

That's the Sound the Street Makes

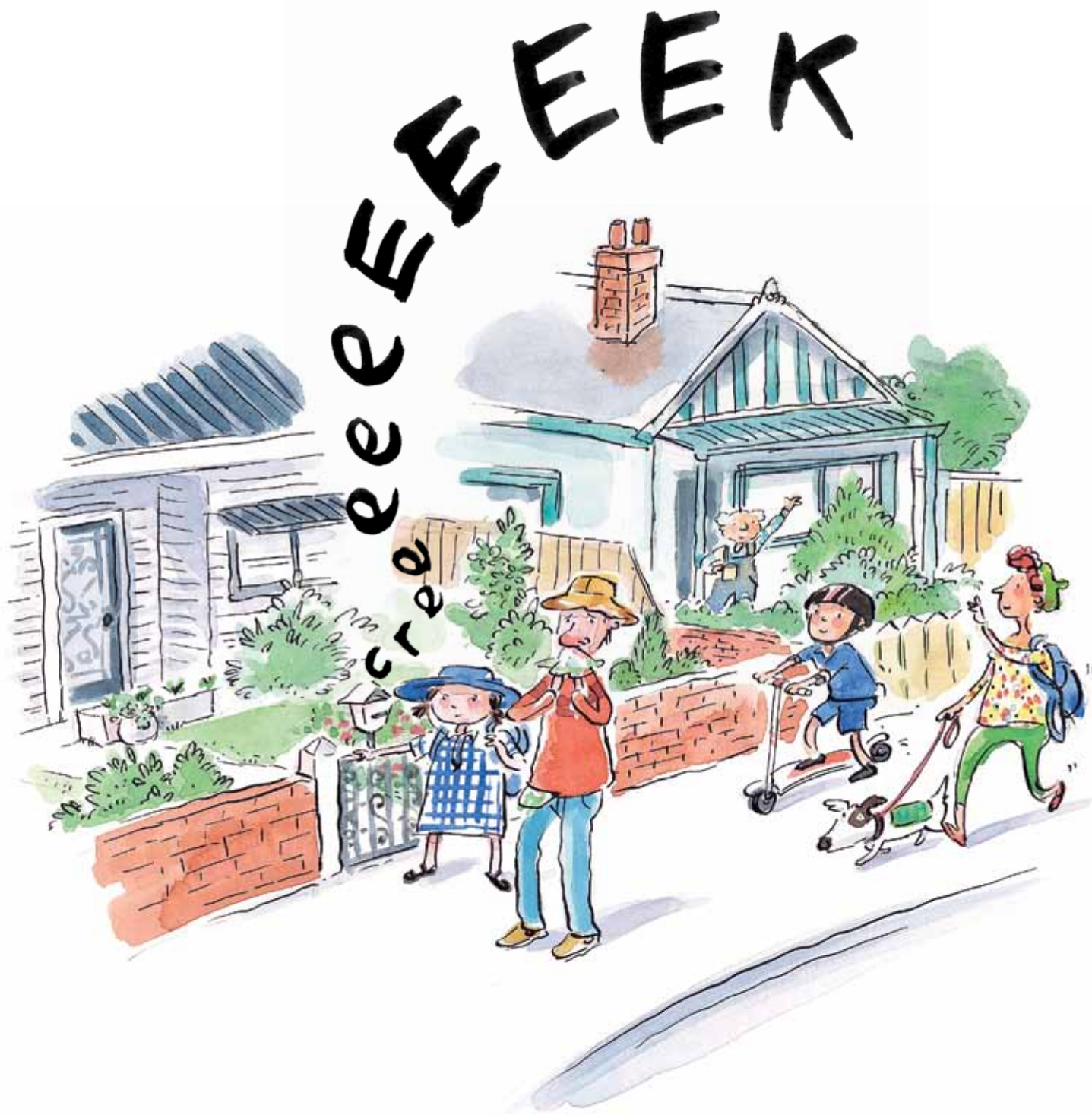


by Danny Katz
Illustrated by Mitch Vane





That's the sound of our front door
when we close it behind us.



That's the sound of our front gate when we pull it closed and step onto the footpath.



That's the sound of Dad blowing his nose because he's sick today and he had to get out of bed to walk me to school.

