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|  |  **William Gilbert Endowed** **(Church of England)** **Primary School & Nursery** **Vicarage Lane, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire,** **DE56 4EB** **Telephone & Fax: 01332 840395** **E-mail: *enquiries@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk*** **Headteacher: Mrs E H Britten**  | C:\Users\office\Downloads\Church logo (3).jpg |

12th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

**Scooter Safety Awareness Refresher Training – Thursday 18th September 2025**

Over the next few weeks, we will be delivering safeguarding assemblies where we will continue to learn about keeping safe, staying healthy, and active.

I shared in the first school newsletter of the term the following updates.

* **Modeshift Month September 2025 -** There will be a range of activities taking place during Mode Shift Month that promote active and sustainable travel. See the letter sent earlier this week communicating events taking place during Mode Shift Month.
* **‘Love to Ride’ for Cycle September –** Well done to all those who have decided to join in the fun with the William Gilbert Wheelers through the ‘Love to Ride’ app. Our challenge is to collectively ride the distance from WGES to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France – 423 miles! Whether it’s a family weekend bike ride, a bike ride to school, or a parents commute to work, you can all join in the fun. Follow the link to join the fun.

The William Gilbert Wheelers on Love to Ride. Check it out and join here: <https://www.lovetoride.net/england/groups/6213?group_invite=true&ic=f0c62f77&locale=en-GB>

* On **Monday 22nd September** is World Car Free Day and we will be promoting this with a ‘**Walk, Wheel and Ride Day’**. On Monday 22nd September we would like to encourage as many families as possible to leave the car at home and walk, wheel or ride to school on this day. For those families living outside of the village, could you arrange a car share or get the bus to school? Or there is a park and stride option in the following locations - The Chevin Golf club carpark - Golf Lane, Duffield, DE56 4EE or at The Viceroy Restaurant car park- 2b Tamworth Street, Duffield DE56 4ER during drop off and pick up times.

As we continue to promote alternative, environmentally friendly and healthy methods of travel to school we feel it is important to ensure that children travelling to school or around the community with their families need to know how to:

* handle their scooter safely and with control.
* be road aware when travelling on pavements and crossing driveways and roads.
* scoot with confidence and stability when riding their scooter.
* Know when they need to get off their scooter and walk with their scooter e.g. on narrow pavements, crossing roads, crossing driveways etc
* Understand the importance of listening to the instructions of their parent/carer and scooting close to their parents/carers.

Therefore, we have organised for a Scooter Smart day to take place in school on **Thursday 18th September** for pupils in Reception to Y5.

To prepare the children for safe active travel we have arranged for Rob Bounds (senior transport officer from Derbyshire County Council) to visit school and run a day of scooter workshops. He has also offered to deliver short parent workshops (physical participation during the session is not necessary – we have willing volunteers to demonstrate) at the start and end of the day to provide top tips and advice to help train children to scoot safely along the route to school. These sessions have been very successful in other schools with positive feedback from parents so we hope you will support these sessions.

* **Parent safe scooter information sessions – 18th September**

**EYFS/KS1 parents – 9am – 9:15am** Once the children have all entered school and been registered by their class teacher, we will bring the children onto the playground to watch the demonstration before their workshop. Parents can then come onto the playground and stand in the designated area to listen to the demonstration and guidance. This will be repeated at 3:15 -3:30pm on the KS2 playground.

**KS2 parents (and any parent that couldn’t make the morning session from KS1) 3:15 – 3:30pm** Parents can enter the playground via the pedestrian gate and stand on the junior drive in the coned area. Pupils will be on the playground following their scooter safe workshops and then be dismissed via the junior gate at 3:30pm.

On Scooter Smart day each class from Reception to Year 5 will have a scooter training workshop and will be accompanied by their class teacher. Reception pupils will have the introduction to scooter safety awareness training. All other pupils, who attended these sessions last academic year will have refresher training and then access training to develop their control skills needed for when scooting in the community.

We would like every child to bring their scooter to school that day if they have one. The children will be learning how to use their scooter safely and take part riding around the skills course that will be set up. Each class will have a scooter parking zone on the junior and infant department playgrounds. Please **do not** go and buy a scooter if you do not have one at present. We have a small collection of scooters that the children will be able to access if they do not have one.



If you could take two minutes to follow the link below and complete the 3-question online form to indicate if your child will be bringing their own scooter of if they will need to borrow one. This will help us plan and prepare for the day. Thank you.

[Scooter Smart Workshop equipment required](https://forms.office.com/e/VqjFpECxGc)

There is no legislation that means pupils must wear a helmet. However, wearing a helmet is good and safe practice as it is better protection than no helmet at all. If your child normally wears a helmet and/or elbow/knee pads while scooting and you would like them to wear this on the day you can send this safety wear with your child.

The Scooter Smart session last around 30-40 minutes - please ensure your child dresses appropriately – i.e. send a waterproof coat if rain is forecast and a hat and sun cream applied if warm. There is no need to wear PE kit unless this is your child’s usual PE day.

We are looking forward to an exciting and successful Scooter Smart Day!

Yours sincerely

E H Britten

Headteacher

William Gilbert Endowed (Church of England) Primary School

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