



Be your best.

NEWSLETTER - 22nd March 2024

Dear all,

Happy Friday! This will be our last newsletter of Spring term!

School closes for all children NEXT WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH, with staff coming in for a staff training day on Thursday.

School reopens for all children on Monday 15th April.

WELL DONE TO ALL OF YEAR 2 for an amazing RE performance this week! Due to a Governors meeting I wasn't able to attend but I heard amazing things about it all and how proud we need to be of our Year 2 children's confidence in performing to their audience! Great work!

ON MONDAY we will be hosting our end of term 'red carpet' special headteacher certificate assembly. This will be for Y1-Y6 in the hall at 9am and families of children receiving an award have been contacted already. Certificates for F1 & F2 will be handed out in their classrooms next week.

Staffing updates -

Miss Cottam, our lovely Year 1 teacher, gets married over Easter and will return to us as Mrs White! We wish her so much love for a special wedding day and look forward to seeing the photos!

Other staffing changes - I have asked our office team to send out separate letters to our families about a couple of staffing changes happening next term. These will be shared via Parent Mail and Class Dojo for those year groups that it impacts on. I have, however, included one of the updates in this newsletter, about a very special colleague who will be leaving our team at the end of next week...

Science Day photos - as promised, some great photos to enjoy from last week's Friday Focus Day..!

OPAL update - We still need as much help as possible with your donations for Opal play equipment! Keep a look out on Class Dojo for what you can help us collect over Easter! Plans are afoot for a new sand area to be built very soon...watch this space!

HUGE THANKS to everyone who has filled in the community survey and encouraged their children to do the same. Your feedback is so important to our continual improvement and I will be going through all of your comments over the Easter break.

I hope you have a lovely Easter time together - and let's hope for some sunnier weather when we return in April!

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk



Spring 2 Home learning

CURIOSITY!

GET READY FOR THE THIRD EDITION OF...

'Walter Halls Book of Curiosity: A collection of stories written by the children of Walter Halls'

Last year, lots of you became PUBLISHED AUTHORS! Who wants to take part this year? Let's make the third edition **EVEN BETTER** than the last two!

If you've got an adventure story inside you, just bursting to come out, you could see your story in print, inside a published book, available to buy and sitting on the shelves of our library!

All you need to do is write your own short story – type it, write it on paper, it's up to you! You might even want to illustrate it too? Here are the rules to follow that will help you:

- Your story can be about anything you like, as long as it's fun to read, adventurous and has some curiosity and excitement to it! Try writing it with a twist at the end or with a cliff-hanger that leaves people wondering!
- It should be a short story: between 2-6 A4 pages.
- It can be typed and printed out or it can be hand-written – but if you're writing it out, be sure to make it neat and use a pen if you can do.
- You can add illustrations if you want to, but you don't have to. Maybe a friend can help you?

HAND IN TO MRS BEARDAH BY TUESDAY 16TH APRIL 2024 or email it to headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

Goodbye Miss Walters!



I have asked the office team to share the following letter on Parent Mail and also on the Class Dojo of 4A today...

I wanted to let you all know that a much-loved and valued member of our team, Miss Walters, has decided to leave her teaching post at the end of this term. Miss Walters has been with Walter Halls since 2002 – more than twenty years! She has given so much to the role and helped hundreds of our children over the years. Miss Walters has also been a valued and respected member of our leadership team, ensuring the quality of our KS1 English and phonics provision is constantly improving. She has done so many brilliant things for our school and will be really missed!

Miss Walters doesn't have a permanent teaching post to go to elsewhere and is excited to be trying new and different roles within the education sector. We know that whatever she chooses to do, she will be utterly brilliant and we hope that she will keep in touch with the Walter Halls family. A huge personal thanks from me to Miss Walters for all that she has given to this school for so many years – you will leave very big boots to fill!

This change will mainly impact on Class 4A from after Easter but I wanted to make sure everyone was aware of this, as many of you will know Miss Walters and she may well have taught one of your children in the past. Miss Walter's last day with the children will be the end of next week – we will make sure we chat to them about that change before they break up for Easter.

Mrs Routledge remains in this class and will now be in there on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday every week. For the first half of summer term, Mr Munn – who is a well-known supply teacher familiar with our school, having worked in Year 3 and Year 4 this year – will be teaching Class 4A every Thursday and Friday. From May onwards, Miss Fisher returns from maternity leave and will take over from this supply teacher.