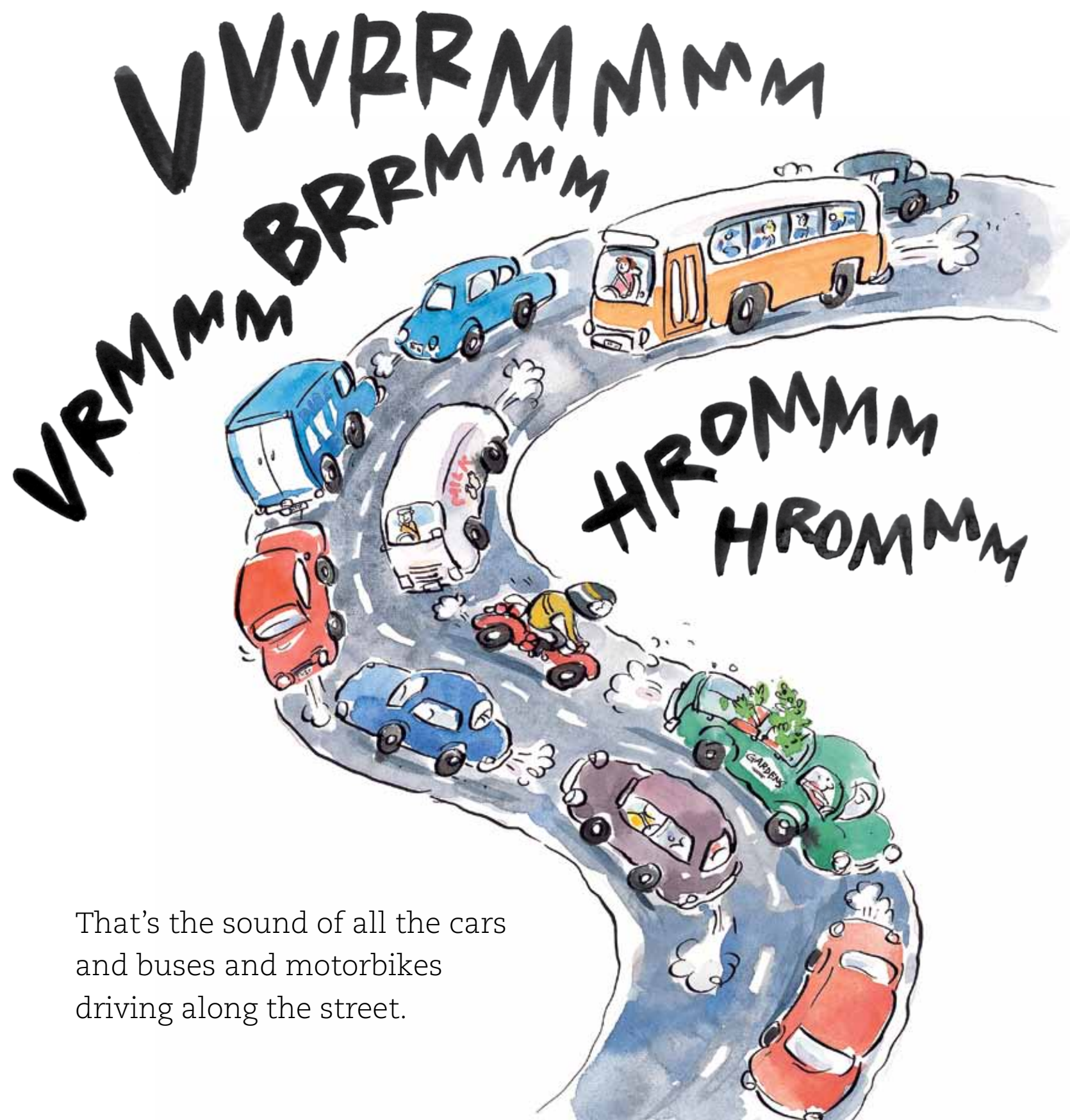
reeeey



That's the sound of a scooter stopping on the footpath because Dad was blowing his nose so much that he didn't see the kid on the scooter riding to school with his mum.

"Watch out, Dad!" I say. "You have to be careful on the footpath. The other parents walking their kids to school all pay attention and watch where they're going!"

"Sorry, Ella," says Dad to me.



That's the sound of all the cars
and buses and motorbikes
driving along the street.



That's the sound of all the parents and kids heading to school along the footpath.



That's the sound of Dad doing a big disgusting sneeze that makes everyone turn round to look.



That's the sound of a bus beeping at Dad. He was so busy sneezing, he started crossing the street where he's not supposed to cross.

