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Westlake Academy Kicks Off Day One with Entertaining Activities

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From movie stars strolling down the red carpet to a lively New Year's party, [Westlake Academy's first day of school](#) activities were a huge success, evident by smiles on the faces of students and staff as they participated in the fun. There were a few tears, however. As parents of kindergarteners dropped off their child for the big day, they stopped by a Tears and Cheers breakfast to take photos and give their children last-minute hugs before sending them off to the classrooms.

Wearing sunglasses, students in the Primary Years Programme (GK-5) walked to their classrooms on a Hollywood-style red carpet. Teachers are using the Hollywood theme to share the policies and procedures in a fun way showing children their "role" in the script. They also have trophies for team-building activities.

In the gym, the Middle Years Programme (G6-10) started off the year with a countdown to kick off their New Year's celebration, complete with a DJ, dancing, photo opportunities, and snacks while the Diploma Programme (G11-12) students were treated to a nice breakfast in the Dining Hall. After the celebration, students boarded a bus and headed out to Group Dynamix for some fun team-building activities.

Mayor Laura Wheat said seeing all of the activities and smiles on student's faces during the fun made it a truly memorial first day. "I've never seen anything like it," Wheat said in a press release. "This is just another reason why I'm so proud to be a part of Westlake Academy."

Mechelle Bryson, executive principal/director of education, said activities like these help build a foundation for an outstanding new year. "There is no doubt that there is great work being done at Westlake Academy," Bryson said. "Our quest to become 'the best place for teachers to teach and for students to learn' is at the forefront of our preparation for the 2015/2016 school year."

About 830 students started school at Westlake Academy and more than 2,500 are on a waiting list to attend this successful public charter school.

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