



Mix & Mash
competition final
round due
8 November 2013

From online competition
to technology projects,
school travel sparks quality
learning experiences.

Mix & Mash entries due

Friday 8 November is the deadline to meet

Competition entries about safe school travel are already in. More are expected in time for the final deadline of 8 November.

The Mix & Mash competition is open to secondary and primary students.

The competition is run by DigitalNZ and Creative Commons Aotearoa New Zealand to promote openly licensed content and data, and to encourage creative New Zealanders to remix respectfully. In 2013, Mix & Mash is themed the 'New Storytelling' and entrants need to use at least one piece of open New Zealand content or data in their digital stories.

The NZ Transport Agency is supporting an award for the Best Safer Journeys Story submitted by school students.

The prize for the Best Safer Journeys Story is \$500 in vouchers (of the school's choice) for each winning team member (up to six students) and \$2000 in vouchers (of the school's choice) to the winning school. Student entries are eligible for additional awards offered by Mix & Mash 2013.



A stop-motion video about toy figurines finding their way safely to school.

The NZ Transport Agency education portal has competition resources:
education.nzta.govt.nz/competitions

More inspiration and resources here:
mixandmash.org.nz/content-pools

Student stories about safer journeys are already winning prizes in Mix & Mash. Get a sneak peak of commended entries overleaf.

If your students are completing entries:

- Remind them of the deadline and the prize.
- Encourage them to decide on priorities. What must they do to finish and what bits are simply nice to have?
- Get them to double check the competition rules (mixandmash.org.nz/rules).
- Ensure they know where to submit their entry (mixandmash.org.nz/submit).

Judges impressed by student-made digital stories



Mix & Mash entries win preliminary prizes. Final entries due 8 November.

There's more than one way to tell a good story about staying safe on the journey to and from school. Mix & Mash competition judges gave August showcase prizes to the entries featured on this page. These stories are among entries running for the NZ Transport Agency Best Safer Journeys Story Award. The winner will be announced in December.

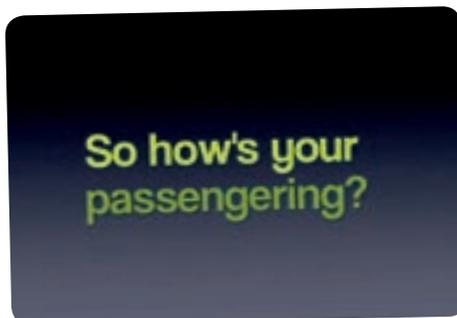


Highly Commended: 'Lego Life Lessons' by Travis, Evan and Jared Manning.

What they did: A video peopled with toy figurines who explain the benefits of walking to school safely.

What they said: 'We walk to school ourselves and we think it's great! We chose to do a Lego stop motion animation. It was fun but we soon learnt that it takes a long time to get just three seconds of footage. It was worth it, though.'

The judges thought: 'Incredibly well-produced. Stunning skill shown in creating a Lego stop motion clip.'

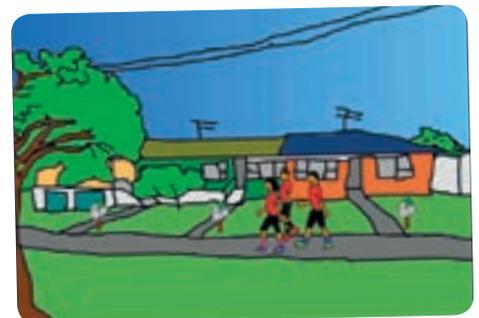


Commended: 'Are you in kidtrol?'

What they did: Kaurihohore School students made a video playing on the NZ Transport Agency's Mantrol campaign.

What they said: 'A group of our year 4, 5 and 6 children decided to do a remix to encourage children to be safe passengers. They decided upon the message "Be in Kidtrol...don't be a kid troll!" so that children could see how distracting and dangerous being kid trolls in cars could be.'

The judges thought: 'Fun, funny, imaginative. Very effective.'



Commended: 'Safer Journeys'

What they did: Pt England students made a video about safe walking, mixing actors with animation.

What they said: 'At our school, most kids walk but some still drive and we want to encourage them to get out on their feet. Our movie looks at how you can walk to school safely and happily.'