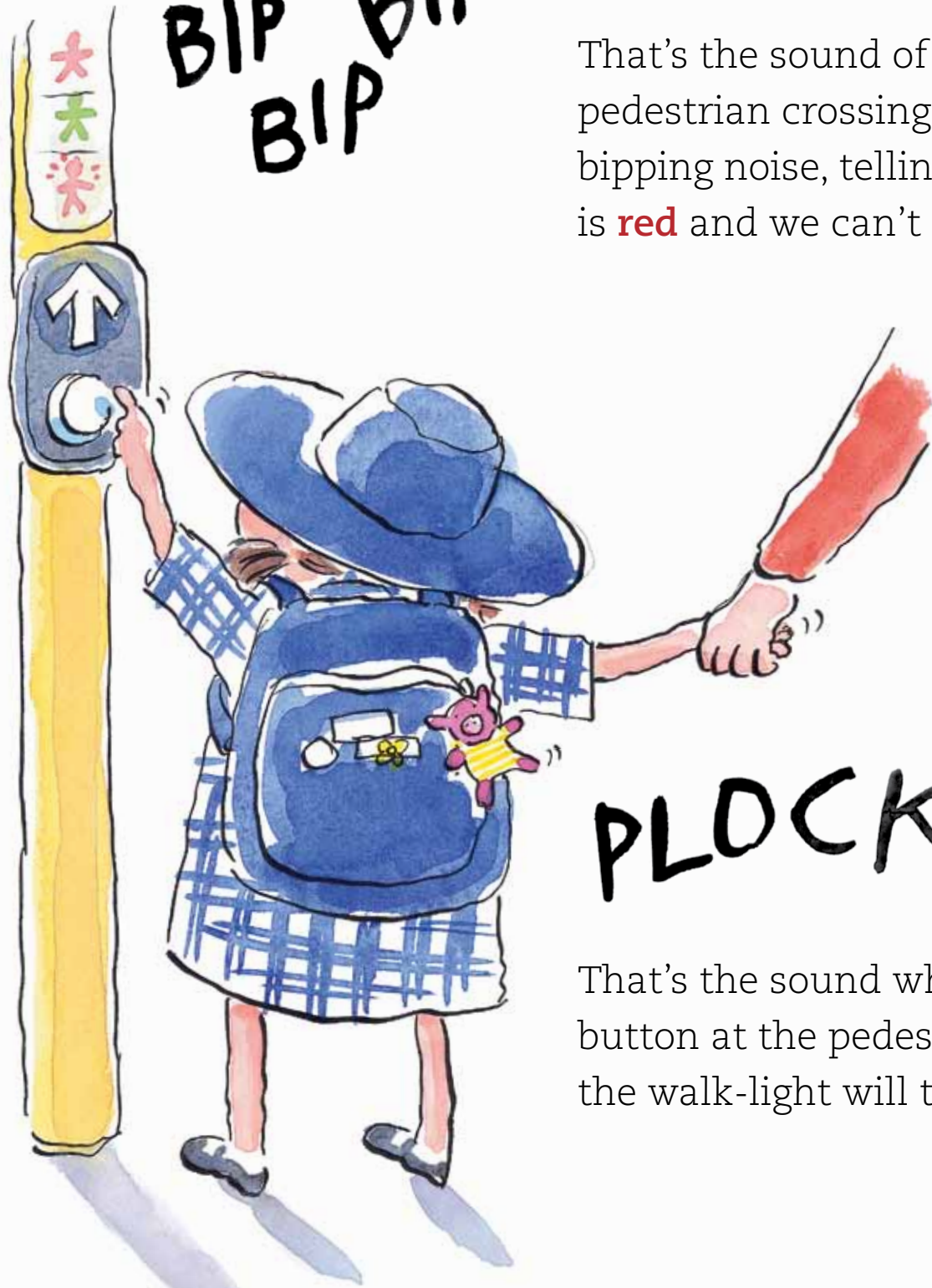
"Get off the road, Dad!" I yell at him. "You can't cross here! It's dangerous! Look at all the other parents and kids. They're all crossing on the corner where the pedestrian crossing is. We have to cross there! Come on, pay attention!"

"Sorry, Ella," says Dad to me.



