

17<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Hello Parents, Grandparents, Caregivers & Whanau

**Reminder...**

I just thought I would take some time to provide you with some important information around school drop offs and pick ups, before and after school.

We are very fortunate in the Tararua in comparison to cities where the population increases and traffic is heavier.

However, with that can come some complacency, short cuts can be taken with parking in the incorrect zones, parking on yellow lines and allowing our children to cross the road at any given point.

Roads around schools both before and after school can be dangerous due to traffic volume and the number of students entering or exiting the grounds. The results can be very upsetting if things go bad.

It takes no longer to park in the designated areas, and it does not hurt our children to have to walk a distance into the school grounds - the exercise is good!

It is timely reminder about the safety and legal obligations of all who bring children to and from school in a vehicle.

The school and Police want to ensure the safety of children at pick up and drop off times. “**School Traffic Safety Teams**” are our Kia crossings, school patrols and wardens who do a great job. We are so proud of their commitment in performing their duties. However, their job is made difficult due to parking and road rules not being adhered to.

This also includes persons sitting in vehicles and beckoning children to cross the road to their point and vehicles parking in designated **bus stops**.

While not all Tararua schools operate a STST crossing; all road safety measures are required at every school.

Police are committed to the safety of children around schools and as a result will be monitoring these locations at peak times.

Below is a list of offences that will be policed:

Failed to stop and remain stopped for School Patrol	\$150.00
Driver or passenger not wearing seat belt	\$150.00
Failed to ensure child 8-14 year used seat belt	\$150.00
Permitted child under 15 in front seat unrestrained	\$150.00
Failed to ensure child under 7 in approved child restraint	\$150.00
Driver used a mobile phone while driving	\$150.00
Parking on or near a pedestrian crossing	\$60.00
Parked in area of broken yellow line	\$60.00
Parked obstructing vehicle entrance	\$40.00
Parking on a broken yellow line	\$60.00
Unlicensed drivers	\$400.00
(can also result in Court appearances if failure to comply occurs)	

If we all do our bit to be aware of the risks and adhere to the regulations, then our children will be safe.

Yours faithfully

*M F Walshe*

**M F Walshe**

Senior Constable  
School Community Officer  
**TARARUA**