

School Travel Footprints

School Travel Plan Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016-17

A regular newsletter containing news and information

This term we are delighted to be celebrating the success of our summer 2016 STARS (Sustainable Travel Accreditation and Recognition for Schools) in Buckinghamshire, by presenting schools with their Modeshift national awards at the annual School Travel Conference, on 18th November.

This year there were,

- 8 schools that achieved accreditation for the first time
- 14 that have achieved a higher level of accreditation
- 49 that maintained their level of accreditation

In addition to this, 4 schools have won STARS Regional Awards, including Wendover Junior School who achieved School of the Region and will be entered for the STARS national school awards. In the new year they will be invited to attend an event, hosted by the Secretary of Transport, where the National STARS School of the Year will be announced. Fingers crossed to them!

There are currently 58 LAs using STARS and 677 schools in England have achieved accreditation, 71 of these are in Bucks, which is 10.5% of the total. Which shows just how well we are doing. I hope more schools will work towards achieving accreditation next summer. If you need any support please come along to one of the STARS surgeries where I can give you 1:1 advice on promoting active, safe and sustainable travel at your school.

Nicky Batkin, Transport Strategy Officer

What is inside this issue?

- Be bright, Be seen
- Winter Driving workshops
- Commute Smart
- Community Cards in Chiltern and South Bucks
- Big Pedal case study

Dates for your diary



Road Safety Week

- 21st to 27th November

Footsteps Tutor Training

- 22nd February, Cheddington
- 28th February, Cedar Park, Hazlemere

Chairman's reception for volunteers

- 8th February, Aylesbury
- 23rd February, Beaconsfield

STARS Surgeries

- 7th March, High Wycombe
- 9th March, Aylesbury

Walk to School Week

- 15th to 19th May

Contact us



schooltravelplanning@buckscc.gov.uk



0845 230 2882



Road Safety Week 2016

With only 1 week to go until the launch of Road Safety Week 2016, Brake are encouraging schools to sign up for a free online action pack on their [revamped website](#). This year's theme is the [Brake Pledge](#); encouraging people to make six simple steps to protect themselves and the people around them. There are many ways you can get involved with Road Safety Week, from running a Beep Beep! Day for 2-7 year olds and delivering the assembly presentation to primary school pupils, to getting staff, parents and your community to make the #brakepledge.

Free Road Safety Week action pack

[Sign up](#) for Road Safety Week now to get access to your free online action pack. This includes teaching guides and lesson plans, along with posters and other fun activities for you to run throughout the week, all highlighting the importance of road safety. Brake have recorded a short [webcast](#) to help you too!

Make the  Brake
pledge for

Road Safety 
Week 2016

#brakepledge
#roadsafetyweek

BE SAFE..... BE SEEN.....BE AWARE. SAFETY ADVICE FOR DARKER EVENINGS AND IN THE MIST AND FOG.....

Young people are at risk during the darker evenings now the winter is coming. Here's some things they can do to keep themselves safe:-

Travelling

- Walking to and from school or college -wear something bright and/or reflective so motorists can see you.
- Where possible walk in the direction of oncoming traffic and cross roads in a well lit area.
- If riding a bike it is a legal requirement to fit clear bright lights, red to the rear and white to the front and remember to use them AND KEEP THE BATTERIES CHARGED.
- Wear high visibility clothing, a reflective vest or bands and a cycle helmet.
- You must also have a red rear reflector and BS6102/2 amber reflectors on the front and rear of each pedal.
- Fit spoke reflectors so you can be seen from the side too.

Personal Safety

- Have a key torch so you can see to access your home door lock.
- Be careful using your mobile phone, you won't hear traffic coming if you are listening to music.
- Thieves watch out for people using mobile phones, they are easy to see in the dark....
- Consider your safety when travelling at night, avoid dark short cuts and always let someone know where you are going.

Think about the advice above and suggest other useful tips to your friends and family. It could save a life. You can also contact Chiltern District Council and South Bucks District Council's Joint Community Safety team on 01494 586535 and the local police for further safety advice. You can visit:- www.thamesvalley.police.uk/crprev, www.chiltern.gov.uk/crimereduction or www.southbucks.gov.uk/crimereduction.



Working together for a safer
Chiltern and South Bucks

Free 'Winter Driving Workshops'

Drivers are invited to Free 'Winter Driving Workshops' to help them prepare for winter driving. Staff and students who drive can come along.

Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) is busy preparing for the winter weather and one of the services offered is the opportunity to attend a 'FREE Winter Driving Workshop' to gain the knowledge and skills to help drive safely during the winter months.

Of all the seasons, winter requires the most care and preparation if you're to stay safe on the road and avoid a breakdown and attending a free winter driving workshop may help you be ready for the challenge.

