



# Newsletter

July  
2026

Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of another academic year, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. It has been a busy and successful end to the summer term, filled with fun learning, making the most of our outdoor spaces (when it wasn't too hot!), and somehow surviving the recent heatwaves! In addition to their exciting curriculum learning, the children have enjoyed a range of enrichment opportunities, including National Sports Week, French Day and several class trips, creating many special memories along the way.

A huge congratulations to our Year 6 pupils on their fantastic Key Stage 2 SATs results. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved and wish them every success as they begin the next chapter of their education. Thank you also to our dedicated staff for their hard work, commitment and care throughout the year.

Before you start buying school uniform for September, please take a moment to download and read our [UNIFORM POLICY](#) and [UNIFORM LIST](#) on the school website. This will help ensure you don't purchase items that are not part of our school uniform, particularly shoes, trainers and school bags.

We wish all our families a wonderful, safe and restful summer break and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Thursday 3rd September**.

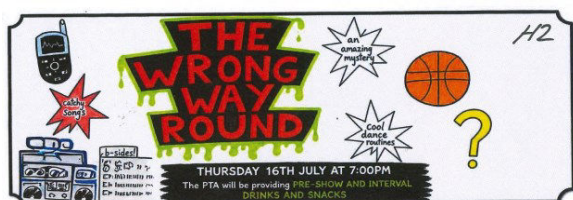
Mrs C. Peear - Headteacher



## Year 6 show - The Wrong Way Round

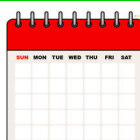
Congratulations to all of our Year 6 pupils on their fantastic performance of The Wrong Way Round. Their confidence, enthusiasm and dedication shone through from start to finish, and they entertained everyone with a truly memorable show.

Well done, Year 6—you were amazing!



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please click [here](#) to view.



## CATERING NEWS

Autumn Week 1

Please click [here](#) to view.





# Catholic Life of the School



## Leavers' Mass

On Wednesday 8th July, Father Jerold celebrated our Year 6 Leavers' Mass with our Year 6 pupils, their families and Key Stage 2. It was a beautiful celebration of thanksgiving as we reflected on the children's time at St Francis and prayed for them as they prepare for the next stage of their journey.

During the Mass, we reflected on Jesus' words in Matthew 22, where He reminds us that the greatest commandments are to love God and to love our neighbour. As our Year 6 pupils move on to secondary school, we pray that they will carry this message with them each day, showing kindness, compassion and respect to everyone they meet, and allowing God's love to guide their words and actions.

It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and family members to the Mass. We received many lovely comments, including:

*"A beautiful Leavers' Mass - emotional, uplifting and encouraging for the children as they move on to new adventures."*

*"The children read wonderfully and sang beautifully. Thank you for inviting the parents."*

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils and pray that God will bless and guide them in all that lies ahead.



## Whole School Worship



Over the last few weeks, our **R.E. Leadership Team** have been busy supporting staff in leading whole-school assemblies to mark several important celebrations in the Church's liturgical calendar. These have included **The Ascension of the Lord, Pentecost, Corpus Christi**, and the **Feast of Saints Peter and Paul**. Through Scripture, prayer and reflection, these assemblies have helped deepen the children's understanding of these significant events and encouraged them to live out their faith in their daily lives.

**Wednesday Word** [click here for links to 'The Wednesday Word Gospel'](#)



Please continue to pray for all those in our school community in need of our prayers.

Click [HERE](#) for the Ten:Ten 'Prayers for Home' newsletter





# Catholic Life of the School

## Citizenship Award Ceremony

Congratulations to Orla and Ethan, who travelled to Brentwood Cathedral on Friday 10th July to receive their Citizenship Awards from Bishop Alan Williams. This prestigious diocesan award recognises pupils who go above and beyond in living out our Catholic values and we are incredibly proud of their achievements and the inspiring example they set for our whole school community.

Orla was nominated for her outstanding citizenship and unwavering dedication to her family. As the eldest of four children, Orla takes on responsibilities far beyond her years, providing practical and emotional support to a younger sibling with significant medical needs and disabilities. At school, she quietly continues this caring role, always looking out for her sibling with kindness and maturity. Never seeking praise or recognition, Orla lives out the values of service, humility and compassion every day, making her a truly deserving recipient of this award.

