

# BOURNE ABBEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to announce the return of our walk to school project which we will be running this year with national walking charity, Living Streets. The project will begin in December. This is one of our Eco School topics, Transport. Everyone at our school will have the chance each month to be involved including pupils, parents/carers and staff.

**What is the Month-Long Walking Challenge?** This month-long challenge is a scheme run by Living Streets, the charity behind the national Walk to School campaign, which encourages families to walk to school at least once a week. At the end of the month, children who walked at least once every week (this will increase to twice a week in February) will receive a special badge. Don't forget, scooting and cycling count too! This year the badges have a history theme.

**What if we can't walk to school?** Even if you live too far away or don't have time to walk the whole way to school, all children can participate in the challenge by walking at least 10 minutes to school.

**Why are we encouraging walking to school?** Just over half of UK children walk to school, while the number of children being driven to school has doubled in the last 20 years. Our school is taking part because of the many benefits we believe it will bring to our children and the community. Children who do some form of exercise, especially a walk before school arrive fit, refreshed and ready to learn; do better in class and are happier, healthier and more independent. More children walking to school means reduced congestion and improved safety at the school gate and better local air quality and reduced CO2 emissions.

We would like to thank you again for your continued support with our Eco School projects. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Best wishes and happy walking,

Yours sincerely

Miss L Jones  
(Eco Schools Co-ordinator)