



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

25 January 2013

Look out, there are children about

Queensland motorists are being urged to take care on the roads in the coming week with thousands of people returning from holidays in time for the start of the school year.

Police Minister Jack Dempsey urged drivers to take extra care on the roads, with higher volumes of traffic expected across the state.

“Every day police and emergency services are working to make sure people reach their destination safely,” Mr Dempsey said.

“Already this year, 22 people have lost their lives on Queensland roads – far too many so early in the year.

“If every motorist obeys the Fatal Five by wearing a seat belt, not driving fatigued, paying attention, observing the speed limit and not drink or drug driving, we can make our roads a lot safer.”

The end of the holidays also rings in a new school year and according to State Members for Albert, Springwood and Waterford, Mark Boothman MP, John Grant MP and Mike Latter MP, motorists should take extra care around school zones from next week.

“As a father to two small children I know how unpredictable they can be on such an exciting day. There will be plenty of enthusiastic children (and some relieved and just as excited parents) using school zones and I would like all motorists to pay attention around school zones and on our roads in general.” Mr Boothman said.

Mr Latter said, “With my eldest child starting prep on Tuesday I implore all motorists to keep a good eye out for increased traffic and children around our schools. Our children are our most precious assets and I do not want to see any family endure a needless tragedy due to inattention.”

Mr Grant said, “As parents and grandparents it is our responsibility to provide and teach road safety to our children.

It is also important that as responsible adults, we make sure our kids have the correct restraints when travelling in our cars and provide the correct protective equipment, such as bike helmets, to our children who cycle to school”.

“Regardless of mode of transport to school, road safety needs to be forefront in all our minds”, Mr Boothman said.

Police have also warned motorists of increased speed camera operations occurring in school zones in the coming weeks.

State Traffic Branch Chief Superintendent Andy Morrow said officers will target school zones, including speeding offences in 40kmh zones, parking and no standing zone offences in relation to the drop off and pickup of children at schools, school crossing safety and any other offences detected around schools..

ENDS

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Mark Boothman MP, John Grant MP and Mike Latter MP