



Sandgate Primary School

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Headteacher: **Mr M Green**

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been chosen to be part of an exciting nationwide challenge to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. **“WOW” - the year-round walk to school challenge** - is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school. We are looking forward to starting this on Monday 26th April.

WOW is a pupil-led initiative where children self-report (in class) how they get to school every day. If they travel sustainably (walk, cycle or scoot) once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that easy!

At present children can not leave bikes or scooters at school so these will need to be taken home. This is due to be reviewed soon.

What are the benefits of walking to school? Walking to school helps children feel happier and healthier and they arrive refreshed, fit and ready to learn. More families walking means fewer cars on the road during the school run, helping to reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates.

What if you can't walk to school? If you live too far away or don't have time to walk the whole way to school, you can "Park and Stride" to help your child earn their WOW badge. Park or hop off public transport **at least ten minutes away** from the school and walk the rest of the way.

The WOW badges are made using excess yoghurt-pot material previously destined for landfill and are produced in the UK, minimising carbon footprint. The packaging used is 100% biodegradable.

By recording all modes of travel, the WOW Travel Tracker is a comprehensive method of gaining valuable insights into our school's travel habits and encourages the benefits mentioned already. The system will be used on classroom interactive whiteboards and iPads for pupils and teachers to input their journeys each day. This will be managed in class.

The WOW Travel Tracker uses icons instead of pupil's names. At the end of the month pupils who have walked (cycling, scooting and Park and Stride count too) to school at least once per week for a whole month can receive their WOW badge.

Thousands of schools and around one million pupils are enjoying the benefits of walking to school across the UK and we look forward to being part of this initiative

For more information visit livingstreets.org.uk/WOW.

Best wishes,

Mrs van der Wal
PE Co-Ordinator