We were also delighted to recognise Ethan for his outstanding citizenship and determination to make a positive difference to our brothers and sisters around the world. Inspired by a CAFOD assembly, Ethan set himself the challenge of raising £750 to provide a community water supply. Through sponsored walks, a Christmas cake sale and even donating some of his own pocket money, he raised more than £800 in just four months. Ethan's initiative, generosity and determination show how one young person can make a lasting difference, making him a worthy recipient of this award.



## First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all the children from our parish and neighbouring parishes who have recently made their First Holy Communion. After many months of prayer and preparation, they were able to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist for the first time. This is a truly special milestone in their faith journey, and we extend our prayers and best wishes to them and their families as they continue to grow in God's love.

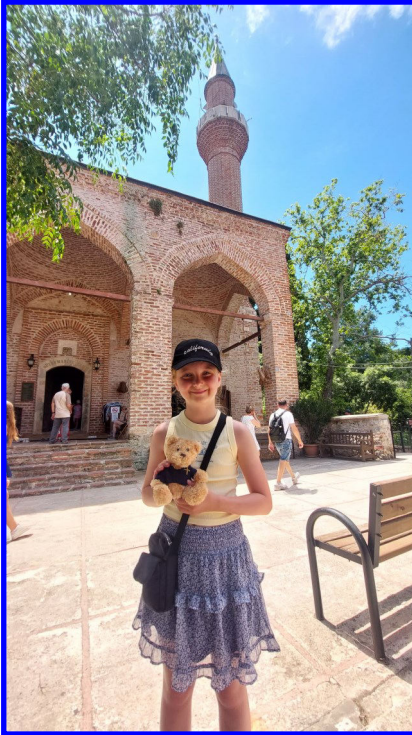
[FHC APPLICATION](#) for 2027





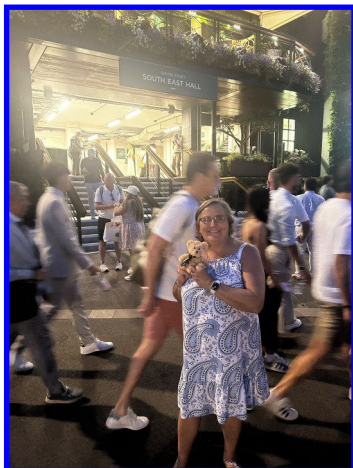
# Catholic Life of the School

Which holy destinations have our **St. Francis Bears** journeyed to?



*Catedral-Basílica de Santa  
María de Mallorca,  
Mosque in Antalya Turkey,  
Centre Court at Wimbledon,*

**Where will he go to next?**





## THANK YOU!



Our **CAFOD** Big Lent Walk was a fantastic success!

Together, our school raised an amazing...

# £591!

Because of your incredible generosity,  
our fundraising has contributed towards:



A Vegetable Garden



A Happy Queen Bee



Trees for Life



The Goat That Gives



Chirpy Chickens



A Watering Can



A Marvellous Moo Cow



Water for a Family



A Safe Place to Call Home



Winter Warmth



Teaching Someone to Read

Every step we walked. Every penny we raised.  
Every gift makes a difference.

A huge thank you to all our pupils, families, staff and friends who took part in the CAFOD Big Lent Walk. Your kindness and generosity are helping communities around the world to build brighter futures.

**CAFOD**  
Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

Together, we are walking in **faith, hope and love.**

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,  
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."  
Matthew 25:35

FAITH

HOPE

LOVE





# Congratulations!



## House Cup

Congratulations to  
**St. Anthony House!**



St. Teresa - 178  
St. Anthony - 201  
St. Mary - 192  
St. Francis - 170

## Reader of the Week

is awarded to

Arthur Radomille Almeida  
in Reception



## Pen Licences

Congratulations to:



Sienna Traynor



who has gained her Pen Licence this term

## ATTENDANCE

| Class        | % Attendance |
|--------------|--------------|
| Year R       | 94.64        |
| Year 1       | 92.71        |
| Year 6       | 92.05        |
| Year 3       | 90.83        |
| Year 2       | 90.00        |
| Year 4       | 82.76        |
| Year 5       | 81.25        |
| Whole School | 88.85        |

## WELL DONE



**Year 6**

who have had the best attendance for the  
2025/26 school year!



