



Today was an exciting day at Gray! After the morning bell, students were moved into their classes for the 2023-2024 school year. During this time of transition, we will be supporting the students at school, and we ask for your support as well. Transitions can be exciting for some students and be difficult for others.

We have learned that positive encouragement goes a long way. It's going to be a great year and each of the students were very thoughtfully placed in their new class for the year – it will be fun for them to grow and learn with a new group of classmates. It often takes time for students to adapt to a new learning environment. We appreciate your support during this time of transition and encourage you to reach out to your child's classroom teacher if they need some extra help getting used to new routines.

Context: The number of staff members and divisions assigned to Gray Elementary is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrolment. Enrolment numbers, class size and composition guidelines affect the configuration of classes.

Combined classes are an organizational necessity based on student numbers. Research also indicates that multi-age groupings (combined classes) provide very positive learning environments for children. Studies show that children in multi-age classes learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility. Achievement levels of these students are as good as, or better than, the achievement levels of students placed in single grade classrooms.

Assigning students to classes is a very complex task that takes into consideration a variety of factors including learning styles and strengths, what a student can achieve in relation to the goals of the curriculum, degree of independence in work habits, social and personal needs, age and physical maturity, previous placements, diverse learning needs of the students, as well as parental insight. Our objective is to create balanced classes, taking all the above into consideration. For this school year, classes have been assigned as follows:

Division 1	Grade 7	Mrs. MacKenzie
Division 2	Grade 7	Mr. Karpluk
Division 3	Grade 6/7	Ms. Dobie
Division 4	Grade 6	Ms. Cheema
Division 5	Grade 6	Ms. Parassidis
Division 6	Grade 5/6	Ms. Dykstra
Division 7	Grade 5	Ms. Mann
Division 8	Grade 5	Ms. Olak
Division 9	Grade 4	Mr. Chhun
Division 10	Grade 4	Mrs. Hass
Division 11	Grade 3/4	Ms. McCue-Davies
Division 12	Grade 3	Ms. Silva/Ms. May
Division 13	Grade 3	Ms. Mercier/Ms. Mulder
Division 14	Grade 2/3	Ms. Adams
Division 15	Grade 2	Ms. Hunchak
Division 16	Grade 2	Ms. Watson
Division 17	Grade 1/2	Ms. French

Division 18	Grade 1	Ms. Boyd
Division 19	Grade 1	Mrs. Hewitt/Mr. Bromley
Division 20	Grade 1	Ms. Van Ryk
Division 21	Kindergarten	Ms. Khun Khun
Division 22	Kindergarten	Ms. Hastings
Division 23	Kindergarten	Ms. Neall/Meaney

After school today, you will pick up your students at the same door you dropped them off at this morning. At this time, ask your child to show you what door you will drop them off at on Wednesday morning and the rest of the year. They have practiced lining up at their new door today at recess and lunch. If they are unsure in the morning, we will have a map posted on the front window and staff will be outside to assist in the morning.

We are looking forward to a great year of learning and growing new friendships!

Mr. J. Mann

Mrs. T. Sohal

Principal

Vice Principal