



PRESS RELEASE

Chatham-Kent Paramedics Promote Back to School Safety Awareness

CHATHAM-KENT, ON August 29, 2013. With summer coming to an end and another school year about to start up for Chatham-Kent children, paramedics are reminding motorists to exercise extra caution, drive safe and follow the rules of the road, especially near school zones.

The return to class also means that school buses are back on the roads. Once again, it's important to be careful. Remember that it is prohibited to pass a school bus in any direction when its lights are flashing. For obvious safety reasons, it is also important to respect the bus drop-off zones in front of schools.

Please keep your eyes open and obey traffic signals and avoid driving distractions, such as texting while driving, because the kids are excited when they come back from vacation and they do not necessarily have safety in mind.

In Canada between 2003 and 2008, 6% of all fatally injured pedestrians were under the age of 16 and of those, 20% of them ran out into the street.

Chatham-Kent paramedics will also be taking extra caution on the roads with the back to school rush because we are aware that children are attracted to the noise and lights of an ambulance en route. Parents should teach their children to stand back a safe distance and let any emergency vehicle pass.

We wish everyone a fun-filled and SAFE school year!

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