

Wowk Weekly Sept. 13 Welcome Back Edition

Dear Wowk Families,

It was so heartening to see all the smiles and happy faces back at school this week. Through the shorter sessions and smaller groups, children have been learning the health and safety protocols for the upcoming year. This new normal will take some getting used to and there are still details to work out as we move forward. An important part of returning to school is the Daily Health Declaration which is to be done at home before coming to school for all our staff and families. I am attaching the document to this newsletter. You do not have to fill in a paper copy, but please review the questions every morning before your child comes to school. Many thanks for helping keep us all healthy.

The students who have returned to school have been grouped into cohorts of no more than 60 people. These are the groups that your children will be working with. Within a cohort, physical distancing of 6 feet and masks are not required but there will be no physical contact. Lunch and outside break times have been staggered so as to minimize the interactions between students. Beginning and dismissal times have not changed, just the times for breaks and lunch during the day. Please see the attached schedule. During outside break time, Cohort A and B will be together and Cohort C and D will be together. When students are with students from other cohorts, they must wear masks and physically distance. The cohorts for now are:

Cohort A	Mr. Angman	Mr. Woo	
Cohort B	Ms. Pivko	Mr. Gustafson	
Cohort C	Ms. Teng	Ms. Thomas	Ms. Kerr
Cohort D	Ms. Ten-Pow	Ms. MacNeil	

Now that the in- school instruction has begun our thoughts turn to transitional learners and how they will be supported. Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet for families who have selected the transitional learning model. This learning model begins on September 21. You will be receiving more information during the upcoming week.

To start the year with staff, I spoke about finding happiness and joy in our lives. Together we read the book, “My Heart Fills with Happiness”. Although it is a simple book, its message resonates for all of us, to find happiness in our lives. Especially at this time, it is so important to take care of ourselves and others. If you have seen the trees at the front of the school, you might have noticed ribbons, with happiness statements, blowing in the wind. Staff and students who have returned to school have all done this activity. As a school community, I would like to invite all students and families to add a ribbon to our happiness tree. Ribbons will be left outside the front door of the school from 3:00-4:00 for Transitional learning families to pick up. If this is not convenient for you, please contact me or the office and we can make other arrangements.

I realize that this is a lot of information to share. Please be patient as we all learn new protocols designed to keep us all safe and happy while learning. As always, please contact me at school via email or a phone call with any concerns, questions, or wonderings. Enjoy the photos of our first week back.

Kind regards,
Wanda Salewski, Principal

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Div. 3's Happiness Ribbons and watering the garden!
Thanks for making our school yard so beautiful!

