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Eddie Dowding Scholarship

Dear Parents and Carers,

As many of you will recall Eddie Dowding, our oldest surviving pupil passed away last year. Eddie was an integral part of our school, and gave many, many years of voluntary service to support our children. Not only did Eddie coach several sports teams, officiate Family day and undertake the role of Father Christmas, over a 50 year period he was also a great support for many of our children and families, whom he mentored and supported around Bagshot.

In his memory we launched the **Eddie Dowding Memorial Parents Race** last year. We asked parents for a small donation, to enter the parent's races, which then went towards a sports scholarship to enable one of our pupils to participate in a sporting club of their choice. This year, one child has been able to join our football club due to this scholarship, that otherwise would not have had the opportunity. I have no doubt Eddie would very much support this scholarship, and more than likely would want to coach the children himself!

I would like this tradition and scholarship to be a lasting legacy, in Eddie's memory and therefore will be running the race in the same way again this year. I am very pleased to report that Eddie's son; Peter will be flying in from Australia to join us on family day this year to be our official starter!

I fully appreciate that the parents race is not everyone's favourite part of family day but, I hope you will agree with me that this is fitting tribute and join in, on the day, either with a small donation or a donation and running the race!

Kind regards

Miss Aldred