

Dear Hurlbutt Families,

I hope this letter finds you adjusting well to a new reality. Life as we knew it a week ago looks very different for all of us now. We are all dealing with changes in our daily lives both professionally and personally. As we move forward over the next few weeks, we are committed to finding ways to stay connected as a school community and to support both you and your child. As a Weston resident and parent myself, I know what an amazing town we live in and have seen time and again how we have worked together to support and help each other.

You should have received a letter from Dr. Ken Crow yesterday explaining the move to Distance Learning on Monday. This letter is provided to give you more information about what this new learning approach will look like for our Hurlbutt students.

Making the shift to digital learning for Hurlbutt is a big learning curve for our students, staff and families. While students in grades higher than grade two have their own computers and google classroom is second nature, this is all new for our Hurlbutt community. Please be patient with our teachers and staff. Our teachers have been working on learning these tools themselves this week and have been creating meaningful online activities and resources. On Monday, March 23, your child will have access to their teacher's google classroom AND their grade level google classroom.

1. A **Teacher Google classroom** has been set up for your child's classroom and will have daily lessons created by the teacher as well as daily messages. Your child's teacher will be sending you their google **classroom code** which you will use to join their class
*Please note that our K-2 classroom teachers are posting daily reading and math lessons. Students can continue to access science/social studies/writing lessons in the grade level classrooms. As everyone gets adjusted to this new way of teaching and learning, we will be reviewing and revising the classroom lessons and activities. Please help your child submit their daily learning log to their teacher by clicking submit at the end of each day. We DO NOT expect students to complete all activities everyday. Please pace your child based on your family situations and individual needs of your child. We know many families are balancing working from home and may have multiple children at home learning remotely. This is also the case for many of our staff members!
2. The **Grade Level Classrooms** (ex: Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade, etc) that you have already been using) is where you will find our school morning announcements, special area class lessons and resources from our school psychologists.

On Monday, our classroom teachers will have launched their google classrooms. In preparation for Monday, we suggest the following:

- Set up a home learning space for your child with the digital learning tool of your choosing. (computer/ipad)

- ❑ Set up your child's google account as detailed in my March 13 letter, if you have not already done this. (Google classroom access and tech support directions attached)
- ❑ Set a daily schedule/routine for your child to follow. Attached you will find our daily suggested schedule which you can print out and post in your home.

If your child will be "absent" from learning online, please continue to call the attendance line at 203-221-6301.

We know recent events have resulted in feelings of social isolation. We will continue to work on creative ways to keep us connected as a school community. In the meantime, I encourage you to continue to reach out to each other. Setting up a virtual playdate through FaceTime or a Zoom session with a friend for even just a few minutes helps reduce feelings of isolation. Seeing someone online brings a different level of connection than a text or social media post.

We look forward to embarking on this new learning experience together!

Laura Kaddis
Principal

Kim Kus
Assistant Principal