

September 3, 2019

Dear Heights Families,

It's finally here- the first day of school! After time spent packing backpacks, getting hair-cuts and picking the first day of school outfit, we are finally together. Since July 1st, our custodians and office staff have been busy getting the building ready for your children's arrival and our teachers have been busy setting up their rooms. We do all this to say, "Welcome" or "Welcome Back."

The idea of welcoming others is something that we usually equate to inviting people into our homes. We welcome others by making sure our home is warm, inviting and a place where people never want to leave. We think about the joy we will have when our guests arrive. Similarly, the Heights is the home that we welcome your children to everyday and the place that we couldn't wait for them to arrive. It is place that is warm, reassuring, and supportive.

In the theme of welcoming others, I have chosen to start the school year with a book called, <u>All</u> <u>Are Welcome</u> by Alexandra Penfold, illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman. Through text and illustrations, the students will see children learning, playing and discovering alongside each other in their first days of school. Students will see themselves as they play outside, sit at circle, and read books. Through simple rhymes, students will follow the text and pattern, as they reiterate, "All are welcome here."

We welcome each and every child and family into our Heights community. We look forward to an exciting year of tremendous growth, discovery and learning. Please look out for a slide show, which will be e-blasted at the end of the week of this week's highlights. You can also follow me on twitter @mwoodpride.

Sincerely- Proud Heights Principal, Mrs. Mary E. Wood

