



Student Safety: We need your help!

Thank you to those of you who park in the right places when picking up your tamariki. With the road works on Millen Avenue, we need to be even more vigilant with safety around Riverina School. We are sharing the article from the Eastern Courier with you, as in the article our Community Constable Merv Hotter highlights some of the common problems around schools, and the importance of our school communities helping the police and Auckland Transport solve the issues with Road Safety through making safe driving and parking choices.

I might be sounding like a broken record, but I'm still amazed at the congestion around schools and the amount of people willing to endanger the lives of others.

You will notice around most schools that there are broken yellow lines, no parking zones, clear ways and bus stops. All these things are strategically placed at the school to enhance the safety of our children.

With this in mind, parents and caregivers are continually ignoring these safety guidelines by stopping and parking wherever they feel like. I have no idea why you'd want to place any child in danger, but yet it continues on a daily basis.

For example, I recently asked students from Travelwise groups from two local East Auckland schools to do a survey on the behaviour of drivers in and around their schools.

I gave them a list of potential offences and after a seven-day period I was flabbergasted at the results.

The worst offenders were those that stopped on broken yellow lines. They are no stopping lines and while you may only stop for a few seconds, these lines are strategically placed for safety reasons.



In the seven-day period, 307 vehicles stopped on the yellow lines to allow their children to exit the vehicle. Other offences of note were U-turns outside of the school where 31 vehicles executed this.

A further 76 vehicles ignored the no right turn sign and 50 parked in the clear way.

Some comments from the students were that it was really hard keeping up with what was going on, as so many offences were being committed and that on another occasion there were many near misses.

I understand that we all lead busy lives, but when it comes to children there are no excuses for any of it.

Have a little think about what you're doing before you do it. Ask yourself is it safe? Am I allowed to stop here? Do I need to be doing what I'm doing?

There are other alternatives such as having a talk with the school and finding out about walking school buses, pick up locations further away from the school, or leaving your pick up for five minutes when the traffic calms down.

Those parents that turn up at school around 2pm just to get the best park clearly have time on their hands, so use that time to benefit the school and find out if there is anything you can do to alleviate the problem.

Please be patient when travelling around schools and don't do anything that is going to put other children in danger.

Police are working closely with Auckland Transport to ensure that children stay safe while going to and from school, so please do your part in helping us.

Photos of the Week



Upcoming Events

- Board of Trustees Meeting: Monday the 19th of June at 6.30pm
- Year 6 students to Edgewater College to see Little Shop of Horrors: Tuesday the 20th of June
- Matariki: Monday the 26th of June
- Financial Literacy: Thursday the 29th of June, all classes
- Room 3 and Room 9 Assembly: Friday the 30th of June at 2.00pm
- End of Term 2: Friday the 7th of July



Whakautauki of the Week



**Ki te kahore he whakakitenga
ka ngaro te iwi**



*Without foresight or vision the
people will be lost*



Tutira Mai

Riverina wants to join the All Blacks in Tutira Mai, and we are going to create a Riverina version. If you haven't seen the Team All Blacks version then it can be viewed online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=VxorRtINRTc

We invite our wonderfully musical school community to join us by sending in clips of your whanau, friends and tamariki singing the song. If you have a clip to share then please email it to r.haletama@riverina.school.nz.

We are hoping to have our school version ready to share by the start of Term 3. Last year our 'reading song' was a huge success, let's see if we can match that success with Tutira Mai.