

### A message from the Head of School to Parents...



**Living Streets' WOW** – the walk to school challenge is back to help encourage as many children as possible to experience the benefits of walking and wheeling to school.

As you know, WOW is a pupil-led initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot 'Park and Stride' or hop off) at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that easy!

#### What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive at school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates

#### What if we can't walk to school?

'Park and Stride' can help your child earn their WOW badges if a parent or carer needs to drive to school. Park **ten minutes** away from the school and walk or wheel the remaining journey. If using public transport, hop off at least ten minutes away and walk the rest of the way (recorded as 'other' on the WOW Travel Tracker).

Where walking to school isn't an option, we work with schools to establish a bespoke approach to WOW that works best for their pupils' needs. If you have any questions on the adaptability of WOW or have suggestions of how we can improve, we would love to hear your thoughts. Please email [walktoschool@livingstreets.org.uk](mailto:walktoschool@livingstreets.org.uk).

#### The WOW badges

There are 11 new WOW badges to earn, one for every month of the school year. Each badge has been designed by a pupil as part of our annual WOW Badge Design Competition.

WOW 2026/27 encourages pupils to Walk the Senses, with badges depicting everything from scooters to sunflowers. The badges are made in Cornwall from material that was otherwise destined for landfill, including fridge trays, plastic plates and yoghurt pot off-cuts. For more information, **visit: [livingstreets.org.uk/recycling](https://livingstreets.org.uk/recycling)**.

Last year, over 2,000 schools across the UK enjoyed the benefits of walking to school with WOW.

Will you join us? If you have any questions about the programme, please contact Ms Douglas—**starting next week!**

Let's swap those school runs for school walks.



**Parking cars on the pavement by the school is stopping families being able to walk to school safely. If there is no space in the carpark, please circle or park and stride. Thank you.**

**Take part in this survey to share your experiences of walking, wheeling, or cycling to primary school, and what could make it better.**

Our school has agreed to take part in a project about walking, wheeling and cycling to school.

The survey is run by the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen), Britain's largest social research organisation.

NatCen is running the survey for Active Travel England, who work to make walking, wheeling and cycling a safe and attractive choice for everyday trips.

The online survey should take around 10 minutes and should be completed by 14th October 2026. To take part, please use the following link: [survey.natcen.ac.uk/mrWeb/mrWeb.dll?l.Project=P2042601\\_MAI\\_V1&i.user1=130537](https://survey.natcen.ac.uk/mrWeb/mrWeb.dll?l.Project=P2042601_MAI_V1&i.user1=130537)

**Please note:**

- Taking part is your choice.
- There are no right or wrong answers.
- You can complete the survey once for each child in reception, year 1, year 5 or year 6.

Your child does not have to regularly walk, wheel or cycle to school for you to take part in the survey.

**What will I be asked?**

- How you / your child travels to school.
- What helps or makes it hard to walk, wheel or cycle to school.
- What you think about changes to help children travel actively to school.

**Please take part in this survey by 14th October 2026**

**Christmas Raffle 2026**

We are excited to be launching our bi-annual Christmas Raffle to help raise funds for new iPads for our classrooms.

We already have some fantastic prizes generously donated, including a **wine tasting experience at Simpsons Wine Estate** and a **2-ball golf voucher from Canterbury Golf Club**. Thank you to those who have already supported us!

To make this year's raffle even more successful, we would be very grateful for any additional prize donations from parents, families, or local businesses. Gift vouchers, hampers, experiences, bottles, chocolates, new toys, and other suitable prizes would all be very warmly welcomed.

If you are able to donate a prize, please bring it to the school office.



Thank you for your continued support.

**Key Dates**

**Sept**

17th—Year 2—Visit to Betteshanger

W.B – 21<sup>st</sup> – Democracy week and pupil voice

21st—Y6 Bikeability

22nd—Year 1 visit to the Beaney

25<sup>th</sup> – European Day of Languages

**October**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Harvest Festival

16<sup>th</sup> – Show racism the red card – wear red

20<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Assembly 10.15—10.30