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NEWS RELEASE

Parents urged to talk to kids about cane train safety

With the school holidays looming, Wilmar Sugar Australia wants parents and guardians to talk to their children about the dangers of playing near cane rail tracks.

Wilmar – Australia’s largest manufacturer of raw sugar – is urging parents and guardians to sit down with kids and discuss the importance of using their ‘train brain’.

Cane Supply General Manager Paul Giordani said children needed to keep well away from cane railway lines during the school holidays.

“Kids and trains don’t mix. We need parents and guardians to help us spread the message to children to keep well away from the tracks, points, locos and cane bins,” Mr Giordani said.

It follows an incident recently where a small motorbike was left lying near one of our railway lines.

“One of our locos clipped the motorbike. Fortunately the child wasn’t near it at the time.”

Mr Giordani said it was important for all road users to keep their ‘train brains’ switched on.

“Our loco drivers have reported near-hits where motorists, pedestrians and cyclists have rushed through a crossing to beat the train.

“These people are putting their lives and the lives of our loco drivers at risk. They need to obey the law and wait those few minutes for the train to pass,” Mr Giordani said.

Wilmar owns and operates Queensland’s third largest rail network, with 1600km of track across its Herbert, Burdekin, Proserpine and Plane Creek milling regions.

Cane trains will continue to operate day and night in all of these regions until around mid-November.

Wilmar Sugar Australia is urging everyone to be alert, obey all signs and signals at cane railway crossings, always give way to cane trains and stay clear of its locos and cane railway tracks.

ENDS



CAPTION: Wilmar is urging motorists, cyclists and pedestrians to use their 'train brain' this school holidays. Photo: Wilmar Sugar Australia

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