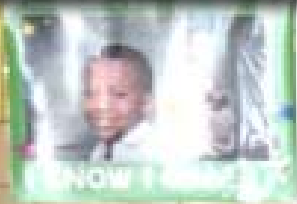


Bluffton  ICON

WELCOME BACK!



You can do it! DON'T BE A PIG!

# First day of school 2016-017





# The very first day of school

One of Bluffton's rites of passage is entrance to first grade.

There's clothing to select, supplies to purchase, photos to take, classmates to meet, jitters (for students and parents) and the excitement of something new.

Here Adelyn Althaus, entering the first grade, poses beside a tree planted several years ago in memory of her grandmother, Irene Althaus, who for a quarter of a century was secretary in the elementary building.

The school day of school is special for all students. The Icon watched as two high school girls had their photo taken in front of the elementary "because it's a first-day tradition" for them.

There are many other stories - parents bidding farewell to students and student bidding farewell to summer.

Please enjoy our photo scrapbook of 2016-17 first moments of the first day of school - and to add to the fun, there was a two-hour fog delay.



Photo across the street from the school.





The Matthews sisters heading for class..







School started Monday - after a 2-hour fog delay - and there were lots of photos taken and last-minute hugs. Here Karlie Lora, second grader, Kaden Lora, fifth grader and Braydon McClure, second grader, pose for their moms before entering the building.







Ryan Dunlap welcomes one of his new first grade students.



A selfie with dad.





Class getting underway in the first grade class of Jamie Combs.







A good bye hug.



Is this my new classroom?





Tim Closson, principal, in his familiar pre-school spot.



Alice Basinger greets a new student in the elementary lobby.