

NEWSLETTER - 1st December 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Happy Friday...and welcome to December!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CHRISTMAS FAIR NEXT THURSDAY! We need each year group to contribute to the stalls - please take another look in the Christmas Fair section of the newsletter for how you can help. Don't forget, you could be crowned 'Walter Halls Bake Off Champion' in our adult-only baking competition too - all entries to the office NEXT WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY MORNING.

As it is the season to be jolly, Mrs Cox is working hard with our annual musical events for celebrating Christmas time - take a look at her poster in this week's newsletter and come along and join us at St Jude's church on Monday 18th December for some lovely Christmas music magic!

CHRISTMAS SHOWS - F2 & YEAR 1 are leading our Christmas shows, as always, this year. Every year group in school takes turns in performing an assembly based on their Religious Education learning - F2 & Y1 do Christmas! YEAR ONE will be performing 'Santa Selfie' to families on WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER AT 2.15PM and F2 will be performing 'Christmas Stickman' to families on THURSDAY 14TH!

Some of our other year groups will be invited to watch their dress rehearsals.

Today is our Friday Focus Day, all about FRENCH! I'll share some lovely photos with you next week, along with some information on what each year group was learning about

NEXT WEEK...

- WEDNESDAY: DAWN FROM MHST WILL BE DOING HER DROP-IN SESSION AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3.15PM FOR THIS WEEK ONLY, INSTEAD OF HER USUAL MORNING SLOT
 - GET YOUR 'BAKE-OFF' ENTRIES TO SCHOOL BY THURSDAY MORNING!
 - THURSDAY CHRISTMAS FAIR FUN 3.15-5PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL
- FRIDAY: CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY IS FOR Y4/5/6 AT 9AM Families of children who have been chosen for a certificate will be contacted separately but there is an open invite for anyone to come along

I hope you find the rest of the sections of this newsletter helpful...

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

CHRISTMAS FAIR - THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER



ON THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER FROM 3.15-5PM WE WILL BE HOSTING OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR!

Here's what is happening and how you can help make it AMAZING...After the success of our summer fair

we are hopeful to raise funds to support school trips and our opal project...

Stalls: Santa's grotto, Snowman snap, Pin the tail on Rudolf, Lucky dip, gardening table, Pick a candy cane, guess the name of the hedgehog, Face Painting & Glitter tattoos, a Raffle and tombola run by Pupil Leaders and supported by our school Governors, Hot chocolate and homemade cakes will also be available!

We will host a **Stage Area**; this will include a performances by our school choir and some of our wonderful musicians. Any budding musicians/bands, please get in touch as we still have availability on our stage.

Please could we ask for your support with the following:

F1/F2 - Fill a Jar - any jar you can find at home - fill with sweets/toys/crafts/surprise

Year 1 Fill a bag – decorate given bag – fill with sweets/toys/crafts/surprise

Year 2 Fill a bag- decorate given bag – fill with sweets/toys/crafts/surprise

Year 3 Water or something else tombola (See below)

Year 4 Water or something else – (This is a tombola where a bottle is wrapped in paper and we will not know the contents of the bottle until it is won. This could be any liquid item you have that can be wrapped and donated).

Year 5 – Tombola prizes – tin/toiletries/sweets/chocolate/toy/book/game

Year 6 Tombola prizes – tin/toiletries/sweets/chocolate/toy/book/game

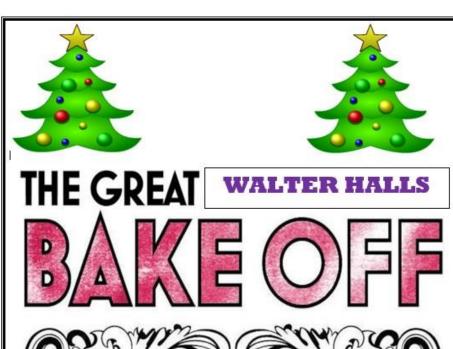
RAFFLE -Raffle tickets will be available online through parent mail 27.11.2023 and you can also buy them from reception – 50p a ticket. Great prizes already secured see display in school reception.

Adult Bake off competition:

For a bit of fun and knowing we have some wonderful bakers out there, we thought we would ask that any adult(s) could get involved and bake a cake(s), these can then be sold. The winner will be announced with our raffle winners at the end of Christmas fair, the judging will take place on Wednesday 6th

December by our Pupil Leaders.

FOWH – Friends of Walter Halls parent group - anyone who would like to get involved with the setup of Christmas fair, running a stall or has a donation please get in touch with kerrie.chandler@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk





Adult Baking Competition

Entries to be received by morning of 6th December.

Judging by inclusion Ambassadors.

Winner to be announced at the school fair

Thursday 7th December 2023 - 3.30-5pm

· Any remaining cake will be sold at the school fair.



OPAL PLAY UPDATE



WELLIES! Our biggest rule for effective and safe Opal Play is 'No Wellies, No Field' - we love mud and we love your children having muddy fun at lunch BUT we do not have enough cleaners in school to deal with 420 muddy feet trailing in and out of our buildings.

