

School mini bus is just the ticket

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DOWNS Comprehensive School pupils realised that all their fund-raising activities had been well worthwhile on Thursday when a new minibus was delivered at Compton.

Total cost was £3,355.59, a sum which represents several years of loyal support by parents, friends, local firms and public houses. Much of the money was raised by the school's sponsored walk and summer fair.

The school is now investigating ways of raising more money to make full use of the vehicle, maintain it in good order and provide a special garage for it.

The minibus is already proving valuable. It was booked three times during its first week, including a trip to a dry ski-slope at Reading for a group of 15 pupils who will be going on the school ski-ing holiday in Italy this February.

Tonight, their under-16 soccer team will be going to Highdown School, Caversham, to contest the semi-finals of the county football cup.

Pictured with the bus are Mr. P. Bowden, headmaster; Mr. Colin Clay, one of the main organisers of the minibus fund; and three pupils who collected most sponsor money in their year, Carol Gordon, Alan Pearce and William Tyson.