



Hi Middle School Families,

I know that you are probably feeling inundated with the information that you have been receiving. My purpose in writing is not to further add to the cacophony but, instead to provide some simple guidelines, observations, and thoughts for helping your child navigate the day tomorrow. At the end of this email, you will find a series of attachments that aims to get many of the resources and instructions that you have been receiving in one place.

In order for students to get the most out of their school day, it is important that they are rested and fed, set up in a reasonably quiet place with limited distractions, and that TV, phones, and gaming equipment are not available until the end of the school day.

Middle School students start their day at 8:00 am with a check of their calendars. They will be able to see their schedule as well as which specials teachers will be posting assignments for them to work on that day. Please note that there are no designated periods for specials in the MS schedule. Instead, students will work on specials assignments during their study hall periods and after school if necessary.

Once the day begins at 8:15 am, students will be asked to check-in with their teachers each period to let the teachers know that they are present. They are expected to join each class on-time, just as they would if they were at school. All learning/work will be done through Google Classroom and Hangout/Meet.

Mid-morning there is a 15-minute break for students to give their brains a rest, stretch their legs, get at snack, etc.

Classes end at 1:00 pm. However, students may still have work to complete and submit by the date and time designated by their teachers.

Students are expected to demonstrate the same kindness, respect, and responsibility for their learning in the remote environment that they do in school. Teachers will continue to issue Dojos for positive and 'needs work' behaviors.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could keep an eye on your child's screens and what they are doing online. During the school day, their devices should only be used for school work. Chromebooks are school property and should never be used for anything but schoolwork. Unfortunately, limitations of technology prevent us from monitoring every student's activity on MacBooks and Chromebooks, throughout the day. Should we become aware of inappropriate activity we will reach out to you.

If your child is sick and unable to participate in a remote learning day, please let Leeann and your homeroom teacher know.

Please see the attachments for information about accessing Google Classroom, Google Hangout Meet, uploading a photo of an assignment, Read & Write, Learning Ally. There is also slide presentation put together by Ms. Foster, Mrs. Toth, and Mrs. Newell that the students saw on Friday which details our expectations for them as well as a letter from Mrs. Vaporis and Mr. Hassan about who to contact if you have a problem. Finally, take a look at the comic book about coronavirus. It provides a simple way to discuss this disease with your children.

As always, please reach out with any concerns. We know that we are taking a big leap here but are confident that we will not only be successful but we will have created another effective vehicle for delivering the Winston curriculum in a variety of situations and environments.

Take care of yourselves,

Jill

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Copy and paste the links below to see the slide show and other information that was shared with the students on Friday afternoon.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1pL115NqmJ4HIH81nVsxPx9yLnRv6367Jr_H6UArZSfU/edit?usp=sharing

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

