



A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OFFICE

Dear Parents,

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey we sent out last week. There was a very large response and we received great information. This week I have been working with the ES Admin team and teachers to share what we are doing well and plan our next steps to improve online learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our teachers for all the hard work they are doing. Because of time zones, faculty are all working 6 days per week. The teachers remain focused on making online learning the best it can be. They hold virtual planning meetings, send countless messages to share ideas and support one another. Online learning takes longer to plan and correct, just like it is longer for you at home. The teachers are ensuring that they are teaching all the content areas and meeting our curriculum requirements. We are a collaborative community. At times like these, our communal strength really shows.

What We Appreciated:

There were repeated comments stating how appreciative parents are of the efforts of the teachers, the promptness of their replies and the feedback given. Parents also appreciate the school's focus on continual improvement.

What We are Doing Next:

We have reviewed the comments made by parents to guide our next steps. By far, the most common request was for more contact via Zoom. Parents expressed difficulty understanding learning outcomes, questioned how lessons and activities connected to the larger curriculum, and commented on the need for clarity around what good work looks like and what constitutes meeting expectations. A common thread across many comments was poor connectivity. Additionally, 21 parents shared concerns regarding eye strain as a result of extensive screentime.

As a result, the Elementary School has developed three goals which we will work on over the next few weeks:

1. Enhance, expand and improve Zoom experiences for students.
2. Develop procedures and strategies to show how assignments connect to the written curriculum and support parents in understanding their role during online learning.
3. Expand ideas for offline work.

Some Details About these Goals:

Enhance, expand and improve Zoom experiences for students

Everyone agrees that Zoom is a wonderful way for our students to connect with their teachers and classmates.

From an instructional standpoint, our goal is to provide responsive, engaging, and interactive lessons. The Zoom platform works best for a lecture type situation with students old enough to manage themselves independently. Our learning is far more interactive, group work orientated and highly dependent on conversation. That type of instruction becomes difficult on Zoom due to internet lag times, time zone issues and large numbers of students wanting to connect and talk. Therefore, each grade level team will be evaluating what they are doing right now with Zoom and come up with ways to make the experiences more effective and fun. Furthermore, more faculty will be offering Zoom experiences for the students.

Develop procedures and strategies to show how assignments connect to the written curriculum and support parents in understanding their role during online learning.

If you attended my parent coffee on the subject, you will know that there are hundreds of learning objectives for all subject areas for students to achieve each year. These are called 'standards' at our school, but for the sake of clarity we call them learning objectives. When you see a 'central idea' listed, that also connects to the curriculum. All the assignments created by teachers are connected to this written curriculum. We are going to work on ways to make the connection between assignments and the written curriculum clearer for you.

Please remember not to correct your child's work or worry if the assignment is done well. Your help should be limited to explaining the assignment or helping your child connect what they're learning to previous experiences. Creating projects together is also a fun way to connect with your child and their learning, as long as the students are doing the thinking and learning. It is critical for teachers to see student mistakes so they can understand what the student knows and doesn't know.

The feedback teachers give is a key element of the learning process. Teachers choose their feedback very carefully, focusing on what will have the most impact on the child's learning. What would be very helpful is to remind your children re-do the work or fix the mistakes that the teacher has pointed out.

Expand ideas for offline work.

Teachers have already begun to work on this goal, because they too feel it is important. Be on the lookout for some wonderful ideas!

Some statistics from the survey:

1. 62% of our families have good or excellent internet connections; 38% have poor or very poor connection.
2. 44% of our students can complete assignments independently always or very often; 25% can complete assignments independently sometimes and 31% of our students cannot complete assignments independently.
3. 65% of our parents feel the amount of work assigned by homeroom teachers is just right; 17.5% feel it is too much and 17.5% feel it is too little.
4. 63% of our parents feel the amount of work assigned by Mandarin teachers is just right; 10% feel it is too much and 28% feel it is too little.
5. 53% of our parents feel the amount of work assigned by Specialist teachers is just right; 14% feel it is too much and 32% feel it is too little.
6. The vast majority of our parents feel the teachers' instructions and expectations are clear and that feedback is given.
7. Slightly more parents prefer getting videos via We Chat than not.
8. 41% of our parents feel their child/ren are engaged and enjoy online learning; 30% marked this as neutral and 29% do not feel their child/ren are engaged and enjoy online learning.
9. 45% of our parents feel communication from the school during online learning is effective; 34% marked neutral and 21% feel it is not effective.

If we think about the PYP Learner Profile, the words Caring and Reflective are my focus right now. I very much care that you feel supported and heard. I have been reflecting a lot on what is working well with online learning and how we can better support you. I am going to make sure there a weekly parent tips and other supportive information. To that end, the counselors will be sending a PowerPoint parent coffee on 'How to Manage Stress with E-Learning' this week. I am also going to share some tips on how students can make Zoom conversations more effective. If there is a topic you would like me to address, please let me know.

