

NEWSLETTER - 10th November 2023

Dear parents and carers,

WELCOME BACK TO AUTUMN 2 TERM! And only 6 and a half weeks until we break up for Christmas. The last day before we break up for Christmas is Wednesday 20th December, with all children returning on Thursday 4th January 2024!

- Lots happening this term please take a close look over our 'Key Dates' section of the newsletter each week!
- **Opal play** we definitely need many more items donating before we can launch a successful new play system. Thank you to anyone who has already helped please promote this with family and friends and take another look at the Opal section of the newsletter for what we still need!
- **Behaviour policy** a reminder of what our updated behaviour escalation systems are is part of this week's newsletter. Please take a look so you are fully aware of our approaches and can support us with your children too.
 - Sports leaders have made us super-proud this week find out more in a section this week's newsletter too!

NEXT WEEK - PLEASE HELP US WITH...

- MONDAY: Anti-bullying week CHILDREN TO COME TO SCHOOL WEARING ODD SOCKS. We will be learning about anti-bullying, feeling like the 'odd one out' and launching our work on this year's national theme of 'Make a noise about bullying'
- PROGRESS MEETINGS MONDAY & WEDNESDAY A chance for parents & carers to come in and find out how well their children are getting on in school. These appointments were bookable via Parent Mail last half term - if you have been unable to get an appointment then please call the school office
 - WEDNESDAY: 8.30-9.15am MHST drop-in sessions for parents/carers to chat to Dawn.
- FRIDAY: Children in Need Day CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO COME DRESSED IN YELLOW OR WITH PUDSEY BEAR SPOTS, FOR A SMALL DONATION OF 50p / £1 FOR THIS IMPORTANT CHARITY
- Friday 9am is Y2/3 Celebration assembly in the hall parents of children who have been nominated for a certificate will be invited separately but anyone is welcome to join us!

DON'T FORGET - Bake Sale to raise funds for our Christmas Fair is coming up on Thursday 23rd November after school!

DON'T FORGET - Discos for KS1 & KS2 are coming up Tuesday 21st (Y1-Y3) and Tuesday 28th (Y4/5/6) -Contact the office for help with buying tickets!

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

Take care,

Emma Beardah

Headteacher

headteacher@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

WALTER HALLS IS LAUNCHING OPAL PLAY IN NOVEMBER!



WE ARE STILL COLLECTING EVERY DAY NEXT WEEK FOR PARTICUALR ITEMS THAT WILL HELP US LAUNCH OUR OPAL PLAYTIMES.

We desperately still need...

- Plastic guttering

- Tarpaulin

- Anything with wheels! - Prams, pushchairs, wheelbarrows, shopping trolleys

- Watering cans

- Larger action figures

- Sand

- Clipboards, Chalks & Pens

ALL DONATIONS BEING COLLECTED EVERY MORNING THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK FROM 8.30AM.

PLEASE SHARE OUR SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGES ABOUT THIS FAR AND WIDE!

Key Dates coming up...



AUTUMN TERM DATES

Our Core Value learning is all about KINDNESS & EMPATHY

Autumn 2 term:

- **MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER** WORLD KINDNESS DAY & ODD SOCKS DAY we will be celebrating this day, matched to our Autumn 2 Core Value of Kindness & Empathy. get your odd socks ready for Monday morning!
 - 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.

MONDAY is odd socks day too - highlighting the importance of feeling like 'the odd one out' and celebrating differences.

- FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER CHILDREN IN NEED DAY WEAR SOMETHING YELLOW / SPOTTY / PUDSEY BEAR THEMED AND BRING IN A SMALL DONATION FOR THIS CHARITY
- TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER YEAR 1 YEAR 3 DISCO! 3.30-4.30PM TICKETS AVAILABLE AND GO TOWARDS FOWH FUNDRAISING
 - THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER BAKE SALE TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR
- TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER YEAR 4 YEAR 6 DISCO! 3.30-4.30PM TICKETS AVAILABLE AND GO TOWARDS FOWH FUNDRAISING

• **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

- THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS FAIR 3.30P-5PM More details to follow!
- 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/termdates/

BEHAVIOUR POLICY AT WALTER HALLS



A reminder to all that our behaviour & relationships policy has been revised and updated from this year and it is important that all of our families are fully informed of how our escalation systems work for negative behaviours.

Families will be sent a letter at the end of each half term to inform them if their child has struggled repeatedly during that time period. Class teachers and phase leaders should also be calling families in between these times to discuss what support is being put into place and to ask you to work alongside us to make positive changes.

Repeated disruptive behaviour, incidents of racism, bullying, homophobia, verbal or physical harm are take very seriously and we have very clear structures in place for how an escalation of support and sanctions will be issued.

Please make sure you have looked over our approaches, explained in detail in our Behaviour & Relationships policy found on our website here: <u>https://www.walterhallsprimary.co.uk/web/policies/642759</u>

Super Sports Leaders!



Four of our Sports and Play Leaders received training on Tuesday morning at Harvey Hadden. They did themselves and school proud! They learnt lots of new games and ideas to support children to have fun outside, which they will be sharing with the children here at Walter Halls. They will be starting to support our younger children outside at lunch times from next week! Well done all of you!









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 93%

THE HIGHEST CLASS ATTENDANCE WAS FROM: CLASS 5B with 96.4%

ALSO DOING WELL WERE: CLASS 3A and 3B, BOTH WITH 96%

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





CHILDREN'S CLUBS IN OUR COMMUNITY...



RENEWA TRUST PARTNERS Empowering Positive GHT 🚱 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

EPIC PARTNERS @@EPIC_PARTNERS in EPIC PARTNERS CHARITY NUMBER: 1150823



St Ann's Community Orchard



Every Wednesday 3:30pm-5pm

Orienteering, exploring, bug hunting, cooking on the fire, arts, crafts, and more!

Children aged 8-12 only

THE



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.





SATURDAYS AT BRENDON LAWRENCE SPORTS CENTRE 10:30 - 12:00 From 2nd September For ages 7+



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!





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: <u>https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/walterhallsprimaryschool/?searchSessionId=2857a911-</u> <u>d6d1-4247-9db6-689c60a13f64</u>

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:

> <u>https://www.thelittletedfoundation.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIpcTfzqCH-</u> 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.

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

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE ON 0115 9150045 or COME AND CHAT TO US OUTSIDE IN THE MORNINGS OR AFTER SCHOOL

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 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.

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



• **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.