If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding this change please do get in touch. I know many of you will join us in wishing Miss Walters all the very best of luck for a happy future.

Miss Cottam becomes Mrs White this Easter! Have a great wedding day!



Friday Focus Fun: Science & Curiosity Day!



Here's just some of the great learning that happened last Friday across school...and some fabulous photos to enjoy too!

In Nursery we had a great Science Day. We set up a 'Science Lab' and all safely signed in. We used our curiosity to investigate, find out, experiment and explore. We had lots of fun and were busy being 'super scientists' all day.

F2 carried out a volcano experiment for Science Day! First we learnt all about volcanoes, next we carefully read the method and then we followed each step to make the volcano explode. We enjoyed observing the changes and asking questions about why and how it fizzes and bubbles.

In Year 1 we planned and conducted experiments to test out materials for The Three Little Pigs to build a suitable house to protect themselves from the Big Bad Wolf. As the Big Bad Wolf was busy, we used a powerful hairdryer to do the huffing and puffing instead. After testing the houses we evaluated them and discussed how they could be further improved and strengthened. Some of the houses were VERY successful and repelled the wolf successfully.

Year 4 had to experiment with different materials and make devices to retrieve items from a drain. They were all very enthusiastic and the collaboration was fantastic!

On science day 6B showed great collaboration to complete our challenge: design

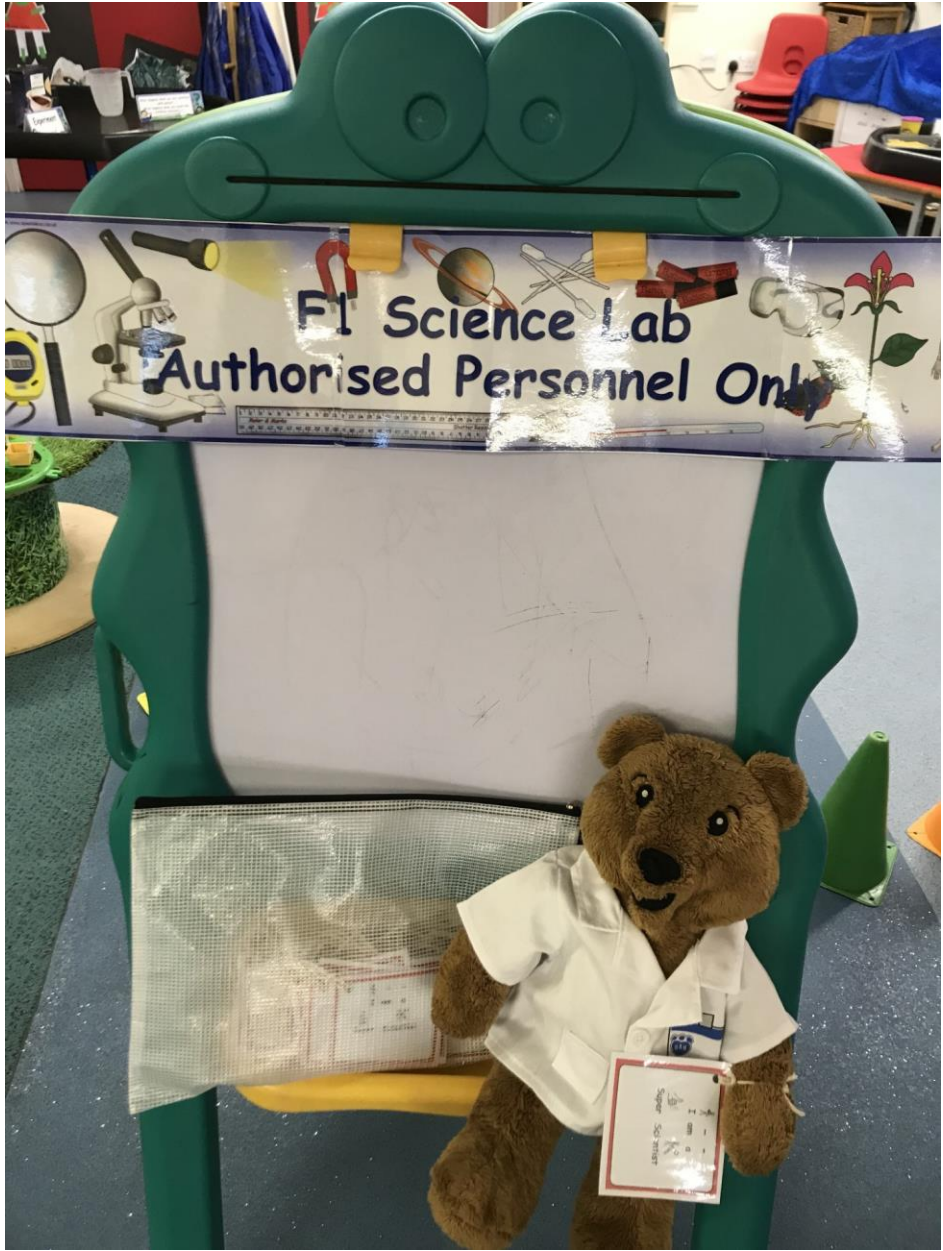
a landing craft to protect the egg passenger when dropped (from the new block top window). We learned about gravity, forces and Newton's Laws before working in groups to decide how we could protect the egg. We decided to create parachutes to reduce acceleration and cushioning for the egg to protect it. Remarkably, we had a 100% success rate with all eggs being successful protected - well done

