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Crowns Wood College,
145 Bexley Rd,
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Arden

16 November 2013

Dear Mr M. J. Murphy,

The Mark Evison Foundation is a charity that gives awards to students to spend on personal challenges that they have proposed and organised. These 'school awards' are valued up to £500, they are for students aged 16-18 years, and they provide a wonderful opportunity for students (singly or in small groups) to complete a challenge outside their academic studies. Although a teacher will be needed for communication with the charity, the emphasis is for pupils to lead on their idea. We are writing to invite you to participate in this scheme, and encourage students to apply for a Mark Evison Foundation award in 2014 (and possibly subsequently) at your school.

The Foundation (www.markevisonfoundation.org) was set up in 2009 to promote the personal, mental and physical development of young people. We have found that as pupils stretch themselves doing something that particularly interests them, it gives them confidence, and that award winners serve as examples to other pupils, boosting morale and often hope and energy.

Please see the website for previous award winners, and the enclosed accounts by some of this year's successful award winners. You will see that awards are often given for physical or creative and musical activities, but we are very open to ideas.

I am very happy discuss with you what would be involved. Basically if the school is interested, we would start by meeting with you to explain the Foundation, and/or we would talk to an assembly to your Year 11 or 6th form students. After that, students can put together proposals for their projects before an end date - it helps if this stage is overseen by a teacher. Finally we would judge the proposals, preferably together and usually around Easter time, as many students carry out their challenges over the summer holidays.

We have found it very helpful to have support at a senior level. Do ring me on 07789 765 867 or 020 8693 2254 to discuss further, or email info@markevisonfoundation.org.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Evison

Margaret Evison
For the Trustees

Examples of Mark Evison Foundation Awards 2013

Setting up a summer football coaching project on my Estate Firstly, for the project I attended a one week course to become an FA Level 1 Coach, the course went well and I passed. During the course I met some famous and respected coaches. I also learnt things from my head coach which I found useful and used when coaching the summer project. Because of the course and how well it went I'm now part of the London Football Coaches Association and a member of the Licensed Coaches Club.

The project was meant to be just for the summer holidays, just 5 weeks consisting of 10 sessions, but it turned out to be something much, much bigger than I expected. We had 30+ registered participants from the community between the ages of 8-14. I had 3 young volunteers who helped with parts of the project. I had 1 volunteer who showed his passion for football, coaching, care for the young players of the community and dedication to coaching them by attending every session.

For me the project was an experience I couldn't and wouldn't want to replace. The project gave me a chance to develop as a coach and leader, because I've never really been in complete control of something like this before. That's something I'd like to thank Margaret and the MEF for, the control and responsibility they gave me over the project.

The real reason why I say the project became much bigger than I expected is because we decided to enter our under 13's into a league, that's our 11 and 12 year olds. A lot of time and planning has been put into and I've had so much support from volunteers and parents, which I'm grateful for as without them it wouldn't have been possible. My aim was to provide a platform to allow players to develop that will continue to be my aim not only for the players, the coaches as well.



Coast to coast hike With the help of the Mark Evison Foundation we were able to complete our objective of crossing the country by foot. The walk itself was approximately 200 miles and in the end took us around 12 days. The Walk began from St Bees, just south of Carlisle and ended in Robin Hoods Bay, just south of Whitby. This was no easy walk in the park as along route we had to cross over the various peaks of the Lake District and the Peninnes which proved to be quite a challenge. However, along route we had the pleasure of witnessing some of the most spectacular views in Britain, overlooking the Yorkshire Dales from the tops of the Pennines and witnessing the most amazing coastal views towards the end. Fortunately we arrived back home safely without any broken limbs, although we did have a bag fall into the lake on the first day and one of the team had to swim in order to get it. But that just added to the excitement of the walk itself and in the end we really enjoyed it. We hope in the future we will be able to complete a greater and more adventurous challenge. Once again, a big thank you to the Mark Evison Foundation who allowed us to fulfil our goal of walking across the country.