School?s back this week, so be careful

With another school year just starting, there is no more important time than now for officers within the Central Region of OPP to urge drivers to slow down and watch for school buses in an effort to keep children safe.

OPP would like to take this time to remind motorists to pay close attention when meeting or following a school bus. Motorists in both directions must stop when approaching a stopped school bus with its stop arm extended and red lights flashing. They cannot start moving until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm has been retracted and the bus has started to move.

Patience on the part of drivers is encouraged, as many young children will be taking the bus for the first time. This means they might require extra time boarding and departing the bus until they are familiar with the routine.

For more information on school bus safety, visit the Ministry of Transportation's website at www.mto.gov.on.ca