



## EAGLE NEWS | Parent's Newsletter | October '20

Dear Parents,

Wade Park is striving to provide meaningful academic experiences to meet the needs of every child in our care. Continue to ensure that your child logs in by 8:30am on zoom; completes activities posted in Schoology/Seesaw; and spends at least 20 minutes per day on iReady.

Please make plans to pick up Math/STEM supply bags for **Math Fest** on Thursday, October 29 (4:30pm-7:30pm). You are encouraged to participate in **Family Math Night** on Friday, October 30, 2020. Thank you again for entrusting your child to our care. Have a great week!

Warm regards,



Dr. Lee Clinton Buddy Jr.

Proud Principal

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## Kindergarten Room 110 Ms. Blair

We are learning and growing in room 110! In Math, students are working on quantity and writing numbers 1-5 in order and comparing numbers 1-5. In ELA, students are practicing writing their first and last name, others will be creating 3-letter words, the sight words "I", "like", "the", "and" "see ", as well as writing and making the letter sounds of the alphabet. Last week we focused on words that begin with the letter A, and this week will focus on M words. **IT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE YOUR SCHOLAR COMPLETES ASSIGNMENTS IN SEESAW!!!!** Please log into Ms. B's playroom in Clever, click on and practice letter sounds with them, so they are on track. Thank you for being a part of the Wade Park Family!

## Ms. Jackson | Parents Helpful tips for 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

### Parent Tips for Distance Learning

Help parents and caregivers keep kids focused, interested, and balanced while learning from home.



At this point, the distance learning scenario isn't entirely new. We have more information about what works for kids and what doesn't. And the hope is that we -- parents, caregivers, teachers, and school leaders -- are now better prepared to support kids in their social, emotional, and academic growth during the pandemic. What's true is that families are taking on much more responsibility for their kids' learning than ever before. And in order for distance learning to be successful, parents and caregivers need support.



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First and foremost, we all should try to remember to come from a place of empathy for parents and caregivers, students, and teachers. Parents aren't trained teachers. And even trained educators have trouble teaching their own kids! These circumstances are a great reminder of how important teachers really are.

Also, kids may or may not talk much about the virus, distance learning, or how the pandemic has affected their social lives -- but they're feeling it. Parents and educators should try to lead with love, and remember that strong relationships with kids make for positive educational experiences.

With that foundation in place, here are some nitty-gritty tips to help parents and caregivers keep kids focused, interested, and balanced while learning from a distance:

## Setting Up for Success



### Make a space.

- Create a special, personalized corner of a room dedicated to learning, creating, and reading. Use a movable box or crate if space is precious. Let your kid help prepare the space for school, even if that just means putting a decorated pencil box next to the device they'll be using. Getting the space ready will help them get ready to learn.

### Set a routine.

- Little kids need more structure, so make sure to let them know what to expect. You can create a visual schedule they can follow. Older kids can use a calendar, planner, chalkboard, or [digital organizer](#) to keep track of what's happening each day.
- Have them follow a routine as if they're going to school (getting dressed, brushing teeth, etc.) instead of lying in bed in their pajamas, which could lead to less learning.
- Breaks are really important, especially for kids with learning and attention issues, so make sure to build those in and break assignments into smaller pieces.

### Review expectations.

- Go over what the school and teachers expect around online learning. Fill out [this digital learning pledge](#) with your young kids or [co-create a learning agreement](#) with tweens and teens to help set the tone for distance learning.
- Set some expectations of your own as well. When can your kid expect to spend time with you? When should they avoid interrupting you? What can they do in their downtime? Come up with a list of "must dos" and "may dos" together to cover the essentials and activities of choice.
- If kids are sharing devices with siblings, make sure they understand how the devices are to be shared, including who gets to do what on the device and when.



## Staying Focused



- When it's hard for your kid to focus, try to keep them close. Consider setting up nonverbal or one-word cues to help get them back on track.
- Depending on your circumstances, it may not be possible to keep your kid in sight all the time, but it'll definitely be harder to keep them on track if they're completely unsupervised. Try to make sure you or another family member has eyeballs on them as much as possible.

## Encourage self-regulation.

- Talk to kids about the connection between bodies and brains and what happens in their bodies when they feel frustrated, excited, or sad. This awareness helps kids recognize and manage their emotions.
- If you have other devices in your house, keep them out of your kid's workspace if possible. This can also mean shutting down phones, keeping phones in a designated place for the day, and putting away remotes if temptation takes over.

