

Primary school reminds parents to please stop hurling late students over the fence

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1 We've all been there, late for work and you have to drop the kids to school. But what if the school gates were locked when you arrived, and you had to wait with your kids for hours until they opened again? Apparently, there's only one logical solution – throw them over the fence and get on with your day. Or at least that's what parents at a primary school in the south of France were doing.

5 Make no mistake, the French are renowned for their food, wine and language. Their architecture is exquisite, their language is seductive and their crème brûlée is just out of this world.

10 The French education system is also considered to be excellent – French students seem spend a lot of time at school. While most Aussie kids start at 9am and are drinking a Milo at home by 3pm, the typical French child arrives at school by 8am and doesn't finish until 5pm.



15 To provide extra security for children and teachers, all French school gates are supervised as students arrive and then locked at 8.30am.

20 Education is very important to the French, which perhaps – but not definitely – explains why parents were so keen for their children not to miss a day that they were tossing them over a locked gate to get them inside school grounds.

25 The Trillade school in Avignon has resorted to putting up signs instructing parents *not* to throw their kids, and instead to wait for the gates to open again at 10am or 3pm. The school's head teacher, Sanaa Meziane, told *La Provence* newspaper that staff were tired of "irresponsible" parents hurling their children over the 1.8-metre, barred steel gate when they were running late.

30 "Parents arriving after the bell were literally throwing their kids," Ms Meziane said.

35 She said it doesn't happen all the time, but often enough that the school had to take action to avoid potential accidents.