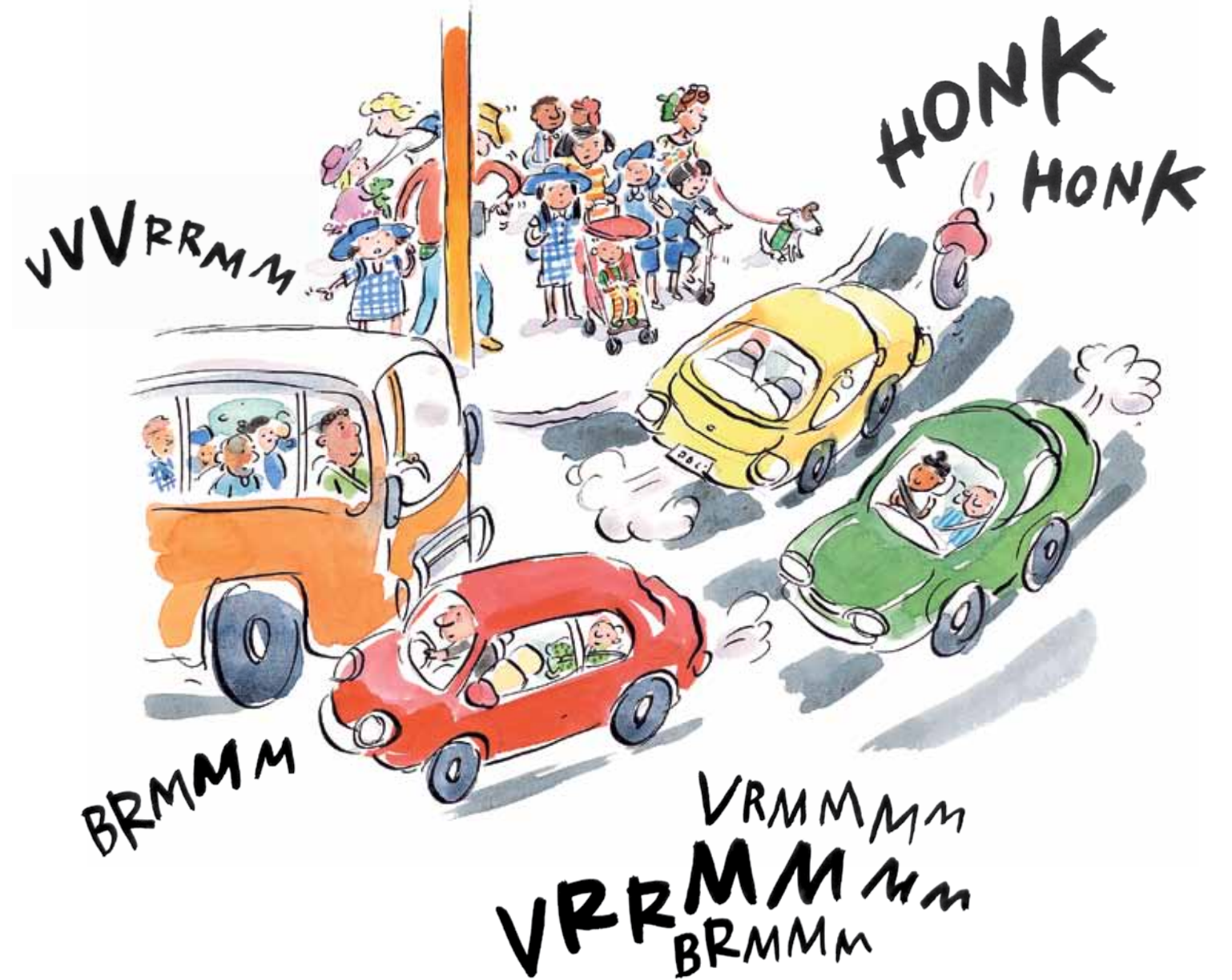
BIP BIP BIP BIP

That's the sound of the button at the pedestrian crossing, making a slow bipping noise, telling us the walk-light is **red** and we can't cross yet.



PLOCKKK

That's the sound when I press the button at the pedestrian crossing so the walk-light will turn **green**.



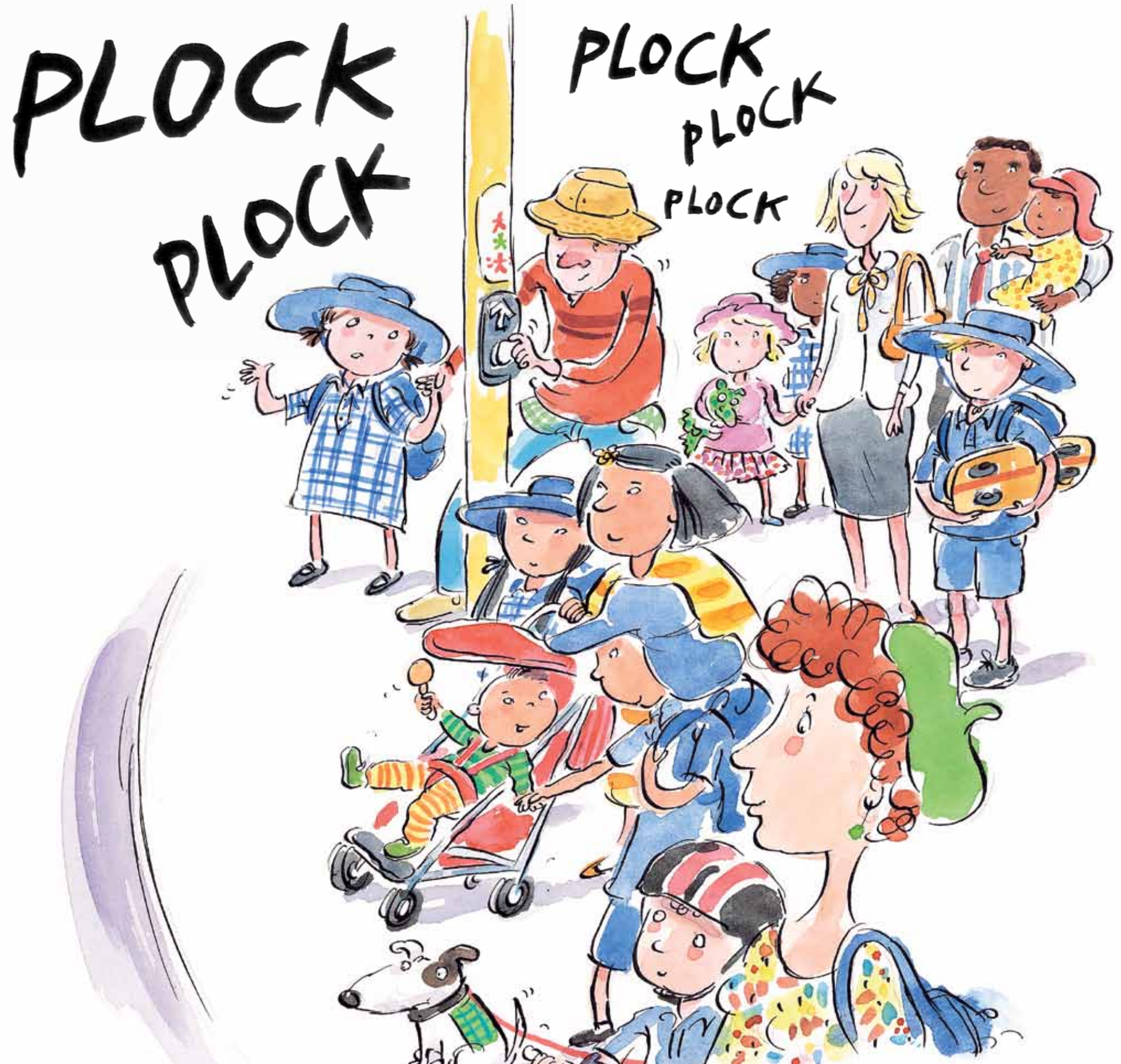
That's the sound of all the cars and buses and motorbikes going past us as we wait for the walk-light to turn **green**.

