

## Keep the Zigzags clear!

Yellow Zig-zag road markings outside of the school gates are there to help improve road safety by keeping vehicles away from these busy areas where children are going in and out of school, so please keep them clear.



## Some dates for your 2009 diary

World Health Day	7th April
Walk to School Week	18th-22nd May
World Environment Day	5th June 2009
Do It By Cycle & Greener Living Roadshow, Preston Park	7th June
Bike Week	13th June
Child Safety Week	22nd -26th June
Healthy Schools & School Travel Plan Celebration Event	3rd July
Crucial Crew, Education Centre	7th-18th September
International Walk to School Month	October
Road Safety Week	30th November
Road Safety Quiz School Final	10th December

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# Sustainable School Travel Newsletter



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## Premiership Battle At The Oakwood

Austrian International and Middlesbrough Football Club Captain Emanuel Pogatzetz was guest of honour when pupils from 3 Stockton Primary Schools battled it out recently at the final of the Councils Annual Road Safety Quiz.

Bader Primary and St Patrick's RC Primary, both of Thornaby, and Ingleby Mill Primary from Ingleby Barwick competed to be crowned champions at the Oakwood centre in Eaglescliffe.

The final was the culmination of months of hard work, with the three finalists having already beaten 20 other schools in the borough to make it to the annual event organised by the councils Road Safety Team.

Over 1000 pupils had been quizzed on questions dealing with safety as a pedestrian, cyclist and passenger. The eventual winners were Ingleby Mill Primary School.

TFM Radio supported the event and Stockton's deputy Mayor, Councillor Paul Kirton, was on hand to assist the Boro captain in handing out the prizes and trophies.



# Cycle Training

Training team: Emma, Andy, Julian and Keith.

The cycle training team have been really busy this year delivering Bikeability cycle training to primary schools across the Borough. Bikeability is split into two levels in primary school, Level 1 – which covers cycling skills on the playground such as balance and steering, and Level 2 – which is carried out on road and teaches pupils how to ride safely in traffic. Level 1 is typically delivered to Year 5 pupils, and Level 2 to Year 6.

So far this year the team have trained 1050 pupils to Level 1, and 640 pupils to Level 2.

Well done to all that have taken part and completed the training.

If your school doesn't receive cycle training but would like to please contact us on 01642 526731. The training is free of charge and is an important life skill.

See more on Bikeability at [www.bikeability.org.uk](http://www.bikeability.org.uk)



## Many Happy Returns!!



It was party time recently for a very special member of Stockton's Road Safety Team.

Arnie The Armadillo, the teams' mascot, celebrated his 4th birthday by dropping into Billingham South Primary School with his Roadshow to meet the pupils and demonstrate his road safety skills. Whilst there he was presented with a present and card from his girlfriend Freda The Frog!, and all the pupils sang Happy Birthday to him.

Since joining the team Arnie has performed his roadshow to over 5000 pupils as well as making numerous appearances at events throughout the Borough.

Arnie's Roadshow is a fun, educational and interactive show that is suitable for all Keystage 1, nursery and reception pupils. It looks at ways of keeping safe whilst crossing, or walking near the road and the all-important message of holding hands when out and about.

The Roadshow lasts for 30-minutes and is free of charge.

Any school wishing to find out more or to book a visit from Arnie should contact Peter Fleming on 01642 526737.



## Upcoming Events

### Guided cycle rides:

We run a series of guided cycle rides ideal for families – come along and have a go!

Sun 22 Mar	10am – 11am	Tees Barrage	6 miles
Sun 19 April	10am-12pm	Myton House pub	10 miles
Sun 24 May	9.30am-12pm	Wynyard Woodland Park Visitors' Centre	12 miles
Sun 14 June	10am – 1pm	Municipal Buildings	12 miles

The ride in March will include the chance to try out lots of different bikes and see the launch of a new Tees Valley cycling website!

For more details pick up a copy of the guided rides leaflet from your local sports centre or library, or email Jonathan or Mike.

### Cycling Festival:

7th June, Preston Park, 10:00am – 4:00pm

Come along and have a go at Unicycling, stunt riding, practice your cycling skills, and see if you can get the fastest time of the day in the virtual cycling challenge!

Entrance will be free. Look out for more details soon at [www.doitbycycle.com](http://www.doitbycycle.com)

## School Travel Plan

A School Travel Plan (STP) is a process whereby a school works out how it intends to make travel to and from the school by pupils, parents and teachers more sustainable and safe. This information is set out in a document that should be linked in with the school development / improvement plan. With 30% of all children and young people travelling to school by car the STP is an important tool for changing this trend. The National target is for all schools to have a travel plan by March 2010.