## Hot Chocolate Friday

It was my pleasure to share a  
hot chocolate recently with the  
following pupils:



Elijah Mountford  
Margot Arter  
Allen Yu  
Archie McGuinness  
Millsy Russell  
Teddy Rayner  
Theo Parsley

They were nominated by their teachers  
for consistently going 'above and beyond'  
what is expected in school. Well done!

Click [HERE](#) for photo.



100%



# ATTENDANCE AWARD

A huge congratulations to the following pupils who have had  
100% attendance this term:

|                      |                     |                           |                        |                          |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Elsie Mead           | Pippa Carus         | Blake Fisher              | Jesse Holding          | Florence King            |
| Evie Marquis         | Teddy Rayner        | Luke Tovey                | Penny Cass             | Sri Saivee Paveenthar    |
| Rachel Olanisebe     | Freya Darnell       | Mason Aguilar<br>Warriner | Jacob Crooks           | Bonnie Hogan             |
| Albert Ludwig        | <b>Zachary May</b>  | Archie McGuinness         | Lucas Parnham          | Ruben Rayner             |
| Albie Shearing       | Arlia Stanwyck      | <b>Molly Tisi</b>         | Saoirse Williamson     | <b>Finley Belham</b>     |
| Cassidy Spencer      | Alice Fullalove     | <b>Arthur May</b>         | Mollie Moorcroft       | <b>Gabriel Olanisebe</b> |
| <b>Isabella Page</b> | Grace Tychus        | Ivy Marshall              | <b>Eliza Kingsford</b> | Frankie Goodey           |
| Sophia Parnham       | <b>Devon Nutt</b>   | Millsy Russell            | <b>Emma Tisi</b>       | Joseph Crooks            |
| Evelyn Farmiloe      | Euan Guthrie        | Fraser Kirkaldy           | <b>Oscar May</b>       | Elsie Mead               |
| Raphael Olanisebe    | <b>Chloe Pardoe</b> | Seth Pettitt              | Teddy Taylor           | Amelie Traynor           |
| Sienna Traynor       | Lottie Russell      | <b>Erone Topacio</b>      |                        |                          |



These children have 100%  
attendance this academic year.



*Well done!*





# 2026 Leavers



Goodbye & Good Luck



|                  |                |                       |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Betty Fenlon     | Devon Nutt     | Dylan Greene          |
| Elsie May        | Erone Topacio  | Ethan Peear           |
| Freddie Bennett  | George Page    | Ivy Marshall          |
| Jessica Budd     | Joshua Taylor  | Logan Claydon-Cressey |
| Lola Basing      | Lottie Russell | Luke Langer           |
| Minnie Kingsford | Moyin Idowu    | Ollie Pilgrim         |
| Rex Clarke       | Theo Parsley   | Vienna Mae Randall    |
|                  | Wren Bannon    |                       |

**Congratulations to all of our wonderful Year 6 Leavers'.**

Well done to the following children for their special recognition:



Marvellous Mathematician - Freddie Bennett  
Avid Reader - Devon Nutt  
Art/ Crafts - Jessica Budd  
Sports Enthusiast - Lottie Russell  
R.E./Emmaus Award - Lola Basing  
Endeavour - Erone Topacio  
Overall improvement - Vienna Mae Randall  
St Francis Cup - Ivy Marshall



\* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! \*



# Class News



## Reception

This half term, our Reception children had a wonderful time taking part in a Teddy Bear Picnic on the school field.



## Year 1

What a fabulous class trip we had in June to Abberton Reservoir to support our learning about plants and weather in our science and geography topics this term.



## Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Southend Beach to conclude our Geography topic, At the Seaside.



## Year 3

Year 3 visited Colchester Castle to support their history topic on the Romans.



\* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! \*

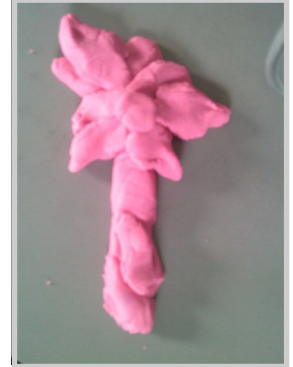


# Class News



## Year 4

Year 4 have been exploring sculpture in Art through an exciting project inspired by natural objects.



