

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Ryecroft to Alton Sponsored Walk 2024

I am pleased to write to you to inform you that our annual sponsored walk, which is jointly organised by school and the Friends of Ryecroft CE Middle School (FORM), is back again for 2024!

The walk will take place during the morning on **Friday 24th May**. The walk is approximately 14km, and will take the usual route from the school to Alton Station and back again, using the old railway line. We will aim to leave school at 9:30am. FORM will be kindly providing refreshments for pupils at Alton (the half way point), after which pupils will make their way back to school in time for a normal lunch. Please ensure your child brings a drink with them, although no glass bottles or fizzy drinks will be allowed. Pupils will need to ensure they wear suitable clothing for walking, specifically sensible footwear and a waterproof coat, along with sun cream and a hat in preparation for any eventuality regarding the Great British weather.

As in previous years the walk will be sponsored, and this is an integral part of our school fundraising drive. Attached is a sponsor form for your child to complete. Please ensure you tick the **Gift Aid column** if you are a UK tax payer, this will enable us to reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that is donated. Sponsor forms must be returned to school after donations have been collected to enable us to claim Gift Aid.

It is hoped that this year the event can be as successful as ever in raising invaluable funds to develop provision both inside and outside of the classroom to further enrich the education of your child, especially in a time of severe cuts to education budgets and the strain that this places on schools to provide the best education possible for our young people. We appreciate these are difficult times for many, so any donations, large or small, will be so gratefully received.

As an added incentive to raise as much money as possible, all donations raised by Year 8 will go towards their Prom in July. 50% of funds raised by Year 7 will go towards their Prom for July 2025. All other sponsorship money will be used in school in a multitude of ways as described above. This year FORM are offering a prize to the form group who raise the most sponsorship money, so we encourage you to ask as many people as possible to give what they can!

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs A Grattage  
**Headteacher**