

Dear Families,

We have been preparing for the possibility of a school closure due to COVID-19. Each grade level created a Google Classroom which has suggested activities and resources for you to access at home. Please know that these are suggested activities and are not required. They are designed to reinforce and maintain learned skills and strategies. We are not expecting families to teach their children new learning at home.

In the K-2 Google Classrooms you will find links to online learning tools that your K-2 students are familiar with, including Dreambox and Lexia. We have also outlined some activities for your child to do, including suggestions from our special area teachers. Our school psychologists have also posted Tips for Families/Emotional Support. We are working on video tutorials to demonstrate the process below. Those videos will be available next week.

Best practices inform us that keeping consistent routines/schedules is helpful especially during stressful times. For very young children, framing blocks of time is one approach. For example, "After breakfast we will play outside, after lunch we will do some activities and games inside." A daily visual schedule in a common area of the house can help as well. Each family is unique and you can decide how detailed a schedule to provide for your child. We have created a form for you to use to structure and keep track of your daily activities. This is available in the google classroom and is called Daily Learning Log.

Suggested learning times for Hurlbutt are as follows:

- At least 30 minutes of reading per day. (independent reading, reading aloud to your child, shared reading are all acceptable)
- An additional 30 minutes of other activities per day. (suggestions are in Google Classroom)
- One hour physical activity/outdoor play
- Free play/games throughout the day.
- Try to maintain consistent bedtime routines and sleep schedules.

To access Google Classroom, go to **classroom.google.com** then click on the button that says **go to classroom**. On that screen, enter your child's email address. Click next. Enter their password. You may then be prompted to enter their username and password.

Child's email address: <child's email address>

Username: <child's username>

Password: <child's password>

Then click the + sign on the screen. Select **Join Class** and enter the following code

<classroom code>

If you are using an iPad, download the app for Google Classroom. Once you have downloaded the app, follow the same directions above to access your child's account.

Please note that gmail email functions are NOT active for children. We do not give them access or the ability to use email in the primary grades.

In the K-2 Google Classrooms you will find a link for **ClassLink**. Following this link will give your child single sign on access to many of the learning tools. You will need the following information to access your *ClassLink*. When using an iPad download the app called *ClassLink LaunchPad*

Username: <username>

Password: <password>

Please note: The first time you access Dreambox and Lexia through *ClassLink* your child may need to enter their usernames and passwords.

Dreambox:

Username: <username>

Password: <password>

Lexia

Username: <username>

Password: <password>

Click on the **Classwork tab** on the top of the main google classroom page to find many resources and additional links organized by content area including math, reading and writing, science and social studies, special areas and tips for families.

We are excited about these new resources for Hurlbutt and look forward to continuing to grow this tool to support learning at home! We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through these new resources and processes as a community.

Laura J. Kaddis

Principal