## Play pretend.

- Little kids feeling at loose ends might respond to some role playing. Cast your kid in the role of work partner, teacher, or researcher to help them stick to a task (and let you stick to yours!).
- Though older kids won't want to play pretend, they may respond to an honest conversation about taking on more responsibility (like chores, self-regulation, etc.) because they're older and gaining maturity. You might be surprised how they rise to the challenge in response.

## Encouraging Ownership & Effort



### Follow kids' interests and get input.

- If there are gaps in your kid's school day, remember that whatever your kid is into -- animals, Minecraft, magic -- can be used for learning. Read books, create science experiments, and do math related to favorite topics. Wide Open School has great choices, too!
- When deciding how to structure the day, ask kids what they prefer. Try to incorporate their choices into the plan. For instance, if math is the hardest subject for your kid, would they rather do it first or last? Why? Check in with them regularly about how distance learning is going.
- Communicate with your kid's teacher, and encourage them to self-advocate for what they need. And model communication about your day, including the positives, challenges, and kindnesses.



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## Display work.

- Let kids hang up their drawings, writing, or other projects in your home. It shows them you're proud of their work and helps them value their learning.
- Even big kids like when you show pride in their work by bragging about their efforts and showing off their work. (But always ask before you post anything!)

## Give detailed praise.

- Instead of saying "good job," try giving specific details about your kid's work. If they tried hard, let them know you noticed. Have they made progress? Used a new technique? In what ways are their efforts kind, clever, beautiful, or insightful?
- Also, encourage a growth mindset, which means reminding kids that it's not about being good or bad at something, but working toward getting better at it.

## Managing Motivation



### Start from strengths.

- Build a bridge from things your kid loves to school subjects they don't love -- yet. If they love sports but dislike reading, find a graphic novel about soccer to spark interest. Your kid's teacher can likely help with this, too, but they might need to communicate with you (and maybe your kid), to get the necessary information.

## Presentation is everything.

- How you present an activity makes a huge difference in how kids feel about it. For little kids, whenever you can, frame tasks as games to make them more fun. Need to sort the laundry? Challenge your kid to a throwing contest of tossing clothes into the right pile. Or, let them use pieces of cereal as manipulatives for math problems and eat them when they've finished a problem.
- Sometimes tweens and teens seem to have a "bad attitude" that's really masking insecurity, boredom, or anxiety. They're often hoping we'll help them through it, even when it seems just the opposite. Staying calm, not taking things personally, and maintaining a sense of humor can go a long way.

## Use natural consequences.

- While it might be tempting to "reward" your kid with screen use, that can set kids up to see screens as a coveted commodity. Instead, you can frame it as a timing issue: "We have three hours in the evening, so if you put strong effort into your work and finish, you'll have time to play your video game."
- If intrinsic motivation is hard to come by, you can incentivize effort and progress in a way that makes sense. Come up with ideas with your kid, set benchmarks, and praise the process along the way.



## Making Room for Well-Being



### Be a good friend to yourself.

- If your kid gets caught up saying negative things about themselves, encourage self-kindness by asking them what they would say to a friend in the same situation.
- The same goes for you: We often beat ourselves up as parents, but what would a good friend say to you? What would you say to your friend?
- Try creating a gratitude list together to give you a fresh perspective and focus.

## Get help when you need it.

- You won't always know how to help your kid. Think about who could help fill in the gaps -- look to family, friends, teachers, and others for help. Sometimes having another adult take over removes the tricky parent/kid homework battle dynamic and lets you go back to just being a parent.
- Communicate with the school about how things are going, leading with positives first. Everyone's doing their best, AND it's important for teachers to know what's working and not working for your kid so they can get the help they need.

## Use movement and humor.

- Sometimes we just need to move our bodies. Physical activity can lift our spirits and get our minds refreshed for learning. Try a lunchtime block walk or a 5-minute dance party to help everyone reset and bring new energy to the day.
- Finding the funny right now is helpful on every front, including learning and well-being. Be silly, make wacky connections, and come up with crazy answers so your kids correct you -- whatever work!

## Middle School Team

Welcome to an exciting 2020-21 school year. We are ecstatic to introduce 4 new members to our Wade Park Family. They are Ms. Brodnick (Intervention Specialist), Ms. Ivory (Math), Mr. Lockard (Science) and Mr. Parks (ELA).