6B! 😊







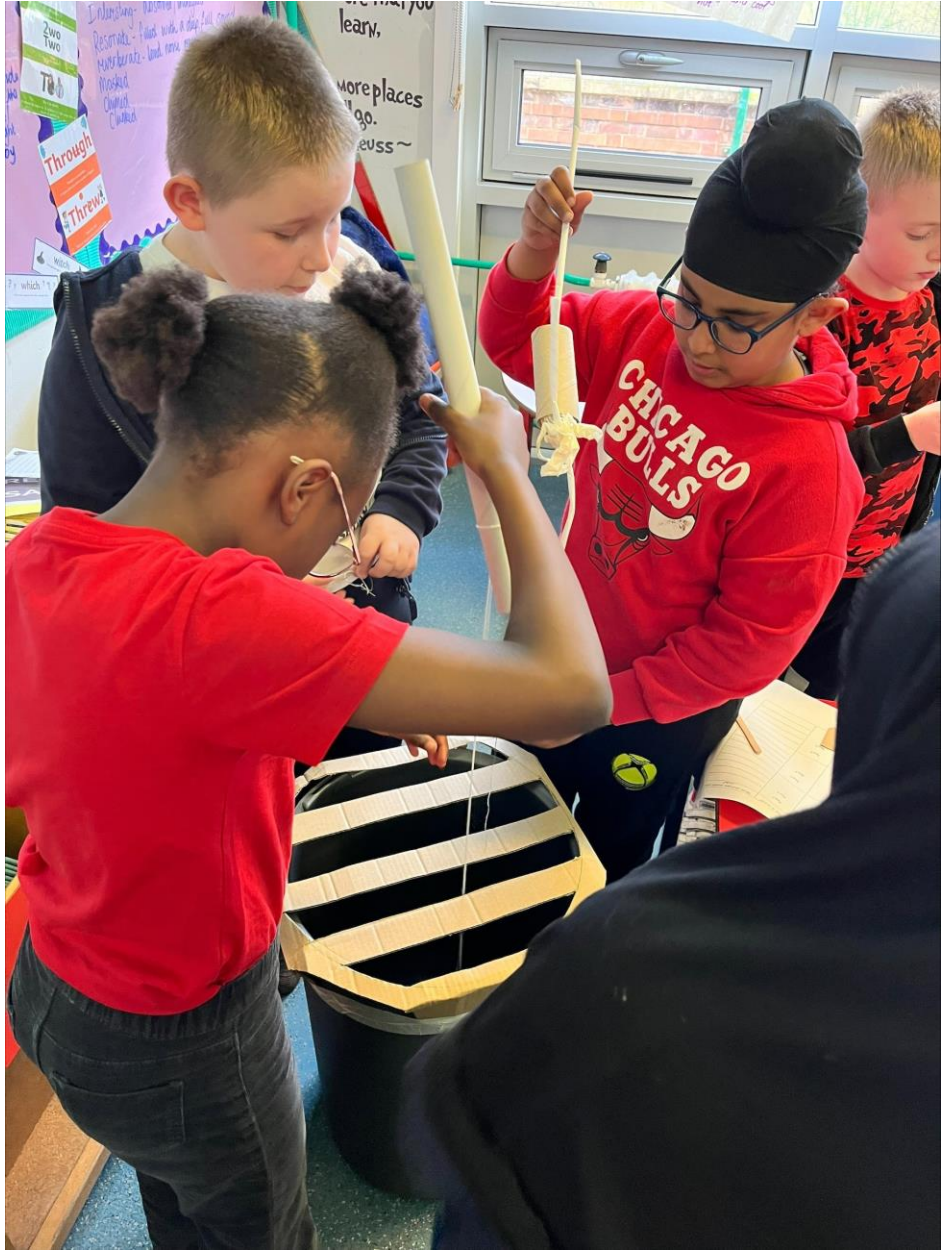






















Key Dates coming up...



