

## A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OFFICE

Dear Parents,

We have just finished our first week of online learning. I am very proud of the teachers and students, as well as you, for stepping up and helping make this way of learning successful. While online learning will never replace the effectiveness of face-to-face instruction, this has many benefits and allows us to ensure your child's education is not disrupted during this time.

I have participated in many video conferences this week to sort out technical and logistical problems. It has been quite the fun challenge to find times when everyone can meet. This ability to talk when everyone is located all over the world it truly amazing.

One of the things we have been working on is setting up the specialist and Chinese teachers for their online learning, which will start next week. We found it was too complicated to have these teachers communicate through homeroom teachers, so they now have their own SeeSaw accounts. You will receive introductory letters from them on Monday. While this means you have more SeeSaw accounts to work with, we found it to be the best solution at this time.

Another solution we have come up with pertains to technical problems. If you have any IT questions, please ask your homeroom teacher first, as they know the context. If they cannot help you, they will direct you to our IT department. After this first week of online learning, we fell this will better support your needs.

If you have not yet done so, please fill out this very important survey at this <u>link</u>. We need 83 more families to fill it out so that we can comply with the government's request. Thank you to the 724 families who have already filled it out.

Eric, Lydia and I are putting on the finishing touches of our first 'online Parent Coffee'. The topic is 'How to Best Support Your Child with Online Learning'. This presentation will be sent out to you today or tomorrow.

I would like to end my weekly letter with quote, which I feel best captures the essence of this first week of online learning:

Challenges make you discover things about yourself that you never really knew.

Cicely Tyson, actress.

I have learned that we are a flexible and patient community with a 'can do' attitude!

As always, please email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Stay safe and best wishes,

Ms. Tatz

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