We are excited to have your family join our Westgate family!

As we prepare for the first day of school, September 8, we have a few things to share so your Kindergartener is ready for his or her first day!

**Family and Student Handbook**
Our Family and Student Handbook is posted on our website. Please read and review prior to the start of the school year and use during the year as a reference.  [http://www.fcps.edu/WestgateES/docs/index/Handbook.pdf](http://www.fcps.edu/WestgateES/docs/index/Handbook.pdf)

**School Supply List**
Our school supply list is posted on our website. You are also encouraged to bring your child’s school supplies during open house on September 3.  [http://www.fcps.edu/WestgateES/docs/index/2015-2016SupplyList.PDF](http://www.fcps.edu/WestgateES/docs/index/2015-2016SupplyList.PDF)

**Open House**
Open House is on Thursday, September 3 at 1:00 p.m. At that time, we welcome you to come to meet the teacher and see the classroom. You are also encouraged to bring your child’s school supplies during open house. We will have four kindergarten classes and the teachers will be Aubrey Beiswenger, Taylor Ohrwashel, Yara Saad, and Ashley Schnare. Teacher assignments are mailed to your house the last week of August.

**How is your child going home from school?**
It is very important that we know how your child is getting home from school, especially during the first few weeks of school. Please determine how your child will go home (bus, parent walk up, kiss and ride, SACC) and email or call the main office as soon as possible (703-610-5700 or laura.zirzow@fcps.edu).

**Student Arrival**
The first bell rings at 8:40 a.m. and the tardy bell rings at 8:50 a.m. Westgate students come to school by school bus, walking, or Kiss and Ride. Children are not let into the school building until 8:30 a.m. If students arrive between 8:30 – 8:40 a.m. they report to the gym (grades K-3) or cafeteria (grades 4-6). Students who arrive between 8:40 – 8:50 a.m. walk directly to the classroom. If you bring your child to school after 8:50 a.m., they are tardy/late and you must bring your child into the office to sign them in.

There is no parent parking in school parking lots during arrival and dismissal. We encourage you to walk, stay in your car and drop your child off at Kiss and Ride, or have your child ride the school bus (if you live in a designated school bus area). Kiss and Ride is used when you are driving to Westgate and dropping your child off.

When your child arrives at school, please know that we will make sure they get to the right classroom. On the first day of school, parents are welcome to walk their child to the classroom. Starting on the second day, only students will be allowed to enter the school building in the morning (this is for the safety and security of all students – when we have too many parents, children without parents are overwhelmed and can get lost in the crowds). After the second week of school, you are welcome to come into the building in the mornings.

If you have any questions, please call our main office at 703-610-5700.

Thank you!