



1 April 2011

Dear Pre-Nursery - Year 6 Parents

SPONSORED WALK FOR WATERAID AND HEARING DOGS FOR THE DEAF

The School is holding a major Sponsored Walk on the fields at 2.15pm - 3.15pm on Wednesday 11 May to raise money for two charities, WaterAid and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. WaterAid (www.wateraid.org) is an international charity whose mission is to overcome poverty by enabling the world's poorest people to gain access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene education:

- **884 million people in the world don't have access to clean, safe, drinking water and as a result 4000 children die every day from preventable water related diseases.**
- **The average person in the developing world uses 10 litres of water every day for their drinking, washing and cooking.**
- **The average European uses 200 litres of water every day for their drinking, washing and cooking.**

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (www.hearingdogs.org.uk) is a national charity and centre of excellence in training hearing dogs to alert deaf people to everyday household sounds and danger signals in the home and workplace:

- **Hearing dogs are provided to deaf people at no charge**
- **Each dog is trained to the specific needs of the deaf individual they have been matched to, creating a life-changing partnership.**
- **It costs £10,000 to support a hearing dog through all its training and placement with a deaf person.**

Number of Laps

It is hoped that children will walk one lap for each year of their lives (eg a 6 year old will walk 6 laps, an 11 year old 11 laps). The laps for the younger children - particularly those in Pre-Nursery and Nursery - will be shorter than for older children so no-one should get blisters! Children in rural parts of Africa have to sometimes walk up to 5 miles to get water for their families. To try to help our pupils understand the complexities of obtaining and transporting fresh water in many African villages, the children will be invited to walk with cups/buckets of water if they are old enough to manage this.

Support/Picnic

Please could all parents send their child with a picnic lunch for that day. Any parents who are free are welcome to come along and offer their support to the children from 2.15pm. From 2.45pm, or when children finish their laps, the children will be welcome to join their families for a picnic on the fields. Parents are also very welcome to take their children home after the event. However, clubs will continue as usual on that day.

Sponsorship

Whatever each child raises, however small or large, will be hugely appreciated. Obviously the more we raise, the more people we will help either with water or a with a dog. Please encourage your child to get lots of sponsors from friends and family between now and the walk.

After the walk, I would be most grateful if you and your child could kindly collect the cash raised from the various sponsors. Since it would not be wise to have all the pupils bringing cash or cheques into school, please keep the cash yourselves; friends and relatives should make any cheques out to you personally. Then the total amount your child has raised will be added, with your permission, to the end of term fee sheet. Your child will be given a Certificate immediately after the walk as proof of how many laps they have walked. Please then return the completed Sponsor Form, having ticked the Relevant Gift Aid box, to your child's Class Teacher by Monday 16 May. We shall keep a copy of your child's completed sponsor sheet and will confirm the total raised with you after the event.

If you need more sponsor sheets, please ask the office or simply photocopy one of the attached forms.

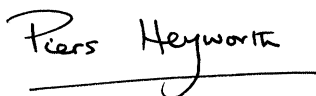
Gift Aid

The Inland Revenue Charities Department has explained to us that it is very sensible for sponsors to 'Gift Aid' their donations to charity as this allows the charity to reclaim an amount roughly equivalent to basic rate income tax. Please note that no signatures are necessary and that you are fully entitled to fill in the form on behalf of the other sponsors and put a 'Yes' in the Gift Aid box on their behalf. The only conditions are that:

- sponsors are individual adults, not couples; if a sponsor is a child, you are asked to enter one parent's details instead
- that you are satisfied that the sponsor is happy to Gift Aid the amount given
- that the sponsor is a UK taxpayer, who pays income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax reclaimed by the charity on the donation.

Thank you very much for your help with these very worthy causes.

Yours sincerely



Piers Heyworth
Headmaster