

welcome to OUR CLASSROOM

Dear families,

Welcome back to a new school year! My name is Miss Finlayson, and I will be your child's teacher this year. I am so happy to welcome you to our classroom! The jump from junior to intermediate (or Grade 7 to Grade 8 for some!) will be tough, but will hopefully be full of exciting learning and extracurricular opportunities! I look forward to working with you in order to provide a safe and inclusive environment for your child to learn.

This year, students in the intermediate division will get to experience a rotary schedule, meaning they will learn from a variety of different teachers in different classrooms. I will be teaching Grade 7/8 homeroom (Language, Math) and rotary Grade 7 history. I have attached a class schedule with teacher names and subjects. Please let me know if you have any questions! Since many students will be in and out of the classroom, I have asked students to not keep important items in their desks. Lockers will be used this year, where students can keep their supplies.

Classroom expectations: Throughout the year, your child will be expected to follow the rules and routines of our classroom. Some rules could be being on time, completing activities/assignments, or treating others with respect. I will provide many calendars, timetables, and routines to keep students in the loop, and to help them stay organized. Agendas will **not** be provided, but students are still expected to keep track of important dates and assignments in various ways.

As well, I rarely give out homework as I provide plenty of time in class for students to work on and finish activities, assignments, and projects. However, if students are not finished during class time, it will be their responsibility to complete assignments on their own time and ask for help if they need it.

I also post weekly to my classroom blog, "Class 7/8", where students can find important reminders about work, activities, special events, or trips. I also try to incorporate talking points ("ask your middle schooler") so you can have conversations with your Grade 7 or 8 at home about what they learned in school. <https://efinlayson.commons.hwdsb.on.ca/>

Supplies: Most student supplies will be provided to students. These supplies will include pencils, pens, pencil crayons, highlighters, rulers, duotangs, protractors, notebooks, and lined paper. Some supplies that students might want to have (but are not required) are markers, a notebook or planner, calculator, and a binder with dividers.

Please let me know if you have any questions! I look forward to working together.

Miss Finlayson

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