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The Westwind wave

September 5, 2023

Welcome back to a new school year at Westwind Elementary!

On behalf of the Westwind Staff and the Parent Advisory Committee, we hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. A warm welcome is extended to our new families, both those in kindergarten and those with older children. We are confident that your children will soon make friendships that will assist them with settling in to a new school year. Hopefully you had a chance to connect with the other parents at the "Welcome Back" social that was hosted by our Parent Advisory Council. Mrs Tse (our trusty Vice Principal) and I are excited to be back at Westwind, and appreciate having a year under our belts in our awesome Westwind community.

Based on the positive energy in the school this week so far, it's hard to imagine that the first week of school can be somewhat stressful for all concerned. We appreciate your patience as we finalize our numbers, our staffing allotment, and our class lists; while at the same time wanting to welcome all children and settle them down to the business of learning together. We intend to get our students into their classrooms as soon as possible, but first we must assess our numbers.

Over the summer we have had many new students register and others move away. Last September, we started the school year with 16 Divisions. This year we're starting the year with 19. Prior to the increase in divisions, the Westwind staff started the class placement process in June and we're continuing to work on that now as I type to ensure that we have balanced classes. As mentioned at the April PAC meeting last year, and in the [school newsletter last year](#), we are not taking parent requests for class placement (please click on link to see the rationale). At the soonest, Grade 1-7 students will be in their classes on Friday September 8th.

Another newsletter with more detail will be sent home soon. In the meantime, check out our website that is up to date with important dates for the year, and a list of our staff and current organization.

We hope that this notice answers some of your questions about our "First Week" and serves to assure you that all children are being given a productive and enjoyable welcome to Westwind School.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bill Juhasz
Principal