

St. Joseph and St. Theresa Primary school pupils celebrate walk to school month

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Pupils at a Chasetown school put their best foot forward as part of a month long campaign.

A total of 214 youngsters at St Joseph and St Theresa Primary School stepped out to enjoy a healthier and happier life during Walk to School Month.

Staffordshire County Council's Road Safety Unit hosted the initiative which was part of a national scheme to promote the health benefits of leading an active life.

The campaign also helped to reduce the number of cars travelling to school which cuts harmful CO2 emissions. Fewer cars around schools have the added bonus of boosting safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

Walk to School Month has been going from strength to strength year on year with more parents and children joining the movement annually. This year over 26,300 children are taking part in the campaign across the county.

The scheme goes hand in hand with the walking bus phenomenon which has proved to be a massive success in Staffordshire since it was launched in 1999.

The county has the highest number of walking buses running in the UK with an impressive 148 groups currently in operation.

Local County Councillor Paul Atkins said: "Pupils and teachers at St Joseph and St Theresa Primary School really embraced the Walk to School initiative which was great to see. Parents were leaving their cars at home or car sharing which had the added bonus of cutting CO2 emissions which are reaping devastating effects on the environment."

Headteacher Pat Davies added: "Walking to school is a great way for the pupils to get a bit of exercise in the morning and really helps to clear their heads before they start lessons. There were also fewer cars around the entrance to the school this month which increased road safety for pedestrians and cyclists and was excellent news all round."

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