

NEWSLETTER - 3rd May 2024

Dear all,

Happy Friday to you all - with a bonus Bank Holiday Monday to look forward to, which I hope most of you might be able to enjoy away from work and other pressures. **PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SCHOOL WILL BE**CLOSED ON MONDAY.

SCHOOL HALL - Please make sure you have all read through my latest update about the school hall, shared on Class Dojo. We will carry on doing our very best in difficult circumstances and keep you as updated as possible.

SPORTS DAY ERROR - Please note that I had listed the wrong days for Y2/4 Sports Days in the 'Key Dates' section of previous newsletters. These have now been corrected, with Y4's Sports Day being Monday 24th June in the morning and Y2's being Friday 28th in the afternoon.

CAN YOU HELP THE LOCAL AUTHORITY EDUCATION TEAM? - Please take a look at what you can do to help improve their support with attendance across the city, by giving your feedback. There is a link in a section later on in this newsletter, also posted on Dojo earlier this week...

NURSERY PLACES UPDATE - If you are thinking about applying for a place in our Nursery for the school year **September 2025** - **July 2026**, we have only got 15 places left. Please don't leave it too long to apply! Forms are available from the office or from Miss Hill in the Nursery.

There is another lovely story-telling update shared by our Nursery team this week, that will hopefully make you smile...

NEXT WEEK:

Monday - BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday - Dawn from MHST will be available for her morning drop-in with families. Please come along to The Nook, next to the main office, if you would like a chat with someone from the Mental Health Support Team

Friday assemblies - for the time being all assemblies will be in classrooms and we won't be able to invite families in to celebration assembly each Friday, due to our hall closure. We will keep you updated as to when this can change.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend everyone!

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

WALK FOR AUTISM FUNDRAISER!



Well done and THANK YOU to Mrs Merrington-Ingley! An amazing £300 raised by kind donations towards her recent Walk for Autism! What a great charity for us to support!

Key Dates coming up...



SUMMER term:

Our Core Values are COLLABORATION & PERSEVERANCE!

- Monday 6th May BANK HOLIDAY school closed
- w/c 13th May YEAR 6 SATs TESTING WEEK All Y6 children must be in school every day this weeK
- 13th-19th May National Mental Health Awareness Week: 'Moving more for Mental Health'
 - Friday 17th May FRIDAY FOCUS DAY for Art & DT
 - Saturday 18th May OPAL Dig Day Community Event 11-2pm
 - Friday 24th May END OF TERM. Half term begins

- School re-opens on Monday 3rd June
- w/c 3rd June Launch of 'Sports for Schools' Event more info to follow
- Monday 10th June Y2-Y4 'Splash Battle' after school raising funds for summer fair
 - Friday 14th June FRIDAY FOCUS DAY Fit, Healthy, Happy
- Monday 17th & Friday 21st June In-school workshops for Y6 transition to Y7 support
- Tuesday 18th June Bake Sale & Treasure Hunt after school raising funds for the Summer Fair
 - Thursday 20th June YEAR 4 RE PERFORMANCE Hinduism
 - Friday 21st June Y3-Y6 'Splash Battle' after school raising funds for the summer fair
 - Friday 21st June 'Sports for Schools' whole school event with a visiting Olympian!
- w/c 24th June SPORTS DAYS: Monday AM for Y4/6 and PM for Y5/3. Friday AM for F2 and PM for Y1/2
 - Thurs 27th & Fri 28th June YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL DRUMHILL CAMP
 - Saturday 6th July SUMMER FAIR 11AM-3PM!
 - Monday 8th July Times Tables Rockstars Battle for KS2!
 - Wednesday 10th July KS2 Spelling Bee competition
- Monday 15th July Headteacher Certificate Assembly for F2-Y2 9am then KS2 Evening Awards
 Ceremony for Y3-Y6 with Y6 leavers performance more details to follow
 - Friday 19th July MEET YOUR NEW TEACHER Class Swap Day
 - Monday 22nd July Year 6 Leavers Prom
 - Wednesday 24th July FINAL DAY FOR CHILDREN BEFORE SUMMER BREAK
 - 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/

Help improve attendance support by giving your feedback!

