

Remember school bus safety now that school has started

Caledon OPP are reminding the motoring public of some safety issues and rules of the road involving school buses.

The buses come in various sizes, but all are chrome yellow and display the words "school bus." Drivers must stop whenever approaching a stopped school bus with its alternating red lights flashing and stop arm extended. When approaching from the front, leave a safe distance from the bus. When coming from behind, stop at least 20 metres away. Do not proceed before the red lights stop flashing and the stop arm is retracted.

Drivers must obey these laws regardless of how many lanes there are or the speed limit on that road. The only exception is if there is a median (physical barrier) in the center of the road and the bus is being approached from the front.

Drivers who fail to stop are subject to being charged, resulting in fines that range from \$400 to \$2,000 and six demerit points.

Remember that these laws are in place to protect children who are at times easily distracted. Parents should take the time to educate their children to be aware of their surroundings when they are on or near school buses.