



# Belvoir Challenge 2023 – we need you!

The 2023 Belvoir Challenge will take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March and we need your help!

## What is the Belvoir Challenge?

The Challenge is a 15 or 26 mile run / walk around the Vale of Belvoir and is now in its 33<sup>rd</sup> year. The event is famed for its cake filled checkpoints and raises up to £20,000 a year for Harby School. These funds are vitally important to the school and are used to support the children's learning by funding things such as books, IT, refurbishment and music and playground equipment. The monies are also used to heavily subsidise all of our school trips. In other words, every single child at the school benefits directly from the money we raise. Given the current cost of living crisis it is more important than ever that we continue to raise as much money as possible as the school's budget becomes ever tighter.

## **What can I do ?**

Give us some of your time!

With up to 1,000 participants the Challenge is a huge logistical undertaking and we desperately need people to commit their time on the weekend of the event to enable it to be a success. As a small school we only have a limited number of volunteers available, but if someone from every family commits some time to the event this will enable it to continue for many more years. As children and families move on from the school we need new people to join us to fill the gaps. If this does not happen we will not be able to continue running the Challenge, and the onus will then be on parents to undertake more frequent fundraising events to help make up the shortfall in funds. Any help is greatly appreciated – so whether you have an hour, or the whole day to offer, please let us know. Also, please feel free to rope in aunts, uncles, grandparents etc. – everyone is welcome and the day itself is a great community event!

If you are thinking of running or walking the Challenge yourself please reconsider and come and help out instead.

## **How many people do you need?**

As many as we can get! In 2022 we had over 100 volunteers, some of whom no longer have children at Harby School. Many of these people also undertook multiple roles, which shows just why we need some new faces to join us.

If you need an idea of what is involved, these are some of the specific roles undertaken before, during and after the event:

- Route markers and back runners - to mark the route on the day and “sweep” it after the event;
- Cardboarders – to cardboard the village hall checkpoints on the Friday evening to help reduce clean up time on the Saturday;
- Equipment sorters – to sort out all of the equipment needed for each checkpoint and transport it to the checkpoints on the Friday evening;
- Sandwich makers – to make 700 sandwiches for the checkpoints;
- Village Hall crew – responsible for setting up Harby Village Hall and manning it on the day;
- Car park attendants – responsible for organising the park and ride facilities on the day;
- Marshalls – located around the route to keep runners safe and on the correct route;
- Checkpoint teams - responsible for manning the 4 checkpoints around the route and clearing them down after the event;
- Kitchen team – to man the kitchen in Harby village hall where we serve soup and pudding to all participants after the run;
- Merchandisers - responsible for selling T shirts, mugs etc. to participants
- Clean up crew – to clean up Harby village hall on the Sunday morning.

Last, but by no means least, we need to provide over 800 portions of pudding and 1,200 portions of cake, so we will be asking people to bake or buy these nearer the time. If you do provide cake and/or puddings, please also consider undertaking another role as well.

Within the next few weeks class representatives will be speaking to all parents in the playground at school pick up to rally support. In the meantime, if you would like to learn more or volunteer please contact the School Office . Alternatively , you can contact Louisa Buck ( 07979 187573) or Kate Reeves (07974 834407) or message us via the Belvoir Challenge Facebook page.

Thank you!

The Belvoir Challenge Committee.