The judges thought: 'Great message that was clearly articulated. Lots of personality and good use of music.'

Also commended: Entries from Lumsden Primary School and Havelock North Intermediate School.

SECONDARY RESOURCES EASIER TO FIND:

Curriculum resources for secondary teachers are now easier to find on the NZ Transport Agency education portal. A clean tab-based layout helps visitors find resources by learning area. Junior secondary and NCEA resources available.

education.nzta.govt.nz/resources



Students create own scooter racks

Students at Christchurch South Intermediate School needed somewhere safe and secure to lock up their scooters. They came up with the solution.

As scooting to school became more popular, storage was a problem that needed solving. It took months of work during lunch-times but nine year 8 students in a technology extension group came up with a workable design for new scooter racks.

The result is to such a high standard that two other schools have purchased the racks too.

Technology teacher Randall Grenfell says that while this particular project was about providing the infrastructure to support students travelling by scooter, group members were learning all about problem-solving, independence and perseverance.

He noticed the group always arrived quickly for project sessions and were strongly engaged through each step of the process. They were ready to learn, in part because they had chosen the challenge themselves, he says.

'It was an authentic problem, not something a teacher dreamed up to get the ball rolling. It was real to them and their world.'

The group was mentored by a professional engineer, courtesy of the Futureintech initiative, which promotes careers in engineering, technology and science.

Further information: r.grenfell@chchsouth.ac.nz



Three students work on a wooden mock-up during the course of the project.



A completed scooter rack.

Most of the students in the group ride scooters to school so they knew it was a problem they wanted sorted. //

Technology teacher
Randall Grenfell.

The learning process

The group had a thorough process of research and design. Here's the outline:

- Identified shortcomings in current system, then researched and brainstormed solutions.
- Narrowed down criteria for a successful parking system: locking, ease of access, cost, environmental impact and durability.
- Sketched ideas and picked some for further evaluation.
- Made five different mock-ups in wood and tested these.
- Picked the frontrunner and made a cardboard model with exact specs for manufacture.
- Chose materials and hired an engineering firm to cut and fold a steel prototype.
- Prototype tested and design refined.
- Marketing and branding lessons lead to a sales brochure and approach to other schools.
- Orders taken. Components arrive at school for students to assemble.

Tuning in to students

Rob, a school community officer (SCO), has extra eyes and ears on the ground when it comes to gathering information about driver behaviour around schools. He needs help and it comes from students themselves.

Rob explains that when he visits a school to monitor traffic on the surrounding streets, motorists notice him in uniform and take extra care. That's a good outcome while it lasts, but he needs to know what happens on other days.

He accesses police intelligence reports on traffic. He also turns to his youngest allies, school students. Thanks to their road safety learning, they're often very clued up about road rules and they have their own wellbeing at heart.

'The students tell me a lot when I'm talking with them. They notice cars running lights or people talking on cellphones while driving,' says Rob.

Constable Rob Kennerley helps students in Auckland schools learn about road safety and other areas of need.



'They see most of it, and as they get comfortable with me, they'll come up and tell me what they've seen happening with the traffic.' Hearing from students helps Rob contribute to meetings about road safety at schools. Also attending might be teachers, parents and Auckland Transport staff who run the Travelwise programme. Travelwise aims to improve road safety and reduce the number of vehicles travelling to and from school at peak times.

Rob says these meetings are a chance for the Police and Auckland Transport to listen to the school community, understand the causes of concern and work with teachers and parents on solutions that work for them.

Primary students often get a couple of turns learning kerb drill. The second time, they're not just turning their heads but really looking up and down the street and noticing the traffic.

Constable Rob Kennerley



www.twitter.com/nztaeducation

More information

Constable Rob Kennerley says that if staff see problems around their school they don't need to wait to hear from their local SCO. They can contact their local police station directly.

SCOs are uniformed officers who work with school communities to prevent crime and crashes. To learn more, visit www.police.govt.nz and search for 'school community services'.



LATEST RESOURCES ON PINTEREST

Search our pinboard for links to the latest road safety education resources, articles and research. Updated regularly with NZ and overseas content.

VISIT: [pinterest.com/nzta](https://www.pinterest.com/nzta)