



Fishergate Primary School
Fishergate
York YO10 4AP



NEWSLETTER No.18

17 March 2010

Dear Parent/Carer,



Travel Plan

Lead by Anna Young, we are currently reviewing our school Travel Plan. You may have seen the display in the lower hall where there is an opportunity to share your views about travel around the Fishergate area and any concerns you have.

Anna has already passed on comments from parents/carers direct to the Council.

We are wanting to find out specifically if there is a need to re-establish a Walking Bus to Fishergate School. We have had one request so far, but this needs a group of parents to commit to it to get it up and running. If you would like to get involved in this, please would you let Miss Young or myself know.

As part of being a 'Bike It' school, we have recently taken part in the virtual cycle race from Lands End to John O'Groats. Twenty Two schools took part and miles were covered on the journey according to the number of children cycling to school as a percentage of the total number on roll. Out of 22 schools, Fishergate School came 6th in this race! We have seen the numbers cycling nearly treble which is excellent!

I have now received my bike from the Cycle to Work Scheme and have started cycling to school - about 4½ miles each way! If you haven't thought about it - now the weather is improving why not cycle to school or to work if you can. It is good for the environment and good for you too!



New Primary Curriculum

The Government has now released their new Curriculum for Primary Schools. This is an exciting development with the traditional 'subjects' being grouped together into 6 areas of learning, very much modelled on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

There remains a key focus on English and Maths skills, along with "**essential skills for learning and life**" which cover ICT, learning and thinking skills; personal and emotional skills and social skills.

At Fishergate, we have been developing a skills focus to our learning so we are very excited with this new curriculum which will be statutory from September 2011.

To help schools prepare, there will be lots of training for teams across the city and the government have given all primary schools an additional Training Day to be taken in the next academic year.

I will let you know about this as soon as I can and I will keep you updated on our progress. The new primary curriculum is available on-line if you are interested - log on to www.qcda.gov.uk/curriculum for all the information. Let me know what you think!

Finally, another reminder about getting to school on time, and avoiding taking any holidays during term time. I am required now to deal with these holiday requests applying very clear criteria, which means that most requests will be unauthorised. Thanks for your support with this; it makes such a difference to the quality of each child's learning when they are here, on time, every day!

Best wishes

Andy Herbert
Headteacher