

# Sustrans Bike It Update

## BMX SHOW FOR WALTON WINNERS



**Congratulations to Walton on the Hill Primary School who were this year's local and regional winners of the National Bike It Virtual Bike Race!**

They won a superb BMX show, and coaching sessions for all the children courtesy of Inertiashows! Kingswood Primary School was hot on their heels and came a very close second! The Virtual Bike Race resulted in children, staff and parents making an incredible **15,500** cycle journeys to school in just 20 school days across the 15 Reigate and Banstead Bike It schools that took part! Out of 400 schools in the UK, our area made the highest number of journeys for an area, contributing generously to the total of 288,000 journeys made by Bike It schools in the UK!



## We'd love to hear from you...

Sustrans Bike It officer for Reigate & Banstead is Gayle Rowson. Contact Gayle on 07876 236121 or send her an email at: [gayle.rowson@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:gayle.rowson@sustrans.org.uk)

### About Sustrans

Sustrans is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity. Our vision is a world in which people choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment. Every day we are working on practical, innovative ways of dealing with the transport challenges that affect us all.

### About Bike It

Sustrans Bike It project enables thousands of children to cycle to school every day. It helps schools highlight cycling in their travel plans; supports cycling champions; and proves cycling is a popular choice amongst children and parents. It equips children with the skills they need to cycle, and parents with the peace of mind to let them.

Each Bike It officer works with schools to create a pro-cycling culture that then sustains itself – with support schemes like the Bike It School Mark award scheme in place to continue the project's benefits.

To find out more, visit:

[www.sustrans.org.uk/bikeit](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/bikeit)

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The cycle bug has really spread throughout the school since Kingswood became a Bike It school 15 months ago! We are looking to install a second bike shelter as we now have 25% of children regularly cycling! For a small school, it is fantastic to see so many parents and children choosing to support this healthy form of transport. I would highly recommend Bike It to other schools!  
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**Duncan Steel - Headteacher,  
Kingswood Primary School**

## Mayor of Reigate & Banstead presents the first 8 Bronze Bike It School Mark Awards!



A special ceremony was held at Epsom Downs Primary School for 8 schools who were amongst the first in the UK to receive the Bronze Sustrans School Mark award from the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Cllr. Richard Mantle. Ten schools in the area have now achieved the award which is testimony to their hard work and commitment to transforming the school run; they have all achieved huge increases in the number of children regularly cycling to their schools!

These 10 schools are *Epsom Downs Primary School, Furzefield Primary School, Kingswood Primary School, Sandcross Junior School, Shawley Primary School, St. Anne's Catholic Primary School, Tadworth Primary School, Warren Mead Junior School, Wray Common Primary School and Yattendon School.*

### Bike It Vital Statistics for 2010:

- **32% of children are now regularly cycling to Bike It schools in the borough!**
- **9000 pupils were involved in Bike It activities during the Spring Term!**
- **15,500 cycle journeys to school were made in just 20 days over the Virtual Bike Race!**

### Bike It School Champion Quote:

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*The children of Warren Mead have taken to Bike It in a really big way. We recently held a fantastic family bike ride. 50 children and their parents snaked their way up to Epsom Downs where we enjoyed a picnic in the beautiful sunshine! In bike maintenance workshops, it has been amazing to see how many children enjoy scrubbing their chain with a toothbrush!!!*

*We now have over 50 children cycling to school on a regular basis, so we have had new cycle storage fitted. The children are very proud of themselves when they first cycle to school and soon come to realise, it means they can have fun whilst travelling to school, as well as being environmentally friendly!*

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Roz Cook-Abbott, Teaching Assistant and Bike It Champion – Warren Mead Junior School.

## Inter Schools Bike Skills Competition

3 experienced Bike It schools teamed up with British Cycling and local junior cycling club 'The Redhill Raiders', to put on an inter-school bike skills competition. The 3 teams of 20 children brought their bikes, parents and teachers to Kingswood Primary school for an exciting afternoon of bike races; testing their balance and agility. The rain started to pour down, but with it came the mud, which made it even more enjoyable! Tadworth Primary School were awarded the cup and the winners in each school won medals! Those who took part were *Warren Mead Junior School, Kingswood Primary School and Tadworth Primary School.*