TfB is working in partnership with STS Tyre Pros and Kwik Fit Garages to host and deliver the workshops which include;

- A presentation by a former Class 1 police response driver on how to drive in winter weather
- A session with garage technicians who demonstrate how to conduct basic vehicle checks
- Feedback from previous winter driving workshops has been very positive, with attendees commenting on how worthwhile the workshops are.

The 2016 workshops all start at 07.00pm and finish approximately 08.30pm

Dates and venues listed below.

- Chesham - 29th November 2016
- High Wycombe - 6th December
- Aylesbury - 7th December

If you would like to attend a workshop then please contact TfB for a booking form:

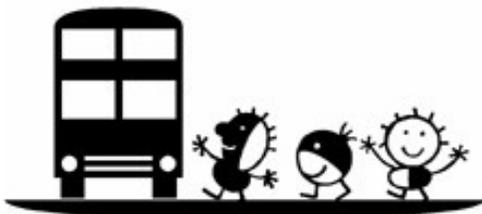
E mail: roadsafety@buckscc.gov.uk or Call: 01296 382416



Bucks Commute Smart

Whether it is walking, cycling, using public transport or sharing a car journey we are encouraging you to be a smarter commuter this autumn and winter. By making a sustainable travel choice on your journey to school or college you could save money, get fit, help the environment and have fun, So if this is possible, why not give it a try?

For extra incentive we'll be offering £100 Love2Shop vouchers for our favourite sustainable travel themed selfie. During the weeks of the 21 and 28 November, simply tweet us a picture of you with your sustainable travel choice to @buckscc with the #BucksCommuteSmart



Your photo can be with your bicycle/car share partner before or after your journey - please make sure you are safe - don't take it whilst you're cycling or driving!



COMMUNITY CARDS 2016

Community Cards is a sticker-collecting scheme encouraging children in year 6 across Chiltern & South Bucks schools to get involved with activities in their community, care for their community, be safe and engage with local community organisations. Stickers cover a range of topics including, cyber safety, dementia awareness and healthy lifestyle amongst others.

This year 33 Schools took part in the scheme; including 2 Independent Schools.

The aim of the scheme is for children in class groups to collect the most stickers per child and win a number of class and individual prizes. The main prize was a day out at LEGOLAND Windsor initially for two winning classes. However due to one of the winning classes having a small number of pupils, LEGOLAND Windsor kindly agreed to donate an extra ten tickets so we were able to send the top three classes.

Our websites provided lesson plans and guidance to support teachers throughout the scheme. The Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams arranged to visit their local schools to discuss anti-social behaviour. Other agencies who arranged school talks were Wycombe Women's Aid, M for Money Credit Union, Young Addaction and R-U-Safe?

A number of class and individual prizes were up for grabs. Chenies School, St Peter's C of E Primary School and Brushwood Junior School class 6s enjoyed a fantastic day out at LEGOLAND Windsor. Ivingswood School won a session at The CLIMB and Holtspur School received family passes for Chiltern Pools. 14 individual prizes were awarded for the best media article, money management poster and those children who made special efforts.

Here are a few comments from pupils that took part in the Community Cards.

From the Community Cards Scheme I have learnt...

- "for every sticker, I have learnt something new whether it's about a different faith or the job of a PCSO. As well as being beneficial to us, the value for the elderly in the care home we visited was immense."
- "I really enjoyed doing the community cards because it really brought the year group together."
- "the importance of our community, the dangers inside our local area and the general knowledge that is necessary in our lives. If you help the community, it will benefit you in the process."
- "learning about aspects such as money management helped us to mature"



Road Safety

If you would like any further information please contact the Community Safety Team:
 Email: communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk or communitysafety@southbucks.gov.uk
 Telephone: 01494 586535
 Follow us: @csafetycdcsbdc

Make the most of your journey

The following tips can help you to make the most of your journey to work, school or college during the winter months.

Active Travel

Cycling or walking, all or part of your journey to school is an easy way to introduce some exercise into your day, helping you to reduce stress and get fit.

Walking: A hassle and cost-free way to travel. As the nights draw in make sure you are visible to traffic and don't forget to carry a brolly. Otherwise all you need is comfortable footwear. For inspiration for your trips to school <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/what-we-do/walk-to-school>

Cycling: As the days become shorter it's likely that some or all of your commute by bike will be in the dark or low light conditions. Therefore it's a good idea to take a look at the lighting options available for commuters, to make sure that you stay safe and visible on rush hour roads.

As well as lighting, there are also other things you can do to heighten your visibility by day or night. Wear something bright or hi-viz or attach something hi viz to your bike. If you don't want to go down the hi-viz bib route, you can buy hi-viz rucksacks that will draw attention to you out on the road. Look for clothing or bags with Scotchlite reflective material, which will be picked out hundreds of metres away by oncoming headlights. Many riders attach Scotchlite tape to their bikes too, to increase visibility.

