



St Francis Catholic Primary School PTA

September 2026

The Big School Dash & Stride Challenge

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand-new school term! Before the summer break, we teased an exciting sponsored fundraising event for the children. Following helpful feedback regarding the logistics of bringing bikes and scooters to school, we have pivoted the event to make it stress-free for parents and seamless for the school.

 **Event Date:** Monday 5th October 2026 (during the school day)

We are officially launching The Big School Dash & Stride Challenge! Taking place on the school field towards the beginning of October, before the autumn rains arrive and the field gets soggy, all children will participate in a sponsored run or walk. Whether they wish to sprint for a personal best, jog with friends, or enjoy a steady walk, every child can take part at their own pace.

This event is all about teamwork and fun. Each class will act as a team, encouraging each other, working together to get everyone around the course, and celebrating their joint effort.

Challenge Distances

Key Stage	Challenge Distance
EYFS & KS1	1 km Run / Walk Challenge
KS2	2.6 km "Mini Marathon" Run / Walk Challenge

What do children need on the day?

- All the children will need is
 - their standard PE kit,
 - trainers,
 - a water bottle, and
 - plenty of enthusiasm!
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Friendly Class Competition!

To keep things supportive and inclusive, sponsorship is submitted on a whole-class basis rather than through individual child profiles. Every donation goes directly to your child's class total, and the class that raises the most overall will win a special class prize to celebrate their collective achievement.

Volunteers Needed on the Day!

We need parent volunteers to help us make this day a fantastic success! Even if you can only spare an hour anytime during the school day to help marshal or cheer on the kids, your support would be hugely appreciated. Please get in touch with the PTA if you can help.

Sponsor Your Class Today!

Our official online fundraising page is live. You can share the link with family and friends to help boost your class total:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/peer-to-peer/the-big-school-dash-and-stride-challenge--2026>

Thank you as always for your brilliant support. Let's make this a fantastic, active, and fun-filled start to the new school year!

Warmest regards,

Gemma & Lorna

Co-Chairs, St Francis Catholic Primary School PTA

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