PLOCK PLOCK PLOCK PLOCK

That's the sound of Dad pressing the button over and over again because he thinks if he presses it lots, the walk-light will turn **green** faster.

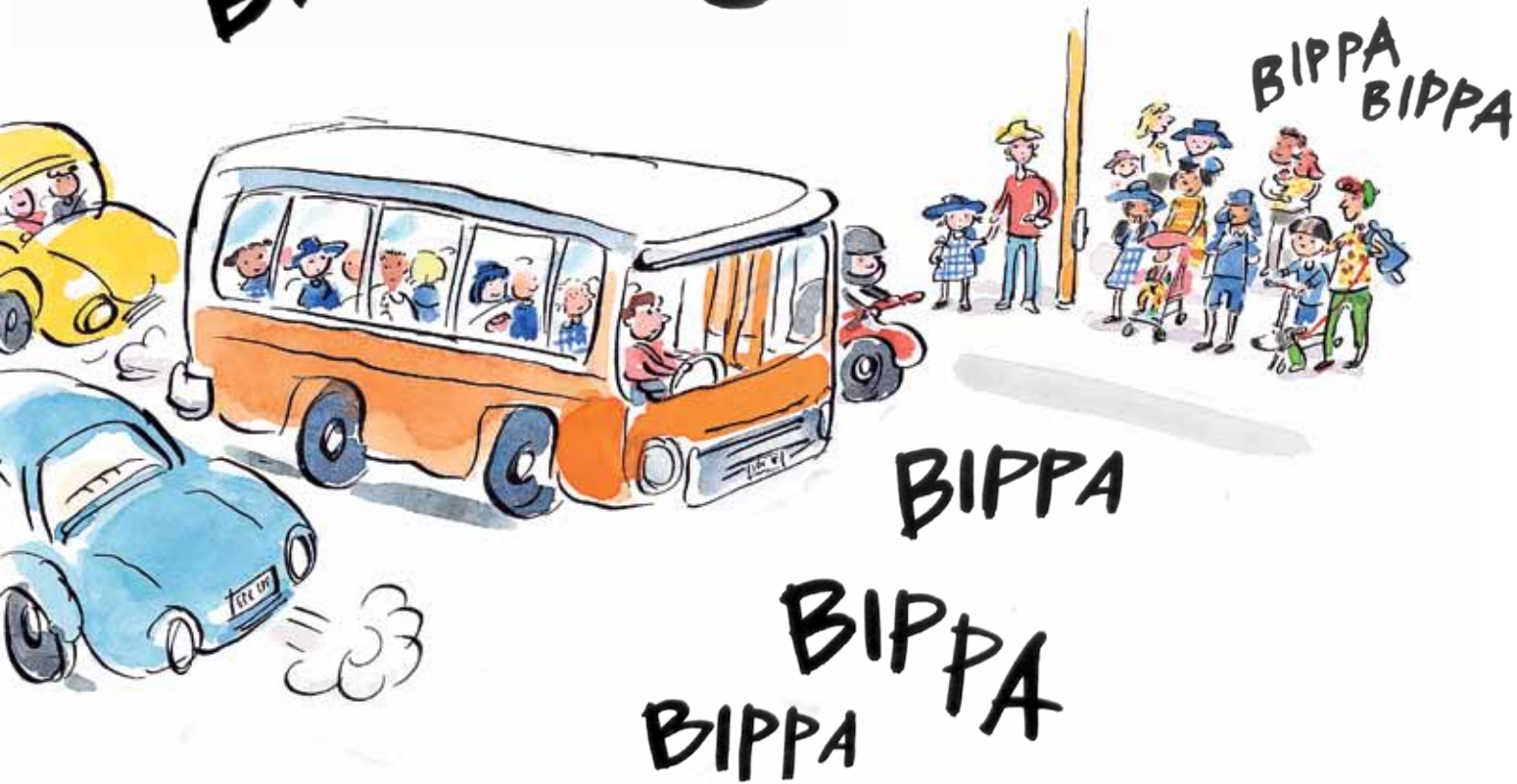
"Stop that, Dad!" I say to him.
"Pushing the button over and over again won't make the walk-light change faster."

