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A letter to all of our children at Walter Halls: Walter Halls is joining a group of schools!

Dear children of Walter Halls,

As you are the most important people in our school, I wanted to write to you all to let you know about some changes that might be happening quite soon at Walter Halls. Our school is planning to join a group of schools called a **Multi-Academy Trust**. We call this a **MAT** for short. The MAT we want to join in called Greenwood Academies Trust. We want to explain what it means for you.

1. What is a Multi-Academy Trust?

A Multi-Academy Trust is a group of schools that work together. The schools can share ideas and learn from each other – COLLABORATION is one of our school values and we know how helpful this can be when we all want to 'Be our Best'. Being part of a MAT can mean that we can work together to help each other learn and share ideas. **Think of it like a team!** Each school is part of the team. The schools help each other.

2. What does this mean for Walter Halls?

Walter Halls will still be your school. You will still be part of our school community. We expect you to continue to learn, play and make friends at Walter Halls just like you do now. Because our school is doing so well, this change will mainly help all of the adults who work here have a bit more help from other adults who work in other schools. Not much should change for you – and if it does, it should only be for the better!

3. What will change?

Joining a Multi-Academy Trust takes time. Adults will work together to plan the change carefully. You won't really notice anything different at all. We will keep the same uniform, the same lunchtime play, the same classrooms and teachers… the same everything! We will be called an 'academy' instead of a school: 'Walter Halls Primary Academy'. Over time, we might be able to make our buildings look nicer and maybe do some different school visits. We might be able to meet some people from schools in the same MAT as us and we might be able to speak to leaders of the MAT to tell them what we'd love to do to keep making Walter Halls a brilliant school to come to. I think that's quite exciting, don't you?

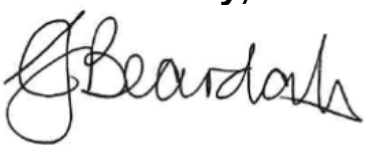
We will always tell you before anything changes and you can ask questions whenever you want to.

4. Who can I talk to about this?
You might have questions or feelings about this change. That is okay! We're letting your families know at the same time as you are getting this letter so they can talk to you about it all too.
You can talk to any adult that you trust in school – remember that all the adults at Walter Halls are here to help you. I will make sure that our Year 6 Heads and Deputies and also our Inclusion Ambassadors are spoken to about this and we can talk about it together in our assemblies. You will meet the leaders of Greenwood Academies Trust when they walk around our school to visit us: they are really friendly and won't mind you asking them questions too. We have invited your family to come and meet them too, this half term, if they want to. **We are all part of the Walter Halls community.**

5. When will this all happen?
We're not 100% sure how long it will all take but we hope we can sort everything out before July – the summer term. We will let you know as soon as we know.

Remember:
Walter Halls is still your school and we will carry on 'Being our Best' no matter what changes happen!

Your sincerely,



Mrs Beardah
Headteacher