

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We're so thankful for the number of weeks that we were able to host in-person learning in the midst of the ongoing pandemic. And yet we know that a transition back to remote learning is not what anyone had hoped. Since school has temporarily moved to remote learning through the Seesaw program, we thought it would be helpful to establish some common ground rules. These will help you know what is expected and will also help the teachers. Believe it or not, remote learning actually increases both *your* school commitment *and* the teachers' efforts. They would also much rather be face-to-face with your student!

Seesaw Guidelines and Expectations:

- Assignments will be **posted by 7 a.m. and ALL assignments are due by 7 p.m.**
- **All work must be completed to count as present for that day.**
- **An adult should help a student read or listen to each assignment's directions and make sure they are completing the full assignment.** However, the adult should not do the work for the student or give the student the answers, even though it takes more time for the student to figure out the answers on their own. It is very important for the teacher to see the child's true academic ability.
- If there are **extenuating circumstances (sickness, family emergency, etc.)** the parent or guardian should **contact the teacher to ask for an extension by noon** on the day assignments are due.
- **If an assignment is incomplete, the teacher will give feedback in the Seesaw lesson.** Students will have 24 hours to complete the assignment before it is archived and a final grade is determined. Please check Seesaw each day for both new assignments and possible incomplete assignments.
- It is expected that anyone in view of the camera is **appropriately dressed and that background noise/TV is minimized** if students need to use a microphone for an activity. Please also **be aware of what can be seen and heard** as these videos are sometimes shared on the class blog.
- **Teachers are available to lend support and respond to messages (Remind, Seesaw, email, or phone) from 8 am-3 pm.** If you reach out to a teacher after 3 p.m., you may not hear back from them until the following day. If a phone conference is needed outside of those times, please let the teacher know that you would like to schedule a time.

In addition, the following are tips, written by Mrs. W, the kindergarten teacher; yet they are great advice for all students and families...



Tips and Tricks for Online Learning

The transition from in-person learning to online learning is challenging for all of us. Students who are used to learning in a classroom may have difficulty doing their work at home. Here are some tips you can try to help make at-home learning as effective as possible for your student (and less painful for you!)

- **Have a designated learning space in your home** where the student's Rise & Shine binder (kindergarten and first grade,) workbooks, and other school supplies can stay. When the student moves into that learning area, he/she will start to realize that this is a place to learn! You can even try having your student wear his/her school uniform when it is time to transition into the learning space. Please keep the learning space free of distractions and background noise, such as the TV.
- **If possible, pick a consistent time to do the work each day.** For many students, the morning may work best because then they realize they have to complete their school work before moving on to other things they want to do. However, we realize mornings are not possible for every family.
- **Allow your student to work on something with their hands while they are watching the lesson video.** For example, during a math video, maybe they can use math manipulatives (counting blocks) to follow along. During a reading/writing video, maybe they can practice writing the letter we are learning about while they listen.
- **Show your student that you are not going to give them the answers unless they try to do the work first on their own,** and then need some extra help. It definitely takes more time to have your student try the work independently, but this will allow them to develop their skills. Their Seesaw responses don't have to be perfect; the teachers want to see what they are learning, what they already know, and what we still need to practice!
- **Allow your student to take as much ownership over their own learning as possible.** Students will need your support, but as they get into the routines of online learning, they should be able to do more and more of the regular tasks (such as watching the video, listening to directions, and getting started) on their own.
- **Regularly check Remind and Seesaw announcements,** so you can stay up to date with any new announcements or important reminders.
- **Please reach out if there's any way we can better support you during this time of online learning!** We are here for you and your family