Over time we will invest in wellies, welly storage and some better systems to help everyone...for now we need YOUR HELP in giving your children a pair of wellies, in a large shopping bag, to bring to school and keep here. It is now part of our school uniform expectations.

Here is a link to lots of outlets who sell children's wellies for less than £10... https://www.google.com/search?q=cheap+wellies+for+children&rlz=1C1GCEB_enGB989GB1015&oq=cheap+wellies+for+children&aqs=chrome..69i57j0i22i30j0i390i512i650l2.5254j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTAR TOURNAMENT



Well done to all of our ROCKSTARS who must be practicing their times tables EVERY DAY like we ask everyone to do...we now have 48 children who have achieved this high ranking across school! Keep up the good work everyone...next term we want more than 48 in our tournament!

It was an exciting final with Heather from 6B crowned 'RockStar' winner, Emilia from 6B winning 'Rock Legend' and overall 'Rock Hero' was Daveen...officially the quickest in school...at the moment!





Key Dates coming up...



AUTUMN TERM DATES

Our Core Value learning is all about KINDNESS & EMPATHY

Autumn 2 term:

- **THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER** CHRISTMAS FAIR 3.15PM-5PM See the section of the newsletter for more info!
 - w/c 11TH DECEMBER FOUNDATION STAGE AND YEAR 1 LEAD OUR CHRISTMAS

 PERFORMANCES: YEAR ONE 'SANTA SELFIE' on Wednesday 13th at 2.15pm and F2 'CHRISTMAS

 STICKMAN' on Thursday 14th.
- 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

- MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER St Judes Church Carol Service
- 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/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.

IN THE FINAL WEEK OF LAST HALF TERM, WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS 95.4%

THE HIGHEST CLASS ATTENDANCE WAS FROM: CLASS 2A with 99.3% - second week in a row to be the winners for CLASS 2A!

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



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

A Parent's Guide to

Privacy Settings

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

A Parent's Guide to

Fake News

Skips Educational Email: info@skips.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Skips

A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers

www.skipssafetynet.org





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...





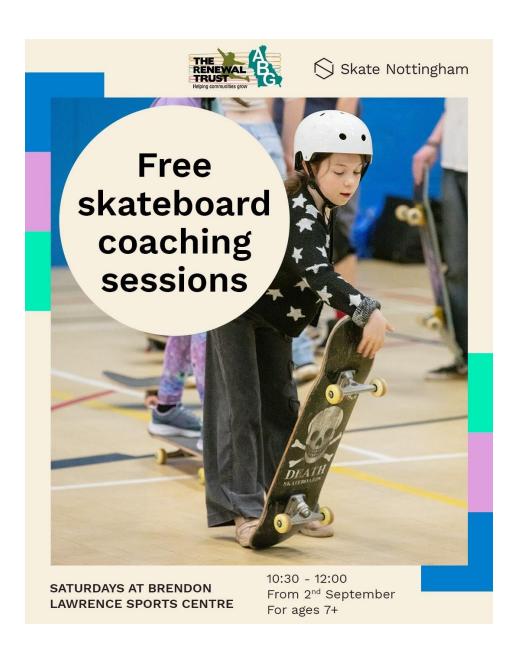






Booking essential: www.staa.eventbrite.com Contact Rachel on 07498 864498 to book. The Community Orchard is on St Ann's Allotments, off Ransom Road, look out for the yellow signs.







OUR CORE VALUE THIS TERM IS...



KINDNESS & EMPATHY. These are the main teaching points we will cover:

- Why is kindness so important?
- What would happen without it?
- How do we show kindness to people?
- Can we be kind to everyone all of the time?
- What is empathy and how is it linked to kindness?
- Making a difference in the world through kindness.
 - Role models.
 - The power of a smile.
- How to be thoughtful and ask thoughtful questions.
- How body language shows us how people are feeling.
 - Putting yourself in someone else's shoes.

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

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.

Sign up and support this cause

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=2857a911d6d1-4247-9db6-689c60a13f64

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=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCHgIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEgK5XvD_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)

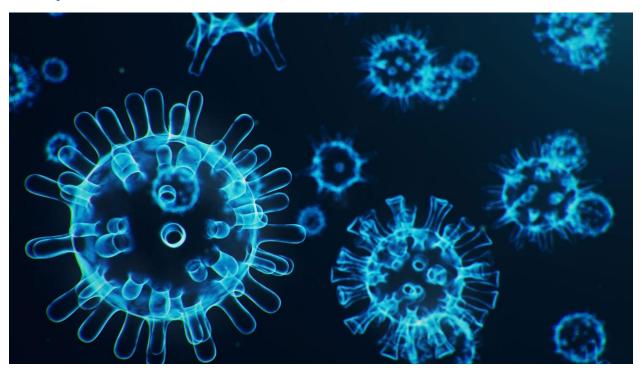
Kerrie Chandler - Play Therapist, Child Welfare Officer & Deputy DSL

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

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.