



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

11250 North 56th Street
Temple Terrace, Florida 33617
813.506-6500
813.506-6499 FAX
www.templeterrace.com

Aug. 12, 2014

MEDIA CONTACT:

Michael Dunn, City of Temple Terrace PIO @ (813) 506-6406

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAFETY COMES FIRST AS NEW SCHOOL YEAR STARTS

TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – (8/12/14) – As children return to school on Tuesday, Aug. 19, the Temple Terrace Police Department is urging parents and motorists to focus on safety.

The department reminds motorists to drive slowly in school zones and watch for children crossing streets. The speed limit in school zones is **15 mph** during school hours. Here are some safety tips to keep in mind as school begins:

- * Plan a walking route to the school or bus stop. Choose the most direct way, with the fewest street crossings. If possible, use intersections with school crossing guards.
- * Walk the route with your children before school starts. Tell them to stay away from parks, vacant lots, fields and other places where there aren't many people around.
- * Teach your child not to talk to strangers, or accept rides or gifts from strangers. Remember, a stranger is anyone you or your children don't know well or don't trust.
- * Be sure your child walks to and from school with a sibling, friend or neighbor. If your child rides a bicycle to school, make sure he or she wears a helmet.
- * If your kids ride the school bus, teach them to arrive at the bus stop early, stay out of the street, watch for cars, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop, and avoid the driver's blind spot.
- * Teach your children to obey all traffic signals, signs and traffic officers, whether walking, biking or riding the bus. Remind them to be extra careful in bad weather.
- * If you're driving your kids, drop them off and pick them up in areas designated by the school. Each school will send out drop-off and pickup instructions. Please follow them. These plans were developed by the schools with safety in mind. If you have questions, please contact the school's office.
- * Watch for children! Most vehicle-related injuries occur when drivers are dropping them off and picking them up at school. Be alert at all times.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Stefanie Huertas at (813) 506-6551.