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Dear Parents and Carers,

This half-term has really had it all from snow to the Superbowl. One thing that has remained pertinent though is the value of exercise and physical activity during this time. With that being said, I am very excited to introduce our new lockdown active challenge. To provide context, in the summer of last year, the children were set the challenge of cycling, walking and running the distance from Land's End to John O'Groats which they achieved admirably within just a matter of weeks. Consequently, I felt we could, in this challenge, go one step further (literally) and challenge other schools...

Therefore, I introduce to you the nationwide

National Half Term Distance Competition: 15-21st February.

This is a national competition (run by 'The Children's Challenge') and we will be competing against at least 37 other primary schools (growing daily!) from around the country. These schools represent over 12,000 pupils! There are schools as close as Eastleigh (Fair Oak) and as far as the Brecon Beacons. When you go onto the website below, there is a list of all the participating schools for you to see who our challengers are!

The aim of this challenge is simply, as a school, to run, cycle, walk, scooter or wheelchair as far as possible collectively during next week's half-term break.

Parents are encouraged to walk, run, cycle or scooter with their children from Monday 15th to Sunday 21st February and then log their child's daily distance under "Submit Daily Distance" on the following website:

<https://thechildrenschallenge.com/feb-1521-half-term-competition>.

The sum of the distances travelled by all children attending our school should be submitted at the end of each day. All rules, as well as the all important daily leaderboard, can be found on the above website. The leaderboard will show the absolute distance travelled by all the children at the school as well as the average distance per pupil. The key to **national glory** will be maximum participation!

I also will be awarding certificates to the children cover the most distance in each year group.

It promises to be a highly engaging, competitive and fun event. The purpose is to encourage children from all around the country to exercise everyday for both their mental and physical health.

I, along with the HJS staff, will certainly be adding to our total and uploading daily! **Not that I am competitive at all, but I would really love to win this!**

Any questions, please do get in touch. Good luck Hiltingbury!

Mr C Wright
P.E Lead

