

Road safety reminder during holiday break

Members of the OPP want to remind motorists that Friday December 19th, was the beginning of the holiday break and that road safety is a shared responsibility. Driver and pedestrian safety should be on everyone's mind.

For Drivers:

- ? The last day of school is an exciting time for children and they may become pre-occupied and forget the rules of the road.
- ? Be ready to stop at all times. Children do not always notice oncoming traffic.
- ? Watch for clues, a hockey net or ball can mean kids are playing nearby.
- ? Always try to make eye contact with children waiting to cross the road.
- ? Be patient and wait for children to complete their crossing before proceeding.
- ? Always watch for children as you are backing up. Walk around your vehicle to make sure no children are behind the vehicle.

For Parents:

- ? Teach your children to make eye contact with the driver before they cross the road, even if the signal is on.
- ? Stop before stepping into the road.
- ? Look in all directions before crossing.
- ? Stop, look and listen for traffic.
- ? Cross safely when the road is clear.
- ? Walk; don't run, across the road.
- ? Don't jaywalk. Teach your children to cross at intersections that have a marked crosswalk.
- ? Avoid unnecessary shortcuts like walking through a parking lot. Drivers may not see children between parked cars and the children may not see the cars moving.

The OPP urges motorists to slow down and be alert on roadways, particularly when travelling through residential areas and school zones.

Have a safe and happy holiday from everyone at Dufferin OPP.