

Modeshift National Accreditation

Following receipt of the Bronze Award last year, the Travel Plan team have submitted this year's application and are delighted to have attained the Silver Awards, narrowly missing out on Gold.



Earl Mountbatten Hospice Schools' Walk the Wight

This year the Hospice launched the programme a little earlier to give us more time to walk 26 miles.

55 Brighstone School children and their brothers and sisters registered, with several joining Miss Capelin and Mrs Norman to complete the walk from Freshwater Bay to Alum Bay along with thousands of other walkers.

Graham Elderfield from the Hospice came into assembly on 11th June to present medals to the children who hadn't already received theirs. She also thanked the children for participating and was delighted to receive over £1200 - a superb amount for a small school.

Go Ride

This year, Mrs Pugh offered her popular after school club to Years 2 and 3 following which she saw a marked improvement in their abilities.

The Year 4 children had cycle training during curriculum time and greatly improved their road sense and their use of gears & two particularly useful skills for the Burley trip.

Year 1 pupils will be offered the Go Ride Training in the new school year.

Family Cycle Ride from School Sunday 25th July 4pm

Irene's annual family bike ride around the back lanes from School to Thorncross is scheduled for the 25th July.

This popular event is purely social and differing routes make it suitable for all levels.

The laid back and leisurely ride through beautiful countryside ends with refreshments being served.

We hope to see you there!

Cycle & Scooter Storage

We are delighted to have secured a grant from Sustrans - a leading sustainable transport charity.

Additional cycle racks and scooter storage have been ordered and hopefully will be ready for use at the start of the new term. So be inspired to get on your wheels to school!



Year 4 Independent Travel Training

This term our current Year 4 pupils have undergone independent travel training with Helen Stichbury, the School Travel Plan Advisor.

We are keen for the children not to be held back in this area of their development & the move to middle school has previously provided a natural step to independence and the idea is for next year's Year 5 pupils to enjoy the independence they would have benefited from had they moved schools in September.

Helen says: "It was aimed at encouraging the older pupils to walk whenever possible. They looked at where they lived, split into groups based on their home address and worked out where they could either drive to, park and meet and then all walk in together, or how children could meet up with each other on the route to school. They thought walking with each other would be good fun, better than walking alone, and would help to keep the area around school safer and better for everyone else. They were encouraged to discuss the options for walking with their parents/families and to practice safe walking during the school holidays. Several pupils have already started this process including walking to school this term."

We hope parents will allow their children to take this step where appropriate.

Walking Wednesdays



supports Walk on Wednesday, an opportunity to reduce car use and get a healthy start to their day.

Ant stickers have just walked from their sheets to the children's clothing!

Road Safety

The Council's speed signs now positioned outside all Island schools are there for the safety of all our children, but particularly those who make their own way to school.

Thank you for respecting the 20mph limit

** IMPORTANT **

Free Home-School Transport

If you live in the school catchment area, but more than two miles from school, your child is entitled to *free* transport.

If you live less than two miles away but there is no safe walking route you are also entitled to *free* transport.

An application form is available to download from the Council's website or can be obtained by phoning School Admissions on 821000. Please do not be put off if you receive a letter telling you that route risk assessments need to be carried out.



Footpaths

Many of you will be aware of Brighstone Parish Council's concern over the illegal use of public footpaths by cyclists. Whilst we re-iterate the Parish Council's words and wholly endorse the need for courtesy to other footpath users, common sense should also be used where very small children are cycling.

We are proud of our achievement in increasing the number of pupils cycling to school and want to continue to promote this healthy practise whilst accepting this must be done within the confines of the law. May we therefore respectfully ask parents and grandparents to set an example and *not to cycle on public footpaths*

School Reorganisation

Car parking around the school is a major issue and one causing serious concerns. It should be pointed out that although parking is not the school's responsibility, both Miss Johnston and the governors have taken steps to try to remedy the situation. Various efforts have been made, the most obvious of which was to try and extend Warnes Lane car park (which incidentally we are fortunate to have - it is a public car park and not the school's), unfortunately this is not going to happen. The Methodist Church have been approached with a view to using the chapel car park and a further appeal is to be made to the licensee of The Three Bishops. If either of these latest enquiries produce additional parking we will let you know next term. Meanwhile we urge people to:

- Use school transport
- Car share
- Park and stride
- Consider allowing older pupils to travel to school independently

PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE BUS LANE OR STAFF CAR PARK

As ever, if you have any ideas or comments regarding sustainable travel to school, please speak to Amanda Johnston or Helen Ockendon. Thank you to Helen for producing this leaflet.