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News Release

January 3, 2019

It's a new year for Saskatchewan students returning to school

Motorists, please reduce your speed in school zones

The holiday break is coming to an end which means Saskatchewan students will soon be returning to school. CAA Saskatchewan reminds motorists to drive according to the posted speed limit in school zones and according to the weather and road conditions.

Today, nearly three in four children are being driven to school. It's important for motorists to drive with caution in school zones and for students to learn about road and pedestrian safety. According to a CAA study, parents with young children have reported the top two hazardous driving behaviours that motorists perform in a school zone are speeding and distracted driving. For more information, visit caask.ca/schoolzonesafety.

CAA School Zone Safety Tips for Motorists:

- Remain attentive in school zones. It can become very busy with cars and school busses loading or unloading students.
- Watch for children crossing the streets. Allow them enough time to cross safely as intersections can be covered in ice and snow.
- Be prepared to stop for on duty CAA School Safety Patrollers.
- As rows of cars wait in school pick-up zones, keep in mind that children may dart out between cars.
- Students may also be obscured by exhaust from idling cars and by tall snowbanks.
- Eliminate distractions while driving such as use of mobile devices.

CAA School Zone Safety Tips for Students:

- Before crossing the street: Stop, look both ways and ensure any oncoming vehicles have come to a complete stop.
- Cross at intersections or at corners. Refrain from jay walking.
- Never run out in traffic or between parked cars, buses, or buildings.
- Wait for the signal of the on-duty CAA School Safety Patrollers when crossing the street.
- Keep your head up, look around, be alert and aware of your surroundings.

CAA School Zone Safety Tips for Parents and Caregivers:

- Obey the 'no stopping' and 'no parking' zones in front of schools.
- Ensure winter apparel such as toques and scarves do not obstruct children's' vision or hearing.
- Teach children about pedestrian and traffic safety.
- Always have an adult, older student or sibling, walk with younger children.

Many schools in Saskatchewan have volunteer CAA School Safety Patrollers on duty. CAA Saskatchewan has owned and managed the CAA School Safety Patrol program since 1951 and approximately 4,600 patrollers from 160 schools representing 70 communities in our province are enrolled in the program. CAA Saskatchewan provides training manuals with patroller exams, patroller handbooks, stop paddles and reflective vests, all at no cost. To find out more or to start a CAA School Safety Patrol, visit caask.ca/patrollers.



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CAA Saskatchewan serves approximately 183,000 Members, offering benefits and services through its non-profit motor club, and through its travel and insurance agencies, and the CAA Car Centre at Regina Battery Depot. CAA advocates for motorists and travellers, provides consumer education, supports traffic safety programs and addresses related public policy issues.