Parental Information with regard to impact of Nepal Constitution demonstrations on transport to and from school.

Dear Parents

Nepal is entering a crucial period within the constitutional process and the government has set 20th September as the constitution promulgation date. In many ways this should be an occasion to celebrate, however a number of different groups within the country are not necessarily in favour of various clauses or points within the constitution. It can therefore be expected that political activity, and demonstrations will increase, particularly in the Terai districts, but also in the Kathmandu Valley between now and the 20th and possibly for a period following promulgation.

Today and in recent days crowds of protesters and onlookers have gathered around New Baneshwor, near or in front of the Constituent Assembly building, to protest about various constitutional issues. Similarly, the presence of large numbers of security forces in these areas has been significantly increased to avoid any untoward incidents. It is also to be expected that they will also enforce security check points in different places across the city in the coming days.

We very much hope that the focussed location of the demonstrations will have minimal impact on school and the children's learning (and in fact a healthy discussion at home over the issues raised may actually enhance learning). But please note the following transport related advice:

- Parents bringing or sending their children to school from across the city are advised to completely avoid Maitighar - New Baneshwor - Tinkune road and surrounding areas.
- Parents and/or drivers (and possibly older students) are advised to take with them personal identification at all times and be patient and respectful when interacting with security forces.
- Be prepared for traffic congestion on other routes as vehicles seek to avoid affected areas. Set off early for school or to collect children from school.
- Avoid all gatherings, crowds and protest activities. If such a gathering is blocking a route to or from school turn around and return to find a route that is well away from any gathering.
- Do not rely on your own or friends’ blue or green plated vehicles to get you through any problems any smoother than red or black plated vehicles.

As I said, hopefully this will have minimal impact beyond traffic congestion increasing in other parts of the city and on journey times.

If you do have any concerns, please feel free to contact school.

Regards

Steve Priest
Vice Principal