

# Local Community Experience

## Case Study: Crossmichael Primary School

The Tour of Britain is an opportunity for communities on route of each stage to celebrate and embrace cycling in the lead up to race day as well as when the race comes past their front door.

We spoke to **Crossmichael Primary School** in Castle Douglas, Scotland, which was along the 2019 Stage One route of the Tour of Britain, about how they made the most out of the Tour coming past their school.



### How did you go about getting Crossmichael School involved in the build-up to the events, as well as activities on the day?

“The first thing we did was sign up to the ToB website schools area and then downloaded the School Pack. From this we decided to have a colour in a Cycling top competition, all 75 pupils were given a cycling top template to take home and colour in as they wished. Meanwhile we approached our local cycling shop Studio Velo and asked the owner Gareth if he would judge and sponsor the competition, to which he agreed. The day before the tour started we had an assembly in school and the winners (one from each of our 3 classrooms) were presented with a custom-made Studio Velo bar of chocolate.

We decorated our village of Crossmichael using the entries from our colouring competition, which we laminated and made into flags, we decorated an old bike with streamers and our school badge logo and also put up bunting of flags from around the world.

Our biggest project was our land art entry; we discussed as a whole school the possibility of doing a land art display and decided this would be a fab activity to get the whole school and wider community involved. We found a template of a rider on a bike that we thought would be simple to create but look effective from the air and then tried to decide what equipment we had in school that we could use to bring our idea to life. We knew straight away we would use our parachutes for the wheels and then we tried out lots of different ideas in the school hall to work out what worked best. Blue is our school colour so we decided to use our tables and chairs from the dining room and one of our parents donated 30 blue crates from their farm to use for the body of the cyclist. We had to create our design on the Friday afternoon and leave it up as no one was able to do this on the day of the race, all 75 pupils and some staff worked together to create the design – it was a massive team effort and great fun. When we were sure everything was where we wanted we added our finishing touch of a Scotland flag and then set up a drone so we could see what it would look like from above. This was an amazing moment and the children were thrilled to bits and excited to see if it would be on TV.”

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# Local Community Experience

## Case Study: The Northern Line

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### What did the school do to make the most out of the Tour of Britain coming to their home town?

“As the Tour passed through the village on a Saturday we were not in school to go out in mass and support but as well as decorating the village we sent home details to all our parents of the expected times for the race coming past and places to potentially watch.

We also sent home details of what channels were covering the footage so they could watch out for our land art, and finally we made families aware of the activities taking place at the finish area in Kirkcudbright.”

### Has the school carried on with engaging in cycling activities and how?

“At the minute our school is buzzing with the excitement of making it to the land art competition. We are constantly sharing the news and checking up on our progress daily. Our latest news is that Chris Hoy has tweeted his support and this sparked a big discussion on who he is and what he has achieved in cycling.”

### What impact do you think the Tour has had on school children in the area?

The pupils were buzzing after seeing the race pass through and seeing their land art on tv. Since [the land art created] was shortlisted as a finalist in the public voting, this impact has snowballed through out the whole of our region. We are a very small rural school but have shared the news with all the schools in Dumfries and Galloway and so the impact has been massive. The children are motivated, excited; and, thanks to this, the legacy of the Tour lives on.