## Year 5



This half term, Year 5 enjoyed a fascinating local history walk around Maldon.

During our trip, we visited the Edward Bright plaque, the Old Moot Hall and the Maeldune Heritage Centre.

## Year 6

Year 6 pupils recently attended the Crucial Crew event at Maldon Fire Station.



\* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! \*



# Around the School



## St Francis Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Open Evening on Wednesday 8th July. It was wonderful to welcome so many parents, carers, and family members into school to celebrate the children's hard work and achievements.



## Sunflower Growing Competition

A big well done and thank you to all the children who entered our Sunflower Growing Competition! It has been wonderful to see your sunflowers grow and to hear how well you have cared for them. Inspired by Sir David Attenborough Day, Pope Francis' Laudato Si' and Pope Leo XIV's message of caring for our common home, this competition reminded us that even small actions, like planting a seed, can help protect God's beautiful creation. Thank you for taking part and for helping to make our world a greener, brighter place!

A big Well Done to **George Mortimer** in Reception who grew his sunflower to a massive **204cm** tall!

## Rocksteady

Our students put on a fantastic Rocksteady School Concert, delighting the audience with their enthusiasm, confidence, and musical talent. After weeks of rehearsing, they took to the stage to perform a wonderful selection of songs, showcasing not only their growing skills but also their teamwork and dedication. It was a joy to see every performer shine, and we are incredibly proud of all the students who took part. Thank you to everyone who came along to support and celebrate this memorable event.



\* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! \*



# Around the School



## Year 6 World War II Workshop

Year 6 had a fantastic time taking part in a World War Two workshop, bringing their history learning to life. They discovered how propaganda was used, learned about evacuation and food rationing, and experienced the dramatic sound of an air raid siren.

The children also enjoyed handling a range of wartime artefacts, using their historical knowledge to work out what they were and how they were used. It was an engaging and memorable day that helped deepen their understanding of life during World War Two.



## French Day 2026

Great fun was had by all  
at our annual  
French Day!

Click the photograph to  
find out more



\* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! \*



# Sports



## KS2 Kwik Cricket Tournament

Last week, children from Years 4, 5 and 6 represented St Francis at the KS2 Kwik Cricket Tournament held at Maldon Cricket Club. We entered three teams—two boys' teams and one girls' team—and every child demonstrated fantastic enthusiasm, determination and resilience throughout the day. Two of our teams faced the challenge of playing against a local cricket club team on their home pitch, embracing the experience with confidence and positivity.

We were delighted that our mixed Year 4/6 boys' team finished as tournament champions. We are incredibly proud of the outstanding teamwork, encouragement and mentorship shown by all of our pupils, who continually supported and inspired one another throughout the competition.

Mrs J. Draycott  
PE Leader



Please click on the links for more information

[Independent Learning  
Dates](#)

[St Francis Parent  
Letters](#)

[News Listings](#)

[Class Trips/Workshops  
\(MyEd forms\)](#)

[Sports Events](#)

[Ten Ten Parents  
Newsletter](#)

[Parent Lunch Dates](#)

[Sports Tournaments](#)

[Community Events](#)

[After School Clubs](#)

[St Francis PTA](#)

[Wraparound Care](#)

[Class Assembly Dates](#)

[Academic Term Dates](#)



# Sports



## National Sports Week

Our school proudly celebrated National Sports Week with a fantastic programme of activities that encouraged participation, teamwork, and fun. Pupils enjoyed taking part in a variety of sporting events, including Rugby, Irish Dancing, Athletics, and Netball.

The week provided opportunities for everyone to try new activities, develop their skills, and embrace the importance of staying active. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and school spirit throughout the week. A huge thank you to all the staff, coaches, and pupils who helped make National Sports Week such a memorable success!

Click [HERE](#) to read all about the individual events!



## ProStrike Fundraising Event

As part of our fundraising efforts, the children and staff of St Francis Catholic Primary School had tremendous fun taking part in our sponsored Speed Challenge on Tuesday 7th July.

We would like to thank all of our families and supporters for their generosity and sponsorship, which will help to support future opportunities and experiences for the children at St Francis. In total, approximately £875 was raised for the school!

