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Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Next Steps Walking Challenge – 'Walk to school week' (w/c Mon 12th October 2020)

We are once again planning to enter the 'Year 7 Next Steps Walking Challenge' this year. Living Streets, working with the Department for Transport, are encouraging more students to walk to school. As part of our Eco Schools status, we have agreed to encourage Year 7 students to take part.

The **walking* challenge** involves students agreeing to walk part of, or all of, their journey to and from school during walk to school week (**week beginning Monday 12th October 2020**). It may be that students change their travel habits all week or for just one day or one journey during that week.

Students will be shown a short presentation about the walking challenge in tutor time this week. They will be asked to take part in a short hands-up survey about how they travel to school. They will then be given a card on which they can record the number of walking challenges that they complete the following week. Completed cards can be left with their tutor who will pass them to me in order for them to be eligible for a prize draw.

A **£20 shopping voucher** and **3 x £10 vouchers** will be awarded to four participating students selected through a draw that will take place at school the following week.

We recognise that many students live too far to walk or live in situations where public transport is unreliable or unavailable and have to travel to and from school by car. Those who travel by car should still be able to take part in this challenge. Downland's ask that drivers be prepared to drop off and collect students in Hassocks instead of driving along Dale Avenue which gets very congested before, and after, school opening and closing times. Some students travel to and from school by bus or coach, however, it is likely that there may still be an element of walking in their journey to and from home. This would mean that all students should be able to take part in the next steps challenge, regardless of how they may usually get to school.

I do hope that you will enjoy taking part in this initiative.

Yours faithfully,

Mr P Cole
Science / Eco-Schools Coordinator

** Students who cycle to school are also eligible to enter the draw.*

