

# Ride2School Champions

## Nicholas Davern and Leanne Bainbridge - Rye Primary School

Rye Primary School is a stand out Ride2School Champion school in itself. When joining the program in June 2008 the school had an active travel rate of 11 per cent. Since then, the active travel rate has been on a steady rise with now 37 per cent of Rye Primary's students regularly walking and riding to school.

This success has been attributed to the hard work of our December Champions, Nicholas Davern and Leanne Bainbridge, who have been working tirelessly to increase the number of active travelers.

The pair, both Grade 4 teachers at the school, developed multiple strategies to give students an opportunity to be active on the way to school.

For example, the use of a meeting points allows students to join the teachers on their daily commute to school. Within 12 months, the numbers of students involved in the daily ride has risen from 2 to well over 40 students. Along with other events including lunch time rides twice a week and the occasional evening ride the school has shown great success through their involvement with the Ride2School program.

Rye's most recent evening ride saw 137 students, 37 parents and 17 staff join in for a ride along the Rye foreshore and a BBQ tea to follow.

The installation of new bike racks by the local council at the school has been a credit to Nicholas and Leanne's dedication to providing a supportive school environment.

Rye Primary were also the recipients of bikes through Ride2School's 1000 Bikes Student Leadership Reward and an additional 4 bikes donated to give more students an opportunity to ride more often.

Nicholas and Leanne's hard work at Rye Primary has increased awareness of the program within the local community including coverage in a number of newspaper articles, including a front page story.

Congratulations Nicholas and Leanne and keep those pedals turning.