Please review the following updates:

### Mrs. Jordan 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math and Social Studies

Wow! What an interesting start to our school year. Fifth graders are learning about multi-digit multiplication and division in math as well as problem solving skills. One of their favorite games is the counting game which in virtual learning has been altered to fit on a zoom whiteboard! Seesaw activities match their skills and encourage the scholars to show what they know. In



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social studies, we have been learning about economics and how different resources can be used to keep the economy moving in a forward direction. Scholars need to pay attention to assignments and notices in Schoology and Seesaw for updates. They are reminded that independent time is a good time to ask for assistance. To quote DJ Fuller from 'Fuller House'- the door is always open.

## **Mr. Mark 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science and English Language Arts**

5th grade students have been learning about the aspects of force and motion. The activities on STEM day last week had already been conducted by 5th graders during class time.

We have been focusing on text structure during ELA class and will be moving into non-fiction text. We had a Donors Choose completed to provide a copy of the Young Adult version of Trevor Noah's book "Born a Crime." Students will be studying the text of learning about his childhood growing up in apartheid in South Africa while covering numerous 5th grade non-fiction text standards.

## **Mr. Lockard 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade Science**

In science, students have been learning the qualities it takes to be a scientist; the differences between science and pseudoscience; what makes up a scientific investigation; and the various branches of science. We will now be looking at how scientists develop explanations and how they investigate the world around us.

## **Ms. Kaulins 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. This remains a critical time for middle school scholars to keep learning about the election process, understanding the power of their vote and how to vote, and feel compelled to be active participants in our constitutional democracy. Scholars will be engaged in lessons to help them better understand the Electoral College and how the president is elected. Their culminating project: scholars imagine themselves as the president, then must choose their top advisors and balance the national budget by indicating what percent goes to what program: education, environment, military, health care, and crime prevention. I'm looking forward to their completed projects!

## **Mr. Parks 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade English Language Arts**

For the month of November, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade scholars will begin working on debates. The topic will be "Does Technology do more Harm than Good?" This topic is connecting to readings that we have been doing in the classroom about technology and its effects on our world. The scholars will receive information on the format, groupings, pairings, and how to conduct research.

Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade scholars will continue reading and working out of our Into Literature textbooks, and writing poetry. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please reach out to me using the information below.



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## Ms. Ivory 6-8 grade Math

The 6<sup>th</sup> graders are learning Ratio's and Unit Rates. There are ways you can help you child learn this just by looking in the pantry and finding the ratio of cans of food. For example, green beans to corn, or apples to bananas.

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are learning Ratios and the Relationship that exist between the varying Ratios. They are looking for patterns that may exist on tables and equations. You can have you child look for patterns when you are cooking if you double or triple the mixture.

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are solving Multi- Step Linear Equations. You can help you child by having them do a task which requires multiple steps. Also, you can have your scholar review with you how to solve the problem step by step. For the month of November more math assignments, assessments and hands on activities will be posted in Schoology. There will also be Thanksgiving break math activities and assignments posted in Schoology.

## Ms. Powell 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Self-Contained teacher

We are looking forward to discussing, comparing and contrasting the Presidential election results. Stay tuned for more information on our Thanksgiving cooking and math activities.

Gentle reminders:

- Scholars log in daily to remote learning
- Scholars attend scheduled work office hours with their teachers
- Complete the required I-Ready minutes
- Review and complete assignments that are posted in Schoology
- Scholars shut down and charge their device daily

The 5th/6th grade scholars are adapting well to learning virtually. A few students participated in the STEM activities last Wednesday. Those that participated said they are inspired to work on other experiments in the future. Both classes were rewarded for their efforts they put forth in class and attended the virtual dance last Friday. One student let me know that she had the best time ever, because she saw her previous principal and classmates from the last school year and that made her so happy!

Our 7th and 8th grade scholars have been making great progress this first quarter. We definitely have become more proficient in our use of technology and thank our scholars who have been showing up daily and putting in all of the work!

In ELA, we are working on comprehension strategies with short stories and citing textual evidence. In math, 8th grade in working on scientific notation and exponents and 7th grade is working about proportional relationships. In social studies, our students have been working on a unit called "Cleveland That We Want" that has placed focus on the events that transpired following the George Floyd incident, with the essential question "Why do people protest?" Scholars engage in collaborative group activities and writing in a reflective journal to brainstorm ways that they can contribute to making a change in their community peacefully.



