

NEWS RELEASE

Safety lesson for school holidays

The importance of staying safe around cane trains is a lesson students are urged not to forget during the upcoming school holidays.

While students get to enjoy two weeks off, cane trains will continue to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout Wilmar Sugar's four milling regions during the holiday period.

Cane Supply and Grower Relations General Manager Paul Giordani encouraged parents to remind their children about the dangers of playing on or near the cane railway network.

"It is important children of all ages stay clear of cane railway lines and keep off cane bins and other rail infrastructure," he said.

"Just last week we had to speak to some children who were fishing off a cane railway bridge in the Herbert region.

"It is a very dangerous activity. We have had incidents in past years where children have had to jump off bridges to avoid being hit by an oncoming cane train."

School holidays are often a nervous time for loco crews, with more children out and about across the regions.

"Our crews will be on extra alert, particularly when travelling through areas where children are known to play," Mr Giordani said.

Families hitting the road for the school holidays should stay alert for cane trains and slow-moving machinery which may be on local roads this time of year.

“Motorists should approach all cane railway crossings with caution and obey signs and signals,” Mr Giordani said.

“We ask people to be patient and always give way to oncoming cane trains.

“For the sake of a few minutes, it’s not worth risking your life and the lives of your passengers and our loco crews.”

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