Public Transport

Catching the bus or train leaves your hands and head free, whilst someone else takes care of the driving you can use your phone, read, listen to music or simply relax and stare out of the window, all while helping the environment.

For bus timetables or to plan a journey visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/travelinfo

nextBus: No need to hang around waiting for a bus in the cold, track your bus live on your mobile before leaving the house with www.nextbuses.mobi or download the Traveline S&E app*.

Updates: For disruption updates during periods of bad weather this winter please follow us on Twitter @bucksbuses.

*Please note tracked journeys are shown in minutes e.g. 10mins, if a journey isn't being tracked it shows the scheduled time e.g. 1008



Have you organized your Santa Stroll or Winter Walk?

How about a School Travel Plan Christmas tree in your school entrance?

Big Pedal 2016 at Claytons Primary School

Claytons Primary School in Bourne End quadrupled the number of pupils scooting and cycling to school during the Big Pedal 2016 campaign. It felt like the campaign gave people permission to cycle and scoot to school. On 5 days over half of our pupils scooted and cycled and we were very proud to be the number one primary school in Buckinghamshire participating in the 5-day challenge. The response was amazing and the organiser said, 'We're going to have to get a bigger boat!' as she watched the stream of children cycling and scooting into school on the first day.



With over 2000 journeys to school during the Big Pedal we visibly reduced the traffic congestion around the school gate and for the first time the parent car park had spaces. Our Facilities Manager noted that, "The number of cars has halved at least and the car park has spaces for the first time ever. The school run is almost tranquil."

Children and parents were very enthusiastic from the start and the enthusiasm continued throughout the 2 weeks as we reported our success from the statistics on the Big Pedal website. One parent said that 'it's great to see so many children on their bikes and scooters.' Parents got on their bikes for the school run too and our Family Bike Ride was well attended with people happily remembering the freedom that cycling brings. Local residents noticed with pleasure that more Claytons' children were walking, biking and scooting.

Following Big Pedal advice we got support from our local community for Bike Breakfasts and a Golden Lock competition. We were delighted when our Community Policing Team supported us in leading our scooter and bike Big Pedal peloton through Bourne End on Superheroes Day. They were happy to stop the traffic on this busy road because they believe that our children should be able to have safe, sustainable journeys to school. 'Let's make a statement.', was the Sergeant's response to the organiser's concern about slowing down traffic. We are continuing to have a police-led peloton at least once a term.

Involving our local community

Local supermarkets donated raisins and smoothies for Bike Breakfasts - contact the Community Champion in every store (be persistent!). The Big Pedal is easy for them to support as it involves children + healthy eating + sustainability + well-being. Our Community Police Team were very happy to escort our Big Pedal peloton - a good opportunity for them to support a high profile, local campaign. A local printer produced a high quality mask for every pupil so everyone was involved and could be a Super Hero. (Ask around for local contacts and use them!)



The Community Policing team and Super Heroes

It was extremely easy to join in The Big Pedal as everything was online and simple to do - from

registration and set-up to reporting our numbers each day. Sustrans provides extremely comprehensive advice and resources and comes up with great ideas from Bike Breakfasts to inviting your local MP, with the letter to send them! We got our pupils excited about the Big Pedal in a special assembly where we showed them the presentation and handed out stickers. Everyone got involved in the Superheroes Day at the end of the Big Pedal because we got a mask printed for everyone.

3 top tips to make the Big Pedal exciting

- Hand out Big Pedal stickers to pupils in a special assembly the week before.
- Keep everyone up to date with daily statistics off the Big Pedal website.
- Do different things - Golden Lock competition, Bike Breakfast, Big Pedal peloton, Family Bike Ride - and let everyone know!



Golden Lock winner (random bike/scooter gets a small prize beautifully presented!)

The online daily update where we could see exactly how we were doing from day to day and versus other schools was great. Our headmaster used the website to keep everyone updated in assembly and thought it was great resource for Maths and Geography.

It was a great campaign and we enjoyed joining in. We'll be doing it again in 2017 and aim to build on our results. We are going to get more pupil participation in the reporting and organisation - writing letters to get local support, putting the stats on the website, handing out Bike Breakfasts etc.

We recommend that you join in to and look forward to competing against more Bucks schools - for everyone's benefit!

What helped make our Big Pedal so successful

- The weather! It only rained on one afternoon affecting the journey back from school.
- Early success - opportunity to participate in something good.
- Real enthusiasm for the campaign from pupils and parents.
- Daily online report so we could see how we were doing - and could tell everyone about it!

Big Pedal 2017

Monday 20 March to Friday 31 March 2017

More information <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-services/who-we-work/teachers/big-pedal>

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