Authorised STPs can receive Government funding of up to £10,000 to be used to pay for measures to improve sustainable school travel such as: cycle storage, pedestrian shelters, and access improvements.

Other benefits of having a STP are access to cycle and pedestrian training, theatre groups and external infrastructure initiatives.

If your school does not yet have a School Travel Plan and would be interested in hearing more about how you can help reduce congestion, get healthier, and have a safer journey to school

contact Jane Sinclair on 01642 526712 or by email [jane.sinclair@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:jane.sinclair@stockton.gov.uk).

There will be a celebration event for those schools that have a School Travel Plan, in conjunction with Healthy Schools, taking place on 3rd June at the Oakwood Centre, Eaglescliffe.



## Pedestrian Training

The Road Safety training team also deliver pedestrian training to schools across the Borough to teach Year 3 pupils road sense and traffic awareness. So far this year the team have trained 964 pupils.

If your school doesn't receive pedestrian training but would like to please contact us on 01642 526731.



## 'Bike it' gets the wheels in motion in Stockton schools'

Bike It officers work directly with schools to raise awareness of cycling. Participating schools across England have seen levels of cycling treble within a year- bucking the trend in declining numbers of children cycling to school.

Debbie Scott, Bike It Officer for Stockton and Middlesbrough has been working with 6 schools and around 2500 pupils across Stockton. Debbie has worked with the following schools: Barley Fields Primary, Whinstone Primary, Crooksbar Primary, Holy Rosary Primary, Whitehouse Primary, and Ian Ramsey Secondary school. All schools have seen an increase in pupils cycling thanks to Debbie, school travel plan actions, and cycle training support.

"It is vital that we give young people the opportunity to travel in ways which are healthy, sustainable and fun. Through the Bike It project we can work directly with pupils, parents and



Photo shows pupils from Ian Ramsey with Debbie Scott, and Mayor Cllr John Fletcher.

staff to help them overcome whatever it is that is preventing them from cycling to school – by organising lots of fun activities, helping to install new bike sheds, contributing to classroom work and providing information about safe routes to schools."

If your school would like to be involved please contact Debbie on 01642 803441 or [Debbie.scott@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:Debbie.scott@sustrans.org.uk)

## DJ Swaps Sounds For Sign

Stockton Councils Road Safety Team recently welcomed a special new recruit to their School Crossing Patrol service when Wayne Allen from TFM Radio tried his hand at being a Lollipop Man for the day.

Wayne, a presenter at the North East based radio station and a father of two young boys, contacted the Road Safety Team after judging a recent competition where pupils from Stockton schools had designed posters to highlight the dangers of parking on zig-zag markings outside schools.

Following his experience Wayne said, "I have done many things in my ten years as a radio presenter, including swimming with sharks, but nothing made my hands sweat more than doing the crossing patrol. You suddenly realise the responsibility you have for everybody that crosses with you. My nerves would have been eased if I knew every car on the road respected a patroller but I had to have my guard up all the time looking out for drivers that simply did not adhere to the rules of the road. I witnessed one man pulling over and stopping directly on the crossing putting the children and myself at danger, just to ask me for directions!"

As for the possibility of Wayne becoming a permanent fixture on Stockton's roads, Road Safety Officer Peter Fleming added, "Wayne did a fantastic job and if he ever fancies a career change then we'd be delighted to welcome him to the team!"



## Theatre Groups Lead The Way In Road Safety

Stockton Councils Road Safety Teams innovative approach to delivering vital messages to people in the borough lets over 4000 students from KS1 to 6th form watch live theatre, in an attempt to make them think before making a possible life changing decision.

Professional theatre companies Stopwatch and Ape Theatre Company have been visiting the area for over 13 years to present three 'Theatre in Education' productions.

'Too Much Punch for Judy' (Ape) is a hard hitting docu-drama, aimed at Year 10, 11 and 6th Form students

'Pills, Thrills and Automobiles' (Ape) is similar to 'Punch', although aimed at Year 11 and 6th Form.

'Chicken' (Stopwatch) is shown to Year 5 & 6 pupils and raises the issues of wearing cycle helmets and the dangers of playing 'chicken' on the road as well as peer pressure and bullying.

'Road Race' is an interactive performance for Year 5&6 with every child participating in identifying traffic problems making decisions on sustainable ways of travelling to school.

In 'Footsteps – The Movie', aimed at Year 1&2 pupils, every child participates in the story of a safe road-crossing which is filmed and then projected back on a big screen as the big finale. The school keeps the DVD of the movie to use as follow-up and reinforcement.

Any school interested in finding out more about the Theatre In Education programme can contact Peter on 01642 526737 or by email [peter.fleming@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:peter.fleming@stockton.gov.uk)

