



### **Safe Routes to School**

In May 2015, the Town of Smithtown received a 5 year NYS Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Grant! The Youth Bureau has been implementing this grant program, which aims to increase the number of children that can safely walk and bike to school; and to promote and encourage programs that increase physical activity and healthy school communities. The Town of Smithtown received the grant to collaborate with four schools in the Commack School District: Indian Hollow Primary School, North Ridge Primary School, Sawmill Intermediate School and Wood Park Primary School.

Thus far, Wood Park Primary School held a “Walk Safely to School Month” in October as well their “1<sup>st</sup> Annual Turkey Challenge” in November! December’s focus is “Take 5”, where students and families are encouraged to take 5 minutes a day for some quick exercise!

Meetings with School Principals are scheduled over the next few months to review safety concerns and gather information for a long term Safe Routes to School Action Plan!!

For more information on Safe Routes to School, please contact Gina Shalhoub, Community Relations Specialist at [gshalhoub@tosgov.com](mailto:gshalhoub@tosgov.com).