



Wairarapa News Wednesday 6/8/2008 Page: 23 Section: General News Region: Masterton Wairarapa Circulation: 19,413 Type: Suburban Size: 377.22 sq.cms. Published: --W----

Go Green Challenge for healthier kids and less traffic

Healthier children and less congested streets were two of the benefits of the Go Green Challenge run by Greytown School this winter.

Greytown School teacher, Sally Morch, led the school in challenging its pupils to walk, cycle or catch the bus to school, instead of being driven, as many times as they could for a set period.

Many pupils took to the Go Green Challenge with relish. One of the winners, Annalese Hume Kinzett, 10, said it was only a brief illness that stopped her riding her bike to school every day during the challenge.

Greater Wellington school travel plan co-ordinator Rebecca Mitchinson supported the challenge and says walking or biking to school has benefits for the whole community.

"The kids get exercise and arrive at schoolmotivated to learn. It also increases their local knowledge, improves road and safety skills and helps build confidence. The community benefits from less traffic, noise and air pollution."

Greytown School is looking at continuing their efforts through Greater Wellington's School Travel Plan Programme that aims to reduce the number of car trips to and from school.

Rebecca says Greater Wellington is available to work with schools to develop travel plans that cover safety, health and environmental benefits.

Schools wanting to find out more about travel plans can contact Greater Wellington on 06 378 2484.

Greytown School began the Go Green Challenge as part of the Greentown sustainable living promotion in June.

Annalese Hume-Kinzett, 10, Tane Jensen, 9, and Jade Thomas, 7, try out the ROADWORKS raincoats they won in the Go Green Challenge supported by Rebecca Mitchinson of Greater Wellington.



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