

27.11.12

Dear Parent / Carer

Bike It comes to Archibald First School!

I'd like to introduce an exciting project that is starting at Archibald First School this year. **Bike It** is run by Sustrans, the charity that enables people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more everyday journeys, and the project aims to help more pupils to be able to cycle to and from school.

Over the next year I will be working with the school to promote cycling in the following ways:

- By making sure school has the **facilities** needed by pupils who want to cycle to school, including secure cycle storage
- By working with the local council to **provide cycle training** to help pupils ride safely and feel more confident on their bikes
- By organising **promotional activities and events** to encourage pupils to cycle to school
- By involving **local shops, clubs and other organisations** to help us
- By **working with parents** so that they can help support the project

At Sustrans, we think cycling is an excellent way for children to travel to school, as it is good for their health, good for the environment, and it helps to develop independence and road safety skills. We focus on making cycling as safe as possible, and by reducing the number of cars around the school, we can help to make the neighbourhood a quieter, safer and less congested place.

During this year, there will be lots of opportunities for parents to get involved in the activities and even train to become cycle instructors. If you're interested in helping out, please contact me via the school or using my details above.

The first Bike It activity is a Christmas-themed 'Bling your Bike' day on **Tuesday 4th December** – please help your child to decorate their bike or scooter at home under the theme of 'Christmas' and bring the bike/scooter in on the day for a parade in their classes and a prize-giving assembly. Prizes for the most creative!

I look forward to meeting you at one of our activities, especially if you come by bike!

Best wishes,
Naomi Mackintosh
Sustrans Bike It Officer for Newcastle