

Ref: PS/kl

Tuesday 19th September 2023

Headteacher: Mr P Smith

Dear Parent/Carer ,

RE: FARLINGAYE HIGH SCHOOL SPONSORED WALK 2023

I am writing with some exciting news of a brilliant school event, that will be taking place in a few weeks.

On **Friday 6th October 2023** we will be holding our thirteenth School Sponsored Walk, which we hold every other year. This will involve the whole school following a route based around Woodbridge. We will walk a semi-circular route in the morning from the school around Kyson Point and then base ourselves at Kingston Field for lunch. We will then take a different circular walk in the afternoon, to bring us back again to Kingston Field and then back up to school. It will be about 8 miles. Each time we have had great fun, and last time raised over £13,000 which helped enormously to fund some extra-curricular activities for students, as well as donating to various charities chosen by the students, which were: The British Red Cross, Cancer Research, Home Start, Just 42, Lighthouse Women's Aid, RDA (Riding for the Disabled), St Elizabeth's Hospice, Unicef, Suffolk Mind and the RSPCA.

The current financial climate for schools is very difficult and the money the sponsored walk brings in will be hugely helpful this year to help the school fund improvements to support the students and help to fund extra-curricular activities. We know how much students benefit from being involved in extra-curricular activities and therefore believe that it is vital we continue to offer these activities, even in times where budget cuts have made it difficult to sustain them. Funds from the Sponsored Walk will allow this to happen. We will also again make a donation to external charities, to be chosen by the students.

As always, we intend to make it a good day out and lots of fun. We are encouraging the students to wear fancy dress, but it needs to be fancy dress that is suitable for walking in! Students will need sensible shoes (trainers or walking boots) and waterproof clothing for wet weather. The walk will take place unless it is very wet, (in which case a reserve date will be fixed) and so students need to be well equipped for poor weather. There will be special spot prizes for the best fancy dress and prizes for the five individuals who raise the most money.

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We are well aware that this all needs a great deal of planning and supervision. We are liaising with Woodbridge Police and all staff will be marshalling the route or walking. Students will also be checked as they leave, at lunch-time and as they return. There will be first aid and water stations along the route. There will be refreshments available at lunchtime to purchase, although students should also bring a packed lunch with them. We would like every student to participate, apart from those in Year 13 for whom it is optional. (For our SEND students, and any students with medical needs, we will be taking a carefully chosen route for them, and a few of their friends and staff). I hope that every student will be willing to participate and raise money for the school. Everyone who participates will be asked to bring in some sponsor money, even if it's only £1. To make paying money in after the walk easier, **all sponsor money can be paid into your Parentpay account** and this is then collected safely and easily by the school. **A copy of this letter and the attached sponsor form will be handed to all students tomorrow, Wednesday, so there is no need to print from this email. This is just for your information, or back-up, if you need to reprint.**

Those students who are unable to support us will be provided with work in school and will need to attend for a normal school day in full school uniform.

I would be grateful if you could please sign the form below and return it to your daughter's or son's tutor immediately. I would also be grateful if you can do all you can to help them collect as much sponsorship as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Peter Smith,
Headteacher

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Name of student:

Tutor Group:

I give permission for my child to take part in the school sponsored walk. I acknowledge that the staff will be liable in the event of any accident only if they have failed to take reasonable care of my child during the visit. I consent to my child receiving medical treatment which, in the opinion of a qualified medical practitioner, may be necessary.

I understand that my child is expected to collect sponsorship for this event.

Please identify any specific health or mobility issues we need to be aware of

Signature:

Date: