



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

September 27, 2019

**IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ!
A SINGLE MESSAGE TO ALL FRANKLIN FAMILIES**

This week several parents witnessed a near miss of a student, who was riding a bike, legally, on their way to school by a car that participates in our car line at Franklin. The driver chose not to obey the rules and missed hitting the student by inches. This incident has resulted in our need to take traffic safety from polite encouragement to strict enforcement at Franklin.

I have spoken with the Summit Police Department. We have been informed that residents may take photos of car license plates and report incidents to the police directly by filing a citizen's report that may result in a summons. I had a parent forward 3 photos to me this week reflecting illegally parked cars, a student entering a car in the middle of the street during pick up, and adults crossing Beekman Road in the middle of the street disregarding the crosswalk and legal parking guidelines. I will also continue to monitor traffic patterns and parking choices – provide warnings and involve law enforcement when necessary. Our kind and courteous crossing guard provides direction to drivers daily but, sadly, these directions – which ensure the safety of our students – are often ignored. I have also been disregarded and ignored by drivers.

It is my sincere hope that EVERYONE will respect the established structures and routines of drop off and pick up, park in the legally designated parking areas, use crossing guards and crosswalks ONLY and that the above stated measures will not become necessary. However, if you ask your child "What is Mrs. Tierney's 1st job here at Franklin" – I am fairly confident that they will reply – "To keep us safe" – a responsibility and trust that I take very seriously. Please support me in this effort. The safety of our students depends upon it!