Best wishes and stay safe,

Ms. Tatz

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尊敬的家长：

感谢您抽出时间填写我们上周发出的问卷调查。回应很大，而且我们收到了很好

的信息。这周我一直与小学部管理层和老师们分享我们做得好的地方，并计划我们下一步改进在线学习。

我想借此机会感谢老师们所做的辛勤工作。由于时差的关系，老师们每周都要工作6天。老师们仍然专注于使在线学习达到最佳效果。他们虚拟地召开计划会议，发送无数信息来分享想法和相互支持。在线学习需要更长的时间来计划和纠正，就像你在家的时间更长一样。老师们正在确保他们教授所有的内容领域，并满足我们的课程要求。我们是一个协作社区。在这样的时刻，我们的集体力量确实表现出来。

我们赞赏的是：

我们收到反复的评论说，家长们对老师们的努力，他们的及时答复和反馈是多么的感激。家长们也很欣赏学校对持续改进的重视。

我们接下来要做的是：

我们已审阅了家长的意见，以指导我们下一步的工作。到目前为止，最常见的要求是通过Zoom进行更多的联系。家长们表示难以理解学习结果，质疑课程和活动如何与较大的课程相联系，并评论了需要明确哪些是好的工作，哪些是符合期望的。许多评论中的一个共同点是连接不良。此外，有21位家长对因长时间看屏幕时间而导致的眼睛疲劳表示担忧。

因此，小学部已经制定了三个目标，我们将在未来几周努力实现这些目标：

1. 加强、延展和改善学生使用Zoom的体验。
2. 制定程序和策略，展示家庭作业如何与书面课程相联系，并支持家长理解他们在在线学习中的作用。
3. 拓展线下工作的思路。

关于这些目标的详述：

加强，延展和改善学生使用Zoom的经验

每个人都认为Zoom是一个让学生和老师与同学做沟通的平台。

从教学的角度来说，我们的目标是提供有责任心的，吸引人的和有互动的课程。Zoom对于给学生授课这种情况有足够的经验可以独立地运作。我们的学习远远不止互动，小组合作和高度地依赖沟通对话实现。由于时差和大部分学生都需要沟通，这种指令在Zoom变得很难实现。因此，每个年级小组将会评估他们使用Zoom的感受以及给出更有效及有趣的方法去使用它。而且，越来越多的教职员工将会给学生分享他们使用Zoom的经验。

制定程序和策略来展示家庭作业如何与写作课程相连接，以及帮助家长们去理解他们在在线学习中所扮演的角色。

如果你有参加关于这个主题的家长座谈会，你会了解到许多对孩子每一年各学科

的学习目标。这也称之为我们学校的“标准”但是为了更清晰地表达，我们称之为学习目标。当你看到被列出来的“主题”那就是与课程相连接的。所有的家庭作业都是老师们与课程连结的基础上创作出来的。我们将继续去寻找让您清晰可见的家庭作业与课程相连结的方法。

请记住，不要去更改您小孩的作业或者担忧他们是否完成好作业。您的帮助应该是有限制地去解释作业的内容或者帮助您的孩子去关联他们之前所学的知识。一起创造计划将会是一个让您的小孩联系他们所学更好的方法。久而久之，他们会懂得思考和学习。对于老师来说，发现学生的错误才能让他们更好地了解学生的学习状况。

老师给出的反馈是检验学习进度的重要元素。老师们会非常谨慎地给出反馈，他们的反馈会专注于如何最好地影响到学生的学习。您对小孩做好的帮助是提醒他们重新做好作业或者提醒他们根据老师的批注改正错误。

拓展线下工作的想法。

因为老师们也感觉到线下工作的重要性，老师们已经开始为此目标而努力。他们也很期待你们能给出好的建议和想法！

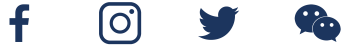
问卷调查的相关数据：

1. 62%的家庭对于我们的网络连接有优良的反馈；38%的家庭认为网络连接很差。
2. 44%的学生经常或者通常能独立完成作业；25%的学生偶尔能独立完成作业；31%的学生不能独立完成作业。
3. 65%的学生感觉班级老师所布置的作业量刚刚好；17.5%的家长感觉班级的作业量较多；17.5%的家长感觉班级的作业量太少。
4. 63%的家长感觉中文老师所布置的作业量刚刚好；10%的家长感觉中文作业量太多；28%的家长感觉中文作业量太少。
5. 53%的家长认为专科老师布置的作业量恰到好处；14%的家长认为太多，32%的家长认为太少。
6. 我们绝大多数家长认为老师的指示和期望是明确的，并给予了反馈的。
7. 更多的家长更喜欢通过微信来获取视频。
8. 41%的家长认为他们的孩子参与并喜欢在线学习；30%的家长将此标记为中立，29%的家长认为他们的孩子没有参与，并且不喜欢在线学习。
9. 45%的家长认为在线学习期间学校的沟通是有效的；34%的家长将此标记为中立，21%的家长认为是无效的。

如果我们想想PYP的学习形象，“关心”和“反思”这两个词是我现在的重点。我非常在乎你感到被支持和倾听。我一直在思考什么是好的在线学习，以及我们如何才能更好地支持你。我要确保每周都分享家长的建议和其他支持性的信息。为此，本周辅导员们将发送一份关于“如何管理电子学习的压力”的PowerPoint家长座谈会信息。我还将分享一些关于学生如何使Zoom对话更有效的技巧。如果你想让我谈谈某个话题，请告诉我。

祝一切安好!

Ms. Tatz



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