



Goosehill Primary School

September 13, 2013

Dear Parents,

The children had a wonderful first week! Thank you for everything you did to prepare them for the transition back to school. I know you read stories to them, eased them back into a schedule, and helped them feel excited and happy about the new experiences that awaited them at school. It also helped that over 90% of the children rode the morning vans. In this way they separated from home at the bus stop, enjoyed time with their friends on the bus, and entered school confidently. Many even found a buddy whose hand they held as they entered the building! Within minutes of their arrival each morning, all the children were busy unpacking their backpacks, talking and laughing, and getting ready to start the day.

You may have noticed that your child was a little more tired than usual this week. It may take a week or more for him/her to adjust to the structure and pace of school. As always, we recommend that your child have some time to unwind and just *play* when s/he gets home from school. An *early bedtime* will also help him/her feel refreshed and ready for school the next morning. Thank you for making sure your child has a *good breakfast* and for packing a *healthy snack* each day. Play, adequate rest, and nutritious snacks are just what children need to be able to develop academically and socially.

We had our first Spirit Assembly on Wednesday. We assemble once a month to teach the children about being a member of a school community. We reinforce our Social-Emotional Literacy program and the strategies the children are learning, such as following our School Charter and sticking up for each other. We celebrate children's accomplishments and sing songs to honor our country and school. You will be hearing the *Goosehill School Song* in the coming months. On Spirit Days, we ask that the children wear school colors- red, white, and blue. The GPFA also sells Goosehill apparel.

Next week we begin our Back to School Nights with Kindergarten attending on Thursday, and first grade attending the following Tuesday. I know you will enjoy meeting your child's teacher and hearing about the school experience. There are wonderful plans for learning in all of our classrooms.

The teachers, staff, and I are looking forward to a wonderful school year! Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas to share.

Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein, Principal