Road Safety Issues at Tanjung Bungah Campus

Since moving into our new site we have tried to make suggestions to make the approaches and road systems around school a safe environment for our students and our families. We were expecting the traffic lights outside of school to be operational by now and also to have some traffic calming systems in place on the main road.

However, as things were not progressing we wrote a letter to the area Mayor, Mr Tan, and to the MPP, receiving a response in December with a site visit by The Mayor and representatives of the MPP, hosted by the Secondary Principal, Mr Montier.

Attached are some points raised in the letter and a brief synopsis of some of their responses:

Extracts from the letter sent by the School:

At the junction of Jalan Lembah Permai and Lintang Lembah Permai 1, there is a set of traffic lights which, though fitted before the school opened last year, have not been operational. In addition, families using the service road have complained that, as people park their cars on both sides of the road to enjoy the food offerings of the restaurants and cafes on the main road, they have to edge further and further into the main street to be able to see if it is safe to pull out, going either left or right. If the lights were operational it would allow them to see more clearly when traffic flow would be reduced. If not on full-time then, as in many places, for the relevant authorities to consider having the lights working at the busy times of day.

.......the ‘opening’ of the junction has resulted in some drivers taking the dangerous manoeuvre of cutting across the junction into the slip road which also needs addressing. We have advised drivers against such dangerous driving but cannot patrol the junction.

Concern has also been raised about the speed of traffic using Jalan Lembah Permai particularly for vehicles coming down Mount Erskine Road. We would like to recommend the installation of some traffic calming measures on this busy main road, such as rumble strips (as near the corner alongside our neighbouring Deaf School) ………

As a number of children use the public bus service and others were dropped off on the opposite side of the road it is also suggested that an official crossing should be marked, or provision made for pedestrians to cross at the traffic lights when the lights are switched on.

As well as the road issue, many students and staff and some parents have commented on the safety of the slip road edgings as there are deep drainage channels each side of the road with no coverings.……..

Responses to most of these concerns were not very positive; we were advised by the MPP visitors that:

• With residential housing alongside, adding rumble strips on the main road causes noise pollution which is a problem for residents, therefore this is not a viable option
• Traffic lights will only be operational after the full residential development is completed
• Speed bumps are no longer being used as a speed control method
• The slip road sidings are not the responsibility of the MPP
• There will be some consideration for the idea of extending the central reservation as cars cutting the junction
• Reversing the flow of traffic down the slip-road outside the secondary drop-off area may be considered.

The School will continue to advocate for safer environs for the school at TJB and ask for your support and understanding as we continue but thought it important to inform you that we are concerned and are doing what we can to improve the situation.

Welcome to our remodelled newsletter

This is the first of our new design of newsletter to be sent out following an overhaul during the winter break in December. We are now publishing monthly, with items from around our school sections featured. Articles are colour-coded according to which part of the school they are about, using the colours shown at the bottom of this page. Items without a coloured surround relate to whole school issues relevant to all, such as this one. Upcoming events and calendar items, as well as short news items and notices have been featured in our weekly bulletin since the beginning of this term. There you will find the same colour coding to help you navigate around, but we try to keep the bulletin short and with the events information that is useful to you. The newsletter will now focus on more in-depth articles and reports of both past and upcoming events. We hope you like the new formats. If you have any suggestions relating to them, please email us at the address given at the top of the page. You can also choose to receive your newsletter only in soft-copy format by emailing the same address and giving the name and form-group of your child/ward. Do your bit for the environment and help us save on printing.

Mr Giles Montier
TISS Principal & Newsletter Editor

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Articles in this newsletter are colour-coded as indicated:

Tenby Schools Penang

Tenby International Secondary School

Tadika Tenby

Next Edition: Tuesday 5th March
Year 9 Auto City River and Open-Sea Cruise Trip by Rosanna Pathmanathan

On 17\textsuperscript{th} of January, the whole of year 9 set out for an open sea cruise and mangrove ecosystem tour.

