



April Newsletter

Bicycles

Students will soon be riding their bikes to school. Classroom teachers will be discussing Bicycle Safety with students. Here are 3 quick safety tips:

- ⇒ **Always wear a helmet (CJES is a “no helmet-no bike school)**
- ⇒ Always walk your bike on the CJES playground
- ⇒ Always walk your bike across an intersection

Dry Clothes

With the warm weather soon upon us the playground is going to be wet for quite some time while the mountains of snow melt. *A reminder to send your child with rubber boots and splash pants, as soon there won't be a dry spot on the playground.* It would also be a good idea to send along an *extra pair of socks and a change of clothes in a plastic bag* that they can keep in their locker in case they get wet during recess.

Messages to students

If you have an *important message* that needs to get to your child that day, *please call the office*. It is rare for a teacher to check their email or Edsby during the day. It is also possible that the teacher may not be at school that day.

Safety Patrollers

CJES will be treating our Safety Patrollers to a free pizza lunch on Apr. 21st.

School Zone Traffic Awareness - CJES

The following is some information to follow when travelling in and around our school zones. *Please share this information with anyone who may be picking up and dropping off students.*

❖ *The speed limit through all school zones in Canora is 30km/hr.* All students are encouraged to cross at designated crosswalks and should be biking/walking on the right hand side, or sidewalks if available.

❖ *It is imperative to drop off and pick up students on the curb side of the school yard.* This minimizes the risk of students crossing through oncoming traffic. Be in the habit of having your child exit and enter your vehicle on the Curb Side, reducing the need to be standing or walking around any vehicle on the traffic side. The street is quite narrow and if there is traffic from both directions it only adds to the chaos of someone opening doors on a parked car.

❖ *Please obey the Bus Loading Zone signs on the South side of the school.* No vehicles shall be parked in the Loading Zone at drop off and pick up times. Once the buses have exited past the school zone, the remaining students will be dismissed from school.

❖ ***The Parking Lot is for Staff Parking only*** as we do not want students crossing through the parking lot. Vehicles should not be backing up in the parking lot during the high traffic time of dismissal. ***We ask that only Staff vehicles use these parking areas.***

❖ ***Students and families are encouraged to use the Safety Patroller corners to cross the streets.*** This program is well run and we are so fortunate to have it. As parents/guardians/older siblings it is important for everyone to obey the decisions of the Safety Patroller. They will advise when it is safe to cross.

School zones - <https://www.sgi.sk.ca/school-zones>

❖ ***As a driver, it is your responsibility to ensure that children are protected from harm*** as they go to and from school.

❖ ***Pedestrian safety is an essential part of a community's well-being and nowhere is this more important than in a school zone.***

Here are some simple tips you can use to help keep our students safe.

Slow down - Most school zones have reduced speed limits, marked by reflective fluorescent signs. The limit varies between communities, but the concept remains the same: ***reducing your speed allows you more time to react and brake in the event of an emergency.*** The fine for speeding in school zones starts at \$170 and goes up from there depending on your speed. You'll also be penalized 3 demerit points by SGI under the Safe Driver Recognition program, meaning you'll lose some of your discount or pay a financial penalty.

Be alert - ***During drop-off times school zones can become extremely congested and it may be difficult to identify hazards.*** Pay special attention to kids waiting to cross the street. Young children tend to think vehicles can stop instantly and may begin crossing before it is safe to do so. Be especially wary of kids darting between parked cars. Children are obviously much shorter than adult pedestrians, and though they may see you, they don't realize that you may not see them.

Exercise caution near school buses - ***Passing motorists are the single biggest threat to children as they enter or leave a school bus.*** Minimize the odds of a collision by **avoiding bus loading zones** whenever possible. If you must drive in those areas, obey all signs and signals and watch for youngsters who may not know the rules of crossing the street. Slow down as you approach a bus and come to a complete stop when its flashing red lights are activated. The lights, often accompanied by a stop sign, indicate that children are boarding or getting off the bus. You may not pass the bus until the lights are deactivated and the stop sign is retracted.

Use good judgment when stopping or parking - ***Parking is strictly prohibited in No Parking and No Stopping zones near schools.*** Keeping these areas free of vehicles is the best way to maintain visibility for other motorists. When dropping your child off at school, remember not to stop in the middle of the road. Waiting drivers may become impatient and attempt unsafe maneuvers to pass, putting you and your child directly in harm's way.

❖ *It is also unsafe to let your child off near a crosswalk since they will need to cross in front of your vehicle to use it.* Passing drivers won't immediately be able to see your child, which increases the risk of a serious collision. Regardless of where you drop off your child, try to have them exit the vehicle on the curb side, preferably on the same side of the street as the school. This will minimize their danger of being struck by passing vehicles.

❖ Finally, if you are stopped in a designated drop-off zone, be sure to turn off your vehicle's engine. Idling - particularly during cold weather - produces visible exhaust fumes that can obstruct the vision of other drivers and put the safety of young students at risk.

***Thank you for your time and attention to making
our School Zones Safe!***

I AM Week

The last week of April is "I AM Week" at CJES. Every day during this week, students will have a new "I AM" Book by Susan Verde shared with them. Each day during this week, a family activity about the book will be sent home. Students can return the activity for a chance to win the "I AM: Book of the Day.