A message from our colleagues at the local authority...

Nottingham City Educational Psychology Service are conducting a research project into barriers to school attendance on behalf of the local authority and we would really appreciate your help to access participants.

We would like to hear from parents/carers about their views and/or experiences of school non-attendance. We'd be grateful if you could share this survey link with parents/carers at your setting:

It is a Microsoft forms link and takes about 10 minutes to complete.

Please be assured that all school details (e.g. school name and any reference to staff) will remain anonymous, as will any data about the children.

The information gathered will be used to produce guidance for the Local Authority around supporting school attendance.

Nursery: story-telling super-stars!



This week the children in Nursery have taken home little story telling packs based around our theme of 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears'. Their packs contained a Goldilocks spoon puppet that they made, puppets of the 3 bears, a story telling mat, some ideas of activities to do at home and a sachet of porridge to enjoy for breakfast. Happy story telling Owls and Hedgehogs! We're so proud of you!

OPAL PLAY UPDATE



Please help us build a **Potion Station** at Walter Halls School

We need weird and wonderful shaped items made from metal, plastic and wood (but please no glass or ceramics)





- Turkey Basters





CAN YOU HELP US WITH OUR COMMUNITY 'DIG DAY' TO HELP BUILD OUR NEW SANDPIT FOR OPAL PLAY?

SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY 18TH MAY 11AM-2PM!

We would love your help to dig out our new sandpit at school! Come and join us in the fresh air and help us with the next exciting stage of OPAL play...and get a free ice cream too!

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.

THE FIRST WEEK BACK OF SUMMER TERM, WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 94.4%

The class with the highest attendance was: CLASS 2A with 98%! FANTASTIC!

Also doing well were: 3A, 3B, 4B, 5A, 5B & 6A - all smashing their target of 96%+!



OUR CORE VALUE DURING SUMMER A TERM IS...



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

- 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.

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...





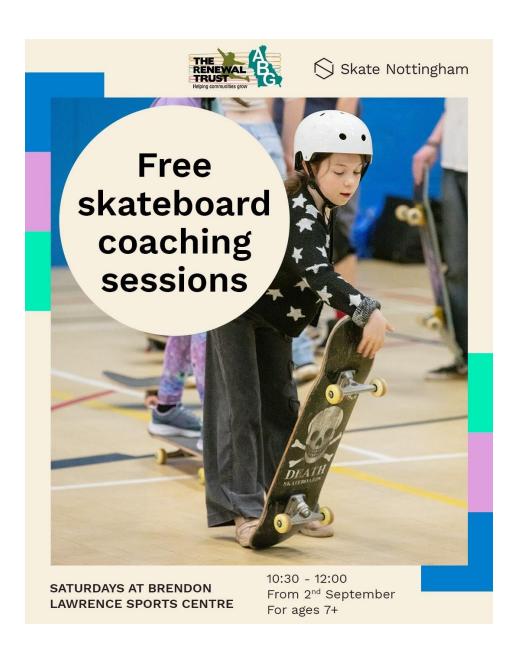






Booking essential: www.staa.eventbrite.com Contact Rachel on 07498 864498 to book. The Community Orchard is on St Ann's Allotments, off Ransom Road, look out for the yellow signs.







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

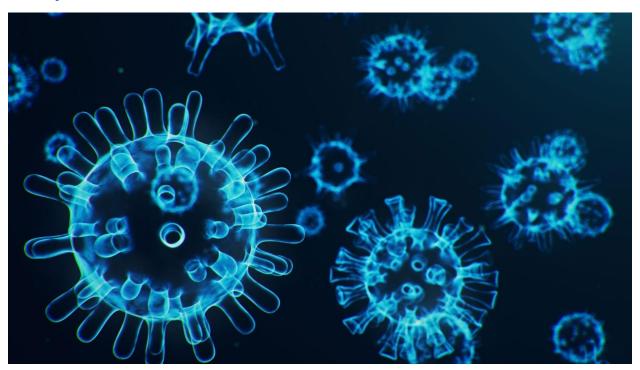
Lee Neal - Behaviour & Learning Mentor

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.