

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Schools Go Smarter newsletter, the place to find out about sustainable travel initiatives in Northumberland. For more information about anything you see here please email tracy.aitken@northumberland.gov.uk

Allendale Primary @ The National STARS School Travel Awards

[The National STARS School Travel Awards](#) took place in March, with Allendale Primary School undertaking an epic journey to London to represent Northumberland. Allendale were one of only 6 primary schools to reach the final for demonstrating excellence in growing levels of sustainable travel and promoting road safety. This has helped to make their school safer and greener and enabled pupils to develop vital skills for life. Sadly we didn't get the top award this year, but a great time was had by all, topped off with an open top bus trip around London. Thanks for doing us proud Allendale! ❤️



Love Northumberland Awards



Allendale Primary were also winners at this year's Love Northumberland Awards in the School's Sustainable Travel category, with Ovingham First School runners up. The schools were presented with their award and prize by the Duchess of Northumberland and enjoyed afternoon tea and access to Alnwick Gardens. The Love Northumberland Awards take place annually in June. So why not start thinking about which of your projects you could enter next year that show off your environmental credentials!

[Love Northumberland Awards 2024 - thank you to all our worthy winners \(youtube.com\)](#)

International Walk to School Month

Sign up [here](#) to let us know if you are planning to take part in W2SM in October, and to request resources. During [International Walk to School Month](#) we have 4 weeks of themed activities where schools choose what they'd like to take part in. W2SM is a great way to really kick start your active travel year! We'll be sharing a revised template over the summer.

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH		Schools GoSmarter
<p>This October we are promoting International Walk to School Month bringing together sustainable travel and road safety themes across the month and we would love schools to get involved and deliver some activities. Why not use the ideas and suggestions below to plan your own month or develop your own activities, make sure you tell everyone your plans!</p>		
Week 1	Let's get walking week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk with Wildlife take part in the 5 day walking challenge, register for W2SM and order your free WALKING WITH WILDLIFE badge Check out our new Walking Resps and come up with your own walking resp! (see info below) Start some cycling or scooter lesson times Count the bikes or scooters in your storage area and pack one or more to see how many points on a small price Design a 'Tour of Northumberland' cycling journey Have a Wear as Bright Day or Hi Vis wear with one of our Hi Vis packs Hold a Road Sign Scavenger hunt Find the safe places to cross near your school Prepare your nearest Parkers Campaign (see below) Backpack a litter picking kit (see and hold a litter collection with near school Hold a Car-free Day Hold a Happy Birthday (see below) Hold a theme week to school day Organise a scavenger hunt for the journey to school Learn our Sea Shanty Calculate W2SM if taking part Show pupils how to complete an 11 Check use this one for contest #1118 Hold a Car-free Take a photo of your full cycle or scooter storage and share it @IN_LandCand Hold a filling your bins or Binns Breakfast Play on the Bright for Sea Games on the Beach Think reusable Hold a Brainstorm How to use the Green Cross Code session Start our Road Safety campaign Encourage staff to car share Find out how you could set up a Park and Stride or 15 Minute Walking Zone around your school
Week 2	Bring your wheels to school week	
Week 3	Be bright be seen week	
Week 4	Check out our environment week	
<p>For more information contact tracy.aitken@northumberland.gov.uk and check out our page!</p>		

Walk to School Week



We had a fantastic Walk to School Week (W2SW) in May, some highlights were:

- Stannington First School's Magical Walk to School
 - Allendale Primary School Book Wizard
 - Ellington Primary School Walking Bus
- W2SW continues to be one of our most popular initiatives with 28 schools taking part this year.

It's an ideal time to celebrate the benefits of walking and leaving the car at home for those shorter journeys.



Ride Leader Training

June saw another successful Ride Leader course taking place with a further 8 members of staff now accredited as Level 1 British Cycling Ride Leaders.

Staff can now take pupils out on led rides in their local areas. We will let you know how they get on with their exciting cycling projects.

If you would like to be added to the waiting list for our next Ride Leader course, get in touch with [here](#).

Cycling Network Event

We've just had our first Schools Cycling Networking event in partnership with Mowbray Primary School. Staff who have completed Ride Leader training were invited to learn how Mowbray deliver their own successful cycling project.