SUMMER A term:

Our Core Value is COLLABORATION!

- **School re-opens after the Easter break on Monday April 15th**
 - **25th April - 2nd May** - Book Fair in school office area
- **Weds 24th April - Y3 RE performance** - Learning about and Celebrating Eid
 - **Monday 8th 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
 - **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
 - **Friday 14th June - FRIDAY FOCUS DAY** - Fit, Healthy, Happy
- **Monday 17th & Friday 21st June** - In-school workshops for Y6 transition to Y7 support
 - **Thursday 20th June - YEAR 4 RE PERFORMANCE** - Hinduism
- **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 Y1/4
 - **Thurs 27th & Fri 28th June - YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL - DRUMHILL CAMP**

- **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/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, WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS: 95.5%

The class with the highest attendance was: CLASS 4B with 98%!

LOADS OF CLASSES DID BRILLIANTLY THOUGH... 6A, 6B, 5B, 5A & 2A all got 97%+ and Moles, 1A, 3B & 4A all met the target of 96%+ - AN AMAZING WEEK FOR ATTENDANCE!

THIS YEAR'S TARGET IS 96% AND WE AIM TO REDUCE OUR PERSISTENTLY ABSENT FIGURES TO 10%

The Welly Bank is a new community-led network in Notts. It is free to join and all items are shared free of charge. But WE NEED YOUR HELP! We will only grow a bustling network if everyone helps to increase membership so please TELL A FRIEND and spread the word

Nottingham **WELLY BANK**

Because playing outside should not cost the earth....

Donate, swap or request wellies and outdoor clothes at www.facebook.com/groups/nottinghamwellybank

Free!

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.*
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As always, your help in talking to your children about all of these things at home is appreciated.

OPAL PLAY UPDATE



We still need as much help as possible with your donations for Opal play equipment!

Keep a look out on Class Dojo for what you can help us collect over Easter!

Plans are afoot for a new sand area to be built very soon...watch this space!

NOTTINGHAM
Puppet
FESTIVAL

FREE
TICKETS

THE SEARCH FOR



TEDDY ISLAND

A CITY ARTS PRODUCTION

Touring Nottingham Libraries...

A puppet show for children aged 6 months to 4 years.
Older siblings & friends welcome.



Wollaton Library

9 April 2024
11:00am - 11:30am

Bramcote Lane
Nottingham
NG8 2NA

Strelley Road Library

10 April 2024
11:00am - 11:30am

Strelley Road
Nottingham
NG8 3BJ

Bulwell Riverside Library

10 April 2024
2:00pm - 2:30pm

Main Street, Bulwell
Nottingham
NG6 8QJ

Hyson Green Library

11 April 2024
2:00pm - 2:30pm

The Mary Potter Centre
76 Gregory Boulevard
Nottingham NG7 5HY

Dales Centre Library

12 April 2024
11:00am - 11:30am

206 Sneinton Dale
Nottingham
NG2 4HJ

St Ann's Valley Library

12 April 2024
2:00pm - 2:30pm

St Ann's Valley Centre
2 Livingstone Road
Nottingham NG3 3GG

Nottingham Central Library

13 April 2024
11:30am - 12:00pm

1 Carrington Street
Nottingham, NG1 7FH

Nottingham Central Library

13 April 2024
1:30pm - 2:00pm

1 Carrington Street
Nottingham, NG1 7FH

Book online:
city-arts.org.uk/whats-on



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...

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**

f EPIC PARTNERS @EPIC_PARTNERS in EPIC PARTNERS

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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EPIC PARTNERS

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
tiktok
@SEND Project
facebook
@sendprojectnottingham
instagram





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 - 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>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>	<h2>Term time activities</h2>
	<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 - 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 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 - 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>

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 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=EAlaIQobChMIpcTfzqCH-gIVhIBQBh2SPwEHEAAYASAAEqK5XvD_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.
-