

4 April 2016

Dear Parents / Guardians

## **Re: First Year Sponsored Dog Walk**

**Date:** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Meeting time/place:** 1.20pm at St Andrew's College (meet by the top Astro Turf pitch).

We are delighted to invite you and your family, to participate, along with your son/daughter, in our sponsored *Dog Walk*, in aid of the Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA) and Dogs for the Disabled (www.dogsfordisabled.ie). If you are a dog owner, please bring your pet along to the event (on a lead).

The principal objectives of our sponsored event are to raise money for these charities and to make our students aware of the charities and their aims; we also want all First Year students to participate (the walk is compulsory), in order to develop the skills of teamwork, communication, leadership, organisation, creativity and to have fun as a Year group, thereby creating a Year identity.

## **The Route**

- The distance is 6.5km.
- The start and finish point is the side of the top Astro Turf pitch. Estimated walking time is 1 hour 15 minutes to a maximum 2 hours, depending on your pace.
- Walkers should bring their own water for themselves and their dogs.
- Dog owners MUST act responsibly (no fights, no mess – bags should be taken home or put into appropriate bins).
- Route maps will be provided.

We would like as many parents as possible to take part, but we do, of course, understand that you may have work commitments. If you are not participating with your son/daughter, do not worry as form teachers, year heads and lots of other teachers will be taking part, with or without pet dogs.

Students have been given a sponsorship form in order to collect donations from friends and family.

We look forward to seeing you, with or without a dog, at what promises to be a fun and memorable event.

Kind regards

Audrey Talbot & Laura Griffin
First Year Heads

Gillian Wallace Event Coordinator