We had presentations from Mowbray staff and pupils, NCC's Health and Safety team and external partners. Who provided an overview of how the project has evolved with loads of useful hints and tips and the chance to discuss potential issues. Attendees also had the opportunity to go on a led ride and to observe a yard based coaching session.

Here's a peak at part of Mowbray Primary's amazing cycling project [Sea to Source](#), which sees pupils cycle the length of the River Wansbeck, linking to the history, culture and environment of the river.

Discounts for schools

Did you know that schools can access discounts for cycles and equipment of up to 25% through partnerships with the Bikeability Trust. Companies offering discounts include Frog, Squish, Decathlon and RideMinded, check out

[Offers - Go Cycling | Bikeability](#)



Road Safety

Look out for the email about Road Safety events in 2024/25 coming soon and remember there are resources on the Road Safety Padlets you can use to plan your own initiatives and share with families.

[Schools Road Safety \(padlet.com\)](#)

[Parent and Community Padlet](#)

Creative Walking Book

Have you seen our Big Northumberland Gear Change [Creative Walking Book](#) yet?

We delivered our first workshops at Allendale Primary School this term which were a great success, pupils came up with some amazing ideas which Allendale are going to make into their own Walking Recipe Book. We are also planning to create a schools version of the Creative Walking Book, so if you'd like to get involved and have a workshop at your school, get in touch [here](#)



WOW Top 10 Leader Board

Stannington First School have come second in the **National Top 10 WOW Leaderboard for Summer 2024**.

This is an amazing achievement considering there are over 1000 schools taking part in WOW across England.

Stannington have logged almost 20,000 active journeys over the year and consistently been one of the top schools taking part in the Walk Once a Week challenge.

NATIONAL LEADERBOARD - ENGLAND	
1.	BURNLEY STONEYHOLME PRIMARY, LANCASHIRE
2.	STANNINGTON FIRST SCHOOL, NORTHUMBERLAND
3.	PADIHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, LANCASHIRE
4.	YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SANDWELL
5.	MARLCLIFFE COMMUNITY PRIMARY, SHEFFIELD
6.	ELANGENI SCHOOL, SHEFFIELD
7.	LEA FOREST PRIMARY ACADEMY, BIRMINGHAM
8.	COIT PRIMARY SCHOOL, SHEFFIELD
9.	ST MICHAEL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL, DURHAM
10.	BENTON DENE PRIMARY SCHOOL, NORTH TYNESIDE
SUMMER 2024 #WOWTopTen	

Modeshift STARS News

Congratulations to schools who have achieved or renewed their Modeshift STARS accreditations:

- Stannington First School - **Platinum**
- NCEA Bishops Primary School - **Gold**
- Ellington Primary School - **Bronze**
- Mickley First School - **Bronze**
- St Andrews RC Primary School - **Bronze**
- Stamfordham Primary School - **Bronze**
- Tweedmouth Community Middle - **Bronze**
- Gilbert Ward Academy - **Green**
- Highfield Middle School - **Green**



If you've not used STARS for a while or would like some help getting started, get in touch

tracy.aitken@northumberland.gov.uk

*Not including schools who have submitted accreditations this term.

Dates for your diary next year

<u>Bikeability Cycle to School Week</u>	23-27 September
<u>World Car Free Day</u>	22 September
<u>International Walk to School Month</u>	1-31 October - sign up <u>here</u>
<u>Road Safety Week</u>	17-23 November
Modeshift Autumn Accreditation deadline	31 December
Annual Mode of Travel Survey	Spring Term
<u>Show The Love — The Climate Coalition</u>	1-28 February
<u>Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel - Sustrans.org.uk</u>	March tbc
Modeshift Spring Accreditation deadline	31 March
<u>Brake Beep Beep Day</u>	19 March
<u>Walk to School Week Living Streets</u>	19-23 May tbc
Northumberland Bike Month	1-30 June
Bike Week Cycling UK	June tbc
<u>Great Big Green Week</u>	June tbc
<u>Clean Air Day</u>	June tbc

Have a lovely summer and see you next term!

