

HAMPDEN GURNEY PTA – WALKATHON IN HYDE PARK

Dear Parents and Carers,

After many months of lockdown, it is heartening to see the children enjoying fresh air and freedom in the park.

To encourage outside adventures, we are happy to announce that the whole school is having a Walkathon during the last week of May.

Nursery – Wednesday, 26 May, in the afternoon, walk near the school

Reception, Year 1 and 2 – Thursday, 27 May, in the afternoon, 2 miles in Hyde Park

Year 3 and 4 – Friday, 28 May, in the afternoon, 3 miles in Hyde Park

Year 5 – Wednesday, 26 May, in the afternoon, 4 miles in Hyde Park

Year 6 – Friday, 28 May, in the afternoon, 4 miles in Hyde Park

Why are we having a Walkathon? We are raising money for projects to enhance and enrich our children's education and help our children recover from Covid-19 disruption. Every class will benefit from the funds raised, even our Y6 leavers! The Walkathon will support the school in priority with the following projects:

- Reading corners in classes and library: we have a beautiful library and need a librarian for a few hours each week to make it work as an outstanding resource and also help with sorting out the books for the reading corners in each class. The funds will also be allocated to new books. We absolutely want to promote reading (the best alternative to screen time...);
- Reading, writing and comprehension intervention programmes to help children who need it to reach expected standards in KS1 and KS2;
- Wellbeing Award: working towards improving mental health and wellbeing for both children and staff and encouraging them to flourish;
- New equipment and teaching material for younger children (in Early Years and KS1);
- Class outings, including contributions to Sayers Croft (Y4 and Y5) and PGL residential trips (Y6).

Please help us to reach our target of £8,000 (we raised £10,500 in October 2019). We know this is a significant amount, especially for those who have suffered from Covid-19 restrictions, but spread across the whole school it's something we hope will be achievable (£1000 a class and about £33 a child). We also hope that some families might give more to compensate for those who have been hit badly by the pandemic.

What's in it for the kids? Apart from having a really fun (and healthy) afternoon out of school with parents/carers and their school pals, there's the chance to win a whole class Pizza Party after half term for the class that raises the most money overall ... surely a prize well worth hassling your friends, neighbours, family and work colleagues to sponsor you for!

What's in it for families? Apart from investing in education after a difficult year for all children, the walk will be a great opportunity to either meet other parents or catch up with old friends as well as meeting with teachers in an informal, friendly setting.

What to do now:

- Fill in and return your child's permission slip, letting us know if you can join us;
- Help your child to raise as much money as possible. We have created one fundraising page per class:

virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonNursery
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonReception
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonY1
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonY2
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonY3
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonY4
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonY5
virginmoneygiving.com/fund/WalkathonY6

If your company has a match funding scheme, please get back to us so that we can send you a match funding request letter template.

What to do on the day of your child's walk:

- Children are to come to school wearing full PE kit with trainers
- Please consider a waterproof jacket and/or sunscreen depending on the weather!
- Ensure children come to school with a water bottle

Please complete & return this slip to your child's class teacher by Monday 24th May:

I give permission for my child..... (name of child) from year.....
(insert year group) to attend a sponsored walk on the dates above.

If you are able to accompany the class please tick this box.

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____