Click [HERE](#) to read more and see all the photos from the day!





# Coming Soon...



|      |                                                                                                      |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1-2  | INSET - Non-pupil Days                                                                               |
| 3    | Term begins for all pupils 8:50am<br>Reception children: 8:50am - 12pm                               |
| 4    | Reception children: 8:50am - 12pm                                                                    |
| 7-11 | Reception children: 8:50am - 1:10pm                                                                  |
| 8    | School photos—Individual and Siblings                                                                |
| 8    | Initial parent meeting for Year 6 and to discuss upcoming Bawdsey Manor trip—3:30pm                  |
| 13   | Educational Sunday Mass—9am at Assumption of Our Lady Church, Maldon                                 |
| 14   | Reception children to start full days                                                                |
| 22   | Lets Talk Trash Festival—Years 5 & 6 at Braxted Park                                                 |
| 23   | 2pm Class Mass for Year 2 & Year 5 at Assumption of Our Lady Church—parents and Parishioners welcome |
| 25   | PTA Event - Back to School Disco                                                                     |
| 29   | Cultural Day                                                                                         |

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Mrs Bell and Mrs Podlinska look forward to welcoming your child to our **After School Club** in September.

**Option 1: 3:10-4:30pm £4.50**

**Option 2: 3:10-5pm £6.00**

**Option 3: 3:10-6pm £10.00**

Please book via the School Office and pay in advance.



**easyfundraising**

Please support our school by clicking

**HERE**



## PUNCTUALITY

Please remember that the school gate opens at 8:30am and all children should arrive at school before the bell at 8:50am when registration begins.

Your children should be collected promptly: KS1 3:15pm and KS2 3:25pm.

Children that are not collected by 3:30pm will be taken to the after school club and parents charged accordingly.



Please see the following links to our Facebook and Instagram accounts:

**[St. Francis Facebook](#)**

**[St. Francis Instagram](#)**





# PTA NEWSLETTER

21ST JULY 2026



# THANK YOU!



## Thank you to Alixe as Chair of the PTA

As our PTA Chair steps down from the role this summer, we would like to express our sincere thanks for her outstanding dedication and hard work.

Her commitment to supporting our school community has made a significant difference. From organising events and fundraising initiatives since January 2025, to bringing parents, staff, and pupils together. Her leadership has helped create wonderful opportunities and enrich school life for everyone.

We are incredibly grateful for the time, energy, and care she has given so generously. On behalf of the whole school community, we thank her for everything she has achieved.

With Alixe stepping down from the role, and with the current committee serving a three-year term, there are still 18 months remaining in the committee's tenure.

To ensure continuity during this time, Gemma and Lorna will be taking on the role of Co-Chairs alongside their already established roles of Treasurer and Secretary, and will serve together until the end of their current term.

## Shape Next Year's PTA Calendar - We Need Your Say! 📅

Thank you to the handful of people that have filled in the online survey so far. As we look ahead to the new school year in September, the PTA really wants to ensure our calendar is filled with events that every family loves - from unforgettable activities for the children to fun socials for the adults.

We want your honest feedback and fresh ideas.

Fewer raffles? More discos? Adult socials? Tell the PTA what you think!

Please take just two minutes to complete our quick online survey.

[CLICK HERE](#)

PTA socials, click for links:



## Easy Ways to Support Us This Summer!

Here are a few incredibly easy ways you can support our fundraising efforts right now while preparing for the new school year:



**Our Zeffy Fundraising Page:** Check out our official school fundraising and donation page on Zeffy. It's a quick way to support our ongoing projects, purchase pre-loved uniform over the summer, and grab personalised school bookmarks.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/organizations/st-francis-primary-school-parents-association>

**Parentkind Lottery:** You can sign up for our school lottery scheme via Parentkind, giving you a chance to win prizes up to £25,000 while contributing directly to school resources.

<https://www.theparentslottery.org/school/st-francis-parents-association1758915208>

**Stikins Uniform Labels:** When you purchase labels for school uniforms, order from [stikins.co.uk](http://stikins.co.uk) and quote our school number 19482. The PTA receives a donation for every order placed.

[www.stikins.co.uk](http://www.stikins.co.uk)

**Easyfundraising.org.uk:** When shopping online, start your journey at [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and choose **St Francis RC Primary School PTA – Maldon** as your charity to trigger free brand donations.

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

### St Francis Catholic Primary School Parent Association

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR!

School Year 2025-26

#### OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

- Christmas Events - £284
- Molly's Ice Cream - £80
- Pre-loved uniform - £245
- Quiz Night - £476
- Donations - £280
- Gift Aid - £269
- Disco - £818
- Tuck Shop & Cake Sales £204
- Raffle £208
- Parents Lottery £294
- Tesco Stronger Starts £1,125
- Easy Fundraising £130
- Stikins £30
- Little Recyclers £90

YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL (APPROX): £4,533

\*Figures as of 15 July. Final numbers after Sports Day!

#### HOW YOUR DONATIONS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Playground Tunnel £3,450
- Reading Books £113
- Drama Costumes £111
- Chromebooks £3,100
- Science workshop £750
- Reception Joiners gift £32
- Nessler Subscription £590
- Playground equipment £200
- Maths equipment £1,300
- Beach School Explorers workshop £250
- Y6 Trophies £75
- Teacher appreciation lunch £103

YEAR-TO-DATE DONATIONS (approx): £10,074

\*Total includes multi-year projects & reserves

Registered Charity No. 800648  
Supporting Our School Community

STILL TO COME:  
SPORTS DAY! (21 JULY)  
Numbers subject to slight update

### St Francis Catholic Primary School Parent Association

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE AUTUMN TERM 2026/27!

Autumn 2026/27

#### GET READY FOR SEPTEMBER!

We have a packed calendar scheduled to welcome your children back to school

- **Pre-Loved Uniform Sales:**  
Available to browse & purchase online via our [Zeffy page](#) throughout the summer holidays.
- **Back to School Disco:**  
A brilliant, high-energy event to celebrate the first month back at school.

#### FUN & ACTIVE FUNDRAISING!

##### Sponsored Bike/Scooter Ride or Biathlon

A fun, active event for children to help raise funds, the biathlon will include a mini marathon (2.6km)

#### LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD...

##### Festive Fun: Winter is Coming!

- **"Elf on the Shelf":**  
Legendary fun across the community
- **"Elfridges" Holiday Shop:**  
The return of the holiday shop.

\*All details subject to change. Look for emails/MyEds with specific dates & booking links.

SAVE THE DATE

Sep 25  
Disco  
Sep Sponsored Event  
Dec Elf Fun  
Dec Elfridges





## Biathlon: Gear Up for The Big School Wheels & Heels Challenge!

As we head into the summer holidays, we are thrilled to announce a massive, high-energy fundraising event coming to the school field this September: The Big School Wheels & Heels Challenge!

Towards the end of September—strictly before the autumn rains arrive and the field gets soggy!—the children will be taking part in a spectacular sponsored biathlon. To make it accessible for everyone, the children can choose to tackle the full biathlon or focus on just one element.

Here is how the challenges shape up:

- EYFS & KS1: A 1km run and/or a 1.5km bike or scooter ride.
- KS2: A 2.6km "mini marathon" run and/or a wheel-spinning 3.5km bike or scooter ride.

The event will take place entirely on the safety of the school field during the school day, and children will be invited to bring their bikes or scooters to school on the morning of the event.

### The Ultimate Class Battle!

This isn't just an individual challenge; it's a full-blown class competition! Every penny raised will go toward our fundraising totals. The class that raises the most sponsorship money will win a fantastic class prize to celebrate their teamwork.

### Summer "Training" & Fundraising Start NOW!

We wanted to share this exciting news now so the children can use the sunny summer holidays to "train," practice their riding, and build up their running stamina.

Our official donation platform is live today! If you would like to set up your child's profile, start sharing it with friends and family, and get a head start on that class leaderboard over the break, you can find the class teams here (remember it's the class they will be in next year):

Reception - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/reception-6>

Year 1 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/year--1-5>

Year 2 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/year--2-5>

Year 3 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/year--3-3>

Year 4 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/year--4-4>

Year 5 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/year--5-4>

Year 6 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/team/year--6-4>

We will share the official event date as soon as we return in September. Have a wonderful, active summer holiday, and let the training begin