We went to the buses right after period 1, at about 9 in the morning and got ready for the adventure ahead. The bus ride was extremely fun as we travelled all the way to mainland. We then got out of the buses as we reached a jetty, which is where we took off into separate boats and drove to an amazing fish farming business. We even got to walk side by side with the fish in the farms and feed them food. It was a very astounding experience to see the variety of fish being farmed.

Right after feeding the massive fish, we zoomed off to Pulau Aman, or in English, The Island of Peace. There we strolled through the kampong and up a slightly steep path leading us to the Telaga Emas (Golden Well). The Telaga Emas is a very special well because it produces fresh water right beside the sea (salt water), plus once someone claimed to see gold in it although that wasn't true. Whilst we were still in Pulau Aman, we had brunch and rested for a bit, only to move on quickly to our next destination: Penang Bridge.

The boats sped up really quickly and soon enough we were all drenched in water; it was so funny! Added to that, when the water dried you could actually see the salt grains on your face and hair.... Soon we were underneath Penang Bridge, it was pretty awesome as we got to see the structure of the whole thing.

After a short stop underneath the bridge, we raced off to the Mangrove Swamp, in which we noticed how thick mangrove swamps are, filled with such a high biodiversity – when many different species live in one place. Unfortunately, soon the fun boat ride was over as we reached the end of the Mangrove Swamp, which was directly next to auto-City. Our buses were already waiting for us to bring us back to school on time.

Overall, the whole trip was a success, not only because it was fun, but also because it taught us about how rich Penang is with its biodiversity and culture and a lot about the water which surrounds us, the bridge we drive on constantly and the island we cherish. The whole of Year 9 would also like to thank Mr Kevin, Mr Adrian and Mr Martyn for organising such a lovely event for us.

IGCSE Music Coursework

Before the Christmas holidays, Year 11 Music students spent a day at Hits Recording Studio in Tanjung Tokong to record and complete part of their IGCSE performance coursework. For most of the students, playing and recording in a professional recording studio was a completely new, and slightly nerve-racking experience, but they all performed exceptionally well and are now one step closer to completing their IGCSE music course. A big well done to all the students involved, and an even bigger thank you to Mr Fong who allowed us to use his fantastic studio!

Mr Nick McGauley
Music Coordinator
Road Safety Issues at Tanjung Bungah Campus (cont. from front page)

How Can We Help?
Please follow suggestions made over the past year including:
Not making a U-turn immediately after the central concrete lane separating blocks: please travel further down the road near the pull-in by the new development.
If you are travelling from Mount Erskine Road (Alila Homes direction) please consider making the slight detour by turning left by Summer Garden Restaurant it might add 600m to your journey but it will bring you up on the left of the road past the main school entrance. I have noticed that many of the cars making a potentially dangerous U-turn by the concrete blocks have turned left from Mount Erskine Road.
PLease do not ‘cut across’ diagonally now that the junction by the traffic lights has been opened further.
As a School let’s please try to travel slowly and if possible slow down to allow other ‘school cars’ to leave the slip road or turn onto the main road at the lights

Inside School Safety
Though we have repeatedly asked all secondary students to be dropped off on the slip road too many are still being brought into school at the start of the day.
Now there are 150 Primary pupils and 26 of them are under-4s it is even more important that we keep our youngest children safe and allow them to be dropped off without parents/drivers in cars jostling for position.
Parents and drivers who ignore this protocol will be receiving warning notices and their car registration will be listed. The School does not like to take such steps but needs must.
NO Primary parent/driver should leave his/her car at the Primary Drop-Off zone at the start or end of the day — If you need to come into school please park in a designated space or alongside the football field.

** If it is raining then secondary students may be dropped off inside the school perimeter but parents/drivers need to drop them off on the perimeter road near the cross-over at the swimming pool or at the Secondary Drop-Off corner NOT at the Foyer Area to allow for free movement around the small roundabout.
Thank you for your understanding,
Mr Phillip Brisley M.B.E.
Director of Tenby Schools, Penang

Back to School at Tadika Tenby