



MEDIA RELEASE

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60,000 KIDS JOINED IN VICTORIA WALKS TO SCHOOL DAY

This year, 60,000 students from more than 300 schools around the state walked, skated, scooted, skipped, cycled and even rode horses to school on 19 October for the VicHealth-funded *Victoria Walks to School Day*.

Olympic Gold Medallist and VicHealth board member Nicole Livingstone OAM, Victorian Minister for Education The Hon. Martin Dixon and a host of local identities and politicians joined the kids, teachers and parents who walked.

Dr Ben Rossiter, executive officer of Victoria Walks, said many schools more than doubled the amount of kids who had walked the day before.

“It was fantastic to see so many people in the community getting on board to help make physical activity a part of every child’s daily routine,” Dr Rossiter said. “I’d encourage every school that took part to keep it up throughout the year. Kids who walk to school do better in the classroom, have more energy, and are healthier and happier.

“We loved the creative ideas we received this year from all over the state. Some rural schools implemented regular ‘stop and drop zone’ for kids who could not walk the whole distance, some students dressed in the colour of their favourite vegetable, while others walked with black balloons to represent the carbon emissions they were saving by walking. One student even rode to school on her horse,” Dr Rossiter added.

This year, Golden Shoe Awards were awarded to **Drummond Primary School** and **Baliang East Primary School**. These schools had the greatest increase in students walking on the day compared to the day before. **Edithvale Primary School** and **Templestowe Valley Primary School** won the random prize draw for a Tabloid Sports Carnival for their school.

Congratulations to the following schools for achieving the greatest proportion of students walking to school in each of their categories. Each school won a \$300 Hart Sport equipment voucher.

1-199 student walked	200-349 students walked	350+ students walked
Drummond Primary School	Belmont Primary School	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Amphitheatre Primary School	St Anne's Primary School East Kew	St. Mary's Catholic Primary School
Dartmoor Primary School	Holy Trinity Primary School Wantirna South	Williamstown Primary School
Apsley Primary School	St Albans Heights Primary School	Princes Hill Primary School
Jindivick Primary School	Clayton North Primary School	St Monica's Catholic Primary School - Moonee Ponds
Balliang East Primary School	Surfside Primary School	Port Melbourne Primary School
Marysville Primary School	Burwood Heights Primary School	Roberts McCubbin Primary School
Tobruk Street Primary Morwell	Christ Our Holy Redeemer School	St Therese Catholic Primary School - Essendon
Woodford Primary School	Sherbourne Primary School	Lara Lake Primary School
Napoleons Primary School	Trinity Catholic Primary School Richmond	Canterbury Primary School

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www.victoriawalks.org.au/walktoschool