"Sorry, Ella," says Dad to me.



Brrraakkkk
BRAAAKE

That's the sound of all the cars and buses and motorbikes stopping because the traffic light has turned **red**.



That's the sound of the button at the pedestrian crossing, making a fast bipping noise, telling us the walk-light has turned **green** and we can cross safely now.



That's the sound of all the other parents and kids crossing the street together and holding hands.

sniffuffle SNIFF FFF FFF sniffff



That's the sound of Dad blowing his nose and just walking off with everyone else, crossing the street without me, because he's not thinking again.

“Come back, Dad!” I yell at him. “We’re supposed to hold hands when we cross the street!”

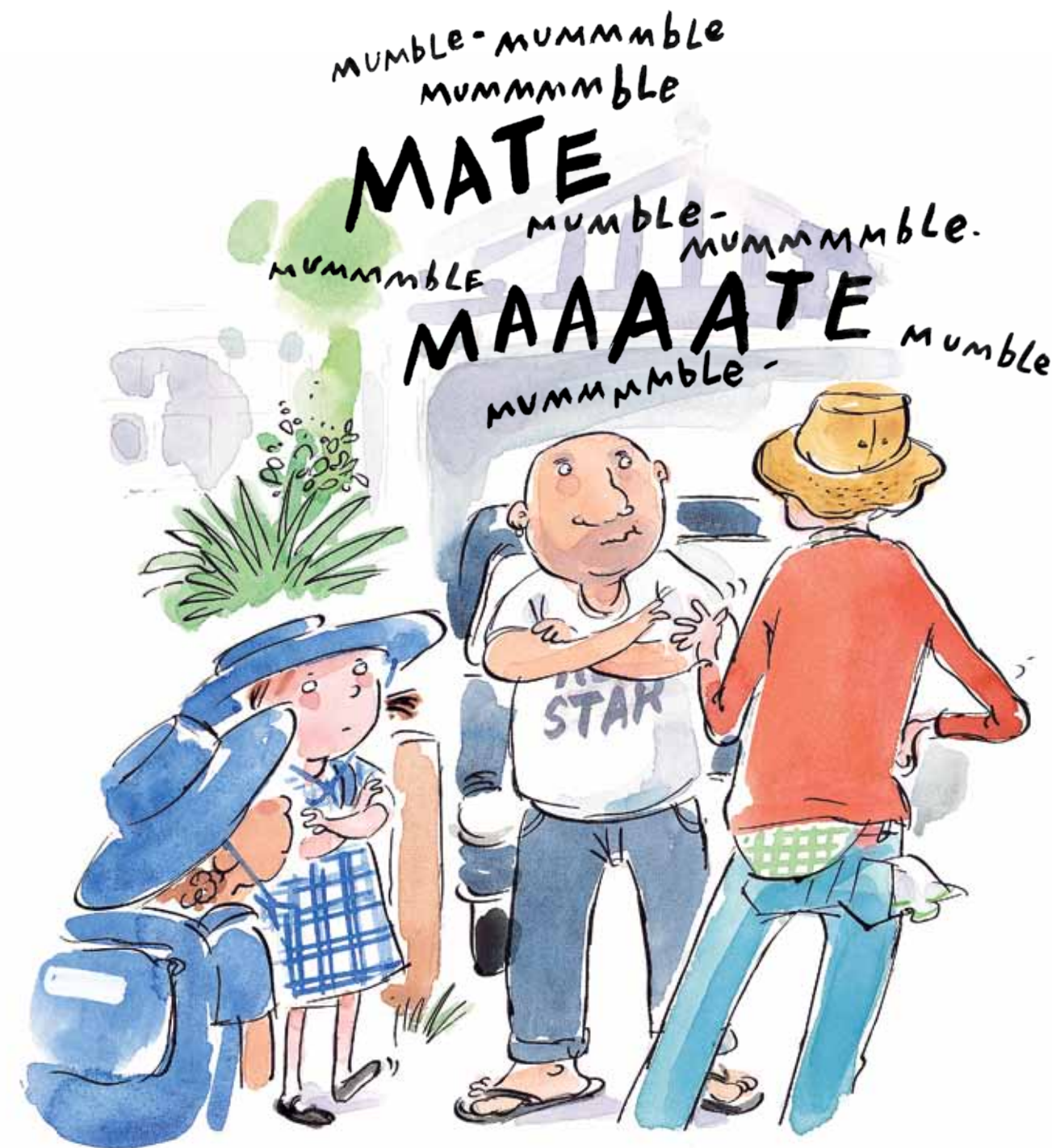
“Sorry, Ella,” says Dad, then he comes back, we hold hands, and we cross the street together. I just hope I’m not holding the hand he used to blow his nose.



That's the sound of my friend Seb who's waiting for me when we get to the other side of the street.



That's the sound of Seb's dad saying hello to my dad when we get to the other side of the street.



That's the sound of my dad talking to Seb's dad in front of someone's house.



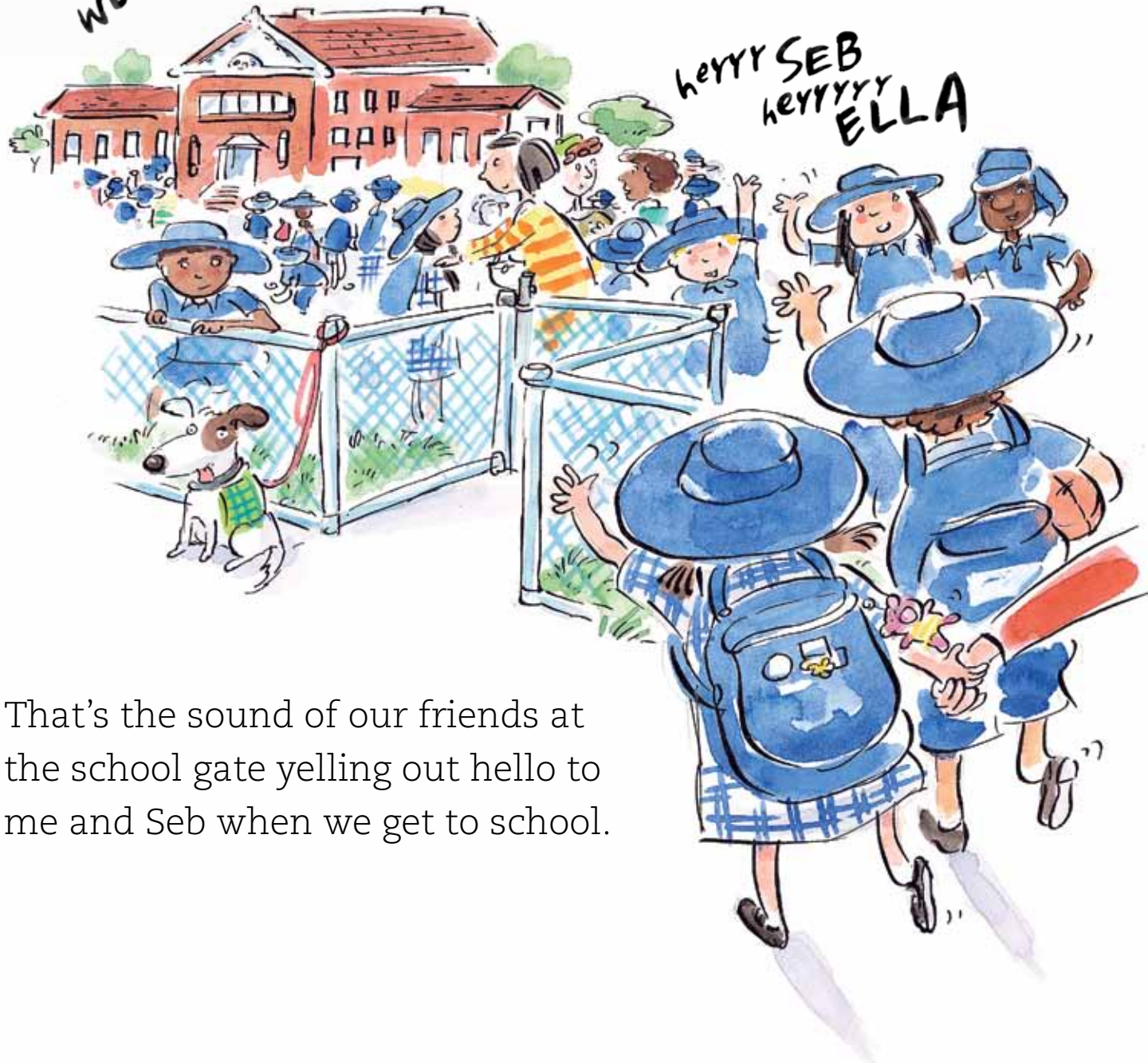
That's the sound of a car trying to get out of the driveway of the house, tooting at my dad and Seb's dad, because they're blocking the way.

"Watch out!" I say to both dads. "You have to be careful in front of driveways! Cars are always coming out of them, so you need to pay attention!"

"Sorry, Ella," says Dad to me.

Whoooo WHAHHH-HOOO
Yeahhh
Wooo HOOOO

That's the sound of the schoolyard
with all the kids playing in it.



That's the sound of our friends at
the school gate yelling out hello to
me and Seb when we get to school.

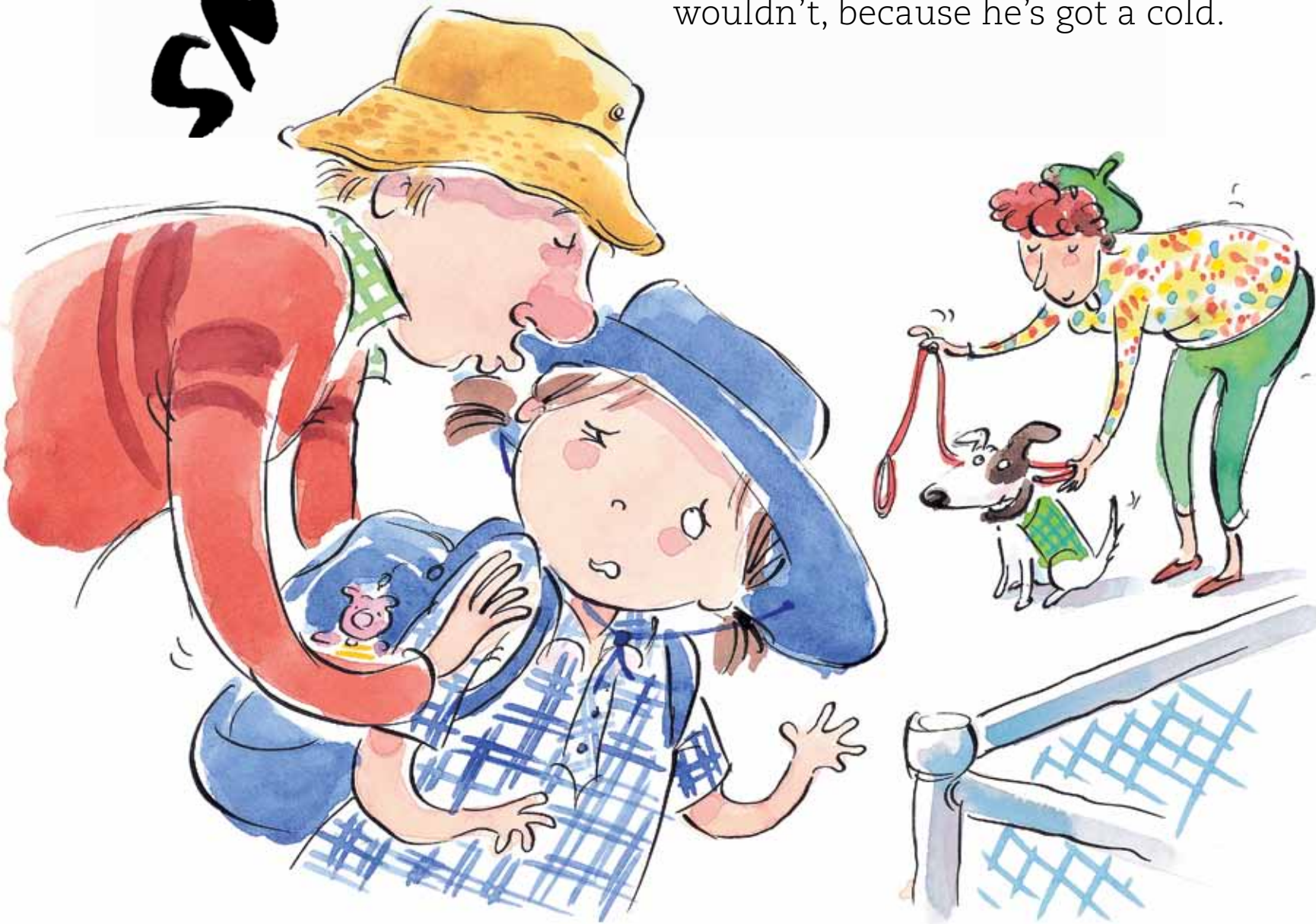
BRRNNNGGG



That's the sound of the school bell ringing
because it's time for school to start.

smoochooch

That's the sound of Dad kissing me on the head, though I wish he wouldn't, because he's got a cold.



“See ya, Dad. Now be careful when you’re going home!” I tell him. “Look out for driveways, cross at the pedestrian crossing, and pay attention to all the traffic and people and sounds going on around you. Okay?”

“Thanks, Ella,” says Dad to me, as he waves goodbye and turns to walk back home.



That's the sound of Dad stepping in a big dog poo on the ground because he wasn't looking where he was going.



That's the Sound the Street Makes is a humorous story that can be used to help children learn about walking safely to school, around the block and to the local shops.

When you walk with your child or class, ask these questions:

- Where is the safest place to cross the road?
- What do we need to do before we cross the road together?
- Why do we hold hands to cross the road together?
- What do we look for when we are crossing the road?
- What sounds are we listening for when we are crossing the road?
- When is it safe for us to cross the road?

For more information about road safety education visit:
www.sdera.wa.edu.au

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