POETRY DAY** *- children will be taking part in this year's national theme of 'Refuge'*
- **WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER - DRUMMING WORKSHOP FOR KS2** *with Jeff Rich, ex-Status Quo drummer!*

- **FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER** - *FRIDAY FOCUS DAY* - The whole of school will spend the entire day immersed in learning about **DIVERSITY**
 - **FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER** - *LAST DAY OF TERM*. School closes for half-term break and re-opens to all children on **MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER**
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Autumn 2 term:

- **MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER** - *WORLD KINDNESS DAY* - we will be celebrating this day, matched to our Autumn 2 Core Value of Kindness & Empathy
- **MONDAY 13TH & WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER** - *PROGRESS MEETINGS WITH PARENTS & CARERS* - your chance to find out from class teachers how your child is getting on at school. Slots are booked via ParentMail - more info to follow
- **w/c 13TH NOVEMBER** - *NATIONAL ANTI-BULLYING WEEK* - The whole school will be learning about bullying online and in person and what our anti-bullying policy here at Walter Halls is. More info to follow
- **FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER** - *CHILDREN IN NEED DAY* - **WEAR SOMETHING YELLOW / SPOTTY / PUDSEY BEAR THEMED AND BRING IN A SMALL DONATION FOR THIS CHARITY**
- **FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER** - *FRIDAY FOCUS DAY* - The whole school will spend the entire day immersed in learning about **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES**. Walter Halls children learn French as their MfL in KS2
- **w/c 11TH DECEMBER** - *FOUNDATION STAGE AND YEAR 1 LEAD OUR CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES* - more details to follow
- **MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER** - *HEADTEACHER EXCELLENCE CERTIFICATES* - Y1-Y6 will be presented theirs in a special assembly at 9am in the school hall. More info to follow
- **TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER** - *Christmas Parties in classrooms* - get your party clothes at the ready! More info to follow
- **WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER** - *LAST DAY OF TERM*. School closes and re-opens to all children on **THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY**

- 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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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: 95%

THE HIGHEST CLASS ATTENDANCE WAS FROM: CLASS 4B - 98.5%

ALSO DOING WELL WERE: CLASSES 6A & 6B both with 98% and 5A with 97.6%

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

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

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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



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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</p>	<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>THE RENEWAL TRUST Helping communities grow</p>
 <p>WICKETZ</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>	<p>Term time activities</p>
 <p>BLSC YOUTH CLUB ACE</p>	<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</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</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</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>

OUR CORE VALUE THIS TERM IS...



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

- *Respect isn't always about compliance and doing what you're told.*
 - *Ways of showing respect and that respect has to be earned – it takes time and effort.*
 - *Respecting religions, other cultures and ways of living.*
 - *Respecting the environment to help all of our futures.*
 - *How our actions have an impact on others and the wider world.*
 - *Having different opinions but still getting along.*
 - *Listening skills.*
 - *Taking turns.*
 - *Safe ways to share opinions and what to do if you disagree.*
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As always, your help in talking to your children about all of these things at home is appreciated.

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 127 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/?qclid=EAlaIqobChMIpcTfzqCH-gIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEgK5XvD_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.

EVENTS - A list of events being organised by FOWH during Autumn term will be released soon!

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

Rachael Pierpoint - Behaviour & Learning Mentor

Dawn Jukes - MHST link worker - on school site every Wednesday. Adult drop-in sessions 8.30-9.15am available

- *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.*
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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.

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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