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**Your child should be doing 20 minutes of I-Ready math and 20 minutes of I-Ready reading DAILY. This is helping to fill in any gaps that they may have in their learning. In addition, it is required that students read 30 minutes each night.**

Please reach out to us if you have any questions and we look forward to an exciting school year!

## Encore News

*Even though we are remote Encore classes are still happening. Please check the schedule to see when your child should report to their encore classes. Grades are being given in these classes.*

### Gym-NEWS-ium

Physical Education Monthly News Letter

P.E. Teacher: Mr. Teitelbaum

#### **What We Did in October:**

It is starting to look and feel spooky this Fall time of year!! This past month all our Kindergarten, First, and Second graders participated in basic locomotor movements, as well as movement concepts such as forces, levels and speeds. The third-eighth graders participated in Yoga, finding our Target Heart Rate (THR) and Physical Fitness Testing.

#### **What's Next: November:**

Week 1: Physical Fitness Testing

Week 2: Dumbbell workout/Muscular Strength and Endurance

Week 3: High Intensity Fitness Aerobic Workout

Week 4: P.E. Yoga

***P.E. HOMEWORK STARTS THIS MONTH*** at Wade Park.

All Students in grades 3-8 we be assigned and challenged to complete Physical Education homework. All homework assigned is found on:



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- All Wellnet at <https://www.focusedfitness.org/>

***Assigned work including Fitness Plan is DUE at the end of the 1st grading period.***

**Username=** 9 digit student id ex= (2096764835)

**Password=** Last name ex= Brown

## **Music**

Mr. Gaughan

**K-2** is working on Thanksgiving and Winter Holiday songs. Students will gain an understanding steady beat, rhythm, and pitch. In addition, we are working on basic vocal concepts such as loud, soft, high and low. 2nd grade will begin the process of reading musical notation.

**3-4** is working on intermediate Winter Holiday songs. Students will be focusing on accurate rhythm and pitch as well as singing solo as well as in an ensemble. Students will be assigned various songs to perform and submit a video or audio recording to Schoology. In addition, students are working on identifying and writing musical notes on the treble cleff staff.

**5-8** is currently working on singing advanced Winter Holiday songs with accurate rhythm and pitch. Students will record their own voice and use the Garage Band app to add effects, such as compressions, auto-tune, and EQ.

***Make sure to check the Music Course in Schoology for updates and details on upcoming projects.***

### **Extra Music Activities (everyone is invited):**

- Elementary (gr. 3-4) Choir & Drums: Tuesday 3-4pm
- Middle School (grades 5-8) Choir and Drums: Thursday 3-4pm
  - Recording Arts Club (grades 5-8): Monday 3-4pm



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## Art

Ms. Hutchinson

Our young artists have been hard at work and I would like to give them two thumbs up! As a reminder, all scholars should be regularly checking their **art** page on Schoology. If your scholar misses class for any reason, all their lessons and resources are housed there. Each project made during our class time should be neatly kept in an "art folder" at home. I can't wait to see their work hanging up in the hallways again here soon!

## Media

Ms. Conrad

Wade Park scholars continue to **Choose Greatness!** Each week in Media, with engagement on how to safely integrate digital tools for their virtual lessons.

Our ongoing focus is deepening their understanding about, and the protection of their **digital footprint** -information left behind from using the internet - with a strong emphasis on **digital citizenship** - cyberbullying and media balance. We continue to look for innovative ways to build community for our students, while providing best practices on the various ways to use technologies.

## Reading Intervention

Ms. Limpert

Reading intervention is off to a great start and the students have been working on a lot of reading and responding to texts. We will continue to work on standards that have given students the most difficulty on the district tests.

November we will be working with non-fiction texts and digging into the text to answer questions. We will work on vocabulary that is associated with testing and the different grade level standards.

Students in grades 6-8 will be reading the book Ghost and working on different activities that are associated with the book. We will have discussions each week covering the chapters that they are responsible for reading. A list will be posted in Schoology at the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter listing the chapter assignments and activities.

As always please check the Reading Intervention page in Schoology to find class assignments and videos from class sessions that may have been missed. All assignments must be turned in before the end of the quarter to receive full credit.