

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

March 27, 2020

Welcome to our “new normal.” Let’s hope it’s only going to be this way for a short while. Since we last saw each other, we have had snow days and *Spring Break*. Enjoying either is easier said than done. During that time, many of you have been delving into the packets we sent home. Several have also been communicating through **Google Classroom** with your more tech-savvy teachers! We’re hoping you’re not feeling too overwhelmed. This is certainly uncharted territory for all of us, and we have as many questions as you do. For now, we are going to try our best to help you maintain an academic routine, as well as open avenues of communication with us, your teachers, and each other.

The packet we sent home included lots of worksheets that were chosen to help you maintain your level of understanding in all the core subject areas; practicing skills that have already been covered in face-to-face instruction. It included some Science and Math, Social Studies, and English Language Art (ELA: Reading-Writing-Word Study). We also included some Math games that we hope you added to a Family Game Night!

While there are lots of things to worry about and things that we are all missing; this is a good time to embrace the things that are positive in our lives, and positive *about* all of us! We miss you all very much and look forward to seeing you – if not face-to-face, through **Google Classroom**.

**A SPECIAL INVITATION:** On Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m., the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers would like to *hang out* with all of you! **NOTE:** At 2:00, you are invited to *hang out, exclusively*, with your homeroom teachers.

We know that many of you feel more comfortable with **Google Classroom** than some of us, but we will all work together with a common goal – to stay connected and feel successful, while doing so! In addition to 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers’ online meetings, we have also communicated with Principal Buono, Assistant Superintendent DeLucia, and our Technology expert, Mr. Reimer. We have been discussing how to continue teaching – both review and new work – using **Google Classroom**. Dr. DeLucia agrees that our first goal is to help “...acclimate students and parents to this new way of learning, and get all of our technology troubleshooting out of the way.”

We also want to make sure we are available to you – sharing online lessons and conducting Q & A seminars, as well as engaging in live chats! There will be specific days and times in which each of us will be logged on to

**Google Classroom**, available to interact with you and/or your parents. However, the first step is to acquaint yourselves with how to log in (Thank you, Mr. Shaw!).

## Google Classroom Login Instructions

Click the Google Classroom link on your Teacher's webpage or visit [classroom.google.com](https://classroom.google.com)

- If you don't see your username, click "Sign in with a different account"
- If you are already logged in but don't see your Classroom, click the profile icon in the upper right corner, scroll down and select "Add another account"

You will be asked for your email address - type your username followed by [@student.onteoara.k12.ny.us](mailto:@student.onteoara.k12.ny.us)  
Your username is the first two letters of your first name and first two of your last name, followed by a 01 or 02.

- For example = Ike Shaw would be [iksh01@student.onteoara.k12.ny.us](mailto:iksh01@student.onteoara.k12.ny.us)
- Please note, you must include the full email address (type [@student.onteoara.k12.ny.us](mailto:@student.onteoara.k12.ny.us) after your username)

Click Next and enter your password (you student ID/lunch ID #)

Click Next - you're logged in!

We certainly don't expect you to be logged on all day, and we are not sending anything time consuming. On Mondays, we do want to begin the week *hanging out* with you! Our first *grade level session* will be this Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Afterwards, you will be invited to join your homeroom teacher for a meeting. AIS and ENL teachers will be popping in to join each Homeroom Hangout, as will Mrs. Amodeo, our Library Media Specialist, and your devoted Teaching Assistants.

While it was stated that we will be logging on specific days and times – that information will be available when next we communicate via a newsletter. We will be recording Monday's meeting, and all those that follow (instructional segments and *live* lessons), so you can view them whenever it is convenient for you and family.

Here is a quick overview of where we're heading, academically. In **Writing**, you will be asked to keep a journal of your daily experiences and life lessons. Ms. Bruck also plans to begin facilitating lessons for your research topics. In **Math**, Mr. LaMonda will begin with an online tutorial about KAMI. It is the tool you will use for drawing figures after calculating surface area. In **Reading**, we will begin our Social Issues Unit, revisiting some stories we've already read, as well as reading some new ones together! In **Science**, Mr. Downs will invite you to focus on stars and constellations. Students will receive texts to read; each will include an activity and journal response. In **Social Studies**, you will be visiting Egypt, with lots of interesting texts to read, activities to do, and video clips to watch!