

#### Dear Parents/Carers.

We have some exciting news for you! Your school is taking part in the 15<sup>th</sup> year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 11-22 March 2024. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved. In Plymouth there are 6 BMX stunt shows to win!

# What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event dates. Each day, school staff will log how the children travel to school, the best 5 days are then used to work out a percentage of active journeys, which is then used to work out which school wins the prizes.

## Including everyone

We want to make sure that everyone can get involved in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel.

We know it may be more difficult for some pupils to take part than others. If you want to discuss more about your child(ren)'s specific needs, please contact us and we will make sure to look into how your child(ren) can take part.

### Why we are taking part

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. A 2021 YouGov study showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school- and that children thought active travel was the best away to bring down these pollution levels. Over 62% of children think adults aren't doing enough to tackle climate change.

Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

#### **Useful resources**

To help you prepare, Sustrans has developed a handy free guide to walking, cycling or scooting to school. It is packed with advice to help you have hassle-free journey to school.

Download your free family guide using this link: <a href="https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-quide/">https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-quide/</a>

For more information about the event go to <a href="www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk">www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk</a> . Enjoy the challenge!

Best wishes

Yaz- Bike-it Officer for Sustrans in Plymouth

