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**Headteacher:** Dr. A Wood, PhD, NPQH, BSc (Hons)

Thursday, 4 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

**Sponsored Walk Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October (with a reserve day of 10<sup>th</sup> October)**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October we will be participating in our annual sponsored walk. This is a great opportunity to involve all members of our school community in a walk amongst the local hills, taking in the beautiful scenery of the Long Mynd and the views of South Shropshire and beyond. Should we need to rearrange the event for adverse weather, we are holding a reserve day of Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Pupils and staff will follow a planned route via Carding Mill Valley and along the top of the Long Mynd before returning to school via Batch Valley - a route of just over 9 kilometres. This has proved to be a popular event in the past and an enjoyable day for all involved regardless of their experience of hill walking. We would like to raise as much as possible to support the development of school facilities which will benefit both current and future students of the school. We will also be donating some of the funds collected to our house charities.

Your child will be issued with a sponsorship form by their form tutor, and we are asking that collected funds are paid using your ParentPay account after the event. We hope that everyone is able to take part.

We will be offering an academic alternative for any students who choose not to participate in the event, but hope that with the right level of support, we can involve as many students as possible. Students will follow their usual timetable for the first 2 periods of the day before breaking for 'brunch' which can be purchased from the school canteen and students provided time to eat before we leave. A snack will also be provided for them on their return. For students that have additional needs that may restrict their involvement, we are able to adapt the route and / or plan alternative events for them to contribute towards on the day.

The first group of participants will set off shortly after, supervised by staff accompanying them as well as marshals stationed along the route. We encourage students to take snacks and water along with them for the event. Please remind your child of the importance of ensuring no litter has been left behind. There will be an assembly where students are made aware of what to wear for the day. Students are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes or trainers and to dress in their house colours. We will monitor the weather and advise accordingly however we suggest packing a waterproof coat and layers as the weather can be changeable at this time of year. We have also been requested by the National Trust to not allow students to play music using portable speakers.

Consent for this event must be provided via ParentPay Please complete the consent information by Friday 19th September so that we can plan accordingly. If you have more than one child at the school, you will need to provide a separate consent for each of them.

Should you have any questions or queries do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